

MINUTES

11-2-77

OF THE

Fortieth Meeting

OF THE

Spring River Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE

Clover Bend Baptist Church

CLOVER BEND, KANSAS

WACHITA COLLEGE

28, 1908

le, Ark.

MINUTES

CLOVER BEND CHURCH, September 26, 1908.

Spring River Baptist Association met in its Fortieth Session with Clover Bend Baptist Church on Saturday, September 26, 1908.

After a song service, the moderator read the 34th Psalm.

Prayer by Bro. W. T. Jackson.

Bro. M. D. Bowers and Charles Lee were appointed reading clerks.

On call of churches, the following responded by letter messenger:

Alicia—Messengers, Bro. Gardner, B. J. Wates, Bro. Price. Alternate, Bro. Holmes.

Bold Springs—Messengers, W. M. Watson, S. R. Erwin, J. F. Butler. Alternates, Mollie Shaver, Fannie Watson.

Big Creek—Messengers, E. J. Russell, W. A. Watkins, M. B. Watkins. Alternate, L. R. Johnson.

Calamine—Messengers, W. T. Townsley, M. C. Townsley, J. H. Cook. Alternate, Moses McGinnis.

Clear Springs—Messengers, I. W. Gray, R. S. Anderson, A. E. Hunt. Alternate, M. D. East.

Ebenezer—Messengers, F. W. Harris, R. A. Gregory, Mrs. John Williams.

Hoxie—Messengers, W. F. Gilkerson, A. Ide, Sister Dollie Fisk. Alternate, Sister Blackwell.

Imboden—Messengers, G. B. Borah, J. W. Ragan, J. J. Estes. Alternate, Sister Lillie Mitchell.

Centerville—Messengers, J. W. Gardner, W. H. Gatcher, Barbie Orange. Alternates, Miss Nellie Gardner, D. F. Manning.

Lebanon—Messengers, I. N. Sparks, J. E. Milligan, J. L. Hill. Alternates, J. C. Sparks, J. P. Goff.

Lone Oak—Messengers, G. W. Helm, W. F. Pickett, J. A. Justus. Alternates, G. T. Pickett, J. P. Justus.

Mt. Zion—Messengers, S. H. Clements, George Fooks, George Houch.

Pt. Grove—Messengers, H. G. Brady, Sister Sarah Brady, Clara Hunt.

Evening Shade—Messengers A. W. Jernigan, W. C. Snow, Jasper Justus. Alternates, Mattie Shaver, Maggie H. Justus.

Pt. Hill—Messengers, J. S. Adams, Sister J. S. Adams, Mrs. J. H.

Box. Alternates, J. R. Winford, John Alls, W. G. Lewsaw.

Portia—Messengers, G. H. Ballard, Herschel Ivie, James Anderson. Alternate, S. P. Rose.

Shiloh—Messengers, J. R. Edrington, A. J. Byrd, R. L. Haynes. Alternate, R. B. Mays.

Smithville—Messengers, J. E. Moore, R. B. Bellamy, John Bilbrey. Alternate, Mary Bilbrey.

Newhope—Messengers, J. T. Winchester, Simon McLeod, H. A. Moore. Alternate, J. B. Smith.

Clover Bend—Messengers, A. Little, H. E. Suddeth, S. B. Bell. Alternates, C. O. Cooper, William Graham.

Walnut Grove—Messengers, M. J. Pope, Sisters Mamie Buster, Margaret Bridges. Alternate, J. M. Buster.

Jerusalem—Messengers, J. L. Penn, H. Little, H. G. Penn. Alternates, V. C. Erwin, W. R. Mize, D. B. Penn.

Walnut Ridge—Messengers, Rev. Joseph Connell, Mrs. Joseph Connell.

Union—Messengers, C. M. Coak, W. T. Penn, E. Miller. Alternates, Bethel Parsley, W. H. Wilson.

Macedonia No. 2—Messengers, B. F. Chandler, C. M. Benn, Mrs. Fannie Butler. Alternate, F. M. Butler.

Swifton—Messenger, R. J. Johnson.

Mt Olive—Messengers, D. C. Dunegan, William Collins, C. B. Lee. Alternates, Sister Dunegan and Artie Grey.

Tuckerman—Messengers, Arthur Craige, C. G. Reed, Roe Tims. Alternates, Lizzie Lawrence, M. Tims, M. Stout.

Evergreen—Messengers, ——— Gatlin, Albert Anderson, L. D. Brown.

The following churches were not represented: Black Rock, Little Springs, Macedonia, Pocahontas, Ring's Chapel and Willow Springs.

It was moved and seconded that the body go into the election of officers. Carried.

Election was taken, which resulted in the selection of Rev. R. B. Bellamy moderator and J. E. Moore clerk.

Moved and seconded to defer the preaching of the introductory sermon till 2 o'clock.

Adjourned to meet at 1:30 p. m.

On reassembling the song, "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder," was sung, after which Bro. Abernathy led in prayer.

It was moved and seconded that the introductory sermon be preached at 7:30 p. m. Carried.

The following corresponding messengers were enrolled: S. W. Abernathy, Rev. F. S. Gibson, D. Blackburn, Current River; W. R. Marshall, Jonesboro.

