

# MINUTES

OF THE  
FIRST ANNUAL SESSION



OF THE

# United Association,

HELD AT

SHARON BAPTIST CHURCH, FAULKNER COUNTY, ARK.,

September 11, 1872.

## OFFICERS

Rev. R. M. STEVENS,  
Rev. H. M. GILCAS,  
Rev. W. C. BOY.

MODERATOR,  
CLERK,  
TREASURER.

Next meeting to be held with Ministers of Clergy, 1873.

# PROCEEDINGS.

SATURDAY, September 19, 1875.

The United Association convened with the church at Sharon, Faulkner county, on Saturday, September 19, 1875.

The appointee to preach the introductory sermon being absent, it was delivered by Eld. B. M. Stevens; after which, the association was called to order by the former moderator.

The clerk being absent, Eld. O. M. Lucas was appointed clerk, pro tem., when the following proceedings were had, to-wit:

Read the letters from the different churches represented, and enrolled the names of messengers. (See statistical table.)

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended for the reception of petitionary letters from new churches. Whereupon letters from the following churches were presented, viz: Lone Grove, Union Hill, and Hopewell.

The association being satisfied as to the soundness of their faith, they were received, the moderator extending to their messengers the right hand of fellowship.

The association then proceeded to a permanent organization, by electing Eld. B. M. Stevens, moderator; Eld. O. M. Lucas, clerk; and Eld. W. T. Box, treasurer.

Called for correspondence, when Bro J. Moody, of Blue Mountain Association, came forward, and Eld. T. Moody announced the reception of a letter from Bro. Thrasher in behalf of Saline Association, asking a correspondence with the body by letter.

The moderator appointed a committee on arrangements, consisting of the following brethren: Elds. T. Moody, W. T. Box, J. F. D. Sheffield, and Breth. T. E. Beavers and R. H. Middleton, who, after a short interval, reported the following as the order of business:

We, your committee on arrangements, beg leave to submit the following: We recommend the appointment of committees as follows: On preaching, finance, temperance, home missions, foreign missions, duty of pastors to churches, duty of churches to pastors, queries, publications, and the Centennial; also, the time and place of the next meeting, and who

shall preach the introductory and missionary sermons. The report was received and adopted.

The moderator then proceeded to the appointment of committees, as follows:

Preaching—T. E. Beavers, R. H. Middleton, S. E. Lamar.

Finance—J. H. Durlum, J. Mathews, O. Parker.

Temperance—J. Jones, J. Johnson, W. D. Napier.

Home Mission—J. F. D. Shetley, J. J. Cantrel, J. W. Buckner.

Foreign Missions—O. M. Lucas, J. G. Butler, R. P. Bryant.

Duty of Pastors to Churches—T. P. McGlone, J. J. Dickens, F. M. Lesley.

Queries—J. Dunaway, E. O. Branon, C. L. Griffith.

Publications—G. P. Minor, J. M. Reynolds, Benj. Wofford.

Centennial Committee—O. M. Lucas, W. T. Box, T. Moody, B. M. Stevens, J. F. D. Shetley.

The association then adjourned to 5 p.m. Prayer by Eld. W. T. Box.

SATURDAY, 5 o'clock, p.m.

Association met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. O. M. Lucas.

On motion, agreed to correspond with the following associations:

Caroline—Messengers, J. Mathews, T. P. McGlone, J. J. Cantrel.

Danielle—W. T. Box, T. Moody, J. A. Johnson.

Little Red River—M. T. Webb, J. M. Williams, D. H. Honeycutt.

Blue Mountain—T. Moody, M. T. Webb.

Saline—By letter. (The clerk ordered to write it.)

On motion, it was resolved that this body represent by delegation in the State Convention. The following named brethren volunteered to go: O. M. Lucas, W. T. Box, T. Moody, B. M. Stevens, W. P. McGlone, E. O. Branon, W. D. Napier.

