

MINUTES

of the

TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION

of the

Southern Union Association

UNITED FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST

held with

SHADY HILL CHURCH

Twelve Miles South Andalusia, Covington County, Alabama

OCTOBER 21st, 22nd and 23rd., 1938

OFFICERS

K. Raynor Moderator
R. T. Coleman Assistant Moderator
G. C. Wilkinson Clerk
W. A. Wilkinson Treasurer and Reading Clerk

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

W. B. BASS, PETE NOWLING, S. B. BASS, F. M. WRIGHT,
HENRY NORRIS, H. O. SASSER

Closed to meet with New Bethany Church, 6 miles North of Holt, Okaloosa County, Florida, on Friday morning, before the fourth Sunday in September, 1939.

The Twelfth annual session of the Southern Union Association met with Shady Hill Church, twelve miles South of Andalusia, Covington County, Alabama, October 21st, 22nd, and 23rd, 1938.

FRIDAY 11:00 O'CLOCK A. M.

Song Service—Choir.

Prayer—R. T. Coleman.

Reading—I Timothy 4—K. Raynor.

Introductory Sermon—K. Raynor.

Dismissed until 1:30 P. M. for refreshments.

FRIDAY P. M.

Song service—Choir.

Prayer—W. A. Wilkinson.

Moderator declared body ready for business.

Call for church letters. Letters read, adopted and delegates enrolled as follows:

New Bethany, J. A. Bass, J. D. Bass, G. C. Wilkinson, W. A. Wilkinson.

Shady Hill—Charlie Cayson, J. B. Bass, J. R. Bass and S. B. Bass.

New Shady Grove—Mrs. S. A. Bryant, Callie Mae Bryant, Mrs. J. C. Williams.

Old Shady Grove—Henry Norris, Tulsie Norris.

Poley Creek—Not represented.

ENROLLMENT OF MINISTERS

Ordained Ministers present: K. Raynor, Milton, Fla.; E. F. Sanford, Baker, Fla.; R. R. Ziglar, Andalusia, Ala; F. M. Wright, Andalusia, Ala.; A. B. Lawson, Andalusia, Ala.

Ordained Ministers Absent: L. T. Lawson, Andalusia; J. F. Taylor, Milton, Fla.; C. F. Braun, Florala; B. R. Harrelson, Andalusia.

Licensed Ministers present—None.

Licensed Ministers absent—T. A. Johnson, Lake Placid, Fla. J. C. Williams, Andalusia, Ala. (ordained minister) came in later in the session, R. T. Coleman, ordained minister, from Liberty Association was present.

Officers were elected as follows: K. Raynor, Moderator; R. T. Coleman, Assistant Moderator; G. C. Wilkinson, Clerk; W. A. Wilkerson, Treasurer and Reading Clerk; Charlie Cayson and J. R. Bass, Associational Deacons.

Visiting Brethern from Liberty Association: L. M. Boan, Stapleton, Ala.; R. T. Coleman, Perdido, Ala.; T. S. Coleman, Perdido, Ala. Welcome handshake extended to delegates and ministers.

Committees appointed as follows: Divine Service—W. B. Bass, A. B. Lawson, Charlie Cayson.

Suggestions—W. A. Wilkinson, J. D. Bass, S. B. Bass and L. M. Boan.

Resolutions—W. B. Bass, W.A. Wilkinson, J. R. Bass, R. T. Coleman.

Temperance—T. S. Coleman, E. F. Sanford, R. R. Ziglar, Mrs. S. A. Bryant.

Sabbath Schools—J. D. Bass, Tulsie Norris, Mrs. J. C. Williams, Callie Mae Bryant.

Obituaries—Henry Norris, E. F. Sanford, F. M. Wright.

Finance—J. A. Bass, S. B. Bass, J. B. Bass.

Examinations—W. J. Sanford, S. B. Bass, A. C. Taylor and J. B. Norsworthy.