Visiting Brothers: R. E. Penn, T. J. Moore.

Reception of new churches was called for, when a letter from Mt. Olivet church asking membership was read. It was moved and seconded that the church be received into this body. Carried.

A petitionary letter was presented by Macedonia No. 2 church asking for membership in this union. By motion and second it was received.

The moderator appointed the messengers of Clover Bend church and the pastor as a committee on divine service, which committee was

empowered to select some one to preach the introductory sermon at 7:30 p. m.

The circular letter by Elder W. T. Jackson was read. It was moved and seconded that the letter be adopted and printed in the Minutes. Carried. [Appendix 1.]

A motion and second was made to suspend the regular order of business and go into the selection of a place to hold the next Association, some one to preach the introductory sermon and some one to write the circular letter. Motion carried.

Result: Place, Clear Springs; Bro. M. D. Bowers to preach the introductory sermon and Bro. G. B. Borah, alternate; J. E. Moore to write the circular letter.

Committee on Finance—J. C. Penn, J. F. Butler and J. C. Adams.

It was moved and seconded to adjourn until 7:30 p. m. Carried.

The committee on divine service reported that Rev. R. B. Bellamy preach the introductory sermon at 7:30 p. m.

7:30 P. M.—After song service Bro. R. B. Bellamy read the 1st chapter of James.

Prayer by Bro. Gibson, after which Rev. R. B. Bellamy preached a forceful and highly appreciated sermon from the text, part of 1st Peter. Theme: "Purification."

The committee on divine service reported that Rev. Oscar Reynolds would preach at 11 o'clock a. m. Sunday, J. F. Butler, alternate; Bro. Gibson at 2 p. m. and Bro. C. B. Lee at 7:30 p. m.

Committee on Sunday-Schools—Rev. G. B. Borah, Rev. J. T. Winchester, J. S. Anderson.

Adjourned to meet at 9 a. m. Sunday.

9 A. M. SUNDAY—It was raining and there was no service until 12 m., when those present engaged in a song service, after which Bro. J. F. Butler preached a very touching sermon. Theme: "The Prayer of Paul," after which a recess was taken till 2 p. m.

2 P. M.—Congregation came together by singing "What Shall Our Answer Be?" after which Rev. F. S. Gibson read the 1st chapter of Galatians. Prayer by S. W. Abernathy. Bro. F. S. Gibson then delivered a fine discourse. Subject: "Why I Am a Baptist."

The moderator appointed the following committees, viz:

Associational Missions—C. B. Lee, Simon McLeod, George Ballard.

State Missions—J. C. Penn, W. H. Goatcher, S. H. Clements.

Foreign Missions—T. W. Harris, S. R. Erwin, J. H. Coke.

Education—J. E. Moore, V. Erwin, B. F. Chandler.

Baptist Literature—J. F. Butler, W. F. Penn, E. J. Russell.

Temperance—Rev. James Connell, A. P. Holmes, Robert Haynes.

Correspondence—H. G. Brady, J. A. Miller, Grover Gardner.

Ministerial Directory—C. B. Lee, W. F. Gilkerson, R. A. Gregory.

Orphans' Home—Virgil Erwin, Mrs. J. S. Adams.

Memorial of Dead—G. B. Borah, Sisters Connell and Box.

The committee on Sunday-schools made its report, which was read, spoken upon by W. T. Jackson and adopted. [See Appendix 2.]

Adjourned to meet at 7:30 p. m.

7:30 P. M.—Rained out.

9 A. M. MONDAY.—The Association was called to order by singing

"I Want to Be a Worker," after which the moderator read the 133d Psalm. Prayer by Bro. Abernathy.

J. E. Moore, clerk of the Association, made his report, which was adopted. [See Appendix 3.]

The committee on state of the church made its report, which was adopted. [See Appendix 4.]

The committee on destitution made its report, which was adopted. [See Appendix 5.]

The committee on state of missions made its report. After being discussed by Brethren Jackson, Penn, Lee, Butler, Connell, Marshall, Abernathy and others, the report was adopted. [See Appendix 6.]

A collection of \$8.50 was taken for the General Association and \$10.25 for the State Convention. By motion and second the money for the General Association was turned over to Bro. J. C. Penn and the money for the State Convention was turned over to Bro. W. T. Jackson.

The committee on associational missions made its report, which was received and adopted. [See Appendix 7.]

It was moved and seconded that the rules be suspended and the letter from Swifton church be read. Carried.

The committee on foreign missions made its report, which was received and adopted. [See Appendix 8.]

The committee on education made its report, which was received and adopted. [See Appendix 9.]

The committee on Baptist literature made its report, which, after some amendments had been made, was adopted. [See Appendix 10.]

The committee on temperance made its report, which was adopted. [See Appendix 11.]

The committee on correspondence made its report, which was adopted. [See Appendix 12.]

The committee on finance made its report, which was adopted. [See Appendix 13.]

Adjourned to meet at 1:30 p. m.

1:30 P. M.—The congregation was called together by singing.

The committee on ministerial directory made its report, which was adopted. [See Appendix 14.]

The committee on orphans' home made its report. After being discussed by Bros. Butler, Connell, Jackson, Harris, Erwin, Penn and Little, the report was adopted as amended. [See Appendix 15.]

