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MINUTES

OF THE

12th Annual Session

OF THE

UNION ASSOCIATION

OF THE

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

August 31 and September 1 & 2, 1911.

Held with Oak Grove Church, Wright Co Mo.

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13th Annual Session to be Held with Knob Chapel Church.

THE UNION ASSOCIATION OF THE FREE-WILL BAPTISTS AT OAK GROVE CHURCH, AUG. 31 @ SEPT. 1, 2, 1911.

The Union Association of Free Will Baptists met pursuant to adjournment, Thursday, August 31, A. D. 1911, 4 p. m.

Session called to order by Rev. O. F. Dennis.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Rev. M. B. Clift, Niangua, Mo. Lesson for introductory sermon was Ephesians, 4th chapter; text, 4th and 5th verses of the chapter read. Rev. Clift was followed by Rev. L. M. Marler of Ava, Mo.

The body proceeded to organize by electing the following officers: Moderator, Rev. L. W. Hensley, Smittle, Mo.; Assistant Moderator, Rev. J. H. Claxton, Smittle, Mo.; Wm. Draper, Clerk; J. D. Jones, Treasurer.

The body being duly organized, proceeded to elect the various committees as follows:

Committee on Business—Rev. T. B. Marler, Rev. O. F. Dennis, Brother James Claxton.

Committee on Divine Service—Brother L. A. Butcher, Brother Dan Fletcher, Rev. James Housley.

Committee on Obituaries—Rev. James McCall, Rev. M. B. Clift, Brother Alfred Curtis.

Committee on Credentials—Rev. A. J. Barnett, Rev. W. S. Gaskill, Brother Sam Young.

On motion, session adjourned until 8 o'clock a. m., Friday. Adjourned with prayer, led by Rev. D. H. Long.

FRIDAY MORNING.

Session was called to order by the Moderator. After song service, the Moderator read for the morning lesson Chapter I of the Book of Ephesians. Prayer led by Brother Samuel Young.

Call was made for all Ordained Ministers belonging to this Association to enroll, which enrollment showed as follows:

Rev. C. N. Findley, Macomb, Mo.

Rev. L. M. Marler, Ava, Mo.

Rev. L. J. Gearing, St. George, Mo.

Rev. C. S. Long, Norwood, Mo.

Rev. D. H. Long, Norwood, Mo.

Rev. J. W. Housley, Norwood, Mo.

Rev. J. H. Claxton, St. George, Mo.

Rev. T. B. Marler, Ava, Mo.

Rev. J. F. McCall, Cold Springs, Mo-

Rev. O. F. Dennis, Mountain Grove, Mo.

Rev. L. W. Hensley, Smittle, Mo.

Rev. T. W. Conley, Johns Mills, Mo.

Rev. W. S. Gaskill, Mansfield, Mo.

Rev. A. J. Barnett, Norwood, Mo.

Rev. Z. Williams, Cabool, Mo.

Rev. J. T. Holcomb, R. F. D. No. 1, Marshfield, Mo.

Rev. J. W. Love, Mountain Grove, Mo.

Rev. Parker, Mountain Grove, Mo.

Rev. Delco, Rev. Cope, Rev. Parkins, Rev. Thomas Carner.

The call for all Ordained Deacons belonging to the Assembly to enroll showed the following results:

J. P. Dennis, Wolf Creek Church, Mansfield, Mo.

A. C. Curtis, Pleasant Grove Church, St. George, Mo.

J. E. Claxton, Mount Olive No. 2, Smittle, Mo.

James Latimer, Niangua Church, Niangua, Mo.

L. D. Fletcher, Oak Grove Church, Norwood, Mo., R. F. D. 2.

D. C. Claxton, Pleasant Hill Church, Rembert, Mo.

- A. W. Belt, Mount Zion No. 2, Grimes, Mo.
- J. H. Maxville, Union Chapel No. 1, Graff, Mo.
- A. V. Walton, Niangua Church, Niangua, Mo.
- J. M. Long, Mt. Valley Church, Norwood, Mo., R. F. D. 5.

Sam Young, Pleasant Hill Church, Rembert, Mo.

Harrison Coday, Wolf Creek, Mansfield, Mo., R. F. D. 1.

E. Carpenter, Liberty Church, Teague, Mo.

Reuben Young, Pleasant Hill Church, Rembert, Mo.

- L. A. Butcher, Oak Grove Church, Norwood, Mo., R. F. D. 2.
- V. S. Findley, Pleasant Ridge Church, Macomb, Mo.
- W. A. Ratteree, Union Chapel Church, Graff, Mo.

