

MINUTES OF
SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL
SESSION
— O F —
STONE ASSOCIATION
— O F —
FREEWILL CHRISTIAN BAPTIST
CHURCH OF CHRIST

HELD WITH THE SMITH CHAPEL CHURCH,
CUMBERLAND COUNTY, TENNESSEE
COMMENCING ON OCTOBER 18, 1934

REV. G. W. RANDOLPH, Moderator
Route 8, Sparta, Tennessee

BRO. J. A. WALKER, Assistant Moderator
Route 5, Cookeville, Tennessee

RASTUS GENTRY, Clerk
Route 2, Cookeville, Tennessee

REV. TILBERT HENRY, Assistant Clerk
Monterey, Tennessee

MINUTES

The ministers and delegates comprising the Western Division of Stone Association of Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ, met with the Smith Chapel Church, Cumberland County, Tennessee, on October 18, 1934, in the Sixty-Ninth Annual Session.

After devotional services by Rev. Alva Hall, the introductory sermon was preached by Rev. E. J. Hickey. Text I Timothy 4:16, "Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine, continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself and them that hear thee." The Moderator, Rev. W. B. Gentry, called the Association to order and proceeded to organize by electing Rev. G. W. Randolph, Moderator; Bro. J. A. Walker, Assistant Moderator; Rastus Gentry, Clerk, and Rev. Tilbert Henry, Assistant Clerk.

The Roll was called and Delegates' names enrolled as follows:

Allen Chapel—Hop Brewington.

Baker Cross Roads—Matthew Farris.

Board Valley—S. F. Brown and J. S. Brown.

Dodson Branch—M. J. Webb.

Douglas Chapel—By Letter.

Fish Pond—I. R. Walker.

Gentry Chapel—Jesse Pendergrass, J. A. McCaleb and J. W. Randolph.

Glade Creek—

Hensley Chapel—W. B. Bilyeu and Arthur Graham.

Johnson Chapel—W. M. Sherrell and Jess Robinson.

Liberty—By Letter.

Millsap Grove—

Mt. Union—

Mt. Pleasant—

Mt. Pisgah—

New Mt. Carmel—M. G. Goolsby.

Ozion—

Philadelphia—Lonnie Mackie.

Pleasant Ridge—

Post Oak Shade—Casper Jaquess.

Poplar Springs—

Samson—Claude Bickford and John Blankenship.

Shady Grove—F. B. Billbrey.

Smith Chapel—J. O. Seagraves, Frank Abston and A. L. Seagraves.

Stone Seminary—J. A. Walker, R. W. Pennington and Elmore Ray.

Union Hill—Tom Pressley and Russell Wilson.

West Cookeville—G. W. Webb.

West Point—By Letter.

West Union—

Winesap—Walter Curly and Zonie Curly.

Yankeetown—W. R. Copeland.

The Moderator appointed Rev. Alva Hall, A. L. Seagraves, J. O. Seagraves, and Frank Abston as a committee on Devotional Services, which reported as follows:

Rev. W. C. Bean to preach Thursday night.

Rev. W. B. Gentry to preach Friday at 11:00 a.m.

Rev. J. G. Miller to preach Friday night.

Rev. F. E. Scarlett to preach Saturday at 11:00 a.m.

An invitation was given for the reception of sister churches. One came forward, Union Grove Church, Overton County, Tenn., from Eastern Division of Stone Association, represented by Bro. Howell Phillips, Thurman Whiteaker and P. A. Copeland, and was accepted.

Motion made and carried that the Rules of Decorum be read, and they were read by the Clerk and approved as read.

The delegates were then assigned homes. The Association adjourned until 8 o'clock, Friday morning.

FRIDAY MORNING

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, after singing and prayer by Rev. C. Q. Hammons.

The Roll was called and Thursday's Minutes were read and approved.

Letters from various churches were called for, read and approved.

Corresponding letters from sister Associations were called for. One came forward from Eastern Division of Stone Association, read and approved. Represented by H. M. Harris. Bro. Willie Joe Looper, from Eastern Division, from Tallow Point Church, was allowed a seat with us.

Petitionary letters were called for. None came forward.

The Moderator appointed Rev. Alva Hall, Rev. Tilbert Henry, and Rev. J. A. Hawkins as a committee to look after Mt. Union church property and do with as they think best.

Motion made and carried that Rev. C. Q. Hammons, Rev. J. A. Hawkins, and Rev. G. W. Randolph be delegates to the Eastern Division of the Stone Association, with power to write a corresponding letter and carry with them.

