

MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

OLD ORGANIZATION

AND

SIXTEENTH OF THE NEW ORGANIZATION

OF THE

White River

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE

CHURCH AT PLEASANT HILL,

MARION COUNTY, ARK.

SEPTEMBER 18, 19 and 21, 1885.

OFFICERS.

ELD. H. H. HILTON, MODERATOR, MOUNTAIN HOME, ARK.

WM. A. COLLIS, CLERK, MOUNTAIN HOME, ARK.

T. M. REA, TREASURER, ONSET, ARK.

DELEGATES.

Mountain Home.—H. C. Cook, J. L. Elliott.

Hopewell.—H. H. Hilton, W. C. Thorn, S. P. Downing.

Mount Pleasant.—C. H. Mayfield, Wm. Denton, Q. C. Penning, W. D. White.

Pilgrim's Rest.—W. D. Jennings, Wm. A. Collis, C. A. Haley, C. D. Rodrick.

Palestine.—J. E. Eubank.

New Harmony.—B. L. Bayless, S. L. Phillips, William Wilbank.

Friendship.—J. M. Stone.

Oakland.—Represented by letter.

Oak Grove.—W. S. Gains, L. Baker, W. R. Taylor.

Pine Grove.—

Pleasant Grove.—T. M. Rea, G. H. Ballard, M. V. Evans, G. W. Barker.

Rehoboth.—J. H. Parmer, J. Wood, A. S. Wood, R. Newton.

New Hope.—J. G. Dillahunt, M. H. Wolf, A. L. Firestone, J. L. Williams.

Pleasant Hill.—G. F. Elam, S. D. Glen, W. C. McEntire, J. Ellis.

Shady Grove.—J. A. McEntire, J. H. McJenkins, H. A. McEntire, W. McEntire.

Confidence.—John Huston, L. Ingle, H. Sasser.

Rocky Mount.—C. L. Featherstone, J. W. Weams.

New Liberty.—A. B. Hampton, W. M. Horn, J. Dobbs.

Jefferson's Hall.—J. W. Dodd, L. G. Lowery.

Big Spring.—T. Mersit, O. B. Austin, J. A. Thornton.

Zion Hill.—J. Crawford, G. Hayes.

Fairview.—

Harmony.—J. W. Newton, W. J. Taff, M. Cotton.

Lead Hill.—J. N. Martin.

MINUTES.

PLEASANT HILL CHURCH.

The delegates, representing the churches comprising the White River Baptist Association, met with the church at Pleasant Hill, Marion County, Arkansas, on Friday before the third Sabbath in September, 1885, according to adjournment, when as by previous appointment the introductory sermon was preached by Elder W. M. Horn. Text, Mathew 24:14. The important truths emanated during the discourse were received with marked attention by the delegates and the congregation present.

After the sermon the Moderator, Elder H. H. Hilton, called the Association to order. Brother Wm. A. Collis, the Clerk, being present and at his post. Prayer by Moderator. Letters from the different churches were called for and read, and the names of the delegates enrolled.

On motion the Association held the annual election by acclamation for Moderator and Clerk for the ensuing associational year, which resulted in the re-election of Elder H. H. Hilton as Moderator and Brother Wm. A. Collis as Clerk.

The Association then took a recess until three o'clock, P. M. 8 o'clock P. M. Association met according to adjournment. It was moved by Eld. C. H. Mayfield that we suspend the Rules of Order for the purpose of calling for petitionary letters, and to appoint committees

Called for letters petitioning membership, when Bro. C. L. Featherstone came forward and presented a letter from Rocky Mount Church, Boone County, Arkansas, asking for membership in this Association, and sending as their delegates: Brethren E. B. Anthony, C. L. Featherstone and J. D. Wernes. The Church was received and the right hand of fellowship extended to the delegates by the Moderator. Also Bro. W. C. Thorn presented a letter from Oakland Church, Baxter County, Arkansas, asking for membership in this Association and was received.

Called for corresponding Letters and Messengers from sister Associations, when Bro. J. H. Speer presented a minute of Crooked Creek Association and was received as a corresponding

messenger from that body. Elders E. Keeling and G. W. Moody presented a letter from Union Association, Arkansas, and were received as corresponding messengers from that body. Elder A. R. Stepheson presented a minute of Blue Mountain Association, and was received as a corresponding messenger from that body.

And also Elder H. H. Hilton handed in a letter from Big Creek Association, which was received.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

Committee on Divine Service, Brothers Wm. McEntire, H. A. McEntire, J. W. Taff and G. F. Elam.

Committee on Finance, Bros. J. L. Elliott, C. L. Featherstone and A. S. Wood.

Committee on Deceased Ministers, Elders C. H. Mayfield, Wm. Denton and Bro. Jonathan Dobbs.

Committee on Sabbath Schools, Elders W. M. Horn and Henry Sasser.

Committee on Baptist Literature, Elders W. D. Jennings, J. H. Parmer and Bro. G. W. Barker.

Committee on Resolutions, Brethren M. H. Wolf, J. W. Norton, A. S. Wood, J. L. Elliott, W. C. Thorn, T. M. Rea, C. D. Rodrick, H. C. Cook and Elders Wm. Denton, W. M. Horn, C. H. Mayfield, W. D. Jennings and W. D. White.

Committee on Destitution, Elders W. D. Jennings, C. H. Mayfield and H. Sasser.

Committee on Ways and Means, Elders C. H. Mayfield, W. D. White, Wm. Denton, H. Sasser, and on motion of the Moderator, Elder H. H. Hilton was added to the committee.

On motion made by Elder C. H. Mayfield the Association took up the regular order of business again.

Called and corrected roll of delegates and marked absentees.

The Clerk read the Constitution and Rules of Decorum.

Called for reports of corresponding messengers, when Bro. J. A. Austin made his report by letter, stating that he did not visit Crooked Creek Association.

Elders C. H. Mayfield and Wm. Denton made their report, stating that they visited Blue Mountain Association, and were made welcome, and found them a good working body.

Elders W. M. Horn and H. Sasser made their report, stating that they did not visit Union Association. Elder Sasser's excuse for not complying with his promise was sickness. And also Elder Hilton stated that he visited Rocky Bayou Association and found them to be a good working body and sound in the faith.

Appointment of Messengers to corresponding Associations which are as follows:

Blue Mountain Association, Elders C. H. Mayfield, Wm. Denton, W. D. White, H. H. Hilton and Bro. T. M. Rea.

Orooked Creek Association, Elder H. Sasser and Bro. John Huston.

Big Creek Association, Elder W. D. Jennings and Brethren W. C. Thorn and L. C. Pennington.

Union Association, Ark., Elders H. Sasser, W. M. Horn and Brethren H. A. McEntire, W. C. McEntire and J. N. Pennington.

Union Association, Mo., Elders H. H. Hilton, Wm. Denton and Brethren I. N. Martin and T. Merritt.

Rocky Bayou, Elders Wm. Denton and W. D. White.

On motion, the Association adjourned until 8 o'clock Saturday morning. Prayer by Elder A. R. Stephenson.

On Friday evening at candle light Elder A. R. Stephenson preached in the church house, followed by Elder W. D. Jennings.

SATURDAY, EIGHT A. M.

The Association met according to adjournment the Moderator presiding. After prayer by Elder W. D. White, call for letters from Churches renewed, when Bro. S. L. Phillips presented a letter from New Harmony.

On motion, Elder Wm. Denton's name was dropped from the roll as a delegate from Lead Hill Church.

On motion, Bro. I. B. Lovel's name was stricken from the minutes he having united with the Freewill Baptists.

The Minutes of the previous day read corrected and adopted.

On motion Bro. T. M. Rea was elected Treasurer of this Association for the next Associational year.

Committee on Resolutions asked permission to retire to make out their report which was granted.

The Committee on Divine Service made the following report, that Elder E. Keeling was to preach at 3 o'clock P. M., followed by Elder Stephenson, and also that Elder W. D. White occupy the stand at night followed by Elder H. H. Hilton.

The Association then took a recess and retired to the arbor where Elder C. H. Mayfield and J. H. Parmer preached to a large audience. The Association then returned to the house and resumed business.

Reports of Committees called for, when the Committee on Baptist Literature made their report. The report received and adopted and Committee discharged. Report is as follows:

We your Committee on Baptist Literature beg leave to submit the following report: 1st. We, for reasons of the very highest importance, would recommend the careful reading of the Bible. 2nd. The Evangel, our own State paper, Little Rock, Arkansas. 3rd. The American Baptist

Flag, St. Louis, Missouri. 4th. The Tennessee Baptist, Memphis, Tennessee. 5th. The Baptist Banner, Benton, Illinois.

ELD. W. D. JENNINGS, Chairman.

Committee on Deceased Ministers made their report. The report received and adopted and Committee discharged. Report is as follows:

We, your Committee on Deceased Ministers, beg leave to submit the following report, we have made inquiry and find that none of our ministers of this Association have died during the Associational year, and we feel it our duty to sincerely thank and praise our heavenly father for the preservation of the lives of our ministry, and pray the continuation of his goodness toward us.

ELD. C. H. MAYFIELD, Chairman.

Committee on Destitution made their report. The report was received and adopted and Committee discharged. Report is as follows:

We, your Committee on Destitution, beg leave to submit the following report, that in reference to Baptist preaching and Baptist literature within the bounds of the White River Baptist Association destitution is fearful and should be supplied with Baptist preaching and Baptist literature, as it has been said by some that they have not heard a Baptist sermon for ten years.

ELD. W. D. JENNINGS, Chairman.

Committee on Resolutions made their report. The report received and Committee discharged. Report is as follows:

We, your Committee on Resolutions, beg leave to submit the following report:

1st. *Resolved*, That we hold a Minister's and Deacon's Meeting, embracing each 5th Sabbath in the ensuing Associational year, at such places as the Association may agree upon.

2nd, *Resolved*, That some steps be taken to organize and perpetuate Sabbath Schools.

3rd. *Resolved*, That this Association appoint a committee whose duty it shall be to examine the Constitution of the White River Baptist Association and recommend such changes or alterations as are necessary to meet the demand and requirements of the different churches composing the Association.

4th. *Resolved*, That the Clerk be requested to write to the Arkansas Evangel and the American Baptist Flag in order to ascertain the best terms of printing our minutes.

5th. *Resolved*, That the Clerk be requested to superintend the printing and distribution of as many minutes as the Association may direct and that he be allowed ten dollars for his services.

6th. *Resolved*, That the former Treasurer, T. H. Horn, be requested to pay over all the money that is in his hands as Treasurer of the White River Baptist Association to his successor, T. M. Rea.

7th. *Resolved*, That this Association appoint a committee of seven who shall constitute a central board whose duties it shall be to superintend the Missionary cause of the White River Baptist Association, and employ a missionary or missionaries to labor in the destitute parts of the Association.

8th. *Resolved*, That all pastors of churches belonging to this Association earnestly press the missionary claims to their respective churches and

under the most favorable circumstances take up a public collection for same at least once a year.

10th. Resolved, That all the Deacons in good standing of the different churches be requested to earnestly aid in the missionary enterprise of this Association.

11th. Resolved, That this Association tender her heartfelt thanks to God for having used Pleasant Hill Church and the good and kindhearted and hospitable citizens of the vicinity in conferring so much kindness upon all the people in attendance as well as the Messengers of this Association.

M. H. WOLF, Chairman.

The foregoing resolutions all adopted except the fourth resolution—it was rejected so far as it pertains to the Evangel.

The Committee on Ways and Means for some cause failed to make their report.

Committee on Sabbath Schools made their report. The report was received and adopted and Committee discharged.

The report was as follows:

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, beg leave to submit the following report:

WHEREAS, We find from the report sent up by the churches that there are but six churches which have Sunday Schools, and we greatly regret to see such serious neglect on the part of our churches in this important matter; therefore, we earnestly recommend that the ministers and members of our churches at once proceed to organize Sabbath Schools in all our churches and earnestly labor for the Religious Education of the youth of our country, upon whom the important responsibilities of life will rest, and we therefore recommend the use of the literature published by the American Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia, Pa.

ELD. W. M. HORN, Chairman.

Called for report of Ministers, where upon Eld. C. H. Mayfield made the report which is as follows:

Preached to two churches as Pastor—Big Spring and Pleasant Grove, until July the first. Number of sermons, thirty-six; baptized fifteen. Traveled five hundred and ten miles. Received from Pleasant Grove three dollars and eighty-five cents; Big Spring seven dollars and fifty cents. Total \$11.35. Ferrage five dollars, all donated by Elds Wm. Denton, Ferryman and C. H. Mayfield.

Eld. W. D. Jennings made his report, which was as follows:

Preached to two churches as Pastor, until the first of July--New Harmony and Friendship, then adopted Friendship to labor as missionary, but still preached to New Harmony. Preached fifty sermons; traveled two hundred and sixteen miles; baptized sixteen. Received from New Harmony \$68.50; from Friendship one dollar.

ELD. W. D. JENNINGS.

Report of Eld. J. H. Parmer:

Traveled one hundred and fifty miles—preached ninety sermons--baptized 40. Received \$28.00.

ELD. J. H. PARMER.

Report of Eld. H. H. Hilton:

Traveled two hundred miles--preached eighty-five sermons--preached in one church as pastor--baptized 57. Received \$15.00.

ELD. H. H. HILTON.

Report of Eld. W. M. Horn, Minister:

I have had the pastoral care of New Liberty and Harmony Churches since last Association; and New Hope Church since February, 1885--made 60 religious talks. Amount received for services, New Liberty Church, \$7.00; New Hope Church, \$11.00; Harmony Church, 24 00. Total amount \$42.00. Baptized seven.

W. M. HORN.

The Association took a recess until four o'clock, and retired to the arbor where they listened to Eld. E. Keeling deliver a discourse, followed by Eld. A. R. Stephenson.

FOUR O'CLOCK P. M.

The Association met at the house, the Moderator presiding.

The Moderator appointed a Committee to examine the constitution and to recommend such changes as they may think proper. Said Committee is as follows: Elds. W. D. White, W. M. Horn, Wm. Denton, W. D. Jennings and Bros. M. H. Wolf, J. M. Stone, H. McEntire. And on motion the Moderator and Clerk were added to the Committee. On motion it was resolved that the Moderator be allowed to go out side of this body to appoint a Committee of seven to constitute a Central Board. The Committee is as follows: W. C. Thorn, W. A. Collis, J. E. Eubank, T. M. Rea, J. R. Cotton, H. C. Cook and A. S. Wood. Said Committee appointed Bro. W. A. Collis as their Secretary and Bro. H. C. Cook, Treasurer.

The Finance Committee made their report. The report was received and Committee discharged. The report was as follows:

We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to submit the following report:

Received from churches for printing Minutes, thirty-three dollars and twenty cents; for Foreign Missions, two dollars and fifty cents.

J. L. Elliott, Chairman.

Committee on Divine Services reported that Eld. W. D. White preaches at the arbor at early-candle light, followed by Elder H. H. Hilton. Adjourned with prayer by the Moderator until half past 8 o'clock, Monday morning.

On Sabbath, at 11 A. M., Eld. Wm. Denton preached to a large and well behaved crowd under the arbor. Followed by Eld. H. H. Hilton.

After services a public collection was taken up amounting to \$12.75, to be used by the Association as it sees proper.

Sunday evening, 3 o'clock P. M., Elds. Wm. Denton, W. D. Jennings and H. Sasser preached the funeral of Bro. John Pennington's wife. Also, at larly candle light, Eld. H. H. Hilton preached. Followed by Eld. W. D. Jennings.

Monday morning, at half past 8 o'clock A. M., the Association met pursuant to adjournment, the Moderator in the chair, after prayer by Bro. S. P. Downing, called to order and the regular order of business taken up.

Called for miscellaneous business. On motion it was resolved that we hold our next Association with Palestine Church, Baxter County, Ark. On motion Eld. H. Sasser was elected to preach the Introductory Sermon at our next meeting of the Association, and Eld. W. D. Jennings as his alternate. Also, Elder W. D. White was elected to preach the Missionary Sermon on Sabbath, at 11 o'clock A. M., and Eld. H. H. Hilton his alternate.

Committee on Constitutional Amendment made their report. The report received and Committee discharged. The report is as follows:

We, your Committee, beg leave to submit the following report:

1st. We recommend that Article Third of Constitution, be changed so as to read as follows: Each church with a membership of fifty or less, shall be entitled to three Delegates and one Delegate for each additional fifty members or fractional part thereof.

ELD. W. D. WHITE, Chairman.

On motion the said report was ordered to be printed in our Minutes.

Resolved, That the rules of decorum contain an article requiring the Treasurer to make a settlement with the Association at its regular annual meetings, and the Treasurer's books audited.

On motion the Clerk was ordered to have as many Minutes printed as the funds will pay for after deducting his fee out of said funds. The Treasurer was ordered to turn over all the funds in his hands for the printing of Minutes to the Clerk.

On motion it was resolved that we hold our first Ministers and Deacons' meeting with Rehoboth Church, in Marion County, Ark., commencing at 11 o'clock on Saturday, before the fifth Sabbath in November, 1885.

Resolved, That we hold our second Ministers and Deacons' meeting with New Liberty Church, Marion County, Ark.

Resolved, That we hold our third Ministers' and Deacon's meeting with Shady Grove Church, Searcy County, Ark.

Resolved, That we hold our fourth Ministers' and Deacons' meeting with Zion Hill Church, Marion County, Ark.

On motion it was resolved that the Messengers to Union Association, Ark., act as a Committee to investigate the charges against said Association of holding churches which hold to open communion.

The Treasurer made his report which was as follows:

W. A. Collis, Treasurer, begs leave to submit the following report:	
Received from Finance Committee.....	\$29 00
Received from different churches for missionary purposes.....	31 15
Collection on Sabbath, 1884.....	13 55
Paid for printing Minutes.....	\$19 75
Paid Eld. H. Sasser for work done as missionary.....	20 00

Clerk fees and stationary 10 55
 Paid Eld. W. D. Jennings, Missionary 25 00

Balance due the Treasurer \$1 60.

\$75 30 873

Wm. A. COLLIS, Treasurer.

Eld. W. D. Jennings made his report as Missionary for 1885 which is as follows:

Dear Brethren, I submit the following report: I started the first July. I did not travel all the time. I was sick some. Preached part of the time to New Harmony Church. Engaged 40 days, preached 32 sermons, gave 25 exhortations, prayed 40, public prayers assisted in the organization of one Church, assisted in the ordination of three Deacons. Baptized 13--traveled 570 miles. Received for labor done for Treasurer of Central Board, \$26 00; and from Bro. B. F. Thompson, of Mt. Pleasant Church, \$5 00. Total amount received, \$31 00.

ELD. W. D. JENNINGS.

Eld. C. H. Mayfield made his report as Missionary for 1885.

Dear Brethren, I submit the following report: I started the 1st July, preached 48 sermons, prayed 56 public prayers, 9 exhortations witnessed 7 conversions, baptized 8, assisted in the organization of 2 churches, assisted in ordination of 2 Deacons. Traveled 393 miles. Sold 34 pages of Baptist literature. Ferrage 50. Received from Central Board \$23 45; from friends \$3 50.

ELD. C. H. MAYFIELD.

On motion the Treasurer of this Association was ordered to pay over the all money that he has in his possession belonging to the Association to the Central Board.

On motion Eld. H. H. Hilton was elected to preach the introductory sermon at the Ministerial and Deacons' meeting at Zion Hill Church. Eld. H. Sasser his alternate.

On motion Eld. Wm. Denton was elected to preach the introductory sermon at the Ministerial and Deacons' meeting at Rehoboth Church. Eld. W. M. Horn his alternate.

On motion Eld. H. H. Hilton was elected to preach the introductory sermon at the Ministerial and Deacons' meeting at Shadow Grove Church. Eld. Wm. Denton his alternate.

On motion Eld. W. D. White was elected to preach the introductory sermon at the ministerial and Deacons' meeting at New Liberty Church. Eld. W. D. Jennings his alternate.

On motion we adjourned to meet with the Baptist church Palestine, on Friday, at 11 o'clock A. M., before the 3rd Sabbath in September, 1886. Prayer by Eld. H. Sasser.

ELD. H. H. HILTON, Moderator.

Wm. A. COLLIS, Clerk.

*Statistical Table for
 this year lost out
 of minutes.*