

**PROCEEDINGS.**

—OF THE—

**Sixteenth Annual Session**

—OF THE—

**Wolf Bayou Association**

—OF—

**General Baptists**

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Held with Macedonia Church, Cleburn Co., Ark.,  
September 2, 3 and 4,

**1916**

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**ELD. J. W. FOUST, Moderator.**

**A. C. STONE, Clerk,      Shiloh, Arkansas**

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## PROCEEDINGS

Of the Sixteenth Annual Session of Wolf Bayou Association of General Baptists, held with Macedonia Church, Cleburn County, Arkansas, September 2, 3 and 4, 1916.

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The association was called to order by the moderator, Elder J. W. Foust, singing by congregation and prayer by Bro. W. T. Hawkins.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder T. J. Bittle from Hebrews 10:6, after which the Friday night session was closed by singing and prayer led by Elder Thomas.

### SATURDAY MORNING.

The Saturday morning session was opened by singing, and prayer by Elder W. B. Powers, after which the association was declared ready for business.

The letters from the several churches were called for and read, and the delegates seated and given the right hand of Christian fellowship, after which the association organized by electing Elder J. W. Foust moderator for the next associational year, and A. C. Stone clerk.

New churches were called for and none presented.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

Divine Services—J. W. Liles, J. B. Macarty, J. T. Landrum.

Sunday-school—Elder W. T. Hawkins, L. J. Ramer, W. M. James.

Prayer Meeting—W. R. Knee, W. R. Cush, Elder W. T. Hawkens.

Finance—Elder T. J. Bittle, W. B. Powers, L. J. Ramer.

Temperance—J. T. Landrum, W. T. Hawkens, T. J. Bittle.

Queries, Requests and Resolutions—John Liles, W. R. Knee, W. R. Cush.

Credentials J. T. Landrum, W. M. James, J. B. Macarty.

The Saturday morning session was closed for preaching by singing and prayer, to meet at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

The stand was filled by Elder W. B. Powers, followed by Elder Foust. Text, Ez. 37:15.

## SATURDAY EVENING SESSION.

Called to order by moderator, and after singing and prayer by W. M. James, the minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

The committee on Prayer Meeting made the following report:

Prayer Meeting.—We believe in Prayer Meeting, and highly recommend Prayer Meeting in all churches and localities, as it is a place where all can take a hand, and it brings to light the talent of many that no other meeting will.

Report adopted as read and committee discharged.

Committee on Sunday-school made the following report:

Sunday-school.—Every church and community should support and maintain an ever green Sunday-school, as it is a great help to churches and civilization.

Report adopted and committee discharged.

Committee on Requests, Queries and Resolutions made the following report:

Resolution —That the 'Wolf Bayou association send out a home missionary if they can support him. After some debating it was decided that the association urge all the preaching brethren to preach and talk the matter of a home missionary during the next associational year, and for each one to do all he can to try to organize and build up the brotherhood of this association.

Query No. 1.—Is it right to take a social drink of whiskey? It was decided that it is not, lest it lead to total drunkenness.

Query No. 2.—Does a child when born inherit sin? After several talks on the subject it was decided that the child is born clear of inbred or inherited sins.

Query No. 3.—Has a man the right to add to or take from the church? After some debating of this subject, it was decided that it is not in man's power to do either, add or take from.

The committee on Temperance made the following report:

Temperance.—That it is the duty of all Christians to be temperate in all things and to do all in their power to be temperate, and above all to be sober at all times.

Committee on Divine Services appointed Elder W. T. Hawkens to fill the stand at night. He took for his Text, Ez. 6:11.

The association was closed for night services by singing and prayer by Elder J. W. Foust, to meet Monday night at 8 o'clock.

### SUNDAY SERVICES.

Preaching at 11 o'clock by Elder J. W. Foust, from Hebrew, 11th chapter. His subject was Faith, followed by T. J. Bittle, from same subject.

