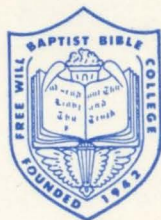


MINUTES OF
SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL
SESSION
— OF —
STONE ASSOCIATION
— OF —
FREEWILL CHRISTIAN BAPTIST
CHURCH OF CHRIST

HELD WITH THE SAMPSON CHURCH
BLEDSOE COUNTY, TENNESSEE
COMMENCING OCTOBER 14, 1938

REV. G. W. RANDOLPH, Moderator
Route 8, Sparta, Tennessee
REV. D. B. HAMMONS, Assistant Moderator
Route 1, Hilham, Tennessee
ESKLE BAKER, Clerk
Route 1, Sparta, Tennessee
REV. B. F. DUNHAM, Assistant Clerk
Route 2, Cookeville, Tennessee



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

Rev. I. J. Blackwelder

MINUTES

The ministers and delegates comprising the western division of the Stone Association of the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ, met with the Sampson church, Bledsoe county, Tennessee, on October 14, 1938, in the Seventy-Third Annual Session.

After devotional services by the Rev. E. J. Hickey, the introductory sermon was preached by Rev. D. B. Hammons. Text: I Corinthians 2:9, "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love Him."

The Moderator, Rev. G. W. Randolph, called the Association to order and proceeded to organize by reelecting G. W. Randolph, Moderator; Rev. D. B. Hammons, Assistant Moderator; Eskle Baker, Clerk and Rev. B. F. Dunham, Assistant Clerk.

The roll was called and delegates' names enrolled as follows:

Allen Chapel (Putnam County)—

Allen Chapel (Overton County)—O. C. Allen and R. W. Haney.

Baker's Cross Roads—John Spencer and Urid Parson.

Board Valley—Beecher Kinnard, Fate Weaver and Eskle Baker.

Dodson Branch—R. F. Hardy, B. D. Maberry and W. C. Maberry.

Douglas Chapel—Marvin Bilbrey, Willis Tallant and J. G. West.

Fish Pond—Shirley Walker.

Gentry's Chapel—Arnold Stewart, J. A. McCaleb and R. L. Montgomery.

Glade Creek—

Hensley's Chapel—J. E. Young, J. C. Young, J. S. Seals and C. A. Young.

Johnson's Chapel—A. H. Cantrell.

Liberty—

Morgan Springs—Mrs. W. C. Rice and Mrs. Alex Hale.

Mt. Pleasant—

Mt. Pisgah—

Ozlon—*X* + *wife X* Jessie Lafever, Elvira Lafevers and Tommy Bryant.

Philadelphia—H. L. Geer and W. S. Scarbrough.

Pleasant Ridge—Fred Clouse and Dallas Sparks.

Post Oak Shade—Dillard Judd and Casper Jaquess.

Sampson—Claude Bickford and Lester Simmons.

Shady Grove—Clarence Stamps and Fletcher Bilbrey.

Smith Chapel—

Stone Seminary—C. M. Stone, R. L. Clouse and Douglas Powers.

Union Grove—

Union Hill—

West Cookeville—

New West Point—

Winesap—Walter Kirby and Sevier Houston.

Yankeetown—Bob Copeland, Edward Mansell and Melvin Copeland.

A call was made for petitionary letters. One was brought forward by Rev. George W. Poague, from Morgan Springs, a newly organized church. It was read and accepted by the Association.

A call was made for letters of correspondence. None came forward.

The Moderator appointed a committee on Devotional Services, Claude Bickford, Lester Simmons and G. W. Randolph, who submitted the following report:

Rev. George W. Poague to preach Friday night; Rev. Paul E. Hickey, Saturday at 11:00; Rev. J. E. Wood, Saturday night and Rev. J. W. Barnes to preach Sunday at 11:00.

Letters were called for from sister churches. None came forward.

Rules of Decorum were called for and stood as read.

Regular committees were then appointed.

The delegates were then assigned homes.

Moved and seconded that the association adjourn until Saturday morning at 8:00.

SATURDAY MORNING

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, after singing and prayer by Rev. Frank Malone.

The roll was called by the Clerk and Friday's minutes were read and approved. Letters were called for from various churches, read and approved.

Minister's reports were called for and read.

Motion made and carried that the Eastern and Western Divisions of the Stone Association unite together, and become as one association, provided the Eastern Division would be pleased to do so.

G. W. Randolph and C. Q. Hammons were appointed as corresponding delegates to represent us in the Eastern Division's Association next year.

The Moderator appointed a committee on pastoral labor.

Motion made and carried that a committee be appointed to sell the piece of land belonging to the Freewill Baptist Church of Christ near Ozion, and that the money go to the new church house that is under construction at Ozion. The committee is the following: Paul E. Hickey, J. V. Lafavers and J. C. Spears.

Reports of regular committees were called for, read and received.

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 especially urge that all young ministers take more interest in Education and in the study of God's word that they may be more able to preach the gospel.