A collection of \$19.00 was taken up for the Texarkana orphans' home.

The committee on the dead made its report, which was adopted. [See Appendix 16.]

It was moved and seconded that the circular letter be done away with and that a doctrinal sermon be preached at 7:30 Saturday night. The motion prevailed.

It was moved and seconded that the moderator appoint some one to preach the sermon. Rev. C. B. Lee was appointed.

Rev. R. B. Bowers made his report of the work done by him during the past year, which was adopted. [See Appendix 17.]

It was moved and seconded that the clerk pay to Rev. M. D. Bowers \$10.90 collected in 1907 at Pt. Hill.

A resolution was presented by Bro. C. B. Lee and was adopted. [See Appendix 18.]

A resolution introduced by Rev. C. B. Lee was adopted. [See Ap-

[Appendix 19.]

It was moved and seconded to adjourn. Prayer by Bro. Abernathy.

While singing, the messengers gave the parting hand and were dismissed by Bro. Bowers to meet with the Clear Springs church the fourth Saturday in September, 1909.

J. E. MOORE, Clerk.

R. B. BELLAMY, Moderator.

APPENDIX.

OBSTRUCTIONS TO DISCIPLINE.

Bro. Moderator and Messengers of Spring River Association:

As I was appointed at your last meeting to write the circular letter, and looking over the field and the many questions that interest us, I have at last decided to write, as indicated above, upon our difficulties or obstructions to discipline, as it is an obvious fact that there are few churches to which our churches are more recreant than that of excluding unworthy members.

There is no doubt as to the duty; the teaching of the Good Word is clear. [See Rom. xvi:17-18: "Now, I beseech you, brethren, mark them which are causing the divisions and occasions of stumbling contrary to the doctrine which ye learned, and turn away from them, for they that are such serve not our Lord Christ, but their own belly, and by their smooth and fair speech they beguile the innocent."] Thus we are required to turn away or withdraw fellowship from such as walk disorderly, and the reason given is that if they remain among us they will corrupt others who are innocent.

"If any man that is named a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or a drunkard, or an idolater, or a reviler, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat." (I. Cor. v:11.) Note these offences; but they are not all the causes for which we should exclude a member. But note again: "Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us." (II. Thes. iii:6.) The term "tradition" evidently means the teachings of Paul and his co-laborers by word of mouth and was, of course, the doctrine gospel of Christ. These are solemn injunctions, not only to the churches in Paul's day, but to every other church since that day until now, and no church can be ignorant, unless it is willful, and this would make it a double crime.

We shall now notice a few of the difficulties to overcome in this important matter:

1. Want of moral courage is among the greatest difficulties or hindrances to the exclusion of unworthy members. Perhaps the whole church, as well as the world, knows that he ought to be excluded; the members talk about it to each other and to those without; yet they wait one for another to move in the matter, each one is afraid of incurring the displeasure of the friends or blood-relations of the guilty. Each brother fears to present the case to the church for fear that he would be stigmatized as a kicker or meddler. So the disorderly member remains in good standing until possibly he hears some talk of the

matter and becomes offended and calls for a letter and it is granted, and thus the church loses its self-respect and is brought into contempt and derision.

2. Kinship according to the flesh is another barrier. The mother is afraid her son will go to the bad if he is turned out. Now, sister, the young man has already gone to the bad, else he would not deserve exclusion. He has too often proved that church membership does not restrain him from his evil ways or induce him to confess and abandon his sins. Yet, alas! the church too often heeds the weak, unreasoning plea of doting parents and retains in fellowship the unworthy, and in direct violation of the known command of Christ.

3. Again, worldly influence becomes a potent rival of the Lord Jesus. He says: "How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the Kingdom of Heaven," but our conduct would often justify the saying, "How hardly shall they that have riches be excluded from the church of Christ." Riches are not in themselves an evil. On the contrary, they are useful to the cause of Christ when consecrated to His service. Rich men are a great blessing to the church when they are true, orderly children of God, but no amount of wealth can counterbalance the evil of conduct unbecoming a Christian, no matter how liberally the rich may contribute to the support of the pastor and the cause of missions or how extensive his influence. Jesus commands us to withdraw from every brother, not a part, that walketh disorderly. The church may lose in money, numbers and worldly influence, but she will gain in spiritual power, which is far better. Simon the sorcerer was probably the richest and certainly the most influential man in the city of Samaria. Such was his control of the masses that the people shouted: "He is the great power of God!" He not only joined himself to the believers and manifested great zeal, but offered them money—perhaps enough to support a missionary on the home or foreign field for a whole year—but Peter said: "Thy money perish with thee." How much we need such courage and faithfulness to the Master!

4. Sectarian zeal we will mention as another great obstruction to the proper exercise of church discipline. Notwithstanding our Savior's earnest prayer that His people should all be one, there is a popular theory that the many rival sects into which Christians are divided act as checks on each other and thereby promote the purity of all, but the practical results of these divisions are exactly the reverse, as is always the case when our theories contradict or conflict with the Word of God. In many ways rival sects tend to corrupt the purity of Christianity. Party zeal tempts each denomination to lower the standards of church membership in order to get the greater number. The same temptation prevents the exclusion of unworthy members lest they should join some rival sect. Were all modeled after the divine pattern there would be no rivalry save as to which could most fully conform to the teachings of our Savior. The line between the church and the world would be distinctly drawn or defined and every man stand on his own side of it. In some instances the misapplication of Scripture is obstructive to discipline. By some it is believed the 18th of Matthew should be our guide in all matters of discipline, while this has to do only with our personal offenses and has no application whatever to public offenses against the church. The first object to reclaim has become a trite saying and is repeated as confidently as if it had become an established fact. It has, at best, but a semblance of truth in it—and

is wholly without Scriptural warrant. However, it may be applied to weak, stumbling Christians who have enough of the spirit of Christ to receive reproof and instruction with meekness and godly fear and promptly repent of and turn away from the sin into which they have fallen; but concerning those whose disorderly walk brings reproach and scandal on the church of God, the positive command of Christ is to withdraw from them, to put away from among you the wicked man; deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh.

My brethren, shall we be abedient to the command of our Savior despite the many difficulties to be overcome, and thus shall we regain our lost power and prosperity attend all our ways. W. T. JACKSON.

II.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL REPORT.

We your committee on Sunday-schools report as follows:

The importance of a Sunday-school.

Why is it important?

It is for the purpose of studying the Word of God. God says gather the people together. We are taught to search the Scriptures. For this reason churches should be at work. Mothers love their children, fathers love their children. Do we love them to that extent that we will gather them together on the Lord's day? That child should be taught its responsibility to God. "Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth." It makes moral men and women. Sunday-school is the place to implant the principles of the Bible. It implants the principles of God. It teaches the highest morals and is the only book that teaches spirituality. Do you want your children taught these principles? Then gather them together. The Sunday-school is the church at work.

We recommend Baptist literature in all Baptist Sunday-schools.

G. B. BORAH, Chairman.

III.

REPORT OF J. E. MOORE, CLERK.

	Dr.
Minute Fund	\$31.80
Collections for Associational Missions	10.90
	<hr/>
	\$42.70
	Cr.
For Printing Minutes	\$15.00
For Bro. C. T. Arnett for Walnut Ridge Church	1.50
For Clerk's Allowance	10.00
Postage	3.70
	<hr/>
Balance	\$30.20
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	\$12.50

IV.

STATE OF CHURCHES.

We your committee on the state of churches beg leave to submit the following report:

As far as we now know the churches have pastors with the exception of a few churches, and are in good working condition and in peace and harmony except a few.

BENNETT WATKINS.

I. N. SPARKS.

G. W. HELMS.

V.

REPORT ON DESTITUTION.

We your committee on destitution beg leave to report that we find lots of destitute territory, and we recommend that this Association take steps to fill as much of the territory with preaching as possible.

J. M. BUSTER,

A. C. DENT,

ROE TIMS,
Committee.

VI.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS

Arkansas is a great mission field. There is destitution in every county in the state and almost every community. The people are dependent on the Baptists for the pure Gospel. It is our duty to send the Gospel into every community and into all the world. There are two great bodies seeking co-operation of our churches in state missions. We recommend that the Churches of Spring River Baptist Association co-operate with whatever body they may select. We also recommend that this body take up a collection for state missions, to be divided between the two mission bodies.

J. C. PENN,

W. H. GOATCHER,

S. H. CLEMENTS,
Committee.

VII.

REPORT ON ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

Dear Brethren—We your committee on associational missions beg leave to say that the history of this Association for thirty years shows that we have tried to do mission work in our bounds. In 1879 to 1880 we worked as we have this year. With this exception we have always followed the board plan. Twice for a year and a half each our work was merged into the state board work, which was followed in each instance by several years of lethargy in the churches relative to our mission work.

We have tried the suptiment plan of taking up certain points and having some one at each point. While this has been good work, we have noticed the churches have not been liberal in contributing to it. This year we understand that while several of our churches have failed or refused to contribute to the work, yet the fifteen churches contributing have been more liberal and zealous than heretofore.

1. We suggest that some one be elected, or suggested to the churches, to enter the work with whom they can affiliate directly.

2. That we ask him to keep and make an itemized report of his work with the contribution to the work by each church, to be printed in our next associational minutes.

3. We suggest the Association recommend that all the churches enter liberally in the work, and that they make the pledge at their

next meeting to the work and report the same to the missionary so he may know to what extent they will support him.

4. We suggest that the missionary get into close touch with the churches.

C. B. LEE.

SIMON MCLEOD.

VIII.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

We your committee on foreign missions beg leave to submit the following report:

We find there has been very little contributed to the foreign mission fund from the churches of this Association for the past year. From all sources reported by the letters from the churches shows \$24.05 for the foreign mission fund, which seems to us too small an amount for such a great demand for the preaching of the Gospel in foreign lands. We would recommend that the pastors of all churches in the bounds of this Association appoint some special Sunday during the year to preach a sermon on foreign missions and take up a collection for same and forward to foreign fields. Brethren, there are thousands of people in foreign lands that are starving for the Bread of Life, and let us not fall short in our contributions to send the Gospel to these people, and let us enter upon the ensuing year with our prayers and with our money to give the Gospel to the people that God has commanded us to, believing, as we do, the world must be evangelized through us to get the pure Apostolic doctrine as delivered to them by Christ while on earth. Respectfully submitted,

F. W. HARRIS,

S. R. ERWIN,

J. H. COCKE,

Committee.

IX.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We your committee on education beg leave to report that this having so long been the retarding cause of our lack of progress on account of our deficiency, both of effort and methods, that we must evidently soon lose ground or drop out entirely as a competitor for increased light among the denominations unless we improve speedily our standing on these lines. Now, as we are commanded by that greatest and most admirable of all teachers through His address to the Disciples to be wise as serpents and harmless as doves, it certainly becomes our duty, in view of the important day in which we are living, to wake up and court a higher inspiration on this important subject, bending all our energies and all our contributions toward a higher degree of work on this important line. We recommend that we patronize our denominational schools. Respectfully submitted,

J. E. MOORE,

B. F. CHANDLER,

VIRGIL ERWIN,

Committee.

X.

REPORT ON PUBLICATION.

We recognize the press as being one of the greatest powers we have to deal with for good or evil. We recommend the careful and prayerful reading of the Bible, as it is our standard text-book. Our children should be taught its sacred truths without any mixture of

error. The time has come when we should have Sunday-school literature more in harmony with the Bible and Baptist principles than we now have published. We heartily endorse and fully recommend the Arkansas Baptist as safe and sound and peculiarly the paper for Arkansas Baptists. We also endorse the Flag and the Baptist Advance as sound, and we endorse any other publication in harmony with the Bible and General Association. Respectfully submitted,

J. F. BUTLER,
W. F. PENN,

XI.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Be it known to the world that we, the Baptists of Spring River Association, regard the saloon and the saloon traffic as an enemy to home, a menace to society and a child of hell. Therefore, we rejoice in the great temperance wave that is now sweeping over the country.

During the past few years several of the greatest States in the Union have driven the accursed stuff from their borders, while many others have it confined to just a few counties or single cities. In our own beloved State the open saloon is fast becoming a thing of the past. We solemnly regret that the last election did not entirely wipe whiskey out of the State; but looking back over the temperance progress of the past two years, we feel confident that, if the people press on in the fear of God, we will be able to sound the note of complete victory two years hence. We, therefore, recommend that our pastors keep prominently before the people the evils of drink, remembering that "wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging, and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise." (Prov. xx:i.) Let us learn to vote as we pray, and pray more as to how we should vote. Let us see to it that only clean men are elected to office—men who are capable of enacting laws that will secure to the people good government and sobriety. We further recommend that our churches remember Paul's injunction to the Ephesians: "Be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess (or riot), but be filled with the spirit." (Eph. v:18.) And if any church finds itself burdened with those given to drunkenness or who use strong drink as a beverage, we recommend that fellowship be withdrawn from such a brother. Respectfully submitted,

JOSEPH CONNELL,
R. L. HAYNES,
Committee.

XII.

REPORT ON CORRESPONDENCE.

We your committee on correspondence beg to recommend that we correspond with the following Associations: Rocky Bayou, Current River, State Line, White River Valley, Mount Zion, Little Red River, Independence, Elevenpoints, Jonesboro and Big Creek.

XIII.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We your committee beg leave to report:

Minute fund.....	\$28 30
Home Missions.....	30

J. C. PENN,
J. S. ADAMS,

XIV.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL DIRECTORY.

We your committee on ministerial directory beg leave to report the following ordained ministers in this Association:

Applegate, J. M.	Portia, Ark.
Bowers, M. D.	Pocahontas, "
Bellamy, R. B.	Smithville, "
Borah, G. B.	Imboden, "
Butler, J. D.	Portia, "
Butler, J. F.	Shelbyville, "
Cato, L. A.	Mobley, "
Christenberry, P. M.	Bengay, "
Clements, S. H.	Williford, "
Connell, Joseph	Walnut Ridge, "
Cotton, J. C.	Poughkeepsie, "
Evans, E. R.	Minturn, "
Frost, M. D.	Black Rock, "
Friswell, M. W.	" " "
Gill, Jas. L.	Mathews, "
Jackson, W. T.	Hoxie, "
Lee, Chas. B.	Williford, "
Marston, Sam	Smithville, "
Watkins, W. A.	Maxville, "
Winchester, James	Denton, "

LICENTIATES.

Erwin, V. C.	Strawberry, Ark.
Johnson, G. P.	Maxville, "
Johnson, J. S.	" " "
Harvey, Wm.	Strawberry, "
Watkins, G. W.	Cave City, "
	C. B. LEE.
	W. F. GILKERSON.
	R. A. GREGORY.

XV.

REPORT ON ORPHANS' HOME.

We your committee beg leave to report as follows:

There is no institution that should appeal to our sympathies and care more than the orphans' home. A well-arranged and managed home, a place where the orphans may be educated and taught the doctrines of the Bible, clothed and fed, is the kind of an institution we now have established at Texarkana and Monticello. We, therefore, recommend our home at said place, also at Monticello. We further recommend that a collection be taken for Texarkana now and turned to U. S. Penn to be sent direct to that home. We also recommend that the pastors of the churches urge and take collections for the orphans' homes. Respectfully submitted,

VIRGIL ERWIN.
MRS. J. S. ADAMS.