### SUNDAY NIGHT.

Preaching by Elder T. J. Bittle. Text, St. John 2:5, followed by J. W. Foust, after which the Lord's supper and washing of feet was administered.

### MONDAY MORNING.

The association met at 8 o'clock. After singing and prayer by A. E. Stone, the moderator declared the association ready for business and the following was taken up:

The committee on Finance report eight dollars for Minute fund. Report received and committee discharged.

Committee and Credentials reported all O. K. Report received and committee discharged.

Committee on Correspondance decided to correspond with Post Oak Grove association, and Brothers L. J. Ramer and A. E. Stone were choosen as delegates, and Elder T. J. Bittle as alternate, and were ordered to write a letter of correspondence.

Monday morning session was closed by singing and prayer, to meet at 2:30.

At 11 o'clock, preaching by Elder J. W. James.

## MONDAY EVENING.

Opened by singing and prayer, after which the question of our next association was taken up, and it was decided to give it to Harper church, 5 miles east of Newport, Ark., to begin on Friday night before the first Sunday in September, 1917. The introductory sermon to be preached by Elder W. E. Arnold, Thomas Berry alternate. After which the association tendered her heartfelt thanks to the Macedonia church and community for the kindness and hospitality to the visiting delegates and friends during our stay among them.

After which there was a motion to adjourn, so the association closed by singing, and prayer by Elder J. W. James, to meet with Harper's church, on Friday night before the first Lord's day in September, 1917.

P. S. On Sunday morning before preaching, the Presbytery convened and ordained Bro. W. B. Powers to the ministry, and two deacons of Macedonia church, and ordered the clerk to write Bro. Power's credentials and sign them up all right.

Elder J. W. FOUST, Mod.

A. C. STONE, Clerk.

## STATISTICAL TABLE

Churches	Pastors.	Members received	Total Membership	Died	Ministers and licentiates.	Minute funds	Sunday School	Prayer meeting	Meeting day
Cross Roads ....	W. T. Hawkins	1	15	1	1	...	1	1	3
Pleasant Grove .....	T. J. Bittle	..	8	..	1	...	1	..	4
Walnut Grove ...	Thomas Berry	..	40	..	..	...	..	..	..
Harpers .....	Thomas Berry	..	16	..	..	...	..	..	3
Macedonia .....	W. T. Hawkins	5	35	..	1	...	..	..	4
Total .....		15	161	1	4	750	2	1	..
Dug Hill .....	W. T. Hawkins	1	19	..	1	...	..	..	2
Wilborn .....	J. W. Foust	8	28	..	..	...	..	..	4

### Ministers' Reports.

T. J. Bittle—Churches pastored 2; amount received \$13.00; conversions witnessed 0; funeral services 5; sermons preached 55; miles traveled 265; marriages 0; baptized 0.

Tom Berry— Churches pastored 2; amount received \$45.53; conversions witnessed 0; funeral services 1; sermons preached 50; miles traveled 700; marriages 0; baptized 3.

### Addresses of Church Clerks.

Cross Roads—Miss Monie Jones ..... Shiloh, Arkansas  
Pleasant Grove—A. E. Stone ..... Shiloh, Arkansas  
Walnut Grove—Camea Coleme .. Myricksville, Arkansas  
Harpers—Minnie Goodman ..... New Port, Arkansas  
Macedonia—J. W. Liles ..... Five Miles, Arkansas  
Dug Hill—W. R. Knee ..... Dug Hill, Arkansas  
Wilburn—J. E. Sheer ..... Wilburn, Arkansas

### Name of Delegates.

Cross Roads—William James and Monie James.

Pleasant Grove—A. C. Stone, J. L. Ramer.

Walnut Grove—Mike Berry.

Harpers—No delegates.

Macedonia—Earl Star, John Liles and J. W. Wells.

Dug Hill—W. D. Nash, W. R. Knee.

Wilburn—E. E. Ramsey, Oles Gosset.

Several churches not represented and having no minutes last year, I have not their addresses.—Clerk.

### RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The association, when convened, shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet and address the moderator.

3. The person speaking shall adhere to the question, and shall in no wise cast personal reflections on any person who may have spoken before him.

4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in speech, except by the moderator, until he gets through; nor shall the moderator interrupt him unless he break order.

5. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the association.

6. Members shall address each other by the appellation of Brother or Brethren.

7. No member shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.

8. No member of this association shall absent himself when the association is sitting in conference without leave of the moderator.

9. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the association.

10. Any member who shall knowingly break any of these rules shall be reproved by the moderator, according to the direction of the association.

### ORDER OF BUSINESS.

Devotional exercise, thirty minutes.

Introductory sermon.

Calling roll of churches and enrolling delegates.

Call for new churches.

Election of officers.

Appointing committees on Divine Services and Credentials.

Call for correspondence.

Inviting visiting brethren and sisters to seats in council.

Appointment of committees.

Reports of ministers.

Call for reports of treasurer, permanent committees, boards, etc.

Call for Messenger subscriptions.

Reports of committees.

Church contributions.

Place of holding next meeting.

Appointing delegates to General and sister associations.

Unfinished business.

New business.

Adjournment.

### CONSTITUTION.

1. This association shall be composed of such ministers and messengers as shall be chosen by the different churches composing this association, thought most fit for that purpose, and sent with letters testifying to their appointment to represent them in the association, who shall be entitled to seats.

The officers of this association when properly organized shall consist of a moderator and clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present. The duty of the moderator shall be to keep the association in order, state questions fairly and take their minds thereon; to have the liberty of speech as other members, provided his seat be filled; to have no vote unless the association be equally divided, in which case he shall have the deciding vote. The duty of the clerk shall be to keep a fair record of all the proceedings of the association.

3. In the letters from the several churches shall be expressed their respective number of members in fellowship; and the number received, dismissed, excluded and died since the sitting of the last association, and day of church meeting.

4. No query shall be received by this association from

any church unless it has been acted on in said church and cannot be settled, in which case the association shall take up the same and act on it.

5. Every church in the association shall be entitled to a representation of any number of delegates not exceeding six.

6. Every motion made and seconded shall be acted on unless withdrawn by the mover.

7. The association shall not have the power to Lord it over God's heritage, so as to infringe on any of the internal rights of the churches; nevertheless we agree that the churches composing this association shall stand in the same relation to each other in the association that individuals do to each other in the churches; that is to say, if a church trespass against a sister church, the church injured shall try to reclaim them by gospel steps; if they cannot be reclaimed they shall be dropped from our union.

9. Any church may be admitted into this association by letter and delegate, if upon proper examination it is found to be orthodox and orderly; such admission shall be manifested by the moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to the delegates thereof.

10. This association shall have power to sit as an advisory council; to give churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty; to inquire into the cause why churches neglect to represent themselves in this association; to appoint any member or members, by and with his or their consent, to transact any business they may deem necessary; to invite any brethren in the ministry to a seat with the association; to adjourn the association to any time and place that may be thought necessary; to exclude from his seat any member who will not conform to the Rules of Decorum, and shall report his or their conduct to the church from which he or they were delegates.

14. Where a church has a deacon that they desire the ordination of, they are authorized to have it done at any time or place where a presbytery can be found.

1. This constitution is not to be altered without a majority of three-fourths of the members composing this body; but if any person after becoming a member shall become dissatisfied with any part of this constitution or articles of faith, he shall be entitled to a letter of dismission, if in fellowship in his own church.

### ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible Word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice.—2 Tim. 3:16; Acts 4:12; 2 Peter 1:20, 21.

2. That there is but one living and true God, and in the Godhead, or divine essence, Father, Son and Holy



Ghost.—St. John 1:1; 1 John 5:7; Isa. 45:12; Col. 2:8; Deut. 4:39; 1 Cor. 8:4.

3. That we are fallen and depraved creatures, and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature.—St. John 14:16, 17; 15:26; Rom. 8:7-20; Rom. 3:10-12.

