

MINUTES

OF THE

Thirty-First Annual Session

OF THE

West Florida and South-East Alabama
Liberty Freewill Baptist Association

CONVENED WITH

POPLAR HEAD CHURCH

Washington County Florida

October 30, 31 and November 1, 1919

OFFICERS

A. L. Pate.....Moderator
G. B. Martin.....Clerk

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

W. A. Elmore, Chairman.
E. F. Hutto. C. I. Wells.
J. B. Baker. B. F. Pate.

PROCEEDINGS

The 31st annual session of the Liberty Free Will Baptist Association convened with Poplar Head church, Oct. 30-31 and Nov 1st, A. D., 1919.

THURSDAY MORNING 11:00 O'CLOCK

Introductory sermon by Rev. T. E. Rass. Text: (Prov. 14-12) (and Chapter 16-25). (There is a way which seemeth right unto man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.)

Adjourn for refreshments.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Association convened at 2:00 o'clock and called to order by former moderator, A. L. Pate, by reading scripture lesson, 23rd Psalm. Prayer by Rev. S. M. Tindell. Motion carried to enter into business session. The former moderator called for corresponding letters from sister churches and the following churches and delegates were enrolled:

Beulah with Tommie Golden, Z. M. C. Baxter and A. Brock.

Union Hill with A. T. Mass, G. H. Tindell, C. G. Warters, Will Benton, Birhot, Bolen, Ollie Toole.

St. Paul with C. C. Clemmons, A. L. Bell, G. W. Milton.

Poplar Head with G. W. Johnson, L. W. Johnson, N. E. Chestnut.

Spring Hill with J. H. Mears, A. C. Anderson, J. T. Birge, Sidney Floyd.

Bethel with I. S. Dykes, J. G. Watson, C. I. Wells, M. L. Peterson.

Antioch with R. D. Beall, G. A. Register.

Piney Grove with J. A. Johnson, R. E. Golden, T. D. Owens, Geo. Roberts, G. W. Owens.

St. John with J. A. Anderson, J. W. Nelson, J. W. Yates, E. L. Nelson.

Panther Creek with S. E. Carroll, R. Z. Clark.

Christian Home with T. A. Darriety, B. F. Pate, E. F. Hutto, W. A. Holland.

East Pittman with Joe Sowell, D. W. Rutherford. Church reported out of order. Motion carried to table letter from East Pittman indefinitely. And after discussion of said church, and delegate Sowell producing a letter from State Line Association as to the

standing of East Pitman church. Motion carried to rescind the act of this body at last session by receiving E. Pitman as a member of this association upon a petitionary letter and receive said church under watch care of this association until the next session of same. That East Pitman have the State Line association to re-instate them and give them a letter of dismission and present it at next session of this body and this association will receive them in full fellowship.

Hinson with G. W. Ursey, G. W. Hinson, V. C. Hartzog.

The body then proceeded to organize by electing Rev. A. I. Pate moderator and Rev. G. B. Martin clerk. The moderator then called for corresponding delegates from sister associations and received Salem with Rev. W. M. Duncan and Bro. T. E. Parrish and J. F. Fillingem by singing and giving right hand of fellowship to them (the delegates.)

The moderator then appointed a committee on divine services as follows: G. W. Johnson, chm., J. T. Birge, B. F. Pate, J. A. Anderson.

On resolutions: T. E. Ross, C. E. Clemmons, W. A. Elmore, B. F. Pate, G. B. Martin, A. B. Nelson, chairman.

On suggestions: J. W. Nelson, H. W. Norris, J. A. Petis, R. B. Beall, T. E. Parrish, chairman.

On Sabbath schools: J. H. Chestnut, E. F. Hutto, S. E. Carroll, C. C. Clemmons, R. A. Elmore, chairman.

On finance: S. M. Tindell, G. A. Register, chairman.

On memorials: J. W. Yates, T. D. Owens, E. C. Anderson, J. F. Fillingim, chairman.

On temperance: A. T. Mass, W. M. Duncan, A. B. Nelson, chairman.

The moderator then called for report of committee on divine services. Reports as follows: That Rev. W. M. Duncan will preach Friday at 11:00 o'clock. Motion carried to adjourn until tomorrow, Friday, at 9:30 o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Association convened at 9:30 and called to order by moderator by reading scripture lesson from 34th Psalms. Prayer by Rev. J. H. Chestnut. Being ready for business, motion carried to take up the question of

a division in the association. Motion carried to open discussion of the matter on division and after discussion of same by the body, the moderator called for a vote on same which was as follows: for the division, 20 votes and against the division 21 votes. Then a vote was taken unanimously by every delegate and the association remains as it is.

A letter from Pilgrims Guide church was received and brought in this body by Rev. A. B. Nelson and read. Motion carried to receive Pilgrims Guide and it be represented by letter in this session. Motion adjourn for preaching. 15 minutes recess.

Met back in house at 11:00 o'clock. Song by congregation. Prayer by Rev. A. M. Swindell. Song by congregation. Prayer by W. A. Elmore by request of Bro. W. M. Duncan. The congregation sung a song, the Old Ship of Zion. At 11:00 Rev. Duncan preached. Text: Matthew 16-18. (Reads.) And I say also unto thee thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Subject: The church. Dismissed for refreshments.

FRIDAY P. M. SESSION

Met back in house at 2:30. Association called to order by moderator and renewed the call for corresponding letters from sister churches and received Liberty with E. D. Miller, Sidney Williams. Motion carried to receive Liberty and seat delegates.

The moderator then called for the committee on Sabbath schools. Report as follows:

We your committee on Sabbath schools, beg leave to report that we find only three Sabbath schools in the whole association. One at St. Paul and at Union Hill and Piney Grove. Therefore, we suggest that this committee act as Sabbath school evangelist for this association with Bros. C. C. Clemmons, J. H. Chestnut and R. A. Elmore work and organize in Florida and E. F. Hutto and S. E. Carroll organize in Alabama. We also ask the assistance of the pastors of the various churches.

Respectfully submitted,

J. H. Chestnut, chairman.

On suggestions: We suggest, first that any preacher failing to make his annual report to this as-

sociation shall be considered out of order. Read and adopted.

Second, each church shall keep a correct record of the amount paid their pastor each year and any church failing to do so shall not be seated or recognized as a church. Read and adopted.

Third, that all the members of each church shall pay in to the treasurer of the church where their membership is as God has prospered them. and if any member fails to do so the church shall deal with him as they will any other disorderly member. Read, motion carried to table third clause. Tabled.

Fourth, that each church in this association shall be governed by the laws of this association. Motion to table fourth. Tabled.

Fifth, no church shall allow any outsider to participate in calling a pastor and that any church practicing such will be considered out of order. Motion to table fifth. Tabled.

On resolutions: We, your committee on resolutions, beg leave to submit the following report. First, in order to put our churches on a financial system to be alike in the whole association. Be it resolved, that there shall be an assessing board for this association, whose duty it shall be to assess all members who are heads of families in each church of the association, wife of husbands not members of church shall be qualified. This board shall call an assembly or meeting of each church in the first quarter of the year and proceed to assess each member as per above requirements and according to said members ability to pay. After assessing each qualified member of a church the board shall present said members assessment to him for approval. Said member may then accept said assessment as he may, raise it or lower it to suit himself. After presenting assessment made upon a church, each assessment to the member assessed and revising the assessment of each member into such sum as he agrees to pay that year. The board shall then turn over to the treasurer of church a copy of said churches assessment. The deacons and treasurer of each shall then proceed to take up collections quarterly until paid or until the first of next year. Each collection shall be paid to pastor of church when collected. This board shall consist of three members of

unquestioned religion, one of them shall be a minister, one member shall be elected for one year and two members for two years or vice versa.

Respectfully submitted,

A. B. Nelson, Chairman.

Advocated by Ex. committee.

W. A. Elmore, Chairman.

Motion carried to table, said report until next session. Tabled.

Moderator then called for report of committee on devine service. Report as follows: Rev. E. R. Clemmons will preach tonight, Friday, at 7:00 o'clock, W. A. Davis will close. Motion carried to adjourn until tomorrow, Saturday, at 8:30. Preaching Friday night by E. R. Clemmons, followed by W. A. Davis. Text, Mat. 25-13. Watch therefore, for ye know not neither the day nor the hour wherein the son of man cometh.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The body was called to order by the moderator, Scripture lesson 1st Jno. 2nd chapter. Prayer by C. I. Wells. The moderator then called for the report of committee on finance. Report as follows:

We find for minutes and associational purposes \$33.35 and a balance on hand from last year of \$20.59 Total, \$53.94.

Respectfully submitted,

S. M. Tindell, chairman.

Read and adopted.

It was suggested by the committee on arrangements that he have four (4) union meetings each year. Same to be quarterly. Motion carried to adopt said suggestion. Then the moderator appointed a committee to locate the places and time of said union meetings.

There were two (2) churches asked for the association. Piney Grove and Christian Home. The moderator called for a vote on same and the body voted to carry same to Christian Home four miles south of Hartford, Ala., to convene on Thursday before the first Sunday in Nov., A. D. 1920.

The moderator then called for report of committee on revision who were appointed to revise the associational decorum. Report submitted. New decorum read. Motion carried to adopt the new decorum

as read and abolish the old one. Carried by unanimous vote.

Motion carried to have the association and church decorums printed in phamplet form together with the Articles of Faith.

Motion carried to hear the report of committee of location of union meetings.

Report as follows: First at Panther Creek on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in January. Second at Piney Grove on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in April. Third at Spring Hill Saturday before the second Sunday in July. Fourth at Liberty on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in October. All to be held in 1920.

Respectfully submitted,
B. F. Pate, Chairman.

Read and adopted.

Motion carried to elect an associational treasurer and elected Bro. B. F. Pate.

Motion carried to elect an executive committee and elected as follows: W. A. Elmore, chairman; P. O. Chipley, Fla., R. 1.; B. F. Pate, Hartford, Ala., R. 3; J. B. Baker, Chipley, Fla., R. 2; E. F. Hutto, Hartford, Ala., R. 5; C. I. Wells, Slocomb, Ala., R. 2.

Motion carried to have 400 minutes printed and 400 copies of association and church decorum printed together with Articles of Faith. Arranging committee appointed Rev. W. A. Davis to preach the introductory sermon at next session of this association and T. B. J. Hendrix his alternate. Motion carried to offer a resolution of thanks to poplar Head church and citizens nearby for their hospitality shown us and it was ordered that clerk make out said resolution of thanks.

Motion carried to pay clerk \$7.50 for his services.

Motion carried to adjourn to meet with Christian Home church on Thursday before the first Sunday in November, A. D. 1920. W. A. Davis to preach introductory and T. B. J. Hendrix his alternate.

A L. PATE, Mod.

G. B. MARTIN, Clerk.

ORDER OF PREACHING

Thursday at 11:00 o'clock.

Introductory by T. E. Ross. Text: Prov. 14-12.

Introductory by T. E. Rass. Text: Prov. 14-12.

Friday p. m., 7:00, E. R. Clemmons, Text: ESE

Friday 11:00 W. M. Duncon, text: Mat. 16-18.

Friday p. m. 7:00 E. R. Clemmons, text: Mat. 25-13 followed by W. A. Davis.

Saturday 11:00 by G. B. Martin. Text: 1st Tim. 4-16, followed by J. A. Pettis.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

A. L. Pate, Bonifay, Fla., R. 1.

H. F. Yates, Bonifay, Fla.,

J. H. Chestnut, Bonifay, Fla., R. 2.

A. B. Nelson, Bonifay, Fla., R. 2.

G. B. Martin, Bonifay, Fla.

J. A. Pettis, Bonifay, Fla.

W. W. Tremontanna, Graceville, Fla.

W. N. Dixon, Vernon, Fla., R. 1.

J. L. Simmons, Slocomb, Ala., R. 2.

A. M. Swindell, Vernon, Fla.

T. E. Ross, Hartford, Ala., R. 5.

T. B. J. Hendrix, Hartford, Ala., R. 5.

H. W. Norris, Hartford, Ala., R. 1.

J. D. Berry, Black, Ala., R. 1.

J. D. Sowell, Black, Ala., R. 1.

W. A. Davis, Slocomb, Ala., R. 1.

G. M. Hardy, postoffice unknown.

S. M. Tindell, Slocomb, Ala.

LICENSED MINISTERS

R. A. Elmore, Chipley, Fla., R. 1.

W. G. Darriety, Chipley Fla.

James Pettis, Chipley, Fla.

E. C. Clemmons, Vernon, Fla.

Clerks of all churches who have one or more licentiates will please give names of same and report in associational letter day of meeting.

Requested by clerk of association.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

We, the Messengers and Delegates that compose the Liberty Freewill Baptist Association wish to thank Poplar Head Church and citizens nearby for their hospitality shown us during our stay among them, as we feel that this is one among the best sessions. And especially do we thank the good sisters upon whom the heaviest burdens fell for preparing for us such a bountiful spread. And may the richest of God's benediction ever rest upon them. That He may ever keep them with plentious refreshments and guide by His holy spirit through all coming life. (Requested by body.

By G. B. Martin.

Church, County and State	Pastor	Clerk and Post Office	Baptism	Faith	Letter	Restored	Dismissed by letter	Excluded	Died	Total Membership	Day of meeting
Christian Home, Geneva, Ala.,---	T. E. Ross-----	W. J. Hughes, Hartford, Ala.,---	17	3	1	1	2	7	3	185	2
Spring Hill, Holmes, Fla.,-----	A. L. Pate-----	J. T. Birge, Bonifay, Fla.,-----	0	1	0	1	0	10	3	84	2
Hinson, Geneva, Ala.,-----	W. A. Davis-----	H. S. Boyett, Hartford, Ala.,-----	1	0	0	0	5	1	3	70	4
St. Paul, Washington, Fla.,-----	A. L. Pate-----	Clarence Clemmons, Vernon, Fla	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	34	4
Pilgrims Guide, Bay, Fla.,-----	J. L. Nichols-----	I. Stevens, Southport, Fla.,-----	3	0	2	1	7	0	0	22	1
∞ Bethel, Geneva, Ala.,-----	W. A. Davis-----	T. McLoney, Hartford, Ala.,---	6	0	2	1	0	0	0	75	1
Beulah, Washington, Fla.,-----	G. B. Martin-----	W. O. McCay, Chipley, Fla.,---	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40	1
Union Hill, Geneva, Ala.,-----	J. A. Pettis-----	W. H. Tool, Slocomb, Ala.,---	15	3	0	0	0	0	1	77	1
Antioch, Jackson, Fla.,-----	A. L. Pate-----	G. S. Register, Graceville, Fla.,-	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	120	1
Liberty, Washington, Fla.,-----	E. R. Clemmons--	Ellen Miller, Vernon, Fla.,-----	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	59	4
Poplar Head, Washington, Fla.,---	A. L. Pate-----	N. E. Chestnut, Bonifay, Fla.,---	0	3	0	0	0	0	1	62	3
East Pittman, Holmes, Fla.,-----	T. B. J. Hendrix--	Joe Sowell, Black, Ala.,-----	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	63	—
St. John, Holmes, Fla.,-----	T. B. J. Hendrix--	J. F. Henderson, Bonifay, Fla.,---	2	0	0	0	2	2	0	103	3
Piney Grove, Washington, Fla.,---	A. B. Nelson-----	T. D. Amens, Chipley, Fla.,---	0	0	0	1	0	0	4	106	4
Panther Creek, Geneva, Ala.,---	G. B. Martin-----	R. Z. Clark, Hartford, Ala.,---	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	22	2