

MINUTES

—OF THE—

FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE—

SPRING VALLEY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

—HELD WITH—

**PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH, MADISON COUNTY, ARKANSAS
SEPTEMBER, 1891.**

OFFICERS:—ELDER S. S. GRAHAM, Moderator, Spring Valley, Ark.;
A. J. BROWN, Clerk, Fancher, Ark.

**THE NEXT ANNUAL SESSION WILL BE HELD WITH
NEW ZION CHURCH,**

Beginning on Friday before the fourth Sunday in Sept. 1892.

DEMOCRAT JOB PRINT. HUNTSVILLE, ARK.

STATISTICAL.

NAME OF CHURCH.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS.

	Male Female.		Total.
AURORA,	4	8	12
ANTIOCH,			27
BRUSH CREEK,			38
HINDSVILLE,			17
NEW ZION,			30
PLEASANT GROVE,			17
PLEASANT HILL,	8	11	19
SMYRNA,			54
SPRING VALLEY,			63
MINERAL SPRINGS,	not	stated
UNION GROVE,	7	6	13
MOUNTAIN VIEW,			18
SOUTHERN GROVE,			70
GRAND TOTAL,			387

Pilgrims Rest

63
450



As per appointment the Spring Valley Association met with Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, three miles east of Marble, Madison County, After song and prayer, the introductory sermon was delivered by Elder T. J. Bailard from Isaiah 9:6; after which Elder S. S. Graham was called to the chair, and Elders R. H. Weaver and J. W. Brent were appointed clerks.

Petitionary letters were then called for. Whereupon Union Grove Pleasant Hill and Mountain View Churches were admitted and messengers invited to seats. Association being duly organized proceeded to the election of officers. Result, Elder S. S. Graham, Moderator; and A. J. Brown, Clerk. Messenger D. R. Smith from Carroll County Association received and invited to a seat in the deliberations of the body. Committee on Divine Service consisting of delegates from Pleasant Grove Church together with B. E. Ward and G. A. Turner; after which a motion to take recess until 2:30 o'clock, P. M.

2:30 P. M. Resumed business. Opened with prayer by Elder D. H. Barron; New Zion Church was then received and delegates Elder D. H. Barron and Bro. Causey invited to seats.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES!

ON FOREIGN MISSIONS:—Elders T. J. Ballard, A. J. McMillan and J. H. Boatright.

ON HOME MISSIONS:—Elders R. H. Weaver, C. J. Lester and Bro. J. W. Brent.

ON SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK:—Brethren H. Williams, G. A. Turner and J. Christopher.

ON TEMPERANCE:—Brethren J. Russell, Jno. Evans and Elder McMillan.

ON FINANCE:—Brethren T. J. Graham and A. J. Hawkins. Committee on Books and Periodicals.



REPORT OF COMMITTEE.

Report of committee on divine service, recommend that Elders R. H. Weaver and A. J. McMillan occupy the pulpit to-night; Elders D. H. Barron and S. S. Graham to-morrow at eleven o'clock.

Resolution to open correspondence with Carroll Association. Carried. Elders T. J. Ballard, H. Williams and L. R. Guthrie, Messengers.

Correspondence with Fayetteville Association continued. A. J. McMillan, J. H. and J. C. Boatright.

A motion to open correspondence with Benton County Association prevailed. S. S. Graham, J. O. Clifton, Jno. Christopher, R. H. Weaver and T. N. Williams.

On motion, duly sustained, this Association will hold its next annual session with New Zion Church, five miles west of Hartsyille. The introductory sermon will be conducted by Elders S. S. Graham and D. H. Barron.

Report of Rev. T. J. Ballard, Missionary in the bounds of this Association, received. Preached 47 sermons; traveled 165 miles; delivered 25 exhortations. Professions, 51; baptisms, 35. Organized three churches, received 14 by relation. Made 47 religious visits; worked 40 days; received \$32 35; balance due, \$7 05.

On motion, adjourned until to-morrow 8:30 A. M. Prayer by Elder McMillan.