Enrollment of Delegates showed the following result:

A. J. Tucker and Berry Bookout, Fordland; B. W. Petit and W. F. Alexander, Niangua; T. J. Stokes, Niangua; G. W. Williams, Susanna; T. F. Claxton, Smittle; Walter Chandler, Macedonia; Wm. Shelton and F. M. Moreland, Wolf Creek; E. E. Simmons, Mt. Zion No. 3; A. M. Maberry, Oak Grove; Joseph McBride, Mt. Zion No. 3; James Ratteree, Union Chapel; W. L. Chandler, Black Oak; H. T. Edwards, Mt. Valley; Elihu Coday, Pleasant Hill; J. H. Clark, Pleasant Grove; F. M. Hicks, Excelsior; Noah Jones, Pleasant Hill; Harvey McRoberts, Mt. Zion No. 2; C. B. Austin, Mt. Zion No. 2.

Committee on Order of Business made the following report, which was adopted as read:

- 1. Reading of Constitution and By-Laws governing this Association.
 - 2. Reading of letters and messages from various Churches.
- 3. Report of Delegates and Corresponding Messengers to other bodies
 - 4. Reports from other organizations.

5. Unfinished business.

Constitution and By-Laws read by the Clerk.

Letters from the various churches were read by the Clerk and received by the Association.

Reports from the Delegates and Messengers were read by the Clerk and duly disposed of according to the regulations of this body.

No reports from other organizations were received.

On motion, the Moderator was authorized to appoint a committee to examine Brother E. Jones as to his fitness to preach the Gospel for one year. The Moderator appointed the committee as follows: Rev. D. H. Long, Rev. A. J. Barnett, Rev. C. N. Findley.

After due consideration and examination, the committee made the following report, which was accepted by the Association:

We, your Committee, find Brother Jones to be a worthy Brother and a fit subject to preach the Gospel for one year.

REV. D. H. LONG, Chairman.

Conference took recess until 2 p. m.

Divine Services at 11 o'clock, stand being filled by Rev. D. H. Long and Rev. L. M. Marler.

FRIDAY EVENING.

Session called to order and opened by Assistant Moderator, J. H. Claxton, the lesson being the 23rd Chapter of the Psalms of David. Prayer led by Rev. L. J. Gearing

Report of Committee asking if there was any field needing any ministerial services, and, if so, how can it be supplied? The

question was discussed by Rev. C. N. Findley, Brother Samuel Young, Rev. O. F. Dennis, Rev. J. F. McCall, Rev. A. J. Barnett, Brother J. D. Jones and Rev. L. W. Hensley. Upon motion, the question was tabled for the time being. Evening session was closed with prayer by Rev. L. W. Hensley.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Session opened by the Moderator reading the 46th Chapter of the Psalms of David. Prayer led by Rev. T. B. Marler.

Resolution passed calling for all money belonging to the Association to be turned into the treasury.

By resolution the following proposition was placed before the Association: "Shall this Association have an Evangelist?" A general discussion followed in which Rev. D. H. Long, Rev. A. J. Barnett, Brother Samuel Young, Rev. O. F. Dennis and Rev. J. F. McCall participated. The resolution was passed and Rev. J. F. McCall was selected to serve as Evangelist for the ensuing year. The Evangelist to get his support and remuneration in accordance with the rules laid down in the Church Treaty, such remuneration to be \$1.50 for each day in actual service. Evangelist to take collections at each place where services are held and to make quarterly reports of such collections to the Treasurer of this Association. If the collections fail to make the salary he is authorized to draw upon the Treasurer for the remainder due him. The Evangelist is required to keep a correct record and report to this Association at the next meeting the number of days in actual service, sermons delivered, miles traveled, money collected, conversions witnessed.

On motion, the Moderator was authorized to select a commit-

tee for the purpose of submitting a report as to place of holding the next Association.

The Moderator appointed Rev. M. B. Clift, Rev. James Housley and Rev. C. N. Findley as a committee on selecting place of next meeting.

The committee selected Knob Chapel as place for holding the next Association and the report of the committee was accepted.

On motion, Rev. L. M. Marler was selected to preach the Introductory Sermon, Rev. C. N. Findley being selected alternate.

Conference took recess until 2 p. m.

SATURDAY EVENING.

Session called together by Moderator reading the 133rd Chapter of the Psalms of David. Prayer led by Rev. C. N. Findley.

By motion, Clerk was instructed to supervise the printing of the Minutes of this Association and that he have 500 copies printed.