On motion, agreed to change the time of holding the meetings of this body, to 9 a.m., on Friday before the third Sabbath in October.

Place of holding the next meeting, Hopewell, Pope county. Eld. T. Moody to preach the introductory sermon, Eld. W. T. Box, alternate; Eld. Box to preach the missionary sermon at 11 o'clock on Sabbath, and Eld. B. M. Stevens alternate.

Committee on Sunday-schools reported. Report adopted. (See appendix A.)

Committee on temperance reported, which was received and adopted. (See appendix B.)

Committee on duty of pastors to churches, and churches to pastors, reported, and report received and adopted. (See appendix C.)

Committee on publications reported, and report received and adopted. (See appendix D.)

Committee on queries reported but one query. Viz: "Are we following the Lord Jesus Christ when we celebrate the Lord's death publicly and in daylight?" The association answered in the affirmative.

Report of committee on finance received and adopted. (See appendix E.)

Report on home missions received and adopted. (See appendix F.)

Report on foreign missions received and adopted. (See appendix G.)

In accordance with the constitution of the body an executive board was appointed by the moderator, consisting of the following named brethren: W. T. Box, J. Jones, C. R. Humphries, O. M. Lucas and G. Parker, to whom was intrusted the duty of executing the will of the association, as expressed in the report on home missions. (See report.)

Pending the above reports, quite a number of warm speeches were made by Breth. Moody, Box, Shelley, Lucas and others.

There was subscribed for missions within our own bounds by individual subscriptions about \$150.

The following resolutions were adopted by the association.

*Resolved,* That the clerk attend to the publication and distribution of the minutes, and receive for his services \$10.

*Resolved,* That the thanks of this body be, and are hereby tendered to the brethren composing this church and the community, for their hospitality to this body during its present session.

The business of the association having been completed, a motion to adjourn to the time and place above stated, prevailing, when the brethren gave each other the parting hand, after which they engaged in prayer led by Bro. Box.

Thus closed a harmonious session of the United Association.

O. M. Lucas, Clerk.

B. M. STEVENS, Moderator.

## APPENDIX.

[A]

### REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your committee, on Sunday schools, beg leave to make the following report: From the information which we have been able to gather, there are but few Sunday schools within the bounds of this association.

We would, therefore, recommend that this body advise the churches to organize Sunday-schools at their earliest convenience, and procure for their Sunday-schools the Bible and such Baptist literature as may be necessary to aid in its study.

Also, that the churches be requested to report their progress at our next annual meeting.

W. D. NARR, Chairman.

[B.]

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE

We, your committee on temperance, would report as follows:

We unhesitatingly condemn the practice of buying, selling or drinking, as a beverage, intoxicating liquors; and would suggest that pastors of churches deliver a sermon on this subject to their congregations, during the present year.

J. A. JONSSON, Chairman.

[C.]

RELATIVE DUTIES OF PASTORS AND CHURCHES.

We, your committee, to whom was referred the question of the duty of pastors to churches and that of churches to pastors, beg leave to submit the following report:

To us, the first apparent duty of the pastor is to preach the Word. "Be instant in season and out of season; rebuke, reprove, exhort . . . with all long suffering," is Paul's exhortation to Timothy. His next most obvious duty is to visit the members of his flock, especially, such as are sick, or in distressed circumstances from any cause, and hold religious conversation with them, etc.

DUTY OF CHURCHES TO PASTORS.

The first great duty of the church to her pastor, is to give him her hearty support and co-operation.

In order that his labors may be sanctified to her good she should minister to his temporal wants by devoting a part of her substance to his support. Through her officers, the deacons, she should visit him, ascertain his wants, and then supply them. Paul says, "The Lord hath ordained that they which preach the gospel, should live of the gospel." He further says, when speaking of contributions, "Let each of you, on the first day of the week, lay by him in store as the Lord hath prospered him." Thus, brethren, should we do. We should then be ready for any emergency. If our pastor labors for us in spiritual things, we ought to minister to him of our carnal things.