Saturday morning, 8:30 A. M., opened with prayer by Bro Bonright. Committee on divine service return Elders Lester and Russell to preach to-night, and Elders Ballard and Graham to-morrow at 11 o'clock. A collection amounting to \$4.25 cash and \$12.15 subscriptions was taken for the purpose of paying off the balance due our former missionary, S. S. Graham.



REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

Following are the reports of Committees, received and adopted:
Your committee on finance report the sum of \$19.10 received by the Association from the various churches for printing minutes.

Respectfully submitted,

T. J. GRAHAM, Chairman.

ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, think that it is the duty of every church to keep up a Sunday School, and, as much as possible, to use Baptist literature; and train the young to respect the word of God and the Sabbath, and report all such work to this Association.

Respectfully submitted,

H. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

ON BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

We, your committee on books and periodicals, would respectfully submit the following as our report: Next to the Bible we would recommend the "*Arkansas Baptist*," published at Little Rock, Ark., as a necessity in every Baptist family in this Association. Next, the "*American Baptist*," published at St. Louis, Mo., and such others only as are in harmony with God's Holy Word for Sunday Schools and home reading.

D. H. BARROW, Chairman.

ON OBITUARY.

We, your committee on obituary, report with sadness the decease of

our beloved brother F. H. Duncan, of Smyrna Church, who died April 3rd, 1891. Had lived a consistent member of the Baptist Church for many years. Also Sister Martha Bennett, who died July 1891. We trust our loss is their eternal gain, and may we so live as to be ready when the Master calls.

Respectfully submitted,

W. E. RICKMAN, Chairman.

ON HOME MISSIONS.

We, your committee on home missions, find great destitution in the bounds of this Association, and recommend that this body a board for the purpose of collecting and employing a missionary to preach in the destitute parts of this Association. Respectfully submitted,

J. W. BREST, Chairman.

ON TEMPERANCE.

Your committee on temperance would say that drunkenness is a great evil and condemned by the scriptures, and as dram-drinking is the forerunner of drunkenness; and also the covenants adopted by the churches of this association condemn it. Resolved, therefore, that this association will not retain in fellowship any church that allows any of her members to participate in the manufacture, sale or use as a beverage, any form of intoxicants.

ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Your committee would recommend foreign missions as a Bible doctrine. Jesus said: "Go into all the world, and as this applies to the Church of Christ it would seem that it is the duty of each one of us to give to the Lord's cause as we are able. The work is almost everywhere advancing and still the Macedonian cry is, "Come over and help us!" There are thousands of conversions every year in the foreign fields, and yet the cry is, "more men and more money." The Christian work is progressing in China, Japan, Italy, Cuba, Mexico, Brazil, etc. Brethren, let us obey the injunction and go by our means to the aid of the poor heathen.

T. J. BALLARD, Chairman.

On motion, adjourned until half-past two o'clock.

2:30 P. M. Opened with prayer by Bro. B. E. Ward.

ON EDUCATION.

Committee on education submit the following report: That it is the

duty of every church to foster a liberal system of education; that we should be thoroughly acquainted with the word of God; that the Bible is the Book of Books and should be thoroughly studied by every Christian.

We further recommend Ouachita College, in this State, as worthy the patronage of the Baptists of the State.

R. H. WEAVER, Chairman.

The Home Mission Board reported \$32.35 paid to missionary, leaving a balance of \$7.05 unpaid.

G. A. TURNER, Chairman.

A motion made and carried to continue the former Home Missions board and that the names of T. J. Graham, W. E. Rickman and A. J. Hawkins be added thereto; and it was further moved that this body request the Pastors and Deacons throughout this association, to act in conjunction with said board, in raising funds for Home Mission work.

On motion, duly sustained, the name of the association to be changed to Madison County Association.

A motion to authorize the Clerk to have 300 copies of minutes printed and distributed and that he have, for his services, balance of money on hand for that purpose.

Resolved: That this body tender its sincerest thanks to the people of Pleasant Grove Church and vicinity for the pleasant and hospitable manner in which they received and entertained us.

A vote of thanks to the Moderator for the just and impartial manner in which he has presided over the deliberations of this body.

On motion, this body stands adjourned to meet with New Zion Church on Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1893.

S. S. GRAHAM, Moderator.

A. J. BROWN, Clerk.