Report of Divine Service Committee. Preaching Friday night by R. R. Ziglar. Saturday 11:00 A. M. preaching by R. T. Coleman. Saturday night, preaching by F. M. Wright followed by K. Raynor. Sunday at 11:00 A. M. preaching by J. C. Williams followed by E. F. Sanford.

W. B. Bass chairman

Adjourn until 8:00 o'clock Saturday A. M.

SATURDAY 8:00 A. M.

Reading Jeremiah 8—E. F. Sanford.

Prayer—F. M. Wright.

Song—When the Roll is Called Up Yonder.

Moderator declared body ready for business. Call for any brethren that might have come in late—none. Call for letters which might have come in late—none.

Recess.

Song—How Beautiful Heaven Must Be.

Body called to order.

Report of committee on Resolution. We, your committee on Resolutions beg to report as follows: We resolve that each member of our association do all that lies in our power to bring about a closer union and a more perfect brotherly love between all Christian people by visiting and assisting each other in our work for the cause of Christ, our Redeemer.

W. B. BASS, Chairman.

Report received and committee discharged. Report of committee on Suggestions: We suggest the fifth Sunday meeting be held with Shady Hill Church, 12 miles south of Andalusia, Alabama, beginning Saturday morning before the fifth Sunday in July, 1939. We suggest the association be held with New Bethany church and J. F. Taylor preach the introductory sermon. That the time of association meeting be changed back to September (fourth Sunday) We suggest each church in our association send a representative to the Liberty Association if possible. We suggest the usual number of minutes be printed and clerk be paid \$5.00 for service.

W. A. WILKINSON, Chairman.

Report received and committee discharged. Report of committee on Temperance. We, your committee on Temperance report as follows: We, as church members, being professed followers of Christ do all that is legal and just to stamp out the curse of intoxicating drinks. Also that we carry out the Bible standard of being temperate in all things.

T. S. COLEMAN, Chairman

Report received and committee discharged.

Report of committee on Obituraries. We, your committee on obituraries report as follows. We find only one death in our association, Sister Minnie E. Lawson, age 66, died October 17, 1938. We trust that our loss is heaven's gain.

Gone is the sister against our will

The empty seat in home and church n'er can be filled

May the flowers ever blossom around the grave where she is laid.

HENRY NORRIS, Chairman.

Report received and committee discharged.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools. We your committee on Sabbath Schools report only two in the Association. We feel that it would be beneficial to both old and young, to organize and attend a Sabbath School in each church if possible.

J. D. BASS, Chairman.

Report received and committee discharged.

Report of Treasurer: I as your treasurer, report as follows: Amount received \$15.23. Amount paid for minutes \$10.00. Amount paid clerk \$5.00. Balance in treasure \$.23.

J. A. BASS, Treasurer.

Report received and treasurer discharged.

Recess until 1:30 for preaching and refreshments.

SATURDAY P. M.

Song—We'll Work 'Till Jesus Comes.

Body Called to Order by Moderator.

Miscellaneous business—Letter of fifth Sunday meeting read, tabled.

Report of Committee on Finance. We, your committee on finance report as follows: New Bethany \$5.90; Shady Hill \$4.90; Shady Grove \$1.50; Old Shady Grove \$.50; Balance in Treasure \$.23; Total \$13.03.

J. A. BASS, Chairman.

Report received and committee discharged.

Verbal report from Brother J. F. Taylor, received by the body.

Adjourned until Sunday A. M.

SUNDAY A. M.

Song Service—Choir.

Prayer meeting.

Preaching.

Resolution of Thanks. We the ministers and delegates composing the twelfth session of the Southern Union Association take this method of expressing our appreciation for the kind and courteous treatment to us by the Brothers and Sisters of the Shady Hill community and pray that God may bestow his richest blessings upon you.

G. C. WILKINSON, Associational Clerk.

At this time Poley Creek was represented by Brother and Sister H. O. Sasser.