Adjournment until 1 o'clock, Friday afternoon.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The Association met, pursuant to adjournment. After singing and prayer by Bro. J. A. Hawkins, the new church came forward and was received.

The Special Committees proceeded to make the following reports:

EDUCATION

We, your Committee on Education, submit the following report:

This is an age when education is preeminently in the forefront in every

phase of life, and believing that Christian education stands for the advancement of Christian life, therefore, we urge our people to support and encourage our Baptist schools and colleges in Tennessee, and believing the Bible to be the foundation of all true Christian education, we urge its prayerful study. We also urge that all young ministers may take more interest in the study of God's word that they may be more able to preach the Gospel.

W. B. Bilyeu, A. E. Graham, and W. M. Sherrell, Committee.

TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following report:

Believing that no question should be permanently settled until it is settled right, and as we do not believe the whiskey question is settled until it is wiped out of this fair land of ours, therefore, we heartily endorse all legislation against the whiskey traffic and urge the doctrine of temperance to be held up by all our churches and people and we urge all ministers to fight for it with all their energy from the pulpit.

Jess Robinson, M. G. Goolsby, and C. J. Jaquess, Committee.

OBITUARY

We, your Committee on Obituary, submit the following report:

We find that the enemy, death, has visited our churches and called from our ranks 22 of our beloved members to join the great assembly above. Our great loss is their eternal gain. We extend our prayers and sympathy to their bereaved families.

Lonnie Mackie, Claude Bickford, and John Blankenship, Committee.

SABBATH SCHOOLS

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, submit the following report:

We desire to go on record as a Christian denomination, believing in the utility of the Sunday School as one of the most potent powers of the church.

We recommend that the pastors of the various churches appoint a committee of the believing members to look after the interest of the same.

R. W. Pennington, F. B. Bilbrey, and Elmore Ray, Committee.

FINANCE

We, your Committee on Finance, submit the following report:

We find \$25.67 paid in for Minutes. We recommend that \$17.00 worth of Minutes be printed, and that the Clerk have the balance for his services and mailing out the Minutes.

J. O. Seagraves, Tom Pressley, and M. J. Webb, Committee.

REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY

The Presbytery of the Western Division of the Stone Association of Free-will Christian Baptist Church of Christ met on October 19, 1934, and organized

by electing Rev. W. B. Gentry, Moderator, and Rev. J. A. Hawkins, Clerk.

Rev. Jasper Henry came before the Presbytery to have his credentials ratified and the Presbytery granted the ratification.

Bro. D. G. Graham came before the Presbytery for Ordination. After examination found satisfactory and was ordained.

Bro. C. H. Kemp requested that the Presbytery extend his license for another year, and it was granted.

Bro. C. J. Jaquess and Bro. R. W. Pennington came before the Presbytery for license to preach the Gospel and license was granted for one year.

Rev. W. B. Gentry, Moderator,

Rev. J. A. Hawkins, Clerk.

The Moderator appointed a Committee of Pastoral Labor, which made the following report:

PASTORAL LABOR

We, your Committee on Pastoral Labor, submit the following report:

Allen Chapel—W. A. Johnson and F. E. Scarlett.

Baker Cross Roads—B. F. Dunham.

Board Valley—J. A. Hawkins.

Dodson Branch—E. J. Hickey.

Douglas Chapel—C. Q. Hammons.

Fish Pond—George McCowan.

Gentry Chapel—Alva Hall.

Glade Creek—G. W. Randolph.

Hensley Chapel—E. J. Hickey.

Johnson Chapel—B. F. Dunham.

Liberty—George McCowan and J. R. Hammons.

Millsap Grove—

Mt. Union—

Mt. Pleasant—Tilbert Henry.

Mt. Pisgah—J. A. Hawkins.

New Mt. Carmel—H. B. Cantrell.

Ozlon—C. Q. Hammons.

Philadelphia—A. D. Nabors.

Pleasant Ridge—Tilbert Henry.

Poplar Springs—

Post Oak Shade—E. J. Hickey.

Sampson—H. B. Cantrell and G. W. Randolph.

Shady Grove—George McCowan and C. Q. Hammons.

Smith Chapel—Alva Hall.

Stone Seminary—Alva Hall.

Union Grove—Tilbert Henry and Verly Phillips.

Union Hill—J. E. Wood and J. R. Hammons.

West Cookeville—Alva Hall and C. H. Kemp.

West Point—G. W. Randolph.

West Union—

Winesap—Tilbert Henry.