O. C. Allen and Urid Parson, Committee.

TEMPERANCE

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

We believe that no question should be permanently settled until it is settled right, and as we do not believe that the whiskey and beer question is settled until it is wiped out of this fair land of ours, therefore, we heartily endorse all legislation against whiskey and beer traffic and urge the doctrine of Temperance to be held by all our churches and people, including the beer committees appointed from the county courts of our state; and we urge all ministers to fight for it with all their energy from the pulpit.

F. B. Kinnard, R. F. Hardy and B. D. Maberry, 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 19 of our beloved members to join the great assembly above. Our great loss is their eternal gain. We extend prayers and sympathy to their bereaved families.

Marvin Bilbrey, Shirley Walker, J. A. McCaleb, 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 schools 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.

J. C. Young, A. H. Cantrell and Jessie Lafavers, Committee.

FINANCE

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

We find \$26.05 paid in for minutes. We recommend that \$16.00 worth of minutes be printed and that the Clerk have the balance for his services and mailing out the Minutes.

Dallas Sparks, Dillard Judd and Claude Bickford, Committee.

REPORT OF THE PRESBYTERY

We, the Presbytery of the Freewill Christian Baptist Church of Christ, met with the Sampson church, this 15th day of October, 1938, and organized

by electing E. J. Hickey, Moderator, and J. F. Malone, Clerk. Rev. J. W. Barnes came before the Presbytery, from the Missionary Baptist church for the ratification of his credentials from the Missionary Baptist church, and was received into the Freewill Baptist Church at Sampson Church in Bledsoe county, Tennessee. Also, the Col. George W. Poague came before the Presbytery from the Missionary Baptist Church for the ratification of his credentials from the same, and he was given credentials.

Rev. E. J. Hickey, Moderator; Rev. J. F. Malone, Clerk.

Billy Bilyeu made an interesting talk on Temperance.

Moved and seconded to adjourn until 1:00 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The Association met pursuant to adjournment, after singing and prayer by Rev. J. W. Barnes.

REPORT ON PASTORAL LABOR

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

Allen Chapel (Putnam County)—F. E. Scarlett.
Allen Chapel (Overton County)—Jasper Henry.
Baker's Cross Roads—D. B. Hammons.
Board Valley—B. F. Dunham.
Dodson Branch—E. J. Hickey; D. B. Hammons, assistant.
Douglas Chapel—C. Q. Hammons.
Fish Pond—G. W. McCowan.
Gentry's Chapel—W. M. Stover.
Glade Creek—J. E. Wood.
Hensley's Chapel—E. J. Hickey; Paul E. Hickey, assistant.
Johnson's Chapel—B. F. Dunham.
Liberty—Jasper Henry.
Morgan Springs—George W. Poague.
Mt. Pleasant—
Mt. Pisgah—
Ozion—Frank Malone.
Philadelphia—Paul Hickey.
Pleasant Ridge—Clifton Kemp; B. F. Dunham, assistant.
Post Oak Shade—B. F. Dunham.
Sampson—R. G. Lewis; E. J. Hickey, assistant.
Shady Grove—E. J. Hickey; C. Q. Hammons, assistant.
Smith Chapel—Tilbert Henry.
Stone Seminary—Alva Hall; B. F. Dunham, assistant.
Union Grove—
Union Hill—C. Q. Hammons.
West Cookeville—
New West Point—
Winesap—G. W. Randolph.
Yankeetown—B. F. Dunham.

Motion made and carried that the moderator appoint a committee to settle the question about the West Cookeville church. Rev. C. H. Kemp, Rev. F. E. Scarlett and Bro. Webb were appointed.

Motion made and carried that our next annual Association be held with the Ozion church, Putnam county, Tennessee, on the Cookeville and Smithville road, 14½ miles southwest of Cookeville, beginning on Friday before the third Sunday in October, 1939, Rev. R. G. Lewis to preach the introductory sermon, and Rev. F. E. Scarlett, alternate.

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

Rev. G. W. Randolph, Moderator.

Rev. D. B. Hammons, Assistant Moderator.

Eskle Baker, Clerk.

Rev. B. F. Dunham, 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 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 saint's 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 a 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 the country, or the rights of their fellowman.

Sec. 6. Church trial 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 send up their delegates 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 Assembly 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 Testament 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 of 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 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.)

ORDER OF BUSINESS

First Day

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Organization.
3. Enrollment of Delegates.
4. Calling for Petitionary Letters.
5. Appointment of Committee on Devotional Services.
6. Receiving Report of Committee on Devotional Services.
7. Door Opened to Sister Churches.
8. Rules of Decorum.
9. Appointment of Regular Committees.
10. Delegates Assigned Homes.
11. Adjournment.