XVI.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE DEAD.

Abels	Sister O. D. Gardner, W. F. Gotliff
Clear Springs	Sister Hannah Ragland
Clear Bend	Peter Goodwin, Lee Goodwin, G A Goodwin, L E Turner

Evergreen	Two—Names not given
Lebanon	Mary Haney
Mt. Olivet	F. M. Lee
Newhope	Barbie Montgomery, Josie Tate
Pt. Grove	One—Name not given
Smithville	Ella Justus
Shiloh	T. J. Flannery
Tuckerman	Hanie Devine, Steadman Anderson
Walnut Grove	Retter Billings, M. E. Pope
Walnut Ridge	Grace Palmer, B. Fletcher
	G. B. BORAH.
	MRS. J. H. BOX.
	MRS. JAMES CONNELL.

MISSIONARY'S REPORT.

Report of M. D. Bowers, as missionary for Spring River Baptist Association, from October 1, 1907, to September 26, 1908:

Days on the Field	171
Sermons Delivered	184
Conversions declared, about	30
Baptisms Witnessed	7
Baptisms Administered	4
Received by Letter and Restoration	6
Assisted in the Organization of Churches	2
Assisted in Organizing Sunday-Schools	2

Collections from churches—

Alicia	\$ 2 40
Shiloh	6 70
Mt. Olive	23 32
Big Creek	6 00
Lone Oak	11 00
Union	8 00
Jerusalem	19 25
Little Spring	2 25
Centerville	43 61
Clear Spring	21 65
Lebanon	5 00
Pleasant Hill	9 00
Mt. Zion	6 00

Total \$164 18

Places visited and where I labored—

Shiloh, preached; Pocahontas, visited and worshiped with the brethren; Mt. Olive, preached; Jesup, preached; Jerusalem, preached; Newhope, preached; Rock Cove, preached; Smithville, visited; Imboden, visited; Williford, visited; Black Rock, preached; Schoolhouse south of Powhatan, preached; Fairview, preached; Clear Spring, preached; Minturn, preached; Swifton, preached; Centerville and Lebanon, preached.

Collections from the field—

At Association, Bold Spring	\$ 7 00
Lebanon, Fifth Sunday	4 60
Jesse A. Croom	1 00
Jerusalem (Catheytown)	4 00

Newhope	\$ 10 57
Swifton	20 50
Fairview	22 50
Black Rock	1 25
Lone Oak, Fifth Sunday	1 75
Jeauap	91
Total	\$ 75 08
	164 18
Grand Total	\$239 26
Expenses on Field	37 61

Respectfully submitted,

M. D. BOWERS.

XVII.

RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS, The question of state missions and the different systems by which this work is being conducted is and has been causing a great deal of controversy and division in our Association; and,

WHEREAS, We as a body have not been able to adjust this matter satisfactorily to all the brethren on each side of the question,

Resolved, That we request the churches to take up this question and pass upon it, instructing their messengers next year what position this Association should stand on relative to this question by which it should forever from henceforth be governed. Further, that also what relation the churches found in the minority should stand relative to this Association after this vote is taken. Respectfully, C. B. LEE.

XIX.

RESOLUTION.

Resolved, That this body tender the thanks of this Association to Clover Bend church and the citizens in their neighborhood for their hospitality.

Resolved, That the clerk be authorized to have printed and distributed 600 minutes of this body; that he be allowed \$10.00 for his services.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be tendered to its moderator and clerk for their patient presiding during this Association.

CONSTITUTION

We, the messengers of the Baptist Church of Christ, in convention assembled, in order to perpetuate Union, foster Education, and aid in the Gospel, do ordain this Constitution for this Union to be called Spring River Baptist Association.

I. This Association shall be composed of Messengers chosen by the churches of the Union and accredited by letter, and each church

shall be entitled to three Messengers.

II. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator and Clerk, whose duties shall be defined in the rules of decorum.

III. The letters of the churches shall express the number in fellowship received in baptism, by letters, restored; dismissed by letter, excluded and dead, during the associational year, the name of the pastor, postoffice, and the amount contributed and the object of the donation, and in no case shall the Association appropriate money for any purpose but that designed by the donor.

IV. The Association shall have no ecclesiastical authority over the churches, but may give counsel and answer queries, when requested.

V. Churches may be admitted to the Union on petitionary letters, if Scriptural in constitutional, faith and practice.

VI. This Association may withdraw from any church in this union for unchristian conduct.

VII. Every question shall be decided by a majority vote, except on the reception of members into this union, which must be unanimous.

VIII. A minute of the proceedings of the Association shall be recorded; and, if the churches furnish the means, printed.

IX. The Association shall hold a session annually with one of the churches of the union, on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September of each year.

X. This Constitution may be amended by proposal made in writing and entered of record at one session; and if a majority vote for such amendment, it shall become part of this Constitution.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. A Moderator and Clerk shall be elected by the Association, who shall continue in office one year, or until their successors are elected.

2. The Moderator shall take the chair at the hour to which the Association is adjourned, and after prayer, proceed to business. He shall keep order, and may speak provided he calls a chairman. He shall have no voice except in case of a tie, in which case he may give the casting vote.

