

MINUTES
OF THE
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
UNION HILL UNITED FREE WILL
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
HELD WITH
PANTHER CREEK CHURCH
Friday and Saturday Before the
First Sunday in October, 1933.

OFFICERS:

REV. G. M. HARDY, Moderator.....Enterprise, Ala.
D. M. STEARLING, Clerk.....Slocomb, Ala.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

A. T. MOSS, Chairman O. L. TURNER, M. A. PETERS
M. L. PETERSON, JIM DAVIS,

The next Union Meeting will be held with Bethel church,
Saturday, before the 4th Sunday in June, 1934.

The next Association will be held with Hinson church,
Friday and Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1934.

Proceedings

Proceedings of the 13th Annual Session of the Union Hill United Free Will Baptist Association which was held with Panther Creek church, Friday and Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1933.

The Introductory sermon was preached by Rev. R. P. Jones. Scripture lesson: 22nd chapter of Genesis. Text: "Here Am I".

Dismissed until 1:30 for refreshments.

AFTERNOON SESSION:

The house was called to order by the Moderator. Scripture lesson: 10th chapter of St. John. Prayer by Rev. G. M. Hardy. Conference open for business.

Called for letters from sister churches, and received the following:

BETHEL—Sister Atkinson, M. L. Peterson, Alto McGowan and Horace Posey.

CHRISTIAN HOME—W. J. Hughes, W. G. Dorriety and Riley Kirkland.

ANTIOCH—R. D. Bell, G. W. Sheehan and wife, C. O. Harrison, and Sister Essie B. Savell.

PANTHER CREEK—W. F. Lewis, M. A. Peters, J. A. Seay, J. R. Smith, D. M. Starling, and A. P. Hallford.

BETHLEHEM—Alford and Perry Morris.

HINSON—O. C. Davis, L. J. Mears, L. J. Davis, C. R. Carroll and wife.

UNION HILL—J. R. Bolin, Rev. J. A. Pettus, Carl Smith, Brunson Bolin, A. J. Waters, and Sister Cora Smith.

Called for correspondence from South Eastern, and received the following: Rev. Thos. Gilley, Sisters Mittie Harris and Lizzie Thomley.

From Liberty: Bros. J. W. Barefoot, J. W. Calloway, W. A. Clark, and Sister Gertrude Clark.

From State Line: G. L. and A. D. Thurston, and E. B. Bryan.

Called for petitionary letters and received none.

Organized by electing Rev. G. M. Hardy for Moderator.

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and D. M. Starling for Clerk.

Committee on Divine Service: Bros. G. W. Sheehan and M. L. Peterson.

Correspondence: To South Eastern Association: Moved to send corresponding letter.

To Liberty: Delegates as follows: S. E. Carroll, J. A. Pettus, J. R. Carroll, W. R. Kirkland and wife.

To State Line: S. E. Carroll, S. M. Tindell, and J. W. Posey.

The Divine Committee reported Rev. Thos. Gilley to preach at 3 o'clock, and Rev. W. A. Clark at 7:30 p. m.

Moved to adjourn until 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

SATURDAY MORNING

Saturday morning met with Moderator presiding. Scripture lesson: 1st Div. of Psalms, and prayer by Rev. T. E. Ross.

The Divine committee reported Rev. S. M. Tindell to preach at 9:30.

Song by class.

Recess 10 minutes.

Moved to go into Ordination service for the purpose of ordaining Bros. F. W. Bolin and E. L. Hidle as deacons for Union Hill church. Councils appointed for work as follows: Bros. W. A. Davis, T. E. Ross, and J. A. Pettus; Spokesman, Bro. J. R. Bolin; Witnesses, Mrs. Essie Mae Butler and Mrs. Susan Moss.

Divine committee reported Rev. G. M. Hardy to preach at 11 o'clock.

Dismissed until 1:30 p. m., for refreshments.