Second Day

1. Calling of Roll and Reading the Minutes.
2. Reading Letters from Various Churches.
3. Report of Ministers Called.
4. Miscellaneous Business.
5. Appointment of Corresponding Delegates.
6. Appointment of Committee on Pastoral Labor.
7. Hearing Reports of Standing Committees.
8. Hearing Report of Presbytery.
9. Adjournment.
10. Receiving Report of Committee on Pastoral Labor.
11. Designating Place of Meeting for Next Association.
12. Thanks to Church and Vicinity for Kindness.
13. Minutes of the Day Read.
14. 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 contribution \$..... 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.
....., Clerk.

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.

MINISTER'S REPORT

MINISTERS	POST OFFICE (All in Tennessee)	Couples Married	Funerals Preached	Churches	Sermons	Confessions	Members Rec'd.	Baptized	Contributions
B. F. Dunham...	Cookeville, R. 2....		2	3	56	23	15	13	\$ 92.35
E. J. Hickey....	Baxter, R. 2.....			4	70	37	38	13	113.66
C. Q. Hammons.	Brotherton, R. 1....		3		48	14	1	1	18.75

The following ministers made no reports:

H. B. Cantrell, Smithville, R. 8; C. M. Bilbrey, Brotherton, R. 1; W. A. Johnson, Brotherton; D. B. Hammons, Hilham, R. 1; Simp. Clouse; Alva Hall, Sparta, R. 8; G. W. Foster, Tilbert Henry, R. G. Lewis; J. H. B. Welch; W. B. Gentry, Cookeville; Jasper Henry, F. E. Scarlett, Baxter, R. 1; D. G. Graham, Frank Malone, Cookeville; G. W. Randolph, Sparta, R. 8; J. R. Hammons, Rickman, R. 1; W. C. Bean, Cookeville, R. 3; R. W. Pennington, C. H. Kemp, Cookeville; P. E. Hickey, C. J. Jaquess, J. A. Wagoner, J. E. Wood.

MINISTERS WHO HAVE GONE TO REST

Rev. G. B. Brown	Rev. J. A. Hawkins
Rev. W. I. Peters	Rev. J. P. Chastine
Rev. D. T. Cantrell	

ORDAINED

George W. Poague

J. W. Barnes

LICENTIATES

CHURCH STATISTICS

CHURCHES	POST OFFICE AND COUNTY (All in Tennessee)	Increase							Minute Fund	Paid Pastor and for Revival Work	Meeting Day
		Decr									
		By Profession	By Letter	By Rec'dation	By Restoration	By Letter	By Exclusion	By Death			
		6	..	..	..	..	..	1			
		7	..	..	..	..	..	..			
		6	..	..	..	..	..	..			
		25	2	..	..	..	..	2			
Allen Chapel, P.C.	Baxter, Putnam	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	\$1.00	\$25.30	1
Allen Chapel, O.C.	 Overton	7	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.00	22.00	2
Baker Cross Roads	Creston, Cumberland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.00		3
Board Valley	Sparta, R. 8, White	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	1.55	28.00	2
Dodson Branch	Cookeville, R. 8, Putnam	25	2	..	..	..	..	2	2.10	54.38	1
Douglas Chapel	Brotherton, Putnam	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1.00	32.00	1
Fish Pond	Brotherton, Putnam	1	1	2	..	..	..	..	4.00	22.65	3
Gentry's Chapel	Cookeville, R. 2, Putnam	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	1.00	8.00	3
Glade Creek	Ravenscroft, White	7	..	2	..	..	..	4	1.00	4.03	1
Hensley's Chapel	Sparta, R. 5, White	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1.00	16.35	3
Johnson's Chapel	Silver Point, R. 4, DeKalb	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.00	31.00	1
Liberty	Livingston, R. 3, Overton	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.10	14.80	4
Morgan Springs	Morgan Springs, Rhea	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	.50		2
Ozlon	Silver Point, Putnam	6	..	..	1	..	..	..	1.00	57.50	3
Pleasant Ridge	Sparta, R. 8, White	6	..	..	..	..	..	1	1.10	16.05	3
Philadelphia	Monterey, Putnam	22	..	..	..	..	..	1	1.65	13.03	4
Post Oak Shade	Cookeville, R. 9, Putnam	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	1.00	26.65	4
Sampson	Pikeville, Bledsoe	2	..	..	..	..	..	43	1.55	18.84	2
Shady Grove	Brotherton, Putnam	9	..	..	..	..	..	2	1.15	39.50	4
Smith Chapel	Pleasant Hill, Cumberland	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	.80		3
Stone Seminary	Cookeville, R. 5, Putnam	4	1	..	..	..	..	1	1.25	32.37	4
Union Hill	Rickman, R. 1, Overton	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	.75		2
Winesap	Winesap, Cumberland	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1.35	24.65	4
Yankeeetown	Sparta, White	7	..	..	..	..	..	1	1.00	40.23	3

Mt. Pleasant, New Mt. Carmel, Mt. Pisgah, Union Grove, West Cookeville and New West Point made no reports.