3. Only one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator. He shall not depart from the subject under consideration, nor indulge in personal reflections.

4. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject, without leave from the Association.

5. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave.

6. No member shall address another by any appellation other than "Brother."

7. The Moderator shall not interrupt any member while speaking unless he violates these Rules of Decorum.

8. Any member may appeal from the decision of the Moderator to the Association.

9. The Clerk shall keep a minute of the proceedings of the Association.

ation, and perform such other duties as may be required of him.

10. Any member violating the rules may be reported.

11. The session of the Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

12. Resolved, That order of business be amended to read as follows:

1. — Call to order by the Moderator.

2. — Reading a chapter from the Bible and prayer.

3. — Appointing reading clerks.

4. — Calling roll of Churches and reading letters.

5. — Election of officers.

6. — Introductory sermon.

7. — Reception of corresponding messengers.

8. — Invitation to visiting brethren.

9. — Reception of churches.

10. Appointment of committees, viz. : On Divine Service; State of Churches; Destitution; Sunday Schools; Missions; Education; Baptist Literature; Prohibition; Correspondence; Finance; Ministerial Directory; Orphans' Home; Memorials of dead.

11. — Queries.

12. — Report of secretaries and treasurers of boards.

13. — Report of Associational mission board.

14. — Report of committees.

15. — Miscellany.

16. — Adjournment.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL DIRECTORY

CHURCH.	SUPERINTENDENT.	SECRETARY.	No. Officers and Teachers.	No. Pupils.....	Contributions...	ADDRESS.
Bold Springs.....	L R Johnson.....	G P Johnson.....	5	25	.....	Shelbyville
Big Creek.....	J B Hedrick.....	.....	5	63	.....	.....
Clear Springs.....	R A Gregory.....	Esther Harris.....	5	50	.....	Imboden
Ebenezer.....	Mollie Robinson.....	Elsie Shoemaker.....	5	61	\$19 74	Mam. Spring
Hoxie.....	F E Clausel.....	Maxie Estes.....	5	50	11 00	Hoxie
Imboden.....	J C Penn.....	Ollie Little.....	6	52	5 90	Imboden
Jerusalem.....	H S Miller.....	Ayalee Johnson.....	4	54	4 15	Strawberry
Lebanon.....	George Roark.....	Gertrude Fooks.....	4	22	.....	Reed
Mt. Zion.....	S P Rose.....	Hersehel Ivie.....	6	50	.....	Williford
Portia.....	S P Goodwin.....	T Winford.....	8	91	7 30	Portia
Pt Hill.....	Joseph Watkins.....	Mary White.....	5	17	.....	Lynn
Smithville.....	J R Edrington.....	Miss D Wiley.....	6	35	3 50	Smithville
Shiloh.....	Henry Hill.....	N ra Hunter.....	6	31	26 20	Lorine
Tuckerman.....	W P Cigler.....	W H Wilson.....	6	60	.....	Tuckerman
Union.....	J E Gooch.....	Mrs Mattie Phelps.....	12	100	46 35	Calamine
Walnut Ridge.....	J M Buster.....	Alice Hamilton.....	6	50	.....	Waln't Ridge
Walnut Grove.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Waln't Rldg

CHURCH DIRECTORY

CHURCH.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	POSTOFFICE.	
Alicia.....	W. T. Jackson.....	Tessie Wallace.....	Alicia,	Ark
Bold Springs.....	J. F. Butler.....	W. M. Watson.....	Strawberry,	"
Big Creek.....	W. A. Watkins.....	E. P. Watkins.....	Maxville,	"
Calamine.....	E. W. James.....	J. H. Coke.....	Bengay,	"
Centerville.....	M. D. Bowers.....	Mrs Barbie Craige.....	Kenyon,	"
Clover Bend.....	J. D. Butler.....	S. B. Bell.....	Clover Bend,	"
Clear Springs.....	.....	Mabel Hudson.....	Imboden,	"
Ebenezer.....	.....	Lizzie Longley.....	Mammoth Spg,	"
Evergreen.....	W. R. Marshall.....	J. T. Gatlin.....	Walnut Ridge,	"
Evening Shade.....	W. M. Duren.....	Jasper Justus.....	Even'g Shade,	"
Hoxie.....	W. T. Jackson.....	Mrs. Dollie Fisk.....	Hoxie,	"
Imboden.....	G. B. Borah.....	F. E. Clausel.....	Imboden,	"
Jerusalem.....	R. B. Bellamy.....	R. E. Penn.....	Strawberry,	"
Lone Oak.....	R. B. Bellamy.....	W. A. Helm.....	Clements,	"
Lebanon.....	J. L. Hill.....	J. P. Goff.....	Poughkeepsie,	"
Mt. Olivet.....	.....	C. B. Lee.....	Williford,	"
Mt. Zion.....	James Hill.....	C. D. Wade.....	Williford,	"
Macedonia No. 2.....	J. D. Butler.....	F. M. Butler.....	Portia,	"
Newhope.....	G. B. Borah.....	T. J. Moore.....	Denton,	"
Portia.....	Oscar Reynolds.....	W. C. Warren.....	Portia,	"
Pt. Grove.....	R. B. Bellamy.....	G. W. Pickett.....	Annieville,	"
Pt. Hill.....	R. B. Bellamy.....	Joe M. Goodwin.....	Driftwood,	"
Smithville.....	G. B. Borah.....	Dora White.....	Smithville,	"
Swifton.....	.....	R. P. Sharp.....	Swifton,	"
Shiloh.....	J. A. Allison.....	J. D. Haynes.....	Lorine,	"
Tuckerman.....	Joseph Connell.....	Henry Hill.....	Tuckerman,	"
Union.....	E. W. James.....	J. R. Wilson.....	Jesup,	"
Walnut Ridge.....	Joseph Connell.....	I. M. McCarroll.....	Walnut Ridge,	"
Walnut Grove.....	W. F. Bridges.....	J. M. Buster.....	Walnut Ridge,	"