Parting hands was taken.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. As to God—One God and Father of all. Eph. 4-6.
2. As to the Scripture—All Scripture is given by inspiration of God. 2 Tim. 3-16.
3. As to the Freedom of the Will—Ye will not come unto Me. John 5:40. Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely. Rev. 22:17.
4. As to Conditions of Salvation—He (Christ) died for all. 2nd. Cor. 5:15. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Rom. 10:13. For in due season we shall reap if we faint not. Gal. 6:9. Be thou faithful unto death and I will give thee a crown of life. Rev. 2:10.
5. As to Election—God is no respecter of persons, but in every nation he that feareth Him and worketh righteousness is accepted with Him. Acts 10:34-35.
6. As to Grace.—For the Grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men. Titus 2:11. For by Grace are ye saved through faith. Eph. 2:8.
7. As to Faith—Justified by Faith. Rom. 5:1. This is the victory which overcometh the world, even our faith. 1st John 5:4.
8. As to Works—Faith without works is dead. James 2:6. God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. Eph. 2:10.
9. As to Baptism—And they went down both into the water and when they were come up out of the water. Acts 8:39. We are buried with Him by Baptism unto death. Rom. 6:4.
10. As to Subject to Baptism—If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest. Acts 8:39. So then anyone of you will give an account of himself unto God. Rom. 14:12.
11. As to the Oneness of the Christian Church—Is Christ divided? 1 Cor. 1:33. I am the vine, ye are the branches. John 15:5. That they may be one as we are. John 17:11-21. There is one body and one spirit even as ye are called in one hope of your calling. Eph. 4:4.

12. As to Communion—This do in remembrance of Me. Luke 22:19. But let a man examine himself and so let him eat the bread and drink of the cup. 1 Cor. 11:28. Let no man therefore judge you. Cor. 2:16.

13. As to the Resurrection—For the hour cometh in which all that are in the grave shall hear His voice and shall come forth. John 5:28. For the trumpet shall sound and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. 1 Cor. 15:52.

14. As to the Judgement, Reward and Punishment—For we shall stand before the judgement seat of Christ. Rom. 14:10. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment but the righteous into life eternal. Matt. 25:46.

15. As to Feet Washing—Ye also ought to wash one another's feet. John 13:14. For I have given you an example. John 13:15. Verily, verily, I say unto you, the servant is no greater than his lord. John 13:16. If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them, John 13:17. Because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example. 1 Peter 2:21.

CHURCH COVENANT

In order to have a more perfect and free Christian love and fellowship for each other, and to advance the cause of our Lord and Master we do hereby agree and covenant by the help of God, our Father, and aided by the Holy Spirit, to keep the ordinances, precepts and examples as laid down in the New Testament of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

AS TO RULES—ARTICLE ONE

Section 1. When a sufficient number of members are ready for organization the Articles of Faith and Church Covenant shall be read, and if adopted the right hand of fellowship shall be extended, and after prayer they shall proceed to the election of officers, after which they shall be declared organized and ready for business.

Section 2. No church shall be organized with less than three male members, not within three miles of another church of the same faith, unless in towns or cities.

Section 3. The officers of a church shall be a pastor, one or more deacons and a clerk and treasurer, and not less than three trustees.

Section 4. The church shall call their pastor at the next conference preceding the last regular conference in the Associational year, unless in case of a vacancy; in such case they may call a conference for that purpose.

Section 5. Any church in case of necessity may call a conference and elect one of their members or a visiting minister as moderator.

Section 6. The church may hold a conference as often as it deems it necessary.

Section 7. It is suggested that the church commune and wash the members' feet as often as convenient, and it shall not be postponed on account of disobedient members.

Section 8. The church shall not try a member without a hearing unless said member refuses to attend the conference when notified to do so.

Section 9. The church may grant a license to any member in good standing to preach the gospel if it deems him worthy and competent, and said license shall be good as long as he is an advantage to the cause, but shall be ordained only by the recommendation or order of the church.