AFTERNOON SESSION:

The house was called to order by the Moderator. Scripture lesson: 15th Div. of Psalms, by Rev. G. M. Hardy. Prayer by Rev. B. F. Cherry.

Renewed call for corresponding delegates, and received the following: Rev. B. F. Cherry, from State Line. Bro. J. M. Shirley from South Eastern.

Memorial committee report read and adopted.

Sunday School committee report read and adopted.

Finance committee report read and adopted.

Temperance committee report read and adopted.

Report of committee on Suggestions read and adopted..

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Moved for J. A. Pettus to preach the introductory at the next association; W. A. Davis at the Union Meeting. Moved to send the Union meeting to Bethel church, Saturday, before the 4th Sunday in June; Association to Hinson church, Friday and Saturday before the 1st Sunday in October, 1934.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUGGESTION:

We, your committee, beg leave to make the following report: We suggest that the Association go to Hinson.

We suggest that Rev. J. A. Pettus preach the Introductory sermon at the Association; and Rev. W. A. Davis at the Union.

We suggest that we spend no time parleying over questions of unimportance.

J. A. PETTUS, Chairman,
W. A. DAVIS,
T. E. ROSS,

Moved to have the second day of the Association next year to begin strictly at 9 o'clock.

REPORT OF MEMORIAL COMMITTEE

We, your committee, beg to make the following report: We find that God in His mercy has seen fit to take from us:

One Brother from Panther Creek, G. G. Windham.

Two from Christian Home, Bro. J. M. Turner, Sister Amanda Eford.

Two from Union Hill, J. J. Waters and G. P. Thomley.

One from Hinson, Matilda Sellers.

One from Bethel, Fannie McGee.

J. R. BOLIN, Chairman,
J. N. ADKINSON,
W. A. DAVIS.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, beg leave to make the following report: We deem it necessary that every church in this Association have Sunday School at its church, and that every school should send delegates, together with a program to the Sunday School Convention twice each year. We believe that Sunday School does more good towards building up God's cause in the church than any one thing in the re-

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ligious line that we know of. It trains the child's mind and prepares them for the church and the Lord.

J. W. POSEY, Chairman,
W. F. KLEISER,

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We, your committee, beg leave to make the following report: We condemn all alcoholic spirits as a beverage, and earnestly ask all of our members to abstain from drinking it, for, he that putteth his hand to the plow and looks back is not fit for the kingdom of Heaven, for wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise. We also suggest that all our brethren abstain from all other intemperance that tends toward sin.

W. M. CALLOWAY, Ch'm,
J. W. CLARK,
S. M. TINDELL,

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, your committee, beg leave to make the following report: Finances from each church are as follows:

Hinson	\$3.62
Antioch	3.00
Bethel	2.50
Christian Home	3.00
Bethlehem	2.00
Panther Creek	3.50
Union Hill	5.00
Total	\$22.62

SISTER S. E. MOSS, Ch'mn.
C. O. HARRISON,
J. N. ADKINSON,

RESOLUTION OF THANKS:

We, the messengers and delegates of the Union Hill Association, extend our thanks to Panther Creek church for their kind hospitality shown us while with them. May God's richest blessings be theirs is our prayer.

THE MESSENGERS & DELEGATES

Moved to have 200 minutes printed.

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Moved to adjourn to meet with Hinson church in 1934.

Respectfully,

D. M. STARLING,

CHURCH DECORUM

1. The church may choose a pastor annually at last conference in Associational year, or, if they prefer, may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time, to continue from year to year as long as he may deem proper to keep up the connection.

2. When it becomes necessary a pastor may be chosen at any given time, but if the choice is made at a special Conference, the time must be appointed at monthly meeting of the church.

3. The pastor shall be moderator of the church, but when the Moderator is absent, or does not sit, a suitable brother shall be appointed in his place.

4. There shall be two or more deacons in the church whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and distribution of all contributions for pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and wine in the administration of the Lord's Supper.