No one is so poor as to be exempt from the . . . No church can be too prompt in supplying the wants of her pastor.

Brethren, unless we do more in this direction, and cut our pastors loose from secular employment, we need not hope to see our churches prosperous. Again, brethren, we should not consider the means devoted to the relief of our pastors in the light of alms—charitable contributions—neither should we look upon our pastors as mere objects of charity; we justly owe them a debt, and God will not hold us guiltless if we fail to pay them.

Finally brethren, we are clearly convinced that if we would sustain our ministry as other organizations sustain theirs, the time would not be far distant when these so called churches would melt before a pure gospel, as wax before the flame.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

T. P. MCGILVER, Chairman.

[D.]

#### REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS.

Your committee on publications submits the following:

After recommending the word of God for your careful and prayerful perusal, we would also heartily endorse the WESTERN BAPTIST, published weekly by Elds. Boone and Esby, at Searcy, Arkansas, also Kind Words, the Baptist, Memphis, and Ford's Christian Repository, St. Louis.

G. P. MINOR, Chairman.

[F.]

#### FINANCE REPORT.

We, your committee on finance, beg leave to report \$30.80 in our possession, for publishing minutes, etc.

J. H. DURHAM, Chairman.

[F.]

#### REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

We, your committee, beg leave to report that many portions of the United Association are destitute of pure gospel preaching, already ripe for the harvest. We, therefore recommend that the association appoint an executive board to take charge of the home mission operations, employ one or more ministers, who, in their judgment, are able to preach and successfully defend the distinctive doctrines of the Baptists, to labor in such destitute portions as shall be most expedient; also, to visit and indoctrin-

ate such churches as may not be able to supply themselves with efficient preaching.

And, in order that said evangelists be properly supported, let each church claiming to be missionary, prove her faith by her works, by contributing liberally, cheerfully and regularly to the support of this great work. All of which is respectfully submitted.

J. F. D. SHERREY, Chairman.

[G.]

### REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your committee on foreign missions, begs leave to call your attention to the "Macedonian cry," "come over and help us," which is being borne to us upon every breeze; Brethren, the perishing millions of the earth are calling for the bread of life. Shall we withhold it them? Brethren, these must be saved, if saved at all, by faith in Jesus. "How shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard, and how shall they hear without a preacher, and how shall they preach except they be sent?" "Brethren, ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who, though he was rich, yet for your sakes became poor, that ye, through his poverty might be rich." If he did all this for us, can we not do something for him? Let us awake from our lethargy.

Again, many noble men and women from love to Jesus and the souls of the perishing heathen, have left home—kindred—all—that they might tell to these benighted people the sweet story of the cross. Many of them are destitute—have failed to receive the small amount promised to them by the lovers of Jesus. Shall their cry not move us? God grant that it may move the heart of every Baptist in the United Association to do something in this direction. However small the amount may be let us give something to FOREIGN MISSIONS.