... Statistical Table ...

CHURCH	MEMBERSHIP										Value of Church Property..	Pastor's Salary.....	MISSIONS				Orphans' Home.....	Other Charities.....	Minute Fund.....	Improvements on Church Property	Miscellaneous Contributions.....	Total Contributions..	
	Licentiate.....	Ordained Ministers..	Baptized	By Letter	Restored	Total Accessions..	Dismissed, letter.	Died	Excluded.....	Total Diminution			Total Present Membership..	Associational ...	State	Home							Foreign
Alicia.....	2	6	2	1	8	1	1	2	38	600 00	\$ 100 00	\$ 5 00	\$ 5 00	\$ 5 00	\$ 5 00	\$ 75	\$ 100 75	\$ 100 75					
Bold Springs.....	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	36	400 00	400 00	20 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	1 00	6 00	28 75					
Big Creek.....	1	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	49	300 00	300 00	40 00	3 50	3 50	3 50	1 00	3 00	41 00					
Calamine.....	1	5	5	5	11	4	4	4	61	300 00	40 00	43 60	14 08	14 08	14 08	1 25	85 70	85 70					
Centerville.....	1	6	5	5	11	4	4	4	46	400 00	33 60	161 27	21 65	21 65	21 65	1 00	49 18	49 18					
Clover Bend.....	1	2	2	2	4	13	1	2	55	900 00	161 27	21 65	37 00	37 00	37 00	50	22 15	22 15					
Clear Springs.....	1	4	4	4	13	1	1	2	64							1 00	15 00	87 25					
Ebenezer.....	1	6	10	8	19	1	1	2	53							1 00		1 00					
Evergreen.....	1	4	5	5	9	2	2	2	8	150 00	109 00	15 00	15 00	15 00	15 00	50	50 00	11 00					
Evening Shade.....	1	15	15	2	15	2	2	2	48	1000 00	200 00	10 00	10 00	10 00	10 00	1 00	95	217 80					
Hoxie.....	1	13	13	3	13	3	3	3	48	600 00	60 00	20 00	26 70	26 70	26 70	1 00	15 65	124 35					
Imboden.....	1	2	2	2	3	1	1	1	51	225 00	24 00	10 00	5 00	5 00	5 00	80	25 00	59 80					
Jerusalem.....	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	80	150 00	25 95	30 35	30 35	30 35	30 35	1 25	22 20	30 75					
Lone Oak.....	1	1	1	1	1	3	3	3	13	75 00	24 00	6 00	6 00	6 00	6 00	40	15 00	35 50					
Lebanon.....	1	2	2	2	5	21	2	2	8							50		50					
Mt. Olivet.....	1	2	2	2	5	21	2	2	39	1000 00	75 00	10 57	10 57	10 57	10 57	1 20		86 77					
Mt. Zion.....	1	13	10	8	26	6	6	6	8	800 00	800 00	63 28	63 28	63 28	63 28	1 50		69 78					
Macedonia No. 2	1	2	2	2	5	1	1	1	1	78	47 00	47 00	30 00	30 00	30 00	1 25		1 25					
New Hope.....	1	28	2	4	34	3	3	3	134	600 00	47 00	30 00	30 00	30 00	30 00	1 20	10 10	80 30					
Pleasant Grove.....	2	7	7	7	7	1	1	1	57	600 00	60 00	21 50	21 50	21 50	21 50	1 00		61 00					
Pleasant Hill.....	1	4	1	5	7	5	5	5	1	166	1000 00	50 00	3 80	3 80	3 80	50		22 00					
Smithville.....	1	7	7	7	7	5	5	5	1	166	1000 00	50 00	3 80	3 80	3 80	1 50		65 70					
Swifton.....	1	28	8	34	4	2	1	7	92	1500 00	400 00	34 20	34 20	34 20	34 20	1 30		500 00					
Shiloh.....	1	6	1	7	7	4	2	2	5	400 00	45 20	4 00	4 00	4 00	4 00	1 00		50 20					
Tuckerman.....	1	28	8	34	4	2	1	7	92	1500 00	400 00	34 20	34 20	34 20	34 20	1 30	47 87	500 00					
Union.....	1	6	1	7	7	4	2	2	5	400 00	45 20	4 00	4 00	4 00	4 00	1 00		50 20					
Wagon Ridge.....	1	28	8	34	4	2	1	7	92	1500 00	400 00	34 20	34 20	34 20	34 20	1 30		500 00					

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