

Dr. C. H. Mayfield, Ark.
MINUTES

OF THE

Fifty-fifth Annual Session of the Old Organization

AND THE

Thirtieth of the New Organization

OF

The White River Baptist
ASSOCIATION.

HELD WITH

Friendship Church, Baxter Co., Ark.,

Sept. 9 and 10, 1897.

OFFICERS:

ELD. C. H. MAYFIELD, Moderator Gassville, Ark.
W. M. TUCKER, Clerk, Gassville, Ark.
BRO. N. LAMB, Treasurer Gassville, Ark.

MINUTES.

THE White River Baptist Association convened with Friendship Baptist church, Baxter county, Arkansas, on Friday before the second Sabbath in September, A. D. 1897, at 10 o'clock, A. M., of said day.

Eld. A. D. Stull, being elected at the last association and Wm. A. Collis, his alternate, to preach the introductory sermon at 10 o'clock A. M., on Friday. Eld. Stull not being present, Eld. Wm. A. Collis preached the introductory sermon, followed by Eld. H. H. Hilton; text, Mark 16: 15, 16.

The moderator, Eld. H. Sasser, not being present, on motion, Eld. H. H. Hilton was elected moderator pro tem. The clerk being present, the moderator called the association together.

The roll of churches was called.

The annual letters from the several churches were presented by the messengers and read by Bro. J. H. Hand and Eld. W. D. Jennings, and the names of the messengers enrolled.

The association went into the election of its officers. The moderator appointed Eld. W. D. Jennings, Bro. M. N. Dyer and H. C. Cook as tellers. Said election resulted in the election of Eld. C. H. Mayfield, moderator, W. M. Tucker, clerk, and N. Lamb, treasurer.

Call for petitionary letters, whereupon a letter was presented by Bro. M. A. Dyal from Macedonia church; read. Messenger's name enrolled and Bro. M. A. Dyal received the right hand of fellowship by the moderator.

Call for corresponding messengers from sister associations; none.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

On divine service, Bros. F. M. Morgan, John W. Hargraves, M. L. Crownover, and J. R. Carter.

On Finance, Bros. G. W. Anglin, J. E. Horner, H. L. Stanley, J. H. Hand.

On Sabbath school, Bros. G. W. Anglin, C. F. Stone, and M. N. Dyer.

On destitution in the bounds of White River Association, Elds. J. T. Hand, H. H. Hilton, Wm. A. Collis, and on motion W. M. Tucker was added to this committee.

On Baptist literature, Bros. M. N. Dyer and T. H. Horn and Eld. H. H. Hilton.

On deceased ministers, Elds. W. D. White, John Smith and Bro. C. F. Stone.

On foreign mission, Elds. Wm. A. Collis, J. H. Wade and W. J. Paxton.

On temperance, Elds. B. L. Bayless, J. T. Hand and Bro. J. H. Hand.

On home missions, Bros. L. E. Tucker, A. S. Wood and Eld. J. T. Hand.

On state missions, Elds. J. G. Walker, S. P. Downing and Bro. J. C. Cooper.

On education, Bros. T. E. Gideon, F. A. Slater and M. N. Dyer.

On woman's work, Bros. W. H. Roberds, N. Lamb and Eld. W. D. White.

On motion took recess until 2:30 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2:30 P. M. the body resumed business.

On motion the moderator appointed a committee on resolutions, as follows: Eld. J. G. Walker, Bros. J. H. Marler and J. A. Thompson.

Call for report of corresponding messengers, whereupon Eld. H. H. Hilton made his report and is as follows: I visited Union (Mo.) Association and found them to be a good working body of Christians and sound in the faith.

Report of the committee on divine services read, as follows: Preaching, Friday, 7:30, by Elds. John Smith and J. G. Walker; text, Luke 16: 23. Saturday, 11 o'clock A. M., preaching by Elds. C. H. Mayfield and H. H. Hilton; 1 Peter, 2:5. Saturday, 7:30 P. M., preaching by Elds. W. D. Jennings and W. J. Paxton. Sabbath 10:30 A. M., preaching by Elds. H. H. Hilton and W. D. White; text, John 3: 9. Sabbath, 3 P. M., by Elds. J. T. Hand and A. J. Harrelson; text, Job 21: 15. Sabbath, 7:30 P. M., Eld. W. D. White.

