

MINUTES
—OF THE—
ELEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION
—OF THE—

TERRITORIAL FREEWILL
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

—CONVENED WITH—
Concord Church, near McLain, Ind. Ter.
On Friday, before the 2nd Sunday in September.

1904.

OFFICERS:

J. F. MUSGRAVE MODERATOR.
J. W. MOYERS, CLERK



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Nashville, Tennessee

Presented By

Dale Jackson

112 N. Xanthus

Tulsa, Oklahoma

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The 11th annual session of the Cherokee and Creek territorial Freewill Baptist Association, held with Concord church, three miles northeast of McLain I. T., on Friday night before the 2nd Sunday in Sept. 1904.

The services were opened by singing by the congregation and prayer by Brother Collops. Scripture was read by Elder J. M. Roberts from 2nd Timothy, 4th Chapter. Prayer by J. M. Roberts. Preaching by Elder J. W. Sutton, Text 1st Timothy 4:16. Concluded by J. M. Roberts. An able discourse was delivered and well adapted to the occasion.

After preaching we were dismissed to meet Saturday morning at 8 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Singing by the congregation. Scripture lesson read by the Moderator. Psalms 39th chapter. Prayer by Elder W. W. Hudson. Singing by the congregation.

Letters from the different churches were called for and read as follows:

Concord church, McLain postoffice, delegates Dr. Stout, C. K. Bradshaw and Sister Dalton, J. M. Roberts, Moderator and James Neal, Clerk. Received members by baptism, 25; number of members, 50. Minute funds \$2.50.

Fields Chapel Church, Starvilla, I. T. Delegates: J. S. Bailey, C. J. Janscagin. Received members by letter, 2; by baptism, 52; total membership, 116. W. A. Herron, moderator, Sister Essie Collops, clerk. Minute funds, \$2.50.

Coal Creek Church. Delegates: J. W. Harp, J. W. Caudle; received members by baptism, 7; by letter, 5; total membership, 12. J. W. Harp, Moderator, J. W. Caudle, clerk, Pryor Creek. Minute funds, \$1.50.

Popes Chapel church, delegates: Sisters Ada Cox and Deana Fryer. Received members by baptism, 2; total membership, 30. A. B. Self, Moderator, M. A. Hatchet, clerk, Webbers Falls. For minute funds, \$2.50.

Macadonia Church, delegates: R. F. Burke, E. W. Bol

ton and Sister M. E. Burk. Received members by baptism, 8; by letter, 4; total membership, 59. W. A. Herron, Moderator, R. F. Rorr, clerk; Starvilla, I. T. Minute fund, \$2.50.

New Hope church, delegates; G. M. Tuttle, A. B. Rundle and Sister N. Rundle; received members by baptism, 4; by letter, 1; dismissed, 4; excluded, 2; dead, 2; total membership, 40; W. W. Hudson, moderator, Sister N. Rundle, clerk, Pryor Creek. Minute funds, \$2 50.

Sand Bay church, delegates: J. W. Petty and C. C. Tidmore, total membership, 21; G. M. Sutton, moderator, J. W. Petty, clerk, Iron Bridge, I. T. For minute funds, \$1.50.

Chouteau Creek church, delegates: W. M. McDaniel and Sister Mattie McDaniel; received members by baptism, 2; by letter, 2; total membership, 9. J. W. Hart, moderator, Sister Mattie McDaniel, clerk, Pryor Creek, P. O. For minute funds, \$1.50.

Mountain Grove church, delegates: J. F. Barker and Sister Martha Smith; received members by baptism, 3; by letter, 2; dismissed, 2; excluded, 2; total membership, 35. J. M. Roberts, moderator, J. F. Barber, clerk. Webbers Falls, I. T. For minute funds \$2.50.

New Home church, delegates: J. W. Moyers, W. A. Littlefield and A. J. Willingham; received members by baptism, 4; by letter, 3; dismissed, 8; excluded, 2; total membership, 105. W. J. Bristo, moderator, Gideon, I. T. W. L. Griffeth, clerk, Peggs. For minute funds, \$2.50.

A quorum being present we proceeded to elect the following officers: J. F. Musgrave, moderator and J. M. Roberts, assistant; J. W. Moyers, clerk and treasurer and W. A. Herron, assistant.

The moderator being clothed with power to appoint all committees, Elder J. W. Harp was appointed as committee on articles of faith. Devotional committee, N. J. Reynolds, W. A. Littlefield, L. Roberts and J. W. Petty.

Committee on bill of arrangements, J. W. Harp, G. W.

Sutton and A. B. Self.

Finance committee—C. K. Bradshaw, W A Littlefield, J. W. Graham and E. W. Bolton.

Committee—On Ministers and Deacons character—R. F. Golden, C. C. Tidmore, W. G. Tuttle.

Periodicals and Literature—J. M Roberts, J. W. Harp, W. W. Hudson.

Sabbath School—Mattie McDaniel, N. G. Hatchet, Martha Smith.

Temperance—G. W. Tuttle, Josiah Sisk, Mrs. Nettie Rundle.

Obituaries—J. A. F. Barber, A. J. Willingham, W. L. McDaniel.

By motion it was declared that our Ministers or members of the church should not preach sanctification nor practice hypnotism. Then we were dismissed for preaching at 11 o'clock and to meet again at 2 p.m. Preaching at 11 o'clock by W. W. Hudson. Text St. John 3:3. A powerful discourse was listened to by a large congregation and a general revival prevailed. Dismissed to meet at 2 o'clock, met according to appointment. Prayer by J. W. Moyers.

Report of Committee, called for on Bill of Arrangements—Beg leave to report as follows:

We recommend that the churches of this Association contribute more liberally to the support of their Ministers. Furthermore we recommend that the Pastors and Ministers of this association show as much as possible the necessity of a better financial system for they who preach the gospel shall live of the gospel.

Committee:

J. W. Harp,
G. W. Sutton,
A. B. Self.

Report on Periodicals and Literature—We your committee on Periodical and Literature beg leave to report as

follows:

We recommend that the churches of this association use as much as possible literature published by our denominational publishing house. Furthermore we recommend that our brethren and sisters subscribe for and read one or more of our Newspapers which is published in the interest of the Freewill Baptist Church.

Committee:

J. M. Roberts,
W. W. Hudson,
J. W. Harp.

On Sabbath School—We your committee on Sabbath Schools beg leave to report as follows: We believe that it is the duty of each Church to maintain a Sabbath school and let it be understood that we, the Freewill Baptist, recommend union as the basis for all Christian people to do the will of our Father in Heaven. That we as Christians should unite all our efforts to keep our children in Sabbath school, as it may be the means of bringing them to Christ. We earnestly request all our ministers and deacons to do all they can to help build lively Sabbath schools and prayer meetings in all our churches which is the life of all churches and neighborhoods. We recommend the scriptures as our main literature.

Committee:

Mattie McDaniel,
N. G. Hatchet,
Martha Smith.

Obituaries—We your committee on obituaries beg leave to report as follows: That the good Lord has bestowed upon us such blessings as to spare the lives of our brothers and sisters in Lord that only sister Belle Bryant and sister Lizza Cleveger of New Hope church communities have fallen asleep.

Committee:

A. J. Willingham,

J. A. F. Barber,
W. L. McDaniel.

Temperance—We your committee on Temperance beg leave to report as follows: That it is our honest conviction that intemperance is the direct or indirect cause of nine tenths of the crimes committed in all our land. It is the mighty means of keeping thousands of men and women from making peace with their Savior; it invades the peaceful homes of peaceful women and children blasting and withering the fairest flowers of our land. It beclouds the minds and corrupts the morals and destroys the minds of both old and young; it makes widows of christian hearted mothers and brings them and their children to want. It corrupts the Bar, the Bench and Pulpit, state legislatures and the Hall of Congress. No one is beyond its reach and powerful influence, therefore it is our duty as Christians and children of God, to banish the demon beyond our churches and country, that true hearted christians should help in delivering falling man from its blighting influence. Brothers and sisters help us, the committee to pray more earnestly, and put on the whole armor of Christ, that we may be able to banish the demon of intemperance from our land.

Respectfully submitted; Sister N. Rundle,
G. W. Tuttle,
Josiah Sisk.

Finance—We your committee on finance, beg leave to report as follows: We have collected from the different churches as Minute funds for the purpose of paying for the printing of the Minutes, \$22.00.

Committee: W. A. Littlefield,
W. A. Hearron,
E. W. Bolton,

On Ministers and Deacons—We your committee beg leave to report as follows:

We find all of our Ministers and Deacons in good

standing and doing good work.

Respectfully submitted, Committee:

R. L. Golden,
W. G. Tuttle,
C. C. Tidmore.

RESOLUTIONS—Be it Resolved, That we, as a body, send an evangelist in the field and that Bro. J. W. Harp serve as our evangelist.

Resolved, That this body furnish Bro. Harp with recommendations.

Resolved, That this body indorse Bro J. W. Bristo's credentials.

Resolved, That we enroll Bro. T. J. Chandler on the Minister's Dictionary,

Resolved that our next meeting be held with New Hope church, six miles south of Pryor Creek, I. T., commencing on Friday night, before the third Sunday in August, 1905, and that W. A. Hearron preach the introductory sermon and Bro. J. M. Roberts be his alternate, be it

Resolved, That our first union meeting be at Sand Bay church at Iron Bridge, in the Choctaw Territory, be it

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to Brothers and Sisters and friends of Concord church for the kindness and hospitality shown us during the sitting of this Association.

We then dismissed to meet at the time and place above mentioned.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Report of Ministerial Work—W. W. Hudson, in three months, preached 55 sermons; received members into the church, by letter, 10; by baptism, 7; excluded, 6; marriages 7; received for ministerial work, \$20.30; received for marriages, \$7.00.

A. B. Self, sermons preached, 39; received in the church, 12; baptized, 2; married, 4; cash for marriages \$3.50; received contributions, \$34.00.

N. G. Hatchet, sermons preached, 36; funerals, 2, mar-

riages, 1; received for marriage, \$1.

J. W. Harp, evangelist, work since August 25th, '03 to September 9th, 1904. Sermons preached, 130; funerals, 3; baptized, 6; conversions witnessed 30; received in the church, 20; organized one church; marriages, 3; cash for marriages, \$5.00. Contributions received, \$75.00.

W. A. Hearron, sermons preached, 122; conversions witnessed, 55; baptized, 25; marriages, 29; received in the church, 73; received for marriages and contributions, \$33.45.

POSTOFFICE ADDRESS—ORDAINED MINISTERS

A. B. Self.....	McLain, Ind. Ter.
J. M. Roberts.....	Webbers Falls, " "
W. A. Hearron.....	" " " "
W. W. Hudson.....	Peggs, " "
W. J. Bristo.....	Gideon, " "
R. L. Dunaway.....	Pryor Creek, " "
J. W. Harp, evangelist,.....	" " " "
W. C. Sisk.....	McLain, " "
N. G. Hatchet.....	" " " "
C. C. Hoose.....	Starvilla, " "

—LICENTIATES—

J. W. Moyers.....	Peggs, Ind. Ter.
J. D. Young.....	Starvilla, " "
Josiah Sisk.....	Starvilla, " "

REPORT OF CHURCHES

Chouteau Creek Church—J. W Harp, moderator, W. M. McDaniel, Mattie McDaniel, W. J. Randall, delegates; Mattie McDaniel, church clerk; received by letter, 2; by transfer, 2; total membership, 9. Minutes funds, \$1.50.

Coal Creek church—J. W. Harp, moderator; J. W. Caudle and J. W. Harp, delegates, J. W. Caudle, church clerk, Pryor Creek P. O; total membership, 11; days of meeting, 4th Saturday and Sunday in each month. Minute funds, \$1.50.

Concord Church—J. M. Roberts, moderator; Dock Stout, C. K. Bradshaw, delegates; James Neal, church clerk, McLean, I. T.; received 2; total membership, 50; days of meeting, 2nd Saturday and Sunday in each month. Minute funds, \$2.50.

Field's Chapel church—W. A. Hearron, moderator; J. S. Bailey, L. C. Jaunagin, delegates; received by baptism, 52; by letter, 18; by recommendation, 6; total membership, 116; days of meeting, 3rd Saturday and Sunday of each month. Minute funds, \$2.50. Essie Collops, church clerk, Starvilla, I. T.

Mountain Grove church—J. M. Roberts, moderator; J. A. F. Barber, Martha Smith, delegates; received by letter, 2; by experience and baptism, 3; by recommendation, 2; excluded, 2; total membership, 35; days of meeting, 1st Saturday and Sunday of each month; J. A. F. Barber, church clerk, Webbers Falls, I. T. Minute funds, \$2.50.

Sand Bay church—G. W. Sutton, moderator; J. W. Pepty, C. C. Tidmore, delegates; total membership, 21; Bro. Upton, church clerk, Iron Bridge, I. T. Minute funds, \$1.50.

Macedonia church, W. A. Hearron, moderator; R. F. Burk, M. L. Burk, L. W. Boulton, delegates; received by experience and baptism, 8; by letter, 4; total membership, 59; R. F. Ross, church clerk; days of meeting, 4th Saturday and Sunday in each month. Minute funds, \$2.50.

New Hope church—W. W. Hudson, moderator; G. W. Tuttle, A. B. Rundle and Sister N. R. Rundle, delegates; received in the church by recommendation, 6; by baptism, 4; restored, 1; excluded, 2; deaths, 2; dismissed by letter, 4; total membership, 40. Days of meeting, 3rd and 4th Saturday and Sunday of each month. For minute funds, \$2.50, Sister N. Rundle, church clerk, Pryor Creek.

Pope's Chapel Church, J. M. Roberts, mod.; Sisters Ada Cox, Deana Freye, delegates; received into the church, 8; baptized, 2; excluded, 1; total membership, 30. For min.

ute fund, \$2.50. M. A. Hatchet, church clerk.

New Home church—J. W. Moyers, W. A. Littlefield, Webbers Falls, A. J. Willingham, delegates; received members by baptism, 4; by letter, 3; dismissed, 8; excluded, 2; total membership 105; resident members 100; non-resident, 5; W. J. Bristo, moderator; Gidepn, I. T; W. L. Griffith, church clerk; Peggs, I. T; for minute funds \$2.50.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one true and living God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost and these three are on in divine essence power and glory. Romans, 1:20: John 1:1

2. We believe that the scriptures of the Old and New Testament is the word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. Second Timothy, 3:16

3. We believe that God created man good, and gave him Holy Commandments whereby he should live holy, but man voluntarily disobeyed the commandments of God, transgressed the law and fell under the just condemnation of the same, whereby all mankind are sinners, not by constraint but by choice, being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the fall, and that man is unable to save himself with his own power, but we see Jesus for the suffering of death crowned with glory, that He by the grace of God should taste death for every man. Gen. 1:31; Heb. 2:9

4. We believe that Christ by his death, sufferings and resurrection purchased our pardon and offered it freely to all mankind upon principles of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He now commands all men everywhere to repent; therefore. He sayeth: "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth, for I am God and there is none else."—Mathew 5:17; Isaiah 45:22, Acts 20:20-21.

5. We believe that adult persons must be regenerated and born of the spirit of God, if they inherit eternal life.—John 3:3, Romans 5:13.

6. We believe that infants and idiots are saved upon the merits of the Son of God.—Jonah 4:1, Mark 10:14, Luke 18:16.

7. We believe that all Christians persevere in grace and be faithful to the end if they inherit eternal life, for blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have the right to the tree of life and enter in through the

gates into the city.—Rev. 22:14.

8. We believe that baptism by immersion is the apostolic mode; even the burial of a believer in water, and that Christ, who is our life, showed his humble example to his children and bids us to walk therein.—John 3:22, Matt. 3:16, Romans 6:2-5, Matt. 28:19-20.

9. We believe that God in his goodness displays his power of grace in great degree in calling and qualifying his servants by the teaching of the Holy Ghost and by the instruction of his word to go forth and proclaim life and salvation without price, He bids us freely come and nothing prevents the salvation of any but their stubborn rebellion and sinful refusal to come.—1 Cor. 12:3, Eph. 3:7, Rev. 22:17.

10. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper and washing the saints feet are divine ordinances and should be observed by all his children.—Mark 14:22-23, John 13:4-16, Matt. 28:19-20, 1st Tim. 5:10.

11. We believe that none have a right to baptism, only those who have a living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ and none have the right to administer the same only those who have come under the hands of the presbytery of elders, and each church ought to have a pastor, deacon and clerk chosen by the church and continue in office during the good pleasure of the same and in dealing with disorderly members, reference should be had to the 18th chapter of Matthew and other scriptures relative to dealing with disorderly members. In all cases a majority shall rule except in receiving members and then it must be unanimous.—Titus 1:5, Acts 14:23, 2nd Cor. 6:6.

12. We believe it is the duty of each church to assemble themselves together once a month and that it is the duty of the pastor of the church, when setting forth the Lord's supper and washing the saints feet to let a man "examine himself and so let him eat."—1st Cor. 11:28.

13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead of both the just and the unjust; the resurrection of the just to glory and immortality in the presence of God; the unjust to everlasting shame and banishment from the presence of God.—Matt. 25:31, Cor. 15:42-45, 2nd Thes. 1:1-10, Rev. 20:11, 2nd John 19:26.

Order of Business.

1. Reading letters from the churches.
2. Election of officers.
3. Reception of new churches.
4. Invitation to visiting brethren to take seats.
5. Call for correspondents.
6. Appointment of committees.
7. Call for report of committees.
8. Miscellaneous business.
9. Appointment of correspondents.
10. Time and place of holding next session.
11. Election of minister to preach introductory sermon.
12. Adjournment of the Association.

Rules of Order.

1. At every sitting, business shall be opened and conducted by prayer by the Moderator, or whomsoever he may request.

2. Ministers present invited to seats are allowed to take part in the debate on all subjects, and vote.

3. Those who speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Personal reflection shall be avoided in all debates.

4. No motion shall be discussed without being seconded.

5. When a motion has been made and seconded and a member opposes its discussion, the moderator shall put the question: Shall it be discussed? If negative, the question shall be dismissed.

6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points it shall be divided at the request of any member, and a vote taken.

7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.

8. No one shall speak more than twice on any question without special leave of the moderator.

9. All questions decided by a majority of members present.

10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the moderator.

11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the close of the Association, if necessary.

12. In the future sessions of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons each day, or other equivalent exercises.

13. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.

14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

Constitution

From long experience, we the members of the Freewill Baptist Church of Christ, being regularly baptised upon a profession of our

faith in Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union and communion among us, and to preserve and maintain correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this constitution for our better church government.

1. This association shall be composed of members chosen by different churches in our union, not exceeding three delegates from each church, and on producing letters shall be entitled to seats.

2. Letters from the different churches are to express the number in fellowship, the number received by experience, letters of recommendation, the number dismissed, excluded, restored, and those who have died since the Association.

3. The members thus chosen and convened to be denominated the Territorial Association of Freewill Baptists, being composed of sundry churches in the Indian Territory—the Association having no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor to have any ecclesiastical power over the churches reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly.

4. The Association to have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

5. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association, who are to petition by letter and delegates, and if upon examination they are found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

6. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless it has first been discussed in its own church.

7. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

8. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the Association in proportion to the number of members in each church, the distribution being at the discretion of the Association.

9. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes of the Association on a book to be kept by the Association for this purpose.

10. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the close of the Association.

11. Amendments to the Constitution may be made when necessary by a majority of members present.

FORMS.

FORM OF A CHURCH LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

INDIAN TERRITORY. Cherokee and Choctaw Nations.
..... Church to the Territorial Association of Freewill Baptists,
when assembled with..... We send as delegates
from our church, Bros whom we
pray you receive to sit with and aid you in your deliberations.

(Add Statistical Report, State of Religion, Postoffice address,
Number in Fellowship, etc.)

Done in Church Conference.....1.....
..... Moderator.
..... Clerk.

LETTERS OF DISMISSAL.

This certifies that is a member of
good standing of the Freewill Baptist Church at.....
and as such we recommend him to the fellowship of God's people.

Done by order of Church in Conference.....1.....
..... Moderator.
..... Clerk.

FORM OF DEACON'S LETTER.

This is to certify that Bro..... is a worthy deacon of
our church and we recommend him as being worthy of his calling.

Done in Church Conference this..... day of.....1.....
..... Moderator
..... Clerk.