

E. M. Davis

MINUTES

OF THE

Forty-Ninth Annual Session

OF THE

Social Band Association of the Free Will Baptist

1923

Held with Grandview church, Supply,
Ark., August 17, 18, 19 and 20, 1923.
Next session will be held with Pirtle
church, Peach Orchard, Ark., on Fri-
day before the third Sunday in August,
1924.

ELD. D. M. HOLDER, Moderator,
Maynard, Ark.

G. W. MILLION, Clerk,
Pocahontas, Ark.

Order of Business

1. Call to order by Moderator.
2. Call for Letters from Churches.
3. Election of Moderator and Clerk.
4. Read Rules of Decorum.
5. Appointment of committees on Divine Service, Finance, Obituary, Arrangement of Business.
6. Call for Corresponding Letters.
7. Call for Petitionary Letters.
8. Unfinished Business.
9. New Business.

MINUTES

A goodly number of the Ministers' Deacons and Messengers, composing that part of the Church of God known as Social Band Association of Free Will Baptist, met on Friday night before the third Saturday in August, 1923. The annual sermon was preached by Elder W. T. Shoffit, after which an adjournment was taken until Saturday morning at eight o'clock. A splendid interest was manifested at this meeting.

Saturday Morning Session

Met near eight o'clock. After prayer reading and song service proceeded to business.

1. The letters from the several churches were called for and several were presented, read and received, and messengers were seated and their names enrolled.

2. The Friendship church letter failed to reach the association but two of the messengers, W. A. Huddleson and J. L. Webb, were present and were seated as messengers.

Hopewell was represented by letter only.

The pastor of Denman church was requested to represent and report her status to the association.

3. Proceeded to permanent organization by electing Eld. D. M. Holder Moderator, with D. C. Jones to assist and G. W. Million, clerk.

4. Called for petitionary letters, received one from Evening Star. Delegates were seated and their names enrolled.

5. The several committees were appointed and were as follows:

On Divine Service—A. R. Pride, Dan Kirk and E. H. Hogan.

On Arrangement of Business—W. T. Shoffit, J. O. Hefner, E. W. Tucker, S. T. Birch and Jeff Cavenar.

On Finance—W. S. Vickery, S. Perkins and B. A. Dean.

On Obituary—B. A. Patterson, J. L. Webb and M. S. Smith.

6. Rules of Decorum were read and associational membership requested to closely adhere to same.

7. Moved that rule number seven be amended so as to include the sisters also.

8. No matter of business being before the house the membership present entered into a few minutes devotional service, led by Eld. P. M. Witcher.

9. Committee on Divine Services reporter that Eld. E. W. Tucker preach at eleven o'clock.

Adjournment was taken until 2:30 P. M. Prayer by Eld. Smith.

Saturday Evening Session

10. Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. J. W. Tharp.

11. Letters were called for from tardy churches, and Pirtle responded. Delegates names were enrolled and the right hand of fellowship was given to Messengers.

12. Moved that the name of Eld. B. B. Garland be placed on the Ministerial list again.

13. Moved to take up the matter of examination of ministers. No adverse report was received against any one of them.

14. Resolution No. 1, or rather a substitute, was adopted. (See resolutions.)

15. Moved that the attention of the churches be called to the resolution requiring them to report on the department of their pastor and local elder.

16. Eld. W. T. Shoffit was selected as treasurer for the 5 per cent member fund as per Resolution No. 1.

17. Moved that the Moderator be vested with the power and authority to force the treasurer to make bond at any time he may choose and in such an amount as he may see fit.

18. Moved that the report of the Ministers be called for. Some presented written reports, others made oral. (See reports.)

19. Moved that we select our delegates to the State Association. Elds. J. O. Hefner, E. W. Tucker and G. W. Million were chosen.

20. Moved that an adjournment be taken until Monday morning at 8 o'clock. Prayer by Eld. Vickery.

Preaching Saturday night by Elds. Birch and Patterson, from Paul's Conversion.

Sunday Morning Service

On Sunday morning the Ordination Presbytery examined Bro. W. C. Hudson

and ordained him to the full work of the Gospel Ministry. They also ordained Brethren W. A. Huddleston and T. W. Elliot to the Deaconship.

A splendid sermon was delivered at eleven o'clock by Eld. D. M. Holder from "Lovest Thou Me More Than These," Jno. 21:15, after which a bountiful dinner was spread from which all ate and were filled.

Sunday Afternoon Services

The afternoon was spent in an Ordinance Service. Eld. W. T. Shoffit preached and immediately afterwards a considerable number followed the Lord's command in taking the supper and washing feet.

Sunday Night Service

Preaching Sunday night by Elds. W. B. Maddox and D. C. Jones, from Amos 4:12. An edifying message was delivered and an interesting service enjoyed.

Monday Morning Session

21. Met near 8 o'clock. After reading and prayer led by Eld. Jones, entered into a business session.

22. Proceeded to locate next association with Pirtle church, near Peach Orchard.

23. Eld. D. M. Holder was selected to preach the annual sermon.

24. At the request of Bro. J. D. Poynor his name was dropped from the ministerial list, he stating that he was too old and too infirm to discharge that duty as he should.

25. Moved that a committee be appointed to draft a resolution of respect to Eld. H.

F. Newberry, who died the past year. Elds. G. W. Million, J. D. Poynor and Jeff Cavenar were selected as such committee.

26. Moved to correspond with Fairdealing Association of General Baptists. Eld. N. Y. Gary was appointed as messenger to same and directed to prepare and present a letter to that body.

27. Moved that Brethren Smith and Hudson's names be placed on the ministerial list.

28. The several committees made reports and were discharged. (See reports.)

29. Moved that we have 1,000 minutes printed and distributed to the churches and ministers.

30. The minute fund was turned over to the clerk with directions to prepare the manuscript for, and see to the proper distribution of minutes. Also \$7.00 and \$9.30 were given him as belonging and constituting a part of the delegate expense and orphanage—mission funds respectively. He was directed to turn the \$9.30 over to treasurer, W. T. Shoffit. \$17.30 was received by him and directed to turn over to state association for minute purposes..

31. Resolutions of thanks was tendered the community surroundings Grandview church for the splendid care and hospitality shown the membership of the association while in their midst.

32. The minutes were read and approved.

33. Adjourned until Friday night before the 3rd Sunday in August, 1924, when we

meet in Pirtle 1 1-4 miles west and north of
Peach Orchard, Clay County, Ark.

D. M. Holder, Moderator,

Maynard, Ark.

D. C. Jones, Ass't Moderator,

Biggers, Ark.

G. W. Million, Clerk,

Pocahontas, Ark.

Resolutions

1. Resolved that a treasurer be elected at each annual meeting of the association and that all funds derived from the five per cent per member fund be placed in his care awaiting the order of this association in answer to the call of the state association. That he be directed to deposit these funds in some bank on interest. That the disbursement of said fund be limited by the direction of the church contributing.

2. Resolved that each church be required to make a report, both as to character and deportment as preacher and member of each ordained minister holding membership in this congregation, at each annual meeting of association.

Reports of Ministers

Travelled 181 miles, preached 24 sermons, witnessed 5 conversions, married one couple.—W. F. Vickery.

Travelled 375 miles, preached 75 sermons and two funerals, witnessed 10 conversions, baptized 7 and received \$26.15.—B. L. Patterson.

Preached 45 sermons, organized one

Sunday school, witnessed 3 professions and conducted two funerals.—P. M. Witcher.

Preached 40 sermons, reorganized one church, held one meeting, witnessed 4 conversions, baptized two, married two, and received for services \$10.35.—J. W. Tharp.

Fighting the devil hard for six months, preached 40 sermons and married three couples.—G. U. Weeks.

Travelled 200 miles, preached 130 sermons, witnessed about 28 professions, baptized 15, organized 3 Sunday schools, married 3 couples, conducted 3 funerals and received about \$200.00 for services.—J. O. Hefner.

Served four churches, travelled 911 miles, preacher 71 sermons, witnessed 10 conversions, baptized 9, received into fellowship 20, married four couples and conducted 3 funerals, received from Clear Lake \$39.91, Cedar Ridge \$56.00, New Hope, \$6.20, Warm Springs \$1.40 and other places \$8.45, total \$111.96, expenses \$30.00.—D. C. Jones.

Pastored 4 churches, travelled 940 miles, preached 100 sermons, witnessed 6 conversions, baptized 2, received from Stony Point \$53.30, from Hopewell \$50.00, Denman \$43.85, Friendship \$10.50 and other places \$20.50. Total \$178.15.—D. M. Holder.

Served two churches, preached 132 sermons, witnessed 10 conversions, restored 2, baptized 17, conducted 3 funerals, organized 1 church, received from Pleasant Grove \$161.55, Pruetts Chapel \$61.04, Evening Star and other places \$26.23. Total \$248.82.—Wayne Tucker.

Traveled 1950 miles, preached 152 sermons, witnessed 29 conversions, baptized 14

and assisted in baptizing 20, married 7 couples, preached 5 funerals, received from Love Divine \$30.10, O'Kean \$150.15, Fenders \$100.20, Valley Chapel \$36.00, White Oak \$19.50, Dellaplaine \$17.00, Mt. Vernon \$5.00, Old Jackson \$16.00, Moran \$14.00. Total \$387.95.—W. T. Sharp.

Report of Committee on Obituary

We find that our great and kind Heavenly Father has seen fit in His infinite wisdom to call from our membership 14, located as follows: Eureka 2; Cedar Ridge 1; Hopewell 1; Oak Grove 1; Union 1; Pruett's Chapel 2; Grandview 1; Sugar Tree Grove 1; Denman 2 and Cedar Lake 2. We extend to the relatives and bereaved ones our heartfelt sympathy, praying that our gracious and kind Father may grant to them such consolation and comfort as is consistent with His divine will. We are glad our loss is their gain.

Jasper L. Webb, Chairman.

Enrollment of Messengers

New Hope—B. H. Bates, A. and E. Million.

Pruett's Chapel—By letter in hands of deacon.

Union—S. P. Perkins and Herb Haney.

Oak Grove—Bank Garner and Sister Garner.

Lone Oak—None given.

Pirtle—Bro. and Sister W. E. Gates.

Old Jackson—Paul Beasley and Darrel Fullington.

Stony Point—E. Teel, E. Clark and J. M. Cavenar.

Eureka—Bro. and Sister B. A. Dean.
Pleasant Grove—Sisters Whitson and Smith.

Hopewell—Represented by letter.

Evening Star—Jess Morris.

Sugar Tree Grove—A. Niswonger, T. Hubbard and Ollie Patterson.

Cedar Ridge—J. M. Tyler, H. S. White and E. Cox.

Grandview—S. and E. Fowler and E. L. Jones.

Pleasant Valley—Curtis Tyler and Tommie Jones.

Denman—By pastor—D. M. Holder.

Liberty—Not represented but active.

New Covenant—Not represented but active.

Love Divine—Not represented but active.

Warm Springs—Not represented but alive.

Friendship—W. A. Huddleston and J. L. Webb.

Deacons Enrollment

Eureka—J. D. McKinney, Delaplaine, R. 1 Ark., and Charles Jones, O'Kean, Ark.

Pruett Chapel—G. W. Dale, Light, Ark., and G. Tatem, Beach Grove, Ark.

Hopewell—B. J. Patterson and B. F. Lee, Reyno, Ark.

Cedar Ridge—E. Cox and C. T. White, Noland, Ark.

Sugar Tree Grove—G. W. Hoffman, Poynor, Mo.

Love Divine—L. H. Clark, Alicia, Ark.

New Hope—J. R. Hancock and David Million, Pocahontas, Ark.

Clear Lake—H. C. Shipman and Arthur Sluter, Walnut Ridge, Ark.

Stony Point—Wiley Hawkins, Water Valley, Ark., Frank Tyler and Olen Thompson, Elevenpoints, Ark.

Zion Hill—Dan Bates and D. M. Seamons, Pocahontas, Ark.

Grand View—H. C. Jolly and A. R. Pride, Supply, Ark.

Lone Oak—Geo. Tyler and Herbert Cooper, Manson, Ark.

Valley Chapel—J. C. Hughes, Ravenden Springs, Ark.

Old Jackson—None.

Pleasant Grove—Dave and Arthur Forrester, Knobel, Ark.

Friendship—W. A. Huddleston and J. L. Webb.

Union—M. M. Romines and C. L. Rickey O'Kean, Ark.

Oak Grove—None.

Liberty—W. P. Brooks, N. S. Carroll and R. M. Johnson, Delaplaine, Ark., R. 1.

New Covenant—J. A. Fender and Zack Mintern, Walnut Ridge, Ark., R. 3.

Ordained Ministers

D. N. King.....	Warm Springs, Ark.
— W. T. Shoffit.....	O'Kean, Ark.
J. F. Gates.....	O'Kean, Ark.
D. M. Holder.....	Maynard, Ark.
— W. T. Sharp.....	Frisbee, Ark.
— G. W. Million.....	Pocahontas, Ark.
Geo. U. Weeks.....	Hoxie, Ark.

D. C. Jones.....	Biggers, Ark.
P. M. Witcher.....	Biggers, Ark.
W. C. Hudson.....	Dellaplaine, Ark.
W. S. Smith.....	Knobel, Ark.
B. L. Patterson.....	Poynor, Mo.
W. F. Vickery.....	Poynor, Mo.
J. W. Tharp.....	Poynor, Mo.
S. T. Birch.....	Poynor, Mo.
J. R. Rosson.....	Poynor, Mo.
B. B. Garland.....	Portia, Ark.
L. M. Buckner.....	Unknown.
E. W. Tucker.....	Dellaplaine, Ark.
J. O. Hefner.....	Imboden, Ark.

Constitution

1. This association, when properly organized, shall consist of a moderator and a clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present. The duty of the moderator shall be to keep the Association in order, state questions fairly and take the vote thereon; to have the liberty of speech as other members, providing his seat be filled, to have no vote unless the association be equally divided in which case he shall have the deciding. The duty of the clerk shall be to keep a fair record of the proceedings of the association.

2. This association shall be composed of ordained ministers, deacons and licentiates, together with messengers duly chosen by the several churches in our union and sent to represent them in this association, said messengers being members of some church within this association, whom the members judge best qualified for that purpose, who, on producing letters certifying to their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

3. In the letters from the several churches shall be expressed their respective number of mem-

bers in fellowship, and the number received, dismissed, excluded or died since the sitting of the last association and day of church meeting.

4. No query shall be received by the association from any church unless it has been acted on in said church and cannot be settled, in which case the association shall take up same and act upon it.

5. Every church in the association shall be entitled to a representation of messengers not exceeding three.

6. Every motion made and seconded shall be acted upon unless withdrawn by the mover.

7. The association shall not have the power to lord it over God's heritage so as to infringe on any of the internal rights of the churches; nevertheless we agree that the churches composing this association shall stand in the same relation to each other in this association that individuals do to each other in this association; that is to say, if a church trespass against a sister church, the church injured shall try to reclaim them by Gospel steps; if they cannot be reclaimed they shall be dropped from our union.

8. We agree to do all business by a majority of the members present.

9. Any church may be admitted into this association by letter and messenger. If upon proper examination it is found to be orthodox and orderly such admission shall be manifested by the moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to the messengers thereof.

10. This association shall have power to sit as an advisory council, to give churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty; to inquire into the cause why churches neglect to represent themselves in this association; to appoint any members, by and

with his or their consent to transact any business they may deem necessary; to invite brethren in the ministry to a seat with the association; to adjourn the association at any time and place that may be thought necessary; to exclude from his seat any member who shall not conform to the Rules of Decorum, and shall report his or their conduct to the churches from which he or they were messengers.

11. This association possesses appellate jurisdiction in all cases of difficulty that may arise in the churches.

12. The Lord's Supper shall be administered at each annual association.

13. Each annual association shall be held on the 3rd Sunday in September.

Articles of Faith

1. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice.—II Tim, 3:16-17. II Peter 1:20-21.

2. That there is but one living and true God, and in the Godhead of divine essence, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. St. John 1:1; I John 5:7.

3. That we are fallen and depraved creatures and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation, by any ability we possess by nature.—Romans 8:7-20.

4. Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification, Justification and Redemption are by the life, death, resurrection, ascension, and intercession of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.—Heb. 9:24. Eph. 4:9. Rev. 1-18.

5. We believe that he who shall endure to the end the same shall be saved.—Matt. 24:13 Rev 2:10.

6. That the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.—Matt. 25:46.

7. We believe that baptism, the Lord's Supper

and the washing of the saint's feet, are ordinances of Jesus Christ appointed to the church and none but true believers are proper subjects, and that the only true mode of baptism is immersion—On Baptism, Matt. 3:16; Rom. 6:4; Acts 8:38; Col. 2:12. The Supper, Matt. 26:27; Mark 14:22, Luke 22:19; I Cor. 11:23-24. Washing of Feet, St. John 13:14-17; Tim. 5:10; I Peter 2:21.

8. We believe in the sanctity of the first day of the week—or Lord's day—and it ought to be observed and spent in public or private worship of God, and on it we shall abstain from our worldly concerns, except in case of necessity or mercy.—Ex. 31:15-17; Deut. 5:12; Matt. 12:12.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both the just and the unjust, but every one in his own order—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life; and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of damnation; and that God hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ.—St. John 5:28-29, I Thes. 4:16; Dan. 12:2.

10. That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another and to study the happiness of the people of God in general, and to be singly engaged to promote the honor and glory to God—Galatians 6:10; I John 2:9.

11. We believe that Jesus Christ, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man, and that none can partake of His divine benefits only by repentance towards God, and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ (infants and idiots excepted, they being included in the covenant of God's grace.)—Acts 4:11, 10-43; Tim. 2:5-6; St. John 3:14-17; I Cor. 12:20-22; Rom. 5:13.

12. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is door into the church, and that baptism is a duty in answer to a good conscience.—St. John 10:7.

13. We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him, therefore should be one at His table.—I Cor. 12:12; St. John 15:11-21-22; Matt. 16:26-28..

Rules of Decorum

1. The association, when convened shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet and address the moderator.

3. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in speech, except by the moderator, until he gets through; nor shall the moderator interrupt him unless he break order.

4. The person speaking shall adhere to the question and shall in no wise cast personal reflections on any person who may have spoken before him.

5. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.

6. No member shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.

7. Members shall address each other by the appellations of brother or brethren and sisters.

8. No member of this association shall absent himself when the association is sitting in conference without leave of the moderator.

9. The names of the members of the Association shall be enrolled and called over as often as the Association thinks necessary.

10. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the Association.

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK	POSTOFFICE
Stony Point	D. M. Holder	J. M. Cavenar	Elevenpoint, Ark.
Hopewell	D. M. Holder	O. F. Graham	Biggers, Ark.
Friendship	D. M. Holder	Jennie Huddleston	Pocahontas, Ark.
Denman	D. M. Holder	Walter Eveland	Delaplaine, Ark.
Lone Oak	D. C. Jones	Novella Tyler	Manson, Ark.
Cedar Ridge	D. C. Jones	R. S. Ward	Black Rock, Ark.
Clear Lake	D. C. Jones	E. Hogan	Walnut Ridge, Ark.
Pleasant Grove	E. W. Tucker	R. J. Smith	Knobel, Ark.
Pruetts Chapel	E. W. Tucker	Jessie Lemay	Light, Ark.
Eureka	W. C. Hudson	Minnie Dean	O'Kean, Ark.
Evening Star	W. C. Hudson	Ben Wagner	Delaplaine, Ark.
Union	W. T. Sharp	J. W. Story	O'Kean, Ark.
Sugar Tree Grove	J. W. Tharp	Mattie Hopper	Poynor, Mo.
Pleasant Valley	J. O. Hefner	J. C. Hughes	Ravenden Springs, Ark.
Old Jackson	J. O. Hefner	Clara Songer	Imboden, Ark.
Grandview	G. W. Million	H. R. Fowler	Supply, Ark.
Pirtle	G. W. Million	N. P. Gates	Peach Orchard, Ark.
New Hope	G. W. Million	B. H. Bates	Pocahontas, Ark.
Liberty	G. W. Million	J. E. Riggs	Pocahontas, Ark.
New Covenant	J. D. Doyle	Zack Minton	Walnut Ridge, Ark.
Love Devine	None	Margorie Edwards	Alicia, Ark.
Warm Springs	None	J. C. King.	Warm Springs, Ark.