Yankeetown—E. J. Hickey.

Motion made and carried that our next Annual Association be held with the Allen Chapel church, Putnam County, Tennessee, on Thursday before the third Sunday in October, 1935, Rev. J. A. Hawkins to preach the introductory sermon, and Rev. C. Q. Hammons, alternate.

A resolution of thanks was then extended to the Smith Chapel Church and vicinity for their kindness during our stay with them.

Rev. G. W. Randolph, Moderator,
Bro. J. A. Walker, Assistant Moderator,
Rastus Gentry, Clerk,
Rev. Tilbert Henry, Assistant Clerk.

RULES OF DECORUM

Section 1. No complaint shall be brought in the church against transgressing members until the aggrieved party complies with the directions given by our Lord in St. Matthew, 18:13-17.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the deacons of the churches to go to the transgressing members, talk to them, admonish them and they shall have until second church meeting to make reconciliation. It may be the duty of the churches to choose a committee to settle questions of aggrieved causes.

Sec. 3. It shall be the duty of Stewards to advise the church to promote means to sustain the church and preachers.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of each Minister, on receiving members in the church, to ask the applicant the following questions: First, "Do you feel that you love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength?" Second, "Are you a believer with all your heart that Jesus Christ is the Son of God?" Third, "Are you willing to walk in all His precepts?"

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of all persons who become members of the Freewill Baptist Church, who have not been baptized by immersion, and that for the answer of a good conscience, to attend to the ordinance of baptism.

Sec. 6. It shall be the duty of the several churches to organize a church treasury for the purpose of defraying church expenses.

Sec. 7. It shall be the duty of the different church clerks to keep a correct minute of all their church meetings in a book provided for that purpose.

Sec. 8. Each church represented in the Annual Association shall be entitled to two delegate voters, whose membership does not exceed 50, and one additional for every 25 over 50.

Sec. 9. That, for the purpose of ordaining Elders there shall convene a Presbytery. Said Presbytery shall consist of three or more ordained Elders and they shall elect a Moderator and Clerk from among themselves for the present session. It shall be the duty of said Presbytery to examine all applicants that may come before them for license and ordination, and if found competent shall ordain them or set apart for the work by prayer and laying on of hands. Said Presbytery shall have full power to try ministers

and deacons, composing this Association, for immorality, propagation of unchristian doctrine, neglect of duty enjoined by the Word of God, or the rules of the church, on proper testimony; their decision to be final. Any member of the Presbytery shall have full power to convene a Presbytery in extraordinary session at any time for the purpose of transacting any official business.

Sec. 10. No minister shall be ordained to the office of Elder until having passed a satisfactory examination upon the subject of repentance, faith, justification, the door into the church, water baptism, the Lord's Supper, washing the saints' feet and transaction of the church business in general.

Sec. 11. Any one who desires the office of Elder shall take the following steps before presenting himself for ordination: He shall be liberated by their churches to hold prayer meeting and comment on the Scriptures for one year; at the expiration of twelve months, or any time thereafter, he shall go before a Presbytery for examination and if found competent, they shall issue license for him; after he has his license for one year he shall go before a Presbytery for a second examination, and if found worthy, they shall ordain him to the office of Elder.

Sec. 12. That, for the purpose of receiving licentiates or ordained ministers from other denominations who come to us well recommended, we receive them and ratify their license or credentials.

Sec. 13. It shall be the duty of the Presbytery to give a letter of dismission and recommendation to any ordained minister, if in good standing, wishing to leave our Association.

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS

Section 1. That all power of church government is inherent in the people and the preachers; that is, in the churches; and they have a right through their representatives to establish, alter or amend their form of church government, two-thirds agreeing thereto.

Sec. 2. That a Christian church is a society of believers in Christ, and is a divine institution, Jesus Christ being at the head of the church and the Bible the only rule of faith and practice.

Sec. 3. That no rule of faith and doctrine shall ever be established in the Freewill Christian Baptist Church contrary to the Bible.

Sec. 4. No person who loves the Lord Jesus Christ and obeys the Gospel should ever be deprived of church membership.

Sec. 5. Every member has inalienable right to private judgment in matters of religion and may speak freely of the same in a way that will not violate the law of God, or the law of their country, or the rights of their fellowman.

Sec. 6. Church trials should be conducted on Gospel principles only, and no minister or member should be excommunicated except for immorality, the propagation of unchristian doctrine, neglect of duty enjoined by the words of God or the rules of the church.