5. The deacons shall also take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper, and endeavor to ascertain the cause, that same may be laid before the church conference if necessary.

6. Some suitable member shall be appointed Clerk and it shall be the duty to do all the recording and other writing pertaining to the church and preserve a file for the minutes of the Association.

7. When a clerk is appointed, all the books, minutes, etc., belonging to the clerk shall be immediately turned over to him by his predecessor.

8. When it becomes necessary, a committee of not less than three male members, well acquainted with business, shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to give advice to brethren who apply to them relative to cases of dealing, etc., with the church.

9. The church shall hold a two days meeting embracing Saturday and the Lord's Day following, the first of which shall be the regular time for conference.

10. It shall be the duty of every member, male or female, to attend each conference, if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a special manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on church doctrine, discipline and rules of holy living.

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11. Any male member who shall fail to attend three successive conferences, and member who may be generally remiss in attending meetings of the church according to covenant, (article 10), shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his conduct, but may exempt members from this if necessary.

12. Conference shall be opened as follows: First, prayer, unless divine service has just been concluded, and generally then; Second, invite visiting brethren to seats with us; Third, open the door for the reception of members; Fourth, call for absentees; Fifth, for acknowledgements; Sixth, for references or deferred business; Seventh, for matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church; Eighth, for miscellaneous business.

13. Visiting brethren called in as help from other churches shall be allowed to vote.

14. An ordinary member of a Baptist church which does not hold this church fellowship, may be received in to this church without letter when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unapproachable and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he wanted to join this or some sister church. All others must join by letter or baptism.

15. We receive members by experience or baptism, on confession of faith, by letter or restoration.

16. When the Moderator calls for absentees the Clerk shall inform what male members have been absent from three successive conferences, and the Moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to cite each of them to the next conference.

17. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing to attend his trial, provided his residence be known to the church.

18. When a witness, not a member of the church, is introduced, he shall not be examined until the question has been put to the church: "Will you hear the testimony of the witness?"

19. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgement shall be printed in the church book.

20. Members dismissed from the church by letter who become disorderly or continue to hold their letter without good reason shall be cited to conference to answer for their conduct.

21. Expelled members may be restored to fellowship on their petition, if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented of their former evil.

22. A vote shall not be taken on any question without a move

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and second, and on all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising to the feet.

23. No motion shall be made while a move and second is before the conference.

24. It shall be considered disorderly for a member to absent himself from conference when an important question is to be decided; but a member upon request may be exempted by the church from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

25. No member shall leave the house during conference without a sufficient excuse, nor engage in conversation or whispering without being subject to be called to order by the Moderator.

26. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling. Those who speak must rise to their feet and keep the point in debate.

27. No one shall speak more than three times without permission of the Moderator, nor shall the remarks of anyone be unreasonably long.

28. When the Moderator speaks he must nominate some brother in his stead.

29. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it be necessary to call him to order.

30. We believe it to be the duty of the church to commune, wash the saints' feet as often as the church sees fit, the expenses to be paid by the church.

31. Members not in good standing should not commune, but the administration should not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.

32. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on proper occasions.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe there is but one living and true God whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Ruler of the Universe.

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom all things consist, and by whom salvation is made secure.

3. We believe that in the beginning God made man upright and placed him in a state of holiness under the laws of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression of his own he fell from that holy and happy state.

4. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for the lack of Christ.

5. We believe that the Holy Scriptures are the word of God and

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that they are the only rule of faith and practice.

6. We believe that sinners are drawn to God the Father by the Holy Ghost through Jesus Christ His Son.

7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith, and faith without works is dead.

8. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free and may be attained by all mankind.

9. We believe that Commemoration and feet washing are the ordinances of Christ and immersion only is baptism.

10. We believe that all Christians should unite in performing the sacred ordinances.

11. We believe that the end of the world is approaching when Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from their graves to final retribution, that a solemn separation will take place, the righteous being adjudged to everlasting happiness and the wicked to endless punishment, and this judgment will fix forever the final state of man in heaven or hell on principles of righteousness.

