
MINUTES LIBRARY

OF THE

FOURTH SESSION

OF THE

Miller County, Arkansas

Missionary Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE

Silverena Baptist Church

OCTOBER 26, 27, 28, 1906.

OFFICERS.

Joe Vinson, Moderator,

S. S. Pearson, Clerk.

W. C. Matthews, Treasurer.

The next Annual Session of the Association will be held with the Dudley Avenue Baptist Church, College Hill, Texarkana, Arkansas, beginning on Friday at 10 o'clock a. m. before the 4th, Sunday in October 1907. Elder J. T. McNew to preach the Introductory Sermon, W. M. Bridges, Alternate.

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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 time.
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 ministers 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 Missionary Baptist Association of Miller county, Arkansas, met in its Fourth Session with Silverena Church, October 26, 27, 28, 1906.

After a song service and prayer by Elder H. Phillips the Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder T. C. Mahan, text 1st, John 1-3. Prayer by Dr. Barton. After which Bro. Phillips gave the Welcome Address.

Body adjourned until 2 p. m.

Benediction by Bro. Barton.

FIRST DAY, EVENING SESSION.

At 2 p. m., the body met and devotional services were led by Bro. Barton by reading 2nd, chapter of Phil. After which the Moderator called the body to order. Brethren Bridges and Barton were chosen ~~clerks~~. reading clerks.

The following churches responded by messengers and letters, viz.

Dudley Avenue—Brethren J. T. McNew, Joe Vinson, S. S. Pearson, Bro. Phillips and Bro. Kirby.

Harmony Grove—Brethren W. M. Bridges, F. M. Davis and G. T. Mordy.

Shiloh—Brethren H. N. Nix, T. J. Roberts and J. M. Bolin.

Silverena—Brethren W. L. Davis, S. B. Huff and G. W. Yarberry.

Fouke—Brethren C. C. Turner, Charlie Martin and Ed. Sams.

Spring Hill—Eld. A. P. Littleton.

Fouke and Shiloh were received on petitionary letters.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us.

Dr. Barton and Eld. T. C. Mahan of Texarkana were welcomed as such.

The body then went into an election of officers for the ensuing year which resulted in the election of Bro. Joe Vinson, Moderator, S. S. Pearson, Clerk, and W. C. Matthews Treasurer.

On motion of Bro. Bridges Art. 2 and 3 in the order of business as printed in minutes of last year were ordered stricken out.

The Moderator then made announcements of the following committees:

On Preaching—Brethren Len Davis, J. E. Corzine and Bro. Phillips.

On Home Missions—C. C. Turner, Ed. Sams and Elder W. M. Bridges.

On Sunday Schools—S. S. Pearson, Eld. H. Phillips and Ed. Sams.

On Foreign Missions—W. M. Bridges and J. E. Corzine.

The report on Home Missions was read by W. M. Bridges on which Bro. Barton made an excellent and edifying speech by explaining the work of the Home Mission Board.

On motion we adjourned until 10 a. m., Saturday.

Benediction by Bro. Mahan.

SECOND DAY, MORNING SESSION.

Saturday 10 a. m., Bro. Bridges was chosen Moderator pro tem.

Devotional exercises by the Moderator reading the 1st. Psalm and prayer by Bro. Mahan. After which Bro. Mahan made a telling speech on foreign emigration and its effects on our own people and our duty to our Heavenly Father by giving the pure gospel to all. After which Bro. Bridges emphasized our duty as Baptists in carrying out the great commission to give the gospel to all nations. Bro. Barton then entertained the audience by an earnest and forceful sermon. Text, Luke 17-10. Prayer by Bro. Phillips.

Adjourned until 1;30 p. m.

Benediction by Bro. Barton.

SECOND DAY EVENING SESSION.

1:30 p. m. After a song service, prayer was offered by Bro. Bridges.

An opportunity was given for any church which did not come in Friday to present their letter. Bro. A. P. Littleton from Spring Hill church was received as a messenger from his church.

Brethren C. C. Turner, Len Davis and J. E. Corzine, committee on Nominations recommended that Bro. J. T. McNew preach the Introductory Sermon at our next session and Bro. W. M. Bridges alternate. Also recommended that our Executive Board remain as it is with the addition of Eld. H. Phillips.

After considering and adopting reports of committees we adjourned until 10 a. m., Sunday.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Our home field comprises the Southern States, Indian Territory and Cuba. The Home Board is doing work that could not be done in any other way. It is rich in honors, faithful in services and wonderful in its power for good. Some of its wise benefactions are seen in the glory and beauty of some of our greatest churches in commercial centers. It goes also to highways and reaches the lofty and humble of earth, deals with and overcomes the most difficult problems of our foreign emigration. It has recently come to our own doors with a magnificent contribution of \$2,500 to our beloved Beech Street church. This fact alone should forever bind in lasting gratitude the promoters of the Miller County Baptist Association.

C. C. Turner.

Chair Com.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

This department of 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 our churches to take stated collections for our State Mission work.

W. M. Bridges,
Chair Com.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS

We are in the habit of dividing our great mission work into different parts under different names to give emphasis to some particular field. But when we come to consider the relation of the gospel to lost souls, the field is the whole world wide in the demands, and world wide in its methods of reaching the lost. He who is faithful in Associational Missions, State Missions and Home Missions will be faithful to the great commission "Go ye into all the world." He who is loyal to Foreign Missions will never stop to cavil over any of the details of work between the church and the end of the world. Every detail of every method is but adding power and glory to the one great end of saving the lost to the uttermost parts of the world it is beginning in Jerusalem going to Judea, and covering the whole earth.

W. M. Bridges,
Chair Com.

REPORT ON ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

The most important work of the Baptists of this county at this particular time, is Associational Missions.

When we take into consideration the already 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.

J. E. Corzine,
Chair Com.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

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 urgently recommend that each church have and operate a faithful Bible Baptist Sunday School. Realizing that it is the imperative duty of every church to work and propogate the gospel of the Blessed Savior to the fullest extent of its means and ability.

S. S. Pearson,
Chair Com.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee on Temperance offers the following;

Realizing the fact that intemperance is a great sin and that the word of God teaches that "no drunkard can enter the kingdom of heaven," therefore we recommend that all Baptists refrain from the use of alcoholic drinks in any sense. Also recommend that the churches enforce a strict discipline with all who go so far astray as to frequent saloons or indulge in the intemperate use of intoxicants.

H. Phillips,
Chair Com.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

Received from Dudley Ave. Church for Associational Missions	\$7.35
For Minutes	2.00
Silverena Church for Minutes	1.15

Silverena for State Missions	2.00
Harmony Grove Church for Minutes	3.00
Harmony Grove Church for State Missions	
Fouke Church for Minutes	1.50
Shiloh Church for Minutes	2.25
Spring Hill Church for minutes	50
	<hr/>
Total	\$19.75

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Received by public collection 10-23-05 - - - - -	10.00
Harmony Grove church - - - - -	1.70
Dudley Avenue Church - - - - -	4.50

FOR MINUTES.

Dudley Avenue Church - - - - -	4.00
Harmony Grove Church - - - - -	3.00
Bethel Church - - - - -	1.25
Silverena Church - - - - -	1.75
Spring Hill Church - - - - -	50
	<hr/>
Total collections - - - - -	\$26.70
Paid to C. T. Wilson for State Board - - - - -	16.20
Paid Clerk for services - - - - -	10.00
To Bro. Davis for Bro. Franks - - - - -	50
	<hr/>
Total	\$26.70

Respectfully submitted,
W. C. Matthews,
Treasurer.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION.

Sunday 10 a. m., the body met pursuant to adjournment After hearing and approving previous minutes the report on Sunday Schools was discussed at some length and adopted The congregation was then entertained by a sermon by Bro. H Phillips, Text Isaiah 1-18. The following was adopted.

Resolved. That this body tender Silverena Church and vicinity our sincere thanks for their hospitality during our stay with them.

A collection of \$10.00 was taken for State Missions.

On motion the body adjourned to meet with Dudley Ave Church, Friday before the Fourth Sunday in Oct. 1907.

Benediction by Bro. Phillips.

Joe Vinson,

Moderator.

S. S. Pearson

Clerk.

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 this union shall be entitled to three messengers only, whatever may be 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 spreading 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

germain 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 polity 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 Baptists 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	CLERKS P. O.	Rec by Baptism	Rec by letter	Restored	Dismissed	Excluded	Died	Present Member	For Minutes	Home Missions	Foreign Mission	State Missions	Associatnl Miss	Pastor's Salary	Val Ch. Prop	Building Fund	Orphan's Home	Other Purposes
Dudley Ave,	J T McNew	Mallie Fusselle	Texarkana	8	12	1	10			77	\$ 2	\$	\$	\$	\$7.35	91.45	1700	17.60	100	
Harmony Grove,	W M Bridges	Geo Lee	Texarkana	6	4		4			78	3	1.50	1.50	11.80	12.00	80.00	1500	2.05	24.35	
Silverena	H Phillips	Addie Aaron	Texarkana		2					27	2	30	10.95	1.15						
Shiloh	H Phillips	J M Babin	Texarkana							19	2.25									
Spring Hill		A P Littleton	Crank								50									
Fouke		Ed Sams	Fouke							17										
Bethel not represented																				

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