Sec. 7. The church has a right to form and enforce such rules and regulations only as are in accordance with the Holy Scripture, and may be necessary to carry into effect the great system of practical Christianity.

Sec. 8. There may be three grades of Association established in the Freewill Baptist Church—first, the Monthly Association; second, the Annual Association; third, the General Association, all of which may be established by the rules of the church.

Sec. 9. That the church has a right to select their leaders and delegates to the Annual Association.

Sec. 10. It shall be the duty of each church to select two Deacons and one Clerk.

Sec. 11. It shall be the duty of each church to send up their delegates with letters in order to the Annual Association.

Sec. 12. It shall be the duty of the Annual Association to send to the General Association delegates with corresponding letters in order.

Sec. 13. That no minister or member be allowed to aid or abet in any way, either directly or indirectly, in the manufacture or sale of intoxicating drinks as a beverage. We know by observation that it is the great hindering cause of the upbuilding of Christ's kingdom.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article 1. We believe in one eternal God, the creator and upholder of all things, and in Jesus Christ, His Son, and in the Holy Ghost, and that these three are one.

Article 2. We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

Article 3. We believe that man is unable to recover himself from the fallen state that he is in, by reason of sin, only by the grace of God through the exercise of faith.

Article 4. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saint's feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that immersion is the only mode of baptism; not the putting away the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Article 5. We believe that no minister has the right to administer these ordinances except as are regularly ordained.

Article 6. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, a general judgment, the punishment of the wicked, and that the joys of the righteous are eternal.

Article 7. We believe according to the Scriptures—Paul's letter to the Hebrews 6:1-7—that after a man has been made partaker of the Holy Ghost, if he shall fall from grace, it is impossible ever to renew him again unto repentance, or restore him unto the favor of God.

Article 8. We receive no person into the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ only on the principle of their conversion.

Article 9. We believe that no persons are members of the Church of Christ only those who have the witness within themselves.

Article 10. We believe that all members of the Church of Christ have a right to the sacramental table upon the principle of their acceptance with Him, for St. Paul says: "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup." (1 Cor. 11:28.)

FORM OF LETTER TO CHURCH MEMBERS

To all Lovers of Jesus Christ: This is to certify that the well beloved is a member of the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ, at County, State of Tennessee, and is hereby dismissed from us in full fellowship. This is done by a vote of the church, the day of, 193...
..... Moderator,
..... Clerk.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

First Day

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Organization
3. Enrollment of Delegates.
4. Door Opened to Sister Churches.
5. Rules of Decorum.
6. Committee on Devotional Services.
7. Delegates Assigned Homes.
8. Adjournment.

Second Day

1. Calling the Roll and Reading the Minutes.
2. Reading Letters from Various Churches.
3. Report of Ministers Called.
4. Calling for Corresponding Letters from Sister Associations.
5. Hearing Reports from Special Committees.
6. Miscellaneous Business.
7. Adjournment.

Third Day

1. Calling the Roll and Reading the Minutes.
2. Hearing Reports of Standing Committees.
3. Calling for Petitionary Letters.
4. Appointment of Corresponding Delegates.
5. Appointment of Committee on Pastoral Labor.
6. Receiving Report of Committee on Pastoral Labor.
7. Designating Place of Meeting of Next Association.
8. Thanks to Church and Vicinity for Kindness.
9. Minutes of the Day Read.
10. Adjournment.

FORM OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION

We, the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ at
County, Tenn., to the Stone Association, when convened with the
..... Church of County, Tenn.,

Dear Brethren: We have chosen our messengers
to represent us in your body. The statistics of our church are as follows:
Increase by profession; by letter; by recommendation;
by restoration; our decrease by letter; by exclusion; by
death Total in membership Our day of meeting is
Sabbath. We send contributions \$..... For Home Missions \$.....
Paid Pastor \$..... Our present pastor is Bro. Our Post
Office is County, Tenn. This is done by the voice of the
church and signed by order of the same on the day of, 193...
....., Moderator.

