

MINUTES
—OF THE—
TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION
—OF THE—
Gainesville Missionary Baptist Association,
—HELD WITH—
FRIENDSHIP CHURCH,
NEAR GAINESVILLE, GREENE COUNTY, ARKANSAS,
September 22, 24 and 25, 1894.

H. J. Piggott
OFFICERS:

ELDER J. R. HOLCOMB, Moderator,	- -	Pollard, Ark.
HENRY HOLCOMB, Clerk,	- -	Pollard, Ark.
T. L. B. THORN, Treasurer,	- -	Gainesville, Ark.

H. J. Piggott

PIGGOTT, ARK.:
THE PIGGOTT BANNER PRINT.
1894.

MINUTES.



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 1894.

The Gainesville Missionary Baptist Association convened with Friendship church, near Gainesville, pursuant to adjournment at 11 o'clock, a. m. The introductory sermon was preached by Elder H. B. Wester, of Black River Association, Missouri. His text, Philippians 2, 12, "Work Out Your Own Salvation With Fear and Trembling."

The body was then called to order by the former moderator.

A motion then carried to adjourn until 2 o'clock, p. m., for refreshments, which were furnished in abundance on the ground.

Prayer, by Elder G. H. Faulkner.

Benediction, by Elder H. B. Wester.

EVENING SESSION.

At 2 o'clock the Association was called together and business resumed.

The roll of churches was called and twenty-three responded by letter and delegation (See Tabular Statement), and letters read by brother T. B. Kitchens and Elder J. D. J. Faulkner.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

On motion Elder J. R. Holcomb for Moderator, Henry Holcomb for Clerk and T. L. B. Thorn for Treasurer, were made permanent officers of the present session by acclamation.

The Moderator on taking the chair invited the body to join in prayer, led by Elder J. D. J. Faulkner.

Prayer by the Moderator.

The roll was called and the messengers answered to their names.

The minutes of Saturday's proceedings were read and approved.

The committee on arrangements reported as follows:—Which were read, adopted and committee discharged;—We, your committee recommended the order of business to govern this session of the body as follows:

- 1st. Call the roll and read the minutes. —
- 2nd. Call for petitionary letters. —
- 3rd. Call for letters of correspondence. —
- 4th. Inviting visiting brethren to seats in the body. —
- 5th. Report of committee on ministerial education. —
- 6th. Report of committee on home missions. —
- 7th. Report of committee on foreign missions. —
- 8th. Report of committee on state and associational missions. —
- 9th. Report of committee on Sunday schools. —
- 10th. Report of committee on finance. —
- 11th. Report of committee on obituaries. —
- 12th. Report of committee on temperance. *Thursday 8*
- 13th. Report of committee on publication. —
- 14th. Report of executive board. —
- 15th. Report of Missionary. — *ministerial school*
- 16th. Report of treasurer. —
- 17th. Miscellaneous business.
- 18th. Call queries and resolutions.

J. T. EDWARDS, Chairman.

The report of committee on ministerial education was presented, read and adopted, as follows:—We believe it is the duty of every man called of God to preach, and we believe that it is necessary for such a one to acquire at least a good common english education, the necessity of ministerial education is apparent to all. Our ministers have to meet educated men, and to meet them properly, they must be educated more, they must be able to rightly divide the word of truth, and as we have several worthy young men belonging to this association, whom we believe are called of God to preach, to-wit:—Brethren Lawless and Merideths, we would recommend an agent to solicit funds for that purpose. We would further recommend that there be one brother in each church, in the association appointed to lay the matter before their church, and take up

Petitionary letters were then called for, two responded, one from Bethlehem and one from Blue Cane by letter and delegation, and on motion received, and messengers invited to seats within the body.

Letters of correspondence called for Mt. Zion Association responded by Brother T. B. Kitchens and Elder J. H. Peay, and Black river by Elder H. B. Wester.

On motion the Moderator appointed the usual committees viz:
 Divine Service, the officers and messengers of Friendship church.
 Arrangements, J. T. Edwards, J. H. Sammons and Z. T. Underwood.

Ministerial Education, S. H. Weatherly, W. H. Pollard and J. A. Smith.

Finance, J. M. Rogers, T. V. Burton and J. G. Staggs.

Home Missions, J. D. J. Faulkner, J. N. Settlemoir and W. H. Merideth.

Foreign Missions, J. W. Langley, M. M. Lunsford and W. L. B. Hommel.

State and Associational Missions, W. J. Bearden, J. J. Burton and J. C. Holcomb.

Sunday Schools, W. H. Crocket, W. R. Underwood and W. J. Lively.

Obituaries, J. N. Settlemoir, G. H. Faulkner and J. T. Edwards.

Temperance, J. T. Edwards, H. B. Wester and T. B. Kitchens.

Publication, Kelley Pate, W. R. Underwood and J. D. J. Faulkner.

Queries and Resolutions, E. P. Holt, J. A. Smith and J. J. Burton.

The committee on divine service reported as follows:—Elder J. T. Edwards preach to-night. Sunday School conducted by Elder H. B. Wester Sunday morning at 9:30, Missionary Sermon by Elder J. R. Holcomb, at 11.

On motion adjourned until Monday morning 8:30.

Prayer by Elder H. B. Wester.

On Sunday at 11, Elder J. R. Holcomb preached to a very large and attentive congregation, on the Subject of Missions concluded by Elder H. B. Wester, after which a collection of \$13.45 was taken up for Foreign Missions, and Elder G. H. Faulkner preached at night.

MONDAY MORNING, 8:30.

The association met pursuant to adjournment.

collections from time to time, and pay over the same, as directed by this association. Brother Lawless has already entered school, at Paragould, and he has asked for help, and we would further recommend that the association use its discretion as to what school would be best for the other brethren spoken of.

S. H. WEATHERLY, Chairman.

On motion the Moderator appointed the following named members as agents of the respective churches to solicit and collect funds for ministerial education, and forward same to brother L. McHaney, at Paragould, Arkansas, who was appointed by the association, as general agent to receive and pay over to our young ministers, who the association is assisting in school.

The following is a list of churches, agents and amount contributed by each, viz:

Churches.	Agents.	Bu. Corn.	Dollars.
Rock Hill	J. M. Rogers	15	
Epsaby	L. H. Roberts		
Fairview	J. T. Edwards	30	
Hopewell	J. A. Thomas	25	
Friendship	H. W. Weatherly	75	
Newlight	N. F. Carpenter		5 00
Newhope	Z. T. Underwood	25	
Providence	E. S. Haneline		5.00
Pleasant Grove	John Fletcher	25	
Salem	Wm. Garrett		10 00
Rector	J. H. Earl		3 00
Union Grove	T. J. Faulkner		11 00
Marmaduke	G. W. Kerby		
Mount Tabor	W. R. Underwood		
Brown's Chapel	J. T. McDaniel	10	
Gainesville	T. L. B. Thorn.		
Post Oak	W. L. B. Hommel		2.00
Blooming Grove	George Becklev		5.00
Mam Shore	Bro. Stephenson		2.00
Center Hill	T. Grooms	15	
Piggott	T. J. Crews		
Wanderers Home	J. N. Settlemaier	20	

Churches.	Agents.	Dollars.
Knobel	J. H. Perry	5.00
Bethlehem	John Hinkle	
Blue Cane	C L. Reaves	

The committee on home missions reported as follows:—Which was read and adopted: The field is an extensive one including thirteen states, one territory, district of Columbia, Canada, Cuba and Mexico.

Missionaries, who are at work under the board are doing good work, but the destitution is still great, and needs our help. Therefore let us go to our home churches and bring before them the importance of supporting this part of our missionary work.

J. D. J. FAULKNER, Chairman.

And the following amounts were paid and pledged by churches and individuals for home missions:

Church	paid	\$	pledged	\$
Knobel church		50		2 00
Union Grove	"	2 50		
Blooming Grove	"	1 00	"	1 00
Fairview	"	25	"	1 75
Friendship	"	2 00		
Newhope	"	50		
Gainesville	"	1 00		
J. G. Boon			"	50
Hopewell	"	50	"	2 00
Providence	"		"	2 00
Marmaduke	"	50	"	1 00
Pleasant Grove	"		"	2 00
Mount Tabor	"		"	2 00
Brown's Chapel	"		"	1 00
Epsaby	"		"	1 00

On motion adjourned to 2 o'clock for preaching. At 11 o'clock Elder J. H. Peay preached an able sermon, subject, divine drawing, which was listened to with marked attention. At 2 p. m. the association was called to order and resumed business.

The committee on foreign missions reported as follows:—Which was read and adopted: Having in view the commissions as given by the Lord himself, to go into all the world and preach His Gospel to every creature. It then behooves us as His followers, to use every effort

in our power to assist in this great work. The question arises in our minds how can we help. We cannot all go to foreign fields, but we can send Godly men with our means, and we can only do this by liberal contributions. We have already in foreign fields, in Brazil, Taylor, in China, Simmons, and Graves, in Africa, Smith, in Rome, Bro. Eager and others in other fields. These Godly men cannot work there unless we help them, and we recommend that our pastors present the matter to their churches and take up collections quarterly for this purpose.

J. W. LANGLEY, Chairman.

On motion adjourned until to-morrow morning, 8:30.

Prayer by Elder N. F. Carpenter.

At 7 p. m. Elder J. H. Peay preached to a very large and attentive congregation, subject, the eternal security of the believer, which was food for the soul of the regenerated.

TUESDAY MORNING, 8:30.

The association met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Elder J. N. Settlemyer.

The committee on state and associational missions reported as follows:—Which was read and adopted: Because of the pressure of the times, this year, the association has done nothing in the way of state missions, but we note with pleasure the work done by Bro. Lively in Blue Cane, assisted by Friendship church to the amount of twenty-six dollars and fifteen cents (\$26 15). There has been one addition to the church for every dollar we have spent, this should encourage us, and we recommend that the association appoint an executive board, and that we localize our work so as to build up our weak places, and Blue Cane and Main Shore as important places to be occupied.

J. J. BURTON, Chairman.

The committee on Sunday school reported as follows:—Which was read and adopted: We are proud to know that so many of the churches are now taking an interest in the establishing and maintaining of Sunday schools, and would strongly recommend that all of the churches of the association would do the same, that we may train up our children in the way that they should go, and believing that a live en-

ergetic Sunday school exhibits the life of the church. We recommend bible reading and the publications of the Sunday school board of the Southern Baptist Convention, and we further recommend especially that the parents attend and take part in the Sunday school and the children will follow, and God will bless us.

W. J. LIVELY, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The committee on finance report as follows:—Which was found correct and adopted: Received for printing minutes.

From Main Shore church.....	\$ 50
“ Blooming Grove “	1 50
“ Hopewell “	2 00
“ Mount Tabor “	1 50
“ Union Grove “	1 50
“ Fair View “	2 50
“ Wanderers Home “	1 00
“ Center Hill “	1 05
“ Rock Hill “	1 50
“ Newlight “	1 00
“ Brown’s Chapel “	1 25
“ Knobel “	1 00
“ Piggott “	1 00
“ Rector “	1 50
“ Post Oak “	75
“ Epsaby “	1 25
“ Bethlehem “	50
“ Marmaduke “	2 00
“ Friendship “	2 50
“ Gainesville “	1 50
“ Newhope “	2 50
“ Salem “	1 50
“ Providence “	1 50
“ Blue Cane “	1 00
“ Pleasant Grove “	1 00

Minute funds	\$34 80
Newlight church, Foreign Missions.....	1 00

Newlight church	Home	Missions	1 00
Post Oak	"	Foreign	1 00
" "	"	"	25
Piggott	"	"	60

Total received \$38 65

J. G. STAGGS, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

We, your committee on obituaries find twenty-five of our brothers and sisters of the various churches, have died since our last association viz: From Blue Cane church, one; Center Hill church, two; Blooming Grove church, one; Gainesville church, one; Union Grove church, one; Salem church, three, Providence church, three; Newhope church, four; Newlight church, one; Fairview church, four; Hopewell church, one; Rock Hill church, three.

Resolved; That, we brethren composing Gainesville Association render our heartfelt sympathy to the different bereaved families, feeling that their loss is the eternal gain of them that has gone before.

G. H. FAULKER, }
J. N. SETTLEMOIR, } Com.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

The committee on Temperance presented their report:—Which is as follows:

Believing that a grander theme could not engage the attention of this christian assembly—it is one of God's provisional laws—therefore, no trivial subject. As intemperance has ever been the impediment to the progress of our Master's Cause, we recommend that we warn our members of the evils of intemperance, and should they then indulge in the use of ardent spirits, that they be expelled from our churches; as their lives and examples are contrary and in direct opposition to the teachings of the Master, and it seems manifest to your committee that our association should utter its solemn protest against this monster evil, and that we, as a religious body, should rise up in the strength of our God and lend our influence, to help put down the ruinous liquor traffic in our land, and that we should show our allegiance to our best interest, and the cause of Christ, not only in words, but at the ballot box.

Let it go forth that it is a strong and decided sentiment of the Christian world, that the cause of temperance is a good cause, and may we continue to strive for it until the people of this great nation espouses the great cause of temperance.

J. T. EDWARDS. }
T. B. KITCHENS. } Com.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

The committee on Publication reported as follows:—Which was read and adopted.

The Bible should ever be our rule of faith and practice. We believe however, that every Baptist ought to read good literature. Baptist in Arkansas ought to take their own state paper, the Arkansas Baptist. We commend the Western Recorder, Louisville, Ky., the American Baptist Flag, St. Louis, Mo., and all the literature published by our Sunday school board at Nashville, Tenn.

KELLY PATE, Chairman,

On motion suspended the regular order of business, and the moderator appointed Elder W. J. Bearden as a member of the State Board and S. H. Weatherly, W. J. Bearden and G. H. Faulkner as delegates to the State Convention.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The report of the executive board was as follows:—We met soon after our association, and considered the propriety of advancing our mission works another year, but owing to our indebtedness for work done by Bro. J. M. Lawrence as missionary. We thought it best to pay our indebtedness first, and not encumber the association with new debts. We have paid on the old debt of Bro. J. M. Lawrence \$87.50, leaving balance due him \$18.50, and house rent for him \$12.50. Also due Bro. J. M. Huddleston, \$15.00 for work done at Main Shore in 1892. Our total indebtedness is \$46.00.

J. F. HAMMETT, Chairman..

J. J. BURTON, Secretary.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The report of the Treasurer was presented read and adopted as follows:

Amount on hand at last report.....	\$54 46
Received from finance committee minute funds	34 89
“ “ “ “ Foreign Missions	2 00
“ “ collections Home Missions	10 10

Total amount received \$101 36

Credits asked.

By amount paid clerk for printing minutes, 1893,	\$32 73
“ “ “ J. M. Lawrence for mission work,	20 13
“ “ sent for foreign missions	25

Total credits asked, 53 11

Balance on hand.....\$48 25

T. L. B. THORN, Treasurer.

On motion adjourned to 2 o'clock for preaching. At 11 o'clock, sermon by Elder J. H. Peay, his subject the rock and it was the best sermon that ever has been my privilege to listen to on the subject, clerk after which the congregation assembled around the table about 150 feet long, spread in abundance of the good things of this life for the hungry.

EVENING SESSION.

At 2 p. m. the association was called to order, and resumed business.

On motion the moderator appointed J. J. Burton, J. A. Foster, J. H. Sammons, S. H. Weatherly and E. P. Holt as the Executive Board.

On motion that the moderator appoint the following committees for the next session, and each church to constitute a committee on whatever is assigned to her and send their report with their letter to the next session of this body, appointed as follows:

- Report on arrangements, Hopewell church. †
- Report on ministerial education, Newhope church.
- Report on home missions, Gainesville church. †
- Report on foreign missions, Newlight church. †
- Report on state and associational missions, Friendship church.
- Report on Sunday schools, Fairview church. †
- Report on temperance, Rock Hill church. †
- Report on publication, Providence church. †

On motion that we correspond with Mt. Zion, Black River and Current River association, and Elder W. J. Bearden and J. J. Burton to Mt Zion, Elder J N. Settlemoir and J. C. Holcomb to Black River and W. J. Bearden to Current River, were appointed as corresponding messengers.

On motion the Treasurer was instructed to pay the amount for printing minutes to the clerk, that he superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes and that he be allowed \$10 for his services.

On motion that the association convene in its next session with Hopewell church in Greene county, Arkansas, on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September 1895.

Elder J. D. J. Faulkner was elected to preach the introductory sermon with Elder W. J. Bearden his alternate.

Whereas we have been so royally entertained by Friendship church, and the good people of the vicinity, during the sitting of this body, that the thanks of this body be extended to them, and our prayers be given for their material and spiritual prosperity.

Thus closed the Twenty-fifth Annual Session of the Gainesville Missionary Baptist Association, with prayer by Elder J. H. Peay.

And on motion the body adjourned, to meet with Hopewell church four miles Southwest of Rector, Arkansas, on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, A. D. 1895, at 11 a. m., and during long service the parting hand was extended by the brethren.

Benediction by the Moderator.

ELDER J. R. HOLCOMB, Moderator.

HENRY HOLCOMB, Clerk.





TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

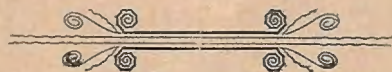
This is to certify that Elder J. M. Lawrence was in the employ of Gainesville Missionary Baptist Association of Arkansas, as missionary for about eighteen months beginning April, 1892. This association composed of twenty-five churches and fifteen hundred membership, takes great pleasure in stating that Bro. Lawrence, during all this time demonstrated his ability and efficiency as a missionary to eminent satisfaction of this association, its executive board and membership generally.

This association takes pleasure in stating that Bro. Lawrence is a man of unimpeachable integrity, blameless character, is a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, fearless, sound and aggressive, is an able defender of the faith once delivered to the saints.

This association takes great pleasure in commending Bro. Lawrence to any church community or association, where God in his providence may cast his lot, and that so long as Bro. Lawrence continues to pursue his present line of conduct, this association is ever ready to support and defend.



Churches.	Clerks.	Postoffice.	Pastors.
Rock Hill	J. M. Rogers	Paragould	W. J. Bearden
Epsaby	L. H. Roberts	Gainesville	G. H. Faulkner
Fairview	J. M. Thomason	Paragould	W. J. Bearden
Hopewell	D. M. Johnson	Rector	G. Lively
Friendship	W. T. Allison	Gainesville	W. J. Bearden
Newlight	Z. T. Crockett	Crockett	Kelley Pate
Newhope	H. Holcomb	Pollard	J. N. Settlemoir
Providence	W. T. Williams	Gainesville	J. D. J. Faulkner
Pleasant Groye	D. A. Edwards	Finch	G. H. Faulkner
Salem	C. W. Bradshaw	Boydsville	J. S. Haden
Rector	E. W. Macou	Rector	H. B. Wester
Union Grove	W. S. Farley	Crowley	G. H. Faulkner
Marmaduke	W. H. Merideth	Marmaduke	G. Liveley
Mount Tabor	H. A. Seal	Piggott	J. S. Haden
Browns Chapel	J. F. Sam	Paragould	J. D. J. Faulkner
Gainesville	T. L. B. Thorn	Gainesville	J. D. J. Faulkner
Post Oak	J. G. Staggs	Boydsville	N. F. Carpenter
Blooming Groye	G. R. Beckley	Rector	J. S. Haden.
Main Shore	N. E. Stevenson	Paragould	J. M. Huddleston
Center Hill	J. W. Craven	Paragould	Thomas Williams
Piggott	J. J. Brown	Piggott	Kelly Pate
Wanderers Home	G. W. Ledford	Pollard	J. K. Pate
Knoble	J. H. Duffer	Knoble	J. N. Robertson
Bethlehem	J. W. Hinkle	Piggott	J. S. Haden
Blue Cane	C. L. Reaves	Rector	G. Lively



TABULAR STATEMENT.

CHURCHES.	NAMEs OF MESSENGERS.	Rec'd by Bapt'm	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Re-ct'n.	restored.....	Dis'm'd by Letter	Excluded.....	Died.....	Membership....	Days of Meeting	Minute Money..
Rock Hill.	J. M. Rogers, W. K. Kelley, J. W. Sloan.....	1	..	..	..	..	..	3	94	1	\$ 1.30
Epsaby.	L. H. Roberts.....	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	76	2	1.25
Fairview.	J. H. Summons, J. T. Edwards, L. C. Rudisel.....	4	..	..	..	13	..	3	73	3	2.50
Hopewell.	Z. D. Mitchel, W. H. Oty, J. A. Thomas.....	28	7	5	..	7	..	1	148	3	2.00
Friendship.	H. W. Weatherly, W. C. Burton, S. H. Weatherly.....	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	88	2	2.50
Newlight.	Z. T. Crockett, S. M. Cooper, N. F. Carpenter.....	19	13	1	..	..	2	1	61	3	1.00
Newhope.	H. Holcomb, W. H. Pollard, Z. T. Underwood.....	5	..	..	..	5	1	4	122	3	2.50
Providence.	W. T. Williams, E. S. Haneline, W. J. Hill.....	..	..	..	..	4	3	3	135	4	1.50
Pleasant Grove.	G. W. Russel, J. F. Fletcher, T. E. Gill.....	5	..	..	..	2	3	..	83	3	1.00
Salem.	E. L. Beuson, M. M. Lunsford, J. A. Smith.....	..	..	..	1	3	1	3	98	1	1.50
Rector.	J. H. Earl.....	1	4	1	..	14	2	..	37	2	1.50
Union Grove.	W. C. Barr, G. H. Faulkner.....	5	1	..	..	5	1	1	60	1	1.50
Marmaduke.	T. H. Church, E. P. Holt, W. H. Merideth.....	19	2	..	..	6	4	..	72	1	2.00
Mount Tabor.	W. J. Lively, W. R. Underwood.....	25	1	1	..	1	6	..	76	4	1.50
Browns Chapel.	J. W. Langley, J. T. McDaniel.....	2	..	..	..	3	..	..	36	2	1.25
Gainesville.	A. W. Helderman, M. Molin.....	3	5	..	1	7	4	1	44	1	1.50
Post Oak.	J. G. Staggs, W. L. B. Hommel, J. W. Cooper.....	2	..	1	2	..	..	..	23	4	.75
Blooming Grove.	J. N. Dentiston, F. W. Redery, G. K. Beckley.....	10	1	..	..	3	1	1	84	2	1.50
Main Shore.	J. H. Maddox, N. E. Stevenson.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	..	.50
Center Hill.	F. M. Thomason, Thomas Grooms.....	7	2	..	..	..	..	2	45	..	1.05
Piggott.	T. J. Crews, J. C. Holcomb, Kelly Pate.....	2	12	..	..	3	5	..	57	2	1.00
Wanderers Home.	J. N. Sattlemole.....	9	6	..	3	..	..	1	29	4	1.00
Knobel.	W. H. Crocker, J. H. Perry.....	3	4	..	1	2	1	..	33	4	1.00
Bethlehem.	W. C. Gower.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5	..	.50
Blue Cave.	C. L. Reaves.....	20	6	..	..	..	3	1	28	4	1.00