

MINUTES
OF THE
Twenty Second Annual Session
OF THE
West Florida and South East Alabama Liberty
Free Will Baptist Association
HELD WITH
Piney Grove Church, Washington Co. Fla.
November 4th. 5th. 6th. 1910.

OFFICERS

B. F. Pate,	Moderator.
Monroe Simmons,	Clerk.

Executive Committee.

W. S. Sellers, Henry Broom, G. A. Register,
W. C. Sheffield and E. V. Hughes.

The next session of this Association will convene with
Hinson Church Geneva County Alabama.
seven miles North of Graceville Fla
Commencing on Friday before
the first Sunday in Nov. 1911.

The next Union Meeting will convene with Macedonia
Church, Caryville Fla., Commencing Friday
at 11 o'clock before the fourth Sunday
in November 1911.

MINUTES.



The Liberty United Frewill Baptist Association, of West Florida, and South East Alabama, held its Twenty-Second Annual session with Piney Grove Church, Washington County, Florida commencing Friday at 10 o'clock before the first Sunday in November, 1910,

Sermon introductory to business was preached by A. L. Pate, after intermission of two hours the body was called to order by the former Moderator and after reading the third Chapter of James and delivered his annual address, the body knelt in prayer with the Moderator. After which the association was declared open and ready for business, proceeded to business as follows,

First called for corresponding letters from different churches. Received nine.

Waived the former rule of business and called for petitionary letters received six. Appointed Rev, A. B. Nelson, and Monroe Simmons, to read the letters,

Hinson Church, Represented by Monroe Simmons, W. S. Sellers, T. J. Creel and John. Kirkland.

Antioch, G. A. Registrar and C. C. Hutto.

Bethel, J. G. Watson.

Union Hill, J. W. Butler, and J. R. Bolin.

Spring Hill, H. W. Mears, Henry Broom, and W. B. Peters.

Piney Grove, T. D. Owens.

Bulah, W. C. Sheffield and W. M. Bess.

St. John, J. A. Anderson and Marvin Lawson.

Panther Creek, C. A. Hardy and S. S. Williams.

Christian Home, J. C. Retherford, and E. V. Hughes.

Liberty, Willis Andrews.

Hickory Grove. J. W. Sheffield.

Petionary Letters.

New Home. M. L. Hall.

Christtian Home, By letter.

Pine Chapel. By letter.

Shiloh. By letter.

Infant Rest. W. M. Scott,

Macedonia. J. A. Skinner

St. Paul. S. W. Robison and C. C. Clemmons.

The body organized by electing, B. F. Pate, Moderator, and Monroe Simmons, Clerk.

Next called for correspondents from associations. Received from South eastern Rev. George M, Hardy. Appointed committies as follows.

On divine Services, Jim Johnson, J. W. Sheffield, J. G. Watson, Henry Broom, and J. A. Skinner.

On Temperance. D. P. Mathews, A. L. Pate, W. A. Hardy, J. R. Bolin, C. B. Hutto A. B. Nelson, and W. M. Duncan.

On good of the order. George M. Hardy, H. M Mears W. B. Sheffield, and Y. B. Hagins.

Finance committee. J. C. Retherford, M. L. Hall. C. C. Clemons.

On nomination. A. B. Nelson, G. A. Register and H. W. Mears.

On Sabbath school. J. W. Butler, G. B. Jenkins, C. A. Hardy and James T. Morris.

On resolution. G. A. Register, W. C. Sheffield, S. S. Williams, W. S. Sellers and A. J. Pitts.

There being no other business the Association adjourned until half past eight o'clock Saturday Morning November the 5th.

Saturday Morning Session

Saturday morning the body was called to order by the moderator, and after reading the Third division of the Psalms, and prayer by Monroe Simmons, the body proceeded to business.

Renewed the call for corresponding letters, received none.

Called for petitiary letters, received none. Called for correspondents from sister associations, received from the Salem Rev J. C. Eldridge, Rev. G. P. Nealy, and Rev. J. C. Rudd.

Appointed correspondents from sister Association's as follows to the State Line.

Rev W. M. Duncan, Brother M. L. Hall.

To the South Eastern, Brother B. F. Pate, and J. C. Retherford.

To to the Salem. Rev. A. L. Pate, Brother Henry Broom, and Rev, James T. Morris,

Adjourned till 2 o'clock.

Afternoon Session.

At 2 o'clock the body was called to order by the Moderator and after prayer by Rev. D. P. Mathews, the body proceeded to business as follows.

Renewed the call for correspondents from sister Associations, received from the State Line, Rev. J. A. Skinner, and Rev. G. L. Shoots.

Next heard the report of committics' as follows

On Good of the Order.

We your committee on good of the order, beg leave to submit the following report. We find several of our preachers doing but little and we ask that they go to work or give an account of their stewardship, also that the names of each one come up in this body together with what they have done.

We ask that each church have a standard prayer meeting once a week.

Let's be firm and not walk with the wicked. We

are commanded to walk worthy of the vocation, wherefore we are called with all lawliness of heart endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace, by this we let our lights shine, we ask that this body both severely and collectively be governed by Christ's word.

We believe that churches calling pastors to serve them should look more after their interest in the future than they have in the past, let the world do as they please, but let us live for God, and instead of looking after our enemies to their downfall we should pray for them, for by so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head finally let us live in peace and, by so doing we will be the children of peace let us live to let live, we insist that brethren visit their sister churches more in the future and keep in line with each other, let this be our theme.

Respectfully Submitted.

Rev. George M. Hardy. Chm.

Report of Sabbath School.

We your committee on Sabbath School beg leave to report as follows, We find but four sabbath schools in our Association, and we ask that each preacher and deacon impress the members of our churches the great importance of having a sabbath school at each church if possible.,

Respectfully Submitted

J. W. Butler, Chm.

On Finance.

Committee on finance submitted the following report.

Name of Church	Amount paid
Bulah.....	\$1.50
Panther Creek.....	1.25
Union Hill.....	1.50
Christain Home.....	1.50
Hickory Grove.....	1.00
Liberty.....	2.00
Bethel.....	1.50
Hinson.....	2.00
Spring Hill.....	1.60

Infant Rest.....	1.50
Shiloh.....	1.25
New Home.....	1.00
Macedonia.....	1.50
Pine Chapel.....	1.25
St. Paul.....	1.11
Christian Home.....	1.31
Piney Grove.....	2.00
Antioch.....	2.00
St. John.....	1.50

Total	\$23.27

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. Retherford

M. L. Hall

C. C. Clemmons,

Committee.

Report of Committie on Temperance.

We your committie on Temperance beg leave to make the following report;

It is indeed very gratifying for us to report that within the last year very effective work has been done along the lines of prohibition. Recent measures regulating and restricting the sale of intoxicating liquors place our bounds in the rank of those states in which the welfare of the masses is of first consideration. The open and licensed sale of whiskey is, for the present, a thing of the past, and with it has gone a host of evils which inevitably accompany it. We are glad to call your attention to the fact that crime has been continually on the decrease, and that our people as a rule are living more in keeping with moral teachings. Homes which have been blighted and darkened by intemperance in strong drink are now radiant with the light of peace.

Even now it is urged that financial wreck and confusion will follow in the wake of these measures but your committee is glad to report that we are now er-

joying a season of prosperity nn-equaled in our history.

The absence of whiskey in our harvest season has brought about more wisdom in the distribution of our goods. Children have been clothed and et the same time given advantages offered by our public schools.

In this connecton, too it has been urged that our schools would be a failure but we are glad to report that without the taint of blood money they are of the very best. The Lord has blessed us with an abundant harvest and peace and plenty have been our portion even in the sense of a people ever mindful of God, Brethren we believe that untold good has come upon us through the work ings of our prohibition measures.

Along with all this good which we have to report, however, it becomes our duty to call your attention to an unmistakable tempest which threatens us. If we are not prepared for it in its intensity, it may be that we shall lose even that we have won. We have reference to the present issue as to whether or not the sale of intoxicating liquors shall be prohibited by the constitution. We feel that this is a question of so much importance to the people that it should be forever with them to determine.

Your committee, therefore, respectfully asks that you endorse without reservation or restrictions whatever the the proposed amendment to the constitution; and that the adoption of this report and its record on the minutes shall signify the same. Without affiliation with political parties or perons in any sense whatever, let us as a denomination press with unbroken ranks to win this victory. Let the whiskey interest be forever barred from our borders, so that strangers entering our gates in years to come may exclaim of a land of peace and plenty. "Here we rest,"

Report read and adopted.

D. P. Mathis, Chm,

Report on Resolutions.

We your committee on Resolutions submit the following report;

1st. Any person not in good standing in some christian church is not held in fellowship with this association nor will be allowed to preach in our churches.

2nd. Also that this association give the Union meeting the right to transact any business that it deems proper.

G. A. Register, Chm.

Report on Nomination

We your committee on nomination beg leave to report as follows, that the next association meet with Hinson Church, Geneva County Alabama, Seven miles North of Graceville Florida, on Friday before the first Sunday in November 1911. Introductory sermon by A. L. Pate.

The next union meeting to be held with Macedonia Church, two miles north of Caryville Florida on Friday before the fourth Sunday in August 1911. Introductory sermon by Rev A. B. Nelson,

Respectfully Submitted

A. B. Nelson.

H. W. Mears.

G. A. Register.

} Committee.

Miscellaneous Business,

Report of Treasurer.

Balance on hand from 1909.....\$ 6.98

Received for associational purposes..... 29.27

Received for Missions.

Hinson..... 5.00

Spring Hill..... 3.00

Union Hill..... 2.00

Received from Rev. A. B. Nelson..... 5.00

Total amount collected.....\$50.25

Paid Rev. A. B. Nelson for Mission work \$10.00

Paid Clerk..... 7.00

Total amount Paid out.....\$17.00

Balance on hand.....\$33.25

Monroe Simmons, Treasurer.

Moved and carried that clerk have (300) three hundred minutes printed. Paid clerk \$7.00 for his service. We tender our thanks to Piney Grove church and vicinity and especially the good ladies, for the kindness shown us during our stay with them. No other business the Association adjourned to meet at Hinson Church Geneva County Alabama, seven miles North of Graceville, Fla. on Friday before the First Sunday in November. 1911.

M. Simmons. Clerk.

B. F. Pate. Moderator,

Graceville, Fla. R. 3.

Black, Ala.

Order of Preaching.

Friday at 11 o'clock, A. M. the introductory sermon was preached by Rev. A. L. Pate, text 23th. Chapter and 19th. and 20th. verse of St. Mathew. Friday night the stand was occupied by Rev. W. N. Dixon, text Hebrews 4th, Chapter and 1st. to 4th. verse. Saturday at 11 o'clock Rev. G. M. Hardy, occupied the stand, text Rev. 10th. Chapter, and 9th. verse. Saturday night by Rev. J. C. Rudd, text Eph. 6th. Chapter and 11th. verse. Sunday by Rev. G. L. Shute, text St. John 3rd. Chapter and 16th. verse

Associational Decorum.

1st. This Association shall be composed only of churches in good standing, and shall be called together by the moderator of the last session if present.

2nd. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

3rd. The moderator and clerk of the last session shall officiate 'till another moderator and clerk are elected.

4th. It is the duty of the Moderator to receive and submit all motions to the body, and see that order is preserved.

5th. The Moderator and Clerk shall be elected by nomination and acclamation at each session of the Association.

6th. This Association shall have a Treasurer and an executive committee to be elected every two years.

7th. Each church in this Association shall be governed by the laws of the Association.

8th. No church will be considered in good standing that retains any member or minister who is known to practice hypnotism.

9th. That no minister shall be considered in good standing that officiates in the rights of matrimony where either of parties have been divorced except for fornication

10th. No church shall be considered in good standing that retains a minister or deacon that has more than one living wife, or drinks intoxicating beverages.

11th. That no church shall be considered in good order that does not commune and wash feet at least one time per year, and further that each church be required to state in their corresponding letters as to whether this ordinance has been kept or not.

Order Of Business.

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Call for corresponding letters, and enrolling names of delegates.
3. Organize by electing Moderator and Clerk.
4. Call for pentionary letters.
5. Call for correspondence from sister associations.
6. Appoint Committees.
7. Appoint corsespondents.
8. Reading of corresponding letters.
9. Here reports of committees.
10. Miscellaneous business.

Names Of Ordained Ministers.

A. L. Pate Bonifay Fla. W. M. Duncan Graceville Fla.
J. L. Simmons Graceville Fla. I. S. Sellars Slocumb Ala.
W. N. Dixon West Bay Fla. C. J. Thomas Georgiana Ala
G. B. Jenkins Graceville Fla. W. A. Hardy Gracevill Fla.
D. P. Mathews Chipley Fla. J. T. Morris Chipley Fla. H.
W. Norris Hartford Ala. H. F. Yates Bonifay Fla. A. B.
Nelson Bonifay Fla

Articles Of Faith.

1. We believe there is but one living and true God

whose name is Jehova the maker and ruler of the universe.

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things and by whom our 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 a 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 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 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 blessing of Salvation are made free, and attainable 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. 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 then take place, the righteous being adjudged to everlasting happiness, and the wicked to endless punishment and this judgement will fix forever the final state of man in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

Church Decurum.

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

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

3. The pastor shall be the Moderator of the church, but when he is absent, or does not sit as Moderator, being present, some 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 disbursement of all contributions made 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 the same may be laid before the church conference, if necessary.

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

7. When a Clerk is appointed, all the books, minutes etc, belonging to the Clerk, shall immediately be delivered 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 bretheren 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 of conference.

10. It shall be the duty of every member, male and female, to attend each conference, if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in a spe-

cial manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline and rules of holy living.

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

12. Conference shall be opened and conducted as follows; 1st. Prayer, unless divine service has just been concluded and generally then, 2nd. Invite visiting bretheren to seats with us. 3rd. Open the door for the reception of members. 4th. Call for absentees. 5th. For acknowledge-ments. 6th. For references or deferred business. 7th. For matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church, 8th. For miscellaneous business.

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

14. An orderly member of the Baptist church which does not hold this church in fellowship, may be received into this church without a 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 other persons must join by letter or baptism.

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

16. When the Moderator calls for absentees, the clerk shall inform the church what male members have been absent from three successive conferences, and the Moderator shall appoint some brother or bretheren 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 this witness?"

19 The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgement shall be minuted 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 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 a 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 his 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 discussion in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling. Those who speak must rise to their feet and keep to the point in debate.

27. No one shall speak more than three times on same subject without permission of the Moderator nor shall the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.

28, When the Moderator speak he must nominate some brother as Moderator 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 communicate wash the saints' feet as often as the church sees fit the expenses paid by the church.

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

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

32. The Decorum may be altered or admended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any two successive Monthly conferences.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCH.	COUNTY & STATE.	PASTOR.	CLERKS & THEIR P. O.	By Bapt'm	By Letter	Confession of faith	Restored	Excluded	Dead	Dismissed by letter	Total Members'p	Sabbath of Meeting
Hinson.	Geneva, Ala.	M. C. Pippin	Monroe Simmons, Graceville, Fla.	7	0	1	4	4	0	2	82	4
Bulah	Jackson Fla.	W. M. Duncan	James Tindell, Graceville, Fla.	1	0	2	0	2	1	2	72	3
Christian Home	Geneva, Ala.	A. L. Pate	J. C. Retherford Black, Ala.	1	0	2	3	2	0	2	121	2
Spring Hill	Holmes Fla.	A. L. Pate	H. W. Mears, Bonifay, Fla.	11	0	4	2	0	0	0	76	
Macedonia		A. L. Pate	J. Ellis, Caryville, Fla.	05	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Shiloh.	Washington Fla.	W. N Dixon	A. L. Sheffield	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Christain home	Washington, Fla.	H. Foxworth		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Union Hill	Geneva, Ala.	J. L. Simmons	J. W. Butler, Slocumb, Ala.	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	45	1
Infant Rest	Washington Fla.	D. P. Mathews	J. F. Morris. Chipley Fla.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29	
Ethel	Geneva, Ala.	J. L. Simmons	W. R. Kirkland, Hartford, Ala.	4	1	3	0	0	1	1	28	2
Liberty.	Washington, Fla	D. P. Mathews	A. J. Dykes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
St. Paul		A. B. Nelson		4	0	0	0	0	0	0	11	
Panther Creek	Geneva, Ala.	I. S. Sellers	C. A. Hardy. Slocumb. Ala.	5	0	6	2	1	1	2	56	
Hickory Grove	Butler, Ala	C. J. Thomas	J W Sheffield, Georgiana, Ala	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Pine Chapel	Washington, Fla.	W. N, Dixon	J. L. Styson, West Bay, Fla.	0	0	5	0	1	0	2	28	
New Home	Washington, Fla	G. B Jenkins	O. O Barton, Caryville, Fla.	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Piney Grove	Washington, Fla	A. B. Nelson	T. D. Owens, Chipley Fla	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	
Antioch	Genya, Ala	J. C. Eldrige	George Wiley, Graceville, Fla.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	76	
St. John's	Holmes, Fla			7	0	3	0	1	0	0	55	1