O. M. LUCAS, Chairman.



# STATISTICAL TABLE.

| CHURCHES.       | PASTORS.           | CLERKS.         | NAMES OF MESSENGERS.                          | POSTOFFICE. | Kept by Letter. | Kept by Hap. | Restored. | Excluded by Letter. | Died. | Total Membership. | Amount sent for Minutes. | MINISTERS.        |
|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|---|-------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------|---------------------|-------|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Cadron Cove...  | J. M. Williams     | J. J. Stanton   | Eld. B. M. Stevens, J. M. Williams, O. Parker | Springfield | 2               | 1            | 0         | 3                   | 0     | 12                | \$ 2 50                  | Williams, Stevens |
| Cadron Valley   | B. M. Stevens      | T. M. Alexander | J. J. Cantrill                                | Springfield | 0               | 0            | 0         | 0                   | 1     | 31                |                          |                   |
| Mt. Moriah      | D. Lewis           | R. B. Edwards   | F. M. Lesley                                  |             | 4               | 0            | 0         | 3                   | 0     | 30                | 1 50                     |                   |
| Mt. Zion        | W. M. Mills        | T. R. Bryant    | S. E. Lamar, J. J. Mathews, J. M. Reynolds    | Cane Creek  | 0               | 0            | 1         | 0                   | 0     | 92                | 1 35                     |                   |
| Macedonia       | B. M. Stevens      | S. Glenn        | J. J. Dickens, J. V. Castleberry              | Greenbrier  | 1               | 1            | 0         | 0                   | 1     | 55                | 1 20                     | L. R. Hall, Sen.  |
| Mt. Pleasant    | J. K. Broadway     | G. W. Ford      | Eld. W. T. Box, J. R. Jones, J. M. Meeks      | Springfield | 0               | 2            | 0         | 0                   | 1     | 20                | 75                       | Box, Ford, Weeks  |
| Mt. Prospect    | J. F. D. Sheffield | J. L. Byrd      | Eld. J. F. D. Sheffield, L. B. Parret         | El Paso     | 0               | 0            | 0         | 0                   | 1     | 45                | 2 00                     |                   |
| Palestine       | Wm. Lea Porter     | J. L. Caple     | J. L. Gam                                     |             | 0               | 1            | 2         | 0                   | 7     | 0                 | 47                       |                   |
| Sharon          | J. G. Campbell     | W. J. Hendricks | W. J. Hendricks, R. H. Middleton              | Cane Creek  | 2               | 1            | 2         | 0                   | 0     | 40                | 2 00                     |                   |
| Springfield     | O. M. Lucas        | S. Scroggins    | Eld. O. M. Lucas                              | Springfield | 5               | 1            | 1         | 2                   | 0     | 34                | 1 50                     | Lucas, Bearden    |
| Friendship      | J. K. Broadway     | W. J. Smith     | Letter  | Springfield | 0               | 0            | 0         | 0                   | 1     | 24                |                          |                   |
| Oak Bowery      | J. K. Broadway     | T. Moody        | T. Moody, B. Wifford                          | Springfield | 0               | 0            | 0         | 0                   | 1     | 17                | 1 00                     |                   |
| Oak Hill        | B. H. Bearden      | T. W. Scroggins | T. W. Scroggins                               | Springfield | 2               | 1            | 1         | 3                   | 1     | 53                |                          |                   |
| Palestine No. 2 | M. T. Webb         | J. M. Clayton   | J. Preadwood                                  | Quilman     | 0               | 0            | 1         | 0                   | 1     | 30                | 2 00                     |                   |
| Greenbrier      | Wm. Mills          | A. J. Jenkins & | A. Hinkle                                     | Greenbrier  | 4               | 1            | 0         | 0                   | 0     | 16                | 75                       |                   |
| Pleasant Spring |                    | J. White        | J. J. George, D. H. Honeycutt                 | Springfield | 0               | 3            | 1         | 0                   | 0     | 19                | 1 50                     |                   |
| Mt. Olive       | M. J. Webb         | J. T. Harland   | J. C. Hornbarger                              | Shiloh      | 4               | 2            | 2         | 1                   | 1     | 68                | 2 50                     |                   |
| Liberty         | A. M. Branon       | E. O. Branon    | J. Dunaway, R. P. Bryant, E. O. Branon        | Conway      | 4               | 4            | 0         | 5                   | 2     | 51                | 1 25                     |                   |
| Conway          | W. T. Box          | J. H. Durham    | J. H. Durham, J. W. Buckner                   | Conway      | 0               | 0            | 0         | 0                   | 0     | 54                | 1 45                     |                   |
| Sards           | W. D. Napler       | J. M. Mosingill | W. D. Napler, V. J. Williams                  | Adkin's Sta | 2               | 0            | 0         | 2                   | 1     | 22                | 2 00                     |                   |
| Total           |                    |                 |   |             | 39              | 32           | 11        | 54                  | 23    | 0751              | \$25 25                  |                   |