4. That Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification, Justification and Redemption are by the life, death, resurrection, ascension and intercession of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.—Eph. 2:8, 9; Acts 4:12; Heb. 10:10; Jer. 29:8.

5. We believe that he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved.—St. Mark 13:13; Matt. 24:13; 2 Peter 2:20, 21, 22; Matt. 10:22.

6. That the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.—Rev. 4:5; Matt. 25:46; Matt. 19:29.

7. We believe that baptism, the Lord's supper and washing of saints' feet are the ordinances of Jesus Christ appointed in the church, and that none but true believers are proper subjects, and that the only true mode of baptism is immersion.—On Baptism, Matt. 3:15, Romans 6:4, Acts 8:38, Col. 2:12. The Supper, Matt. 26:27, St. Mark 14:22, Luke 22:19, 1 Cor. 23:34. Washing of Feet, John 13:4-17, 1 Tim. 5:10, 1 Peter 2:21.

8. We believe in the sanctity of the first day of the week—or Lord's Day—and it ought to be observed and spent in the public or private worship of God, and on it we should abstain from our worldly concerns except in case of necessity or mercy.—Deut. 5:12; Ex. 2:8; Matt. 12:2.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both the just and the unjust, but every one in his own order; those who have done good, to the resurrection of life; and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of damnation; and that God hath appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ.—Isa. 26:10; St. John 5:2, 29; Rev. 20:12-15; Acts 24:15.

10. That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate one to another, and to study the happiness of the people of God in general, and to be singly engaged to promote the honor and glory of God.—Gal. 6:10; John 2:9; Rom. 12:10; St. John 15:23; Acts 20:30, 31.

11. We believe that Jesus Christ, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man, and that none can partake of His divine benefits only by repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. (Infants and idiots excepted, they being included in the covenant of God's grace.)—Rom. 4:15; Acts 4:10; St. John 3:14-17; Heb. 2:9.

12. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the door into the church, and that baptism is a duty in answer to good conscience.—St. John 10:9; 1st. Peter 3:21.

13. We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him, 6:5, Gal. 3:28, 1 Peter 3:8, St. John 17:21, 22. therefore should be one at His table.—1 Cor. 12:13, Rom.

### Form of Petitionary Church Letter.

The.....church of General Baptists was brought into church capacity by Elders A B and C D, on the following class of members: By letter..., by recommendation..., by experience and baptism..., total... Received since organization, by letter..., by recommendation..., by experience and baptism..., dismissed by letter..., number excluded..., total number members in good standing... Contribution money..... We are all in peace and have chosen the following brethren, D E and B F, to bear this petitionary letter and sit with you in council. We pray you receive them. We have ordained ministers..., licentiates... Our meeting day is Saturday before the.... Lord's Day in each month. We have chosen Elder G H for our pastor the ensuing year and Brother E C for church clerk. Our postoffice is..... This done by order of the church at its... meeting.

E I, Church Clerk.

Elder E. D, Moderator.

### Form of Dismission Letter.

We, the General Baptist church known as ———, dismiss our beloved brother (or sister) from our watch-care in full fellowship and good standing. Done by order of the church while in conference.

A B, Moderator.  
C D, Clerk.

### Form of Church Letter to Association.

The.....church of General Baptists to.....Association; We are all in peace. We have elected the following brethren to sit with you in council when convened with .....church of General Baptists at.....on.... before the....Sunday in....., 191..: Brothers A and C. We pray you receive them. We have had the labors of Elder .....the past year and have chosen Elder.....for the ensuing year, and.....church clerk. Our statistics are as follows: Received by letter..., by experience and baptism..., by recommendation... Dismissed by letter..., excluded..., died. Ordained ministers..., licentiates... Our postoffice is..... Day of meeting is on Saturday before the....Sunday in each month. Done by order of the church at its.... meeting. Total number of members in good standing..... Our contribution is \$.....

....., Moderator, ..... Clerk.

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