On motion, reports from Ministers were declared in order.

Report of Rev. E. N. Delcour: Sermons preached, 62; Exhortations, 7; witnessed 12 professions; baptized 3; preached 1 funeral; traveled 319 miles. Mt. Zion No. 2 paid \$10.60; Green Valley paid \$1.25; Pleasant Grove paid \$3.85; Union Chapel paid \$34.05. Total, \$49.75.

Report of Rev. M. B. Clift: Pastored Pleasant Hill Church, made 9 trips, traveled 288 miles, held 2 revival meetings, witnessed 42 conversions, received 34 into the church, baptized 25, received \$63.17. Pastored New Home Church No. 2, traveled 132 miles, held 1 revival meeting, witnessed 23 conversions, received into the church 24, baptised 17, received \$57.25. Pastored Macedonia

Church, traveled 88 miles, held no revival meetings, received none into the church, baptized none, received \$31.30. Local Work: Made one trip to Hargus Chapel, three trips to Liberty Church, two trips to Black Oak Church, traveled 78 miles, received for local work \$7.95. Total number of miles traveled, 634; total number of conversions witnessed, 84; total received into the church, 61; total amount received for my labors, \$202.17.

Report of L. J. Gearing: Preached 25 sermons, 9 exhortations, witnessed 12 conversions, traveled 448 miles, received \$7.25, pastored no churches.

On motion, all committees were released from further duties.

By resolution, Rev. T. B. Marler was selected to express our heartfelt thanks to the good Brothers and Sisters of Oak Grove Church for their hospitality, their love, their kindness and their respect shown us during our sojourn with them. May God bless them and save them all is the prayer of this Association.

Committee on Obituaries submitted the following report:

"Whereas, the dark-winged messenger of death has visited our Church and homes since last we met in our Association, and has taken away our loved ones near and dear to us, Rev. A. Murr and Brother Wm Barnes of Mt. Zion Church No. 2, Brother Albert Coday and Sister Margaret Coday of Pleasant Hill Church, Sister Bettie Goolsby of Oak Grove Church, Sister Oma Allen of Mt. Valley Church, Sister Levie Ussery of Oak Grove Church, Sister Amanda Bartley of Oak Grove Church, Brother John McLain of Clever Creek Union Church, Rev. John Hamby and Sister Angeline Newton, all of whom were held in high esteem amongst us, we feel assured that they have joined the Association of Angels and their works will follow them."

On motion, the Association adjourned to meet again on Thursday, 4 p. m., before the first Sunday in September, 1912,

with Knob Chapel Church.

REV. L. W. HENSLEY, Moderator. REV. J. R. CLAXTON, Assistant.

WM. DRAPER, Clerk.

Statistical Table of Churches

	baptism		recommendation					
21	25		1	2			1	\$1.13
21				1		59	-	1.00
3	2	-				34	1	1.00
10						28		.75
	3		0		1	16	4	1.00
	4		2		1		4 2	1.00
	0.0	7				60	-	1.00
12	23	1				29	1	1.00
7	13			Т		30	1	1.00
- 4	3			1		43	2	1.05
8	0					33	2	1.00
	10	5				- N	11	1 00
		0		1	1	110		1.00
15				1	7			1.00
			5 19 5	5 19 5	5 19 5	5 19 5 1 1	5 19 5 116	5 19 5 116

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

- 1. THE BIBLE. The Scriptures of the New Testament were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.
- 2. GOD. There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver and Righteous Governor of the Universe, and in the Scriptures as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.
- 3. CHRIST. Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His Divine Nature truly God; in his human nature truly man. The Mediator between God and man; once crucified. He is now risen and glorified and is our ever-present Savior and Lord.
- 4. THE HOLY SPIRIT. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men.
- 5. THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.
- 6. THE SINFULNESS OF MAN. Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity therefore inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all that come to years of accountability sin and become guilty before God.
- 7. THE WORK OF CHRIST. The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection, effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

- 8. THE TERMS OF SALVATION. The conditions of salvation are: (1) Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. (2) Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord, with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. (3) Continuance in faith and obedience until death.
- 9. ELECTION. God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ, men become his elect.
- 10. FREEDOM OF THE WILL. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.
- 11. SALVATION FREE. God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take the water of life freely.
- 12. PERSEVERANCE. All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have the promise of salvation.
- 13. GOSPEL ORDINANCES. Baptism or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.
- 14. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH. The Divine Law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employment and amusements for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communication with God.
- 15. RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT AND FINAL RETRIBUTION. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done ill unto the resurrection of judgment; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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