MINISTERS' REPORTS

MINISTERS	POST OFFICE (All in Tennessee)	Couples Married	Funerals Preached	Churches	Sermons	Confessions	Members Rec'd.	Baptized	Contribution
E. J. Hickey	Baxter R. 2	...	...	4	89	31	4	1	\$83.18
C. Q. Hammons	Brotherton, R. 1	8	3	72	6	2	4	65.52	
W. C. Bean	Cookeville, R. 3	2	...	30	21	1	...	2.00	
B. F. Dunham	Silver Point, R. 2	8	7	3	50	3	8	5	44.27
H. B. Cantrell	Smithville, R. 8	7	6	...	122	46	...	22	33.50
Tilbert Henry	Monterey	2	...	1	46	16	...	...	16.50
C. M. Bilbrey	Brotherton, R. 1	...	2	...	30	12	...	...	10.00
Alva Hall	Sparta, R. 8	1	1	4	95	45	39	30	95.96

The following ministers made no reports:

J. A. Hawkins	Cookeville	D. T. Cantrell
W. A. Johnson	Brotherton	J. P. Chastine
R. G. Lewis	Pleasant Hill	J. H. B. Welch
D. B. Hammons	Hilham, R. 1	W. I. Peters
G. W. Randolph	Sparta, R. 8	W. B. Gentry
J. R. Hammons	Rickman, R. 1	Jasper Henry
Simp Clouse		F. E. Scarlett
G. W. Foster		J. E. Wood

ORDAINED

D. G. Graham

LICENTIATES

Clifton Kemp Cookeville
C. J. Jaquess
R. W. Pennington

CHURCH STATISTICS

CHURCHES	POST OFFICE AND COUNTY (All in Tennessee)	Increase				D'crease			Total Fellowship	Minute Fund	Paid Pastor and For Revival work	Meeting Day
		By Profession	By Letter	By Rec'dation	By Restoration	By Letter	By Exclusion	By Death				
Allen Chapel	Baxter, Putnam	8	2	2	2	2	40	\$1.00	\$47.50	1		
Baker Cross Roads	Creston, White	1	1	1	1	1	25	1.00	20.60	1		
Board Valley	Sparta, R. 8, White	4	1	1	1	1	82	.80	20.60	2		
Dodson Branch	Cookeville, R. 8, Putnam	1	1	1	1	1	254	1.40	24.30	1		
Douglas Chapel	Brotherton, Putnam	1	1	1	1	1	74	.75	25.21	1		
Fish Pond	Brotherton, Putnam	1	1	1	1	1	38	1.00	12.00	1		
Gentry Chapel	Cookeville, R. 2, Putnam	2	1	1	1	1	121	1.00	37.52	4		
Hensley Chapel	Sparta, R. 5, White	4	1	1	1	1	64	.35	25.29	3		
Johnson Chapel	Silver Point, R. 4, DeKalb	3	1	1	1	1	28	1.30	22.86	1		
Liberty	Livingston, R. 3, Overton	1	1	1	1	1	62	1.00	6.30	3		
Millsap Grove	Sparta, Route 7, White	1	1	1	1	1	23	.70	4.15	3		
Mt. Pleasant	Brotherton, Putnam	1	1	1	1	1	23	.87		3		
Mt. Pisgah	Smithville, R. 7, DeKalb	1	1	1	1	1	23	1.00	10.00	4		
New Mt. Carmel	Bloomington Springs, Putnam	2	2	1	1	1	67		8.10	3		
Ozon	Silver Point, Putnam	1	1	1	1	1	44	1.10	11.20	3		
Pleasant Ridge	Sparta, R. 8, White	1	1	1	1	1	99	1.00	30.78	2		
Post Oak Shade	Cookeville, R. 9, Putnam	2	1	1	1	1	47	1.00	10.00	1		
Philadelphia	Monterey, R. 1, Putnam	3	1	1	1	1	32	1.25	22.50	2		
Sampson	Pikeville, Bledsoe	2	1	1	1	1	111	1.25	42.00	4		
Shady Grove	Brotherton, Putnam	21	2	5	1	1	112	1.05	28.88	2		
Stone Seminary	Cookeville, R. 5, Putnam	9	1	1	1	1	86	1.00	18.36	4		
Smith Chapel	Pleasant Hill, Cumberland	2	1	1	1	1	97	1.00	15.25	2		
Union Hill	Rickman, R. 1, Overton	10	3	1	1	1	77	1.00	28.60	1		
West Cookeville	Cookeville, Putnam	1	1	1	1	1	84			4		
West Point	Smithville, DeKalb	1	1	1	1	1	34	1.40	17.25	3		
Winesap	Winesap, Cumberland	1	1	1	1	1	38	.55	20.00	3		
Yankee town	Sparta, White	1	1	1	1	1	29	1.00	11.90	2		
Union Grove	Monterey, R. 2, Overton	1	1	1	1	1	29	1.00	11.90	2		

Glade Creek, Mt. Union, Poplar Springs, and West Union Churches made no reports.