Section 10. When ministers or deacons are to be ordained the church shall call a presbytery or instruct their pastor to do so for that purpose. And said presbytery shall be composed of two ministers or one minister and two deacons.

Section 11. Deacons shall not be ordained until they are tried.

Section 12. Each minister shall be a member of some live church and in good standing with the church.

Section 13. It shall be the duty of every member, male or female, to attend each conference meeting if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a spiritual manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine and discipline, and the rule of holy living and the church member's duties.

Section 14. No member shall give or attend card parties or attend other places of worldly amusement, or allow such things to be held in their homes and drunkenness is strictly forbidden.

ARTICLE TWO

Section 1. The Pastor shall attend his church monthly unless providentially hindered, and shall sit as moderator and see that justice is done, but he may appoint some suitable brother to sit in his stead when he thinks proper for the cause. He shall also hold protracted meeting with his churches once a year.

Section 2. The deacons shall be elected by the church and shall hold offices at the direction of the church; they shall watch over the flock, advise the unruly members and report such to the church in conference when necessary, and may administer the ordinance of baptism; they shall make all necessary arrangements for the communion, look into the needs of the church and the support of the pastor; they shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and wash each other's feet, and endeavor to ascertain the cause that the same may be laid before the church in conference if necessary.

Section 3. The clerk shall be elected by the church and shall hold office at the discretion of the church; he shall keep a record of the members and a minute of the business transactions of the church and shall read same at the conference as often as the church may demand, and shall turn all books and papers to his successor in office.

Section 4. The treasurer shall be elected by the church, shall hold office at the will of the church, shall hold all monies

paid into the church for general expenses, and pay out the same only on an order from the church in conference, and shall turn over all money and papers to his successor.

Section 5. The trustees shall be elected by the church and shall hold office for two years and until their successors are elected, unless removed for cause; they have charge of the deeds and all other church property, and shall look after the repairs of the church, but they cannot sell or otherwise dispose of the church property without an order from the church in conference.

Section 6. No one shall be received in the church unless scripturally baptized by an ordained baptizer.

Section 7. Members must pay all debts contracted by them or make satisfactory arrangements with their creditors, and they shall help pay their pastors.

Section 8. We recommend that each church elect a Home Mission Treasurer and all money collected for Home Missions be retained in the church and paid out only by order of the church.

Section 9. No preacher has a right to organize and bring a church into our Association without the right arm of a church in our Association to help organize and presbytery same as for ordaining ministers or deacons.

Section 10. We recommend that each ordained minister in our Association obtain credentials showing denomination that ordained them, name of church, county and state. Also presbytery that ordained them if possible.

ORDER OF CONFERENCE

1. Invite visiting brethren to seat with us.
2. Opportunity for members.
3. Reading of minutes of last conference.
4. Church report of acknowledgements.
5. Deacon's report.
6. Unfinished business.
7. Miscellaneous business.
8. Motion to adjourn.

STATISTICAL TABLE FOR THE YEAR, 1938, SOUTHERN UNION ASSOCIATION

Clerks and Post Offices	Churches and Pastors	Time of Meeting	Paid Pastor	Present Membership	Paid for Minutes	Home Missions
G. C. Wilkinson, Holt, Fla., Rt. 1	New Bethany <i>E. J. Lawrence</i>	4th Sunday	\$37.26	50	\$5.90	\$3.05
Mrs. Mayme Bass, Andalusia, Ala.	Shady Hill <i>E. J. Sanford</i>	2nd Sunday	\$40.73	59	\$4.90	\$1.75
Mrs. J. C. Williams, Andalusia, Ala.	Shady Grove <i>A. B. Lawrence</i>	1st Sunday		35	\$1.50	
Mrs. Henry Norris, Opp, Ala.	Old Shady Grove <i>E. J. Sanford</i>	2nd Sunday			\$.50	