

MINUTES

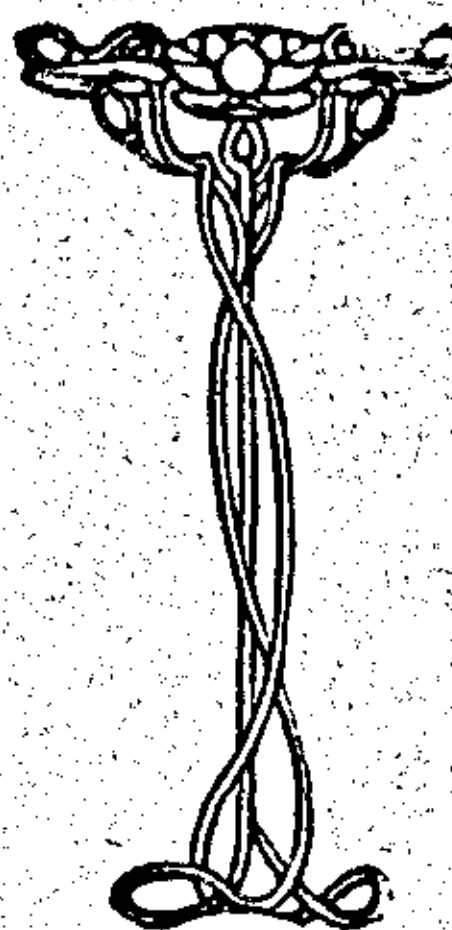
— OF THE —

THIRTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

— OF THE —

Zion Rest United Free Will Baptist Association

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P. 7*



HELD WITH
PINE GROVE CHURCH
OCTOBER 3-4, 1940



G. M. PEARSON ----- Moderator

LEITHER WALLEY ----- Clerk

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Calling the body together by former moderator.
2. Election of officers.
3. Introductory sermon.
4. Calling for petitionary letters.
5. Appointing reading clerks.
6. Enrolling ministers.
7. Receiving messengers from sister associations.
8. Enrolling churches and delegates.
9. Calling for church letters.
10. Appointing committees.
11. Report of ministers.
12. Report of committees.
13. Closing.

PROCEEDINGS

The Thirty-Third Annual Session of the Zion Rest United Free Will Baptist Association met with the Pine Grove Church in Wayne County on Thursday before the first Sunday in October, it being the 3rd day of October, 1940.

The Moderator not being present, Rev. C. M. Jenkins, Assistant Moderator, presided.

The Moderator called the body to order at 10 o'clock A.M. by reading the 133rd Psalm.

Prayer by Rev. G. M. Pearson.

The Clerk, Brother Will Brewer, being absent, the Moderator appointed Brother W. A. Mason clerk pro tem.

The Association went into the election of officers, with the following result: Rev. G. M. Pearson—Moderator; Rev. C. M. Jenkins—Assistant Moderator; Leither Walley—Clark.

The Moderator appointed Rev. Geo. W. Walley to preach the introductory sermon.

The Moderator appointed Bro. Nath Henderson, Bro. Ras Smith, and Bro. Luther Beard as preaching committee.

Report of preaching committee: Rev. Geo. W. Walley and Rev. C. M. Jenkins to preach Thursday night; Rev. G. M. Pearson to preach Friday at eleven o'clock.

APPOINTING READING CLERKS

The Moderator appointed Brother W. A. Mason and Brother Luther Beard reading clerks.

Call for petitionary letters. None.

ENROLLING MINISTERS

Rev. C. M. Jenkins, present, Hattiesburg, Miss., Rt. 3.

Rev. G. W. Walley, present, Richton, Miss., Rt. 1.

Rev. W. D. Dunnam, absent, Richton, Miss., Rt. 2.

Rev. Arthur Brewer, absent, Richton, Miss., Rt. 1.

Rev. James Nowell, absent, Waynesboro, Miss., Rt. 2.

Rev. W. N. Pearson, present, Laurel, Miss., Rt. 1.

Rev. G. M. Pearson, present, Laurel, Miss., Rt. 1.

Rev. Bryant E. Walley, Richton, Miss., Rt. 1.

Recessed for dinner.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The Moderator called the body to order.

Receiving messengers from sister associations. None present.

Enrolling churches and delegates; calling for church letters.

Pine Grove—Ras Smith, Nath Henderson, money received	----\$ 4.25
Lee's Chapel—Mrs. Nannie Courtney, Mrs. Jeff Holifield	----- 4.20
Love Well—Berry West, Leither Walley	----- 2.20
Thompson Creek—Fred Baynes, Luther Beard	----- 3.25
Corinth—Gavin Kelly, Kerney Tucker	----- 3.30
Smith Chapel—R. C. Phillips, Mathew Mozingo	----- 2.55

Total ----- \$19.75

Adjourned until 8:00 o'clock A.M., Friday.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The Moderator called the body to order and appointed the following committees:

W. A. Mason, treasurer.

Finance

Ras Smith, A. W. Stevens, Geo. W. Walley.

Sabbath Schools

Rev. Geo. W. Walley, Nath Henderson, Berry West.

Temperance

Rev. C. M. Jenkins, Rev. W. N. Pearson, W. A. Mason.

Suggestions

W. A. Mason, A. W. Stevens, Joe Rustin.

Obituary

Fred Baynes, Gavin Kelley, Luther Beard.

Congratulations

Mrs. Jeff Holifield, Mrs. Nannie Courtney, Kerney Tucker.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Called to order with prayer.

Moved and seconded that suggestion No. 4 in last year's minutes be abolished.

Moved and seconded that each male member of this association be asked to contribute twenty-five cents per year for associational purposes.

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Call for Ministers' Reports

1. Report of Rev. W. N. Pearson, received as oral.
2. C. M. Jenkins.
3. Geo. W. Walley.
4. G. M. Pearson.

I do hereby make my report as follows:

Preached 200 sermons; traveled 1400 miles; funerals held, 1; married 1 couple; money received, \$150.00; donated charity \$50.00; traveling expenses, not estimated.

C. M. JENKINS

I make my report as follows: Preached 50 sermons; miles traveled, 800; money received, \$50.00; funerals held, 2.

GEO. W. WALLEY.

Report of G. M. Pearson: Miles traveled, about 825; sermons preached, about 80; married two couples; received 36 members in the church; baptised 21; money received, about \$125. Hope to do more next year.

Congratulations

We your committee on congratulations wish to give the good people of Pine Grove Church and community thanks for showing such love, kindness and hospitality to us during this association. May the blessings of God rest upon every one of you.

MRS. JEFF HOLIFIELD, Chairman.

Obituary

We make our report as follows: We find that death has taken our beloved Brother Rosher Nowell, age 38 years 24 days, who was a member of Corinth Church. Also our Sister Cynthia Brewer of Love Well Church who was taken by death Dec. 29th, 1939. Age 66 years.

We feel that our loss is Heaven's gain.

LUTHER BEARD, Chairman.

Suggestions

1. We suggest that this association convene on Saturday before the first Sunday in October each year instead of Thursday before the first Sunday.

2. We suggest that we have what is known as a Homecoming Day to meet with Corinth Church on the second Saturday and Sunday in June and that each church be represented with as many members as possible.

3. We suggest that each church's deacons urge that the home missions work be pushed by saving funds for home missions.

4. We suggest that the Moderator or Assistant Moderator or both preach at least one doctrinal sermon at each church represented in this association during the ensuing year.

Temperance

We, your committee on temperance, submit this, our report:

1. We believe total abstinence is the only safe method of temperance in any kind of intoxicants.

2. We believe our people should be temperate in all things.

3. We believe by living clean and temperate lives, we can have a strong, healthy body and prolong our days here in this life.

4. God said, "Know ye not that the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." He also said, if we defile this temple He would destroy it.

5. We believe it is the duty of every Christian to use every effort to put intoxicating liquor out of the country.

6. We believe that one of the best weapons to fight whiskey with is the ballot box.

W. A. MASON, Chairman.

Sabbath Schools

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, find that there are only two Sunday Schools in this Association. Now, we think that the Sunday School is the foundation of the church and is one of the most useful ways to educate our children on the Bible. We urge that each church organize a Sunday School. We are commanded to raise our children right in the sight of God.

GEO. W. WALLEY,
NATHAN HENDERSON,
B. W. WEST.

Finance

We, your committee on finance, find that this association has on hand the following amount of money:

Pine Grove	\$ 4.25
Love Well	1.50
Corinth	3.30
Thomas Creek C. N.	3.25
Lee Chapel	4.20
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Total	\$16.50

GEO. W. WALLEY, Chr.
RAS SMITH,
A. W. STEPHEN.

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Report of Committees

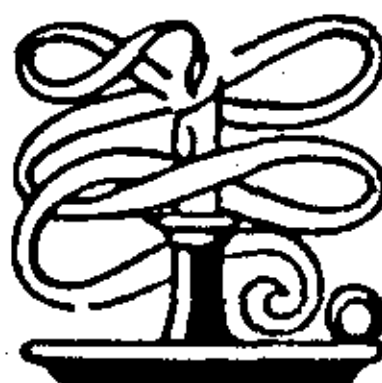
1. Finance.
2. Sabbath Schools.
3. Temperance.
4. Suggestions.
5. Obituary.
6. Congratulations.

Moved and seconded that the Moderator appoint the 5th Sunday meetings.

1. Love Well.
2. Corinth.
3. Thompson Creek.
4. Pine Grove.

Closing

Moved and seconded that this association adjourn until Saturday before the first Sunday in October to meet with the Lee's Chapel Church in Jones County.



CONSTITUTION

Article 1. This association shall be known as the Zion Rest United Free Will Baptist Association of Mississippi, and be composed of delegates from churches composing same. Each church shall be entitled to two delegates to represent her at each session.

Article 2. This body shall be considered an advisory council, but having no authority over the local affairs of the church.

Article 3. Each church of this body shall be considered an independent body, and shall control her own affairs in matters of discipline, etc. She may, however, in extreme cases, call in aid from sister churches.

Article 4. All questions of doctrine and matters of general interest shall be settled by two-thirds vote of the association, and this vote shall be final.

Article 5. The officers of this association shall be a moderator, assistant moderator, and treasurer, who shall be chosen by a majority vote annually.

Article 6. The association shall meet at such time and place as shall be most convenient and shall not adjourn finally until all business is transacted.

Article 7. Churches wishing to become members of this association must adopt the Articles of Faith and conform to its usage. We agree as churches composing this association, to use our best influence to promote the interest of all moral and benevolent institutions, such as Temperance Cause, Sunday Schools, Missions, and so on.

Article 8. Any person who feels that he is called to preach, shall first ask the church to which he belongs to license him. Then if his life and conduct proves to be satisfactory to his church and they wish to have him ordained to the ministry, his church shall send a letter to this association to appoint a presbytery of three ministers of this association to ordain him.

RULES OF DECORUM

Article 1. This association shall be called to order by the former moderator, who presided at the last session; the former clerk also officiates until the body is fully organized.

Article 2. This association shall be opened with Scripture reading and prayer.

Article 3. The moderator and clerk shall be chosen by ballot at each session; a majority of members present elect.

Article 4. The names of delegates from the different churches shall be enrolled and called as often as necessary during the session.

Article 5. A majority of delegates shall rule in all cases except in reception of churches into our body, which must be unanimous.

Article 6. The moderator shall vote in case only when the association is equally divided, but shall have equal right to speak on any question, provided he puts the assistant in the chair while he is speaking.

Article 7. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise and address the moderator.

Article 8. No brother shall be interrupted while speaking unless he departs from the subject under discussion, or uses words of personal reflection.

Article 9. No person shall be allowed to speak more than fifteen minutes at a time, nor more than twice without consent of the body.

Article 10. No member shall laugh or talk during the time the debate is going on.

Article 11. No member shall absent himself from the association while in session without the leave of the moderator.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

General principles taught by the United Free Will Baptist Church of Christ.

1. As to God — One God and Father of all — Ephesians 4:6.

2. As to Scripture—All Scripture is given by inspiration of God.—II Timothy 4:16.

3. As to Freedom of the Will—Ye will not come until me.—John 5:40. Whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.—Revelations 22:17.

4. As to the Conditions of Salvation—He (Christ) died for all.—II Corinthians 5:15. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord will be saved.—Romans 10:13. For in due season we shall reap if we faint not.—Gallatians 6:9. Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life.—Revelations 2:10.

5. As to Election—God is no respecter of persons but in every nation he that feareth Him and worketh righteousness is accepted with Him.—Acts 10:34-35.

6. As to Grace—For the grace of God that bringeth salvation appeared until all men.—Titus 2:11. For by grace are ye saved through faith.—Ephesians 2:8.

7. As to Faith—Justified by Faith.—Romans 5:1. This is the victory which overcometh the world, even our faith.—I John 5:4.

8. As to Works—Faith without works, is dead.—James 2:26. God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.—Ephesians 2:10.

9. As to Baptism—And, they went down both into the water.—Acts 8:39. We are buried with Him by baptism unto death.—Romans 6:4.

10. As to the Subject of Baptism—If thou believest with all thine heart thou mayest. So then every one of us shall give an account of himself to God.—Romans 14:12.

11. As to the Oneness of the Christian Church—Is God divided? —I Corinthians 1:13. I am the vine, ye are the branches.—John 15:5. That they may be one as we are.—John 17:11-21. There is one body and one spirit even as ye are called in one hope of your calling.—Ephesians 4:4.

12. As to Communion—This do in remembrance of me.—Luke 22:19. But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup.—I Corinthians 11:28. Let no man therefore judge you.—Colossians 2:16.

13. As to the Resurrection — For the hour is coming in which all that are in the grave shall hear His voice and shall come forth.—John 5:28. For the trumpet shall sound and the dead in Christ shall be raised incorruptible and we shall be changed.—I Corinthians 15:52.

14. As to the Judgment, Reward and Punishment—For we shall stand before the judgment seat of Christ.—Romans 14:10. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.—Matthew 25:46.

15. As to Feet Washing—Ye also ought to wash one another's feet.—John 13:14. For I have given you an example.—John 13:15. Verily, verily, I say until you the servant is not greater than his Lord.—John 13:17. Because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example.—I Peter 2:21.

OUR CHURCH COVENANT

Having been led as we believe by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour; and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized into the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, in the presence of God, Angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this church in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinance, discipline and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotions; to religiously educate our children, to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintance; to walk circumspectly in the world, to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, back-biting and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling, courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Saviour, to secure it without delay.

And we moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this Covenant and the principles of God's word.



STATISTICAL TABLE

Pastors	Churches	Clerks and Addresses	Rec'd by letter	Baptized	Dis. by letter	Restored	Died	Total Number	Meeting Day	Pd. for minutes	Paid Pastor
G. M. Pearson ---	Lee's Chapel ---	Elie Mae Yarbrough, Laurel, Rt. 1	15	18	0	0	0	101	1-3	\$4.20	\$51.00
G. M. Pearson ---	Love Well -----	Gertrude McLain, Richton, Rt. 1--	0	3	0	0	1	72	2-4	2.20	48.61
C. M. Jenkins ---	Pine Grove -----	W. A. Mason, Bucatunna -----	2	5	1	0	0	53	3	4.25	60.00
C. M. Jenkins ---	Thompson Creek	Evilian Pippin, Waynesboro, Rt. 1	0	3	0	0	0	37	1	1.25	12.00
C. M. Jenkins ---	Corinth -----	Leona Kelly, Waynesboro, Rt. 3---	0	1	0	0	1	35	2	3.30	32.50
C. M. Jenkins ---	Smith Chapel ---	Armindia Phillipe, Richton, Rt. 2--	0	1	0	0	0	49	4	2.55	15.00