F. M. MORGAN,
JOHN W. HARGRAVE,
L. M. CROWNOVER,
J. R. CARTER,

Committee.

Report of committee on deceased ministers read, adopted, and is as follows:

Your committee on deceased ministers beg leave to submit the following:

We find by investigation that the good Lord in His wise providence has seen fit to preserve the lives of all of our ministers, for which we render the gratitude of our hearts.

ELD. W. D. WHITE, Chairman.

The body bowed in prayer by H. H. Hilton.

Renewed the call for letters from sister churches, whereupon a letter from Rehobath church was presented, read and names of messengers enrolled.

Report of state mission read, approved, and is as follows:

Realizing the great need of the preached gospel in our own state, and realizing, too, that pastors and churches both are almost silent on state mission work, and further realizing that upon our shoulders rest the great commission, "Go into all the world," we would respectfully urge our pastors and churches to solicit contributions to aid in our state mission work. What a man soweth that shall he also reap. If we sow Baptist (Bible) doctrine, shall we not reap Baptist people?

ELD. J. G. WALKER, Chairman.

Eld. Wm. A. Collis made his report as corresponding messenger as follows:

I visited Crooked Creek Association last year and found them a warm hearted body and anxious to continue the correspondence with us.

Appointment of corresponding messengers to sister associations.

To Rocky Bayou—Eld. J. G. Walker and J. H. Marler; Crooked Creek—Elds. Wm. A. Collis and W. J. Paxton; Union (Ark.)—Bro. Joe Wood; Blue Mountain—Eld. Wm. A. Collis; Big Creek—Elds. John Smith, J. T. Hand, H. H. Hilton, Bros. M. N. Dyer and J. W. Talburt; Union, Mo.—Eld. H. H. Hilton, Bros. G. W. Anglin, S. F. Tucker, and N. A. Tucker.

On motion, the next association is to convene with Pleasant Grove church, Marion county, Ark., on Friday before the second Sabbath in September, 1898, at 10 o'clock A. M. of said day.

On motion, Eld. W. D. White was elected to preach the introductory sermon at the next association, with Eld. H. H. Hilton alternate.

Appointment of delegates to the state convention as follows: Bros. M. S. Kennard, M. N. Dyer, T. E. Gideon and Eld. Wm. A. Collis.

On motion, Eld. C. H. Mayfield was elected as a delegate to the state convention and this body pay his expenses there and back.

On motion, if any brother finds that he cannot go he is to have the authority to appoint another in his stead.

On motion, the body adjourned until 9 o'clock A. M., Saturday, with prayer by Eld. W. D. White.

SATURDAY, 9 A. M.

Body met pursuant to adjournment.

Prayer by Eld. H. H. Hilton.

Roll called and absentees marked.

Renew the call for petitionary letters. None.

Renew the call for corresponding messengers. None.

Call for report of committees, whereupon, the committee on foreign missions made a report, and after some discussion, on motion, the report was withdrawn.

Report of committee on Baptist literature was read, adopted, and is as follows:

It has been said that "the pen is mightier than the sword," and we believe that there is at least this much truth in the saying: That nothing has a greater influence in moulding the character of a people for good or evil, than the literature they read. We should, therefore, be careful as to the kind of literature we read, and circulate only such as tends to form and cultivate the highest type of christian character, and we recommend, first of all books calculated to do this, the Holy Bible; second, Baptist literature generally, and especially the publications published by the Southern Baptist convention and the Arkansas Baptist, the organ of the Baptists of this state.

M N DYER,

ELD. H H Hilton,

T H HORN,

Committee.

On motion, Eld. W. D. Jennings was given privileges on the floor of this body.

Report of the committee on woman's work was read, approved, and is as follows.

We, your committee on woman's work, beg leave to submit the following report:

Whereas, We recognize the great importance of woman's work in our churches, and realizing that where they take hold of the work they carry it out more effectually than men, therefore we recommend that they be encouraged by pastors and churches in their work. W H ROBERTS, Chairman.

Report of committee on Sabbath schools read, adopted, and is as follows:

Believing as we do that a church of Christ is not in full working order without a well organized and permanent Sabbath school, we would again, as has been done by your committees heretofore, most earnestly urge every church in the bounds of this association which is without a Sabbath school to at once organize one, and that all of its church members, both young and old, become members of it and engage in its

operation, either as superintendents, teachers or scholars.

G. W. ANGLIN,
C. F. STONE,
M. N. DYER,
Committee.

Report of committee on finance read, and is as follows:

We, your committee on finance, beg leave to submit the following report: Received from the messengers of the several churches, for minute funds, \$22.80. J. F. HORNER,

H. L. STANLEY,
J. H. HAND,
Committee.

On motion, the finance committee is requested to turn over the money to the treasurer and take his receipt for the same.

On motion, the body took recess until 1:30 p. m., for preaching by Eld. C. H. Mayfield.

At 1:30 p. m. the body resumed business.

Report of committee on temperance read and adopted, and is as follows:

We, your committee on temperance, beg leave to submit the following report: Realizing the fact that the evils of intemperance are growing in our country, and leading many of our young people to ruin, and filling our prisons with human wrecks, and many graves with drunkards, therefore we as a denomination condemn the use of ardent spirits as a beverage, and recommend a strict discipline against the patronage and use of the same as a beverage by members of the Baptist church.

ELDER B. L. BAYLESS,
“ J. T. HAND,
“ J. H. HAND,
Committee.

Clerk's report read and approved, and is as follows:

Your clerk would beg leave to submit the following:

Received of the treasurer.....	\$25 55
Retained, for clerk's fees, postage and stationery.....	10 00
Paid for printing minutes.....	13 65

W. M. TUCKER, Clerk.

On motion, the clerk is to superintend the printing and distribution of the minutes of this body, and receive \$10 for his services.

Report of committee on home missions read and approved, and is as follows:

We, your committee on home missions, beg leave to report the following: We believe the Gospel has been, and will be until the end of the world, the great civilizer of all nations whereunto it has been or will be preached. We recommend

that this Association contribute liberally to the home mission work.

ELD. J. T. HAND,
A. S. WOOD,
L. E. TUCKER,
Committee.

Report of committee on destitution read and approved, and is as follows:

We, your committee on associational destitution, beg leave to report the following: We find that the southern, western and northern bounds of our association are almost destitute of Baptist preaching. Therefore, inasmuch as the preaching of the Gospel to every creature was committed to the church of Christ, and inasmuch as this body is composed of that church, we recommend that this association take steps to supply these destitutions, through its board, by employing a missionary or missionaries to supply these destitutions. We further recommend that this association request each church composing this association, in their annual letter to this body, to show the amount in cash and pledges that they are willing to pay for associational missions for the year following after the letter, conditioned that a missionary or missionaries be employed.

ELDER J. T. HAND,
“ H. H. HILTON,
“ WM. A. COLLIS,
Committee.

On motion, the names and amounts of pledges made at the last association was read to this body, and, on motion, the secretary of the executive board is to write to each member who is indebted to this association.

On motion, the treasurer is ordered to turn over to the clerk of this association all the money in his hands as minute funds, and take his receipt for the same.

On motion, the moderator is to appoint an executive board of five members for the ensuing year, and the present board turn over to the same all the accounts now in its possession. Whereupon the following members were appointed: Bros. G. W. Bayless, J. H. Hand, H. L. Stanley, J. A. Thompson, J. G. Dillahunt.

Report of Eld. B. L. Bayless, missionary, read and approved, and is as follows:

Eld. B. L. Bayless, missionary of White River Association, from April 10, 1897, to July 9, 1897, established two monthly appointments—one at Pontiac, Mo., and one at Newton Flat. During this time I traveled 114 miles, preached 10 sermons, prayed 10 public prayers, and labored 10½ days. Received, up to Sept. 10, \$18.75.

Report of committee on education read, adopted, and is as follows:

Paul the Apostle labored more abundantly than all his fellows. We trace his ability to work to the fact of early and liberal education at the feet of Gamaliel. Without doubt education and inspiration go well together. Higher education is a power which the church is in duty bound to use whenever it is available. As we understand, this association has been favored in founding a Baptist college at Mountain Home. We have buildings there to be proud of. We also have an active college within the buildings, with eight active and competent teachers. We propose the following resolutions:

1. Resolved, That this association stand by its own college in some substantial manner, both by contribution and students.

2. Resolved, That we urge upon our young people in general to educate, and that we do all in our power to induce many to avail themselves of the opportunity to obtain higