

UNION COLLEGE

LIBRARY

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTH SESSION
OF THE
Miller County Arkansas
Missionary Baptist Association
HELD WITH THE
Dudley Avenue Baptist Church

OCTOBER 25, 26, and 27, 1908.

OFFICERS.

Joe Vinson, Moderator,

Henry Phillips, Clerk,

W. C. Matthews, Treasurer

The next Annual Session of the Association will be held with the Shiloh Baptist Church, beginning on Friday at 10 o'clock a. m. before the 4th, Sunday in October 1908, Elder Henry Phillips, to preach the Introductory Sermon.

MINUTES
OF THE
FIFTH SESSION
OF THE
Miller County Arkansas
Missionary Baptist Association
HELD WITH THE
Dudley Avenue Baptist Church

OCTOBER 25, 26, and 27, 1908.

1907

OFFICERS.

Joe Vinson, Moderator,

Henry Phillips, Clerk,

W. C. Matthews, Treasurer

The next Annual Session of the Association will be held with the Shiloh Baptist Church, beginning on Friday at 10 o'clock a. m. before the 4th, Sunday in October 1908, Elder Henry Phillips, to preach the Introductory Sermon.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Call for letters and enrollment of messengers from churches.
2. Election of officers.
3. Appointment of the following committees, viz; Committee on Preaching, Committee on Missions, Committee on Sunday Schools, Committee on Publications, Committee on Finance. Special committees may be appointed and report at any.
4. Call for Missionary reports.
5. Call for reports of Standing Committees.
6. Elect Missionary and fix his salary.
7. Appoint time and place for next annual session.
8. Elect minister to preach the next annual sermons.
9. Miscellaneous or new business.

But this order may be suspended at any time by a vote of the Association.

MINUTES

The Miller Co., Baptist Association met with Dudley Avenue Church according to appointment October 25th. 1907. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Bro. E. L. Hughes, from Rev. 21:9.

On motion the Association took recess for dinner to meet again at 1:30 p. m.

FIRST DAY, EVENING SESSION.

After reading the 32nd, Psalm and prayer by Bro. T. C. Mahan the Association was called to order by the Moderator Bro. Joe Vinson.

On motion, Bro. W. M. Bridges was appointed Clerk pro tem.

Letters from the churches were read by Bro. T. C. Mahan and Sister Mollie Fussell.

Messengers enrolled as follows;

Dudley Avenue—Joe Vinson, Mrs. Mollie Fussell, Henry Phillips.

Shiloh—T. H. Roberts and C. L. Tibbet.

Harmony Grove—W. C. Matthews, G. W. Landers and W. M. Bridges.

Silverena—R. Grimsley and Joe Corzine.

The Association then went into permanent organization which resulted in the election of Bro. Joe Vinson as Moderator and Henry Phillips as Clerk, and Bro. W. C. Matthews as Treasurer. While the Moderator was fixing the various committees, Bro. T. C. Mahan was called on to give a talk on his city mission work, after which Bro. W. M. Bridges talked in connection with Bro. Mahan.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES.

Committee on Divine Service—The Deacons of Dudley Avenue church.

On State Missions—W. M. Bridges, Mrs. Mollie Fussell and Joe Corzine.

On Sunday Schools—Henry Phillips, T. H. Roberts and Charley Tibbet.

On Finance—G. W. Landers and T. H. Roberts.

On Publications—W. C. Matthews, G. W. Landers and Joe Corzine.

Associational Missions—W. M. Bridges and Henry Phillips.

Called for Treasurer's report, he made a partial report.

It was moved and seconded that the next meeting of the Association be held with the Shiloh Baptist church.

Moved and seconded that the Committee on Nominations appoint some one to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next annual meeting.

Moved and seconded that the same Executive Committee be for the ensuing year. Carried.

Moved and seconded that the Association ask each church to contribute \$2.50 to pay for the printing of the minutes, to keep out the advertisements. Carried.

Moved and seconded that the Association adjourn until 10 o'clock Saturday a. m. Dismissed by E. L. Hughes.

SECOND DAY, MORNING SESSION.

The Association met at 11 o'clock, the Moderator being absent the Association was called to order by Bro. W. C. Matthews and Henry Phillips read John 6:1 to 22 verses. Additional letters were called for.

Moved and seconded that Bro. Matthews act as Moderator pro tem.

The Moderator called for reports of committees.

The Committee on Publications reported, the report was adopted.

The report on State Missions was read and adopted, af-

ter discussion by Brethren Landers, Joe Corzine and T. C. Mahan. Adjourned until 1:30 p. m. Dismissed T. C. Mahan.

SECOND DAY, EVENING SESSION.

At 1:30 E. L. Hughes read a portion of the 84th and 85th division of Psalms. Prayer by E. L. Hughes.

The report of Committee on Associational Missions was read and adopted.

The report on Finance was adopted.

Moved that Bro. Henry Phillips preach the Introductory Sermon at the next meeting of the Association. Carried.

Moved and seconded that the Clerk be allowed \$10.00 for his services. Carried.

Moved and seconded to adjourn until 9:30 Sunday a. m.

Dismissed by E. L. Hughes.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION.

After singing "Blessed Assurance" and prayer by Bro. W. C. Matthews, the Association was called to order by the Moderator. The minutes were read and approved.

The report on Sunday Schools was read and adopted after an address by Bros. T. C. Mahan and W. C. Matthews.

After Sunday School the Association was adjourned.

Joe Vinson,

Moderator.

Henry Phillips,

Clerk.

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

We, your committee submit the following: That the most important work of the Baptists of this county is Associational Missions when we take into consideration the large and growing population and the scarcity of preachers and great destitution that exists in the greater part of our county, it behooves us at this time to plan wisely and sacrifice liberally to promote Associational Missions.

Henry Phillips, Chairman Committee.

STATE MISSIONS.

This department of the work looks to the preaching of the Gospel to every nook and corner of the State. It means also the laying of such plans as looks to the development and betterment of every church and Association that needs help.

Therefore we, as an Association, pledge ourselves to stand by and help as far as is in our power the State Mission work, as now operated by our State Convention and advise all of our churches to give liberally to the work.

W. M. Bridges, Committee.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

We, your committee beg leave to report. As it is an admitted fact that a large per cent of conversions and accessions to our churches are from the Sunday Schools, we therefore recommend that each church have and operate a faithful Baptist Sunday School, realizing that it is the duty of every church to work and propagate the Gospel of the Blessed Savior to the fullest extent of its means and ability.

T. H. Roberts, Chairman Committee.

PUBLICATIONS.

In view of the fact of the publication of so much trashy literature that is being scattered through the country, we deem it of the utmost importance that we as members of the various churches of this Association make an earnest effort to arrest and counteract this great evil. First, by the careful reading of the Bible, which should ever be our counselor, then by circulating among the homes as much good religious literature as we can. We would recommend the Southern Baptist Convention series of Sunday School literature for our Sunday Schools, and our State paper, the Baptist Advance for all homes.

W. C. Matthews, Chairman Committee.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

Art. 1. The union of churches composing this body shall be known as the Miller County Baptist Association of Miller county, Arkansas, and shall have for its object the cultivation of a fraternal spirit among the churches, the promotion of missions, education, temperance, the support of the ministry, the development of the churches and whatever else may be contributed to the best interest of the Redeemer's kingdom in all the world.

Art. 2. This Association shall be composed of regular Missionary Baptist churches in the above mentioned territory and shall consist of messengers chosen and approved by the churches once in each year. Each church in the union shall be entitled to three messengers only, whatever its numerical strenght.

Art. 3. The messengers when convened, shall organize by electing a moderator, clerk and treasurer. Each officer shall be elected by ballot, except when otherwise ordered by a unanimous vote of the messengers present. A majority of the messengers present shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and a majority vote shall decide all questions raised by the body, except such as may otherwise be fixed by constitutional law of the Association.

Art. 4. This Association shall not interfere with any of the internal rights of the churches, but shall act only as an advisory council, holding itself only as a medium through which the church may co-operate in carrying out the wisest and best plans for the spread of the gospel. It may, however as a body, withdraw fellowship from any churches that may be proven to be unsound in faith and practice.

Art. 5. While this Association believes in, and declares itself in favor of the doctrine of co-operation being the best means of developing the churches as well as spread-

ing the gospel in all the world, yet it would not seek to bind the conscience of any brother where any methods of work are the issues involved. It would leave untrammelled, the right of each brother to give or send the gospel by whatever method or plan he may choose for himself.

Art. 6. The churches of this Association shall transmit to every annual session of the body, in a written communication properly approved by each church, specifying the names of messengers sent, number received into fellowship, number dismissed from fellowship, number of present fellowship, and such other information as each church may deem wise to send to the annual meeting of the Association.

Art. 7. Newly constituted churches, or churches dismissed from other Associations of like faith and practice, may be admitted into this union upon their compliance with the rules and regulations of this Association and their presentation of satisfactory articles of faith approved by this Association.

Art. 8. It shall be the duty of the moderator and clerk of each past session to act as temporary officers in the organization of the forthcoming session, by having the letters read from all the churches, and credentials of each messenger be examined and passed upon before the organization of the body, and no business shall be transacted, except such as is germane to the business organization, until the Association shall have been legally and properly organized.

Art. 9. This Association shall have an Executive Committee of five members, to which shall be added the Moderator and clerk who shall be elected by ballot at each annual

meeting, and whose duty it shall be to transact such business as may be designated by the Association, during the time between the sessions of the body. But the election of the missionary, the salary of the missionary, the time and place of each fifth Sunday meeting, together with the appointee to preach the introductory sermon at each of the meetings, shall be determined by a vote of the body in annual session.

Art. 10. This Association hereby puts itself on record as follows: That the messengers sent up from the churches have no delegated power or authority whatever and can only act as they are sent, in a voluntary manner only—we believe therefore that the practice of instructing messengers by the churches on doctrinal issues and church policy is unwise and hurtful to the best interest of the sovereignty of each church. We believe also that it encourages the doctrine of Presbyterianism and Episcopacy—which doctrine the Baptist can't afford to encourage.

Art. 11. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-thirds vote of the Association, at the regular annual meeting.

RULES OF DECORUM.

Art. 1. In the transaction of business of the Association the Moderator shall be governed by general parliamentary law, and shall be judge of order; but his ruling shall not be binding when appeals are taken and sustained by a majority vote of the body. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject except by consent of the Association.

Art. 2. It shall be the duty of each member upon leaving the house during business hours to ask leave of the

moderator; and when leaving for the remainder of the session to ask leave of the Association. The moderator of the Association shall invite to seats visiting brethren, and call for correspondents, at the beginning of each day session.

Art. 3. The clerk shall keep a correct record of the proceedings of each session—shall read and correct the minutes as often as called upon to do so, and shall print and distribute the minutes, when such order has been passed by the Association. He shall also receive a reasonable compensation for his services.

Art. 4. This Association through its moderator, may appoint as many standing committees as it may think best to cover the work in hand at each session of the body; and give ample time to the discussion of such reports.

Art. 5. The treasurer shall make an annual report of all moneys received and disbursed by him, and have his report audited and spread upon the minutes of the Association for examination.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	POSTOFFICES	Rec'd by Bap	Rec'd by Let	Restored	Dismiss by Let	Excluded	Died	Present Memb	For Minutes	Home Mission	Foreign Miss'n	State Missions	Ass'n Missions	Pastor's Sal	Val. Ch. Prop.	Orphans Home	Other Purposes
Dudley Avenue	T. C. Mahan	John L. Barker	Texarkana, Ark.	7	9	1	5	2		81	2 00	5 00	5 00	136 00		1700 00			
Harmony Grove		G. T. Moody	Texarkana, Ark.	11	2	1	14		2		3 25	52 54							
Silverena	Henry Phillips	Addie Aaron	Texarkana, Ark.	15						52	2 50	2 50		2 00	3 00			4 50	
Shiloh	Henry Phillips	A. A. Aaron	Texarkane, Ark.		1		2			19	2 00			2 60					