DECORUM OF THE UNION HILL UNITED FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Article 1. This Association shall be composed of delegates and preachers from churches in good standing only, and shall be called together by the Moderator of last session, if present. If absent, by his assistant or by some one elected by the body.

Article 2. This Association shall be opened and closed and shall officiate until the body is organized and new officers elected by ballot.

Article 3. The Moderator shall call the body to order and see that order is preserved. Submit all motions to the body. He shall have the right of speech as any other member, but must appoint some other brother as chairman while speaking. He shall not have any right to vote unless it be in case of a tie, then he may cast the deciding vote.

Article 4. The delegates shall be enrolled by the clerk as they are seated in the body. And the roll shall be called each morning and all not answering to their names marked absent.

Article 5. That no delegate or minister shall be allowed to absent himself from that body during any session without permission from the Moderator.

Article 6. And that each minister shall make a report of how many churches he is serving if any and what each church

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has paid him for his services.

Article 7. That no minister shall be considered in good standing that officiates in the rites of matrimony where either party have been divorced except it be for fornication.

Article 8. That no church shall be considered in this body that retains a minister or deacon that has more than one living wife or drinks intoxicating beverages.

Article 9. All business shall be brought before the body by move and second and shall be disposed of according to good usage. But no move shall be submitted to the body when there is a move before the house, unless the first one be withdrawn by the person who made such move and no person shall be allowed to speak more than three (3) times on the same subject and not more than ten (10) minutes each time without a move and second carried by the body.

Article 10. No person shall be disturbed while speaking so long as he keeps to the point in debate only by the Moderator and then only to call him to order. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at a time and he must rise to his feet and address the Moderator and he must not use abusive language or personal reflection upon anyone.

Article 11. This Association shall have a treasurer and executive committee to be elected annually. And no church shall be considered in this body who shall, or have retained a minister that has stepped aside from his obligations in any form (as in 1st Tim. 1st Chapter, unless said minister has shown by his actions that he has repented of the former evil.

Article 12. That any minister who will voluntarily step aside must immediately turn his credentials over to the executive committee and said executive committee shall visit the various churches to see if they are in good standing or not and help them to retain good order.

Article 13. That no church shall retain a minister or deacon who does not rule his own house well.

Article 14. That no church shall be recorded in this body who does not commune and wash feet at least once (1) a year, and who does not have conference at least six (6) times a year, and each church shall state in its associational letter as to whether this ordinance has been kept or not. And also state how much it has paid its pastor, and all ministers serving churches shall preach at least one sermon a year on doctrine and rules of holy living.

Article 15. Any preacher belonging to this body who sends an appointment or serving churches who fail to meet at the ap-

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pointed hour shall be due acknowledgement to the congregation
or church.

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL ASSOCIATIONAL STATISTICAL TABLE:

CHURCH AND PASTOR	CLERK AND POSTOFFICE							Total Members	Day of Meeting
		Baptism	Conf: of Faith	Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Dead		
UNION HILL.....W: A. Davis	B. M. Bolin, Hartford, Ala., Rt. 5	3	2	2	1	3	2	155	2
ANTIOCH.....B. F. Cherry	R. J. A. Register, Graceville, Fla.	5	1	7				66	2
BETHEL.....W. A. Davis	Alma Sellers, Hartford, Alabama	1			1	1	1	96	1
BETHELHEM.....W. W. Treminite	Thomas Gilley, Geneva Alabama							13	2-4
CHRISTIAN HOME.....J. A. Pettis	W. J. Hughes, Hartford, Alabama	6	3			1	2	85	4
PANTHER CREEK.....A. B. Nelsor	D. M. Starling, Slocumb, Ala., Rt. 2	18	2		2	5	1	135	2
HINSON.....W. A. Davis	T. J. Davis, Dothan, Ala., Rt. 6		2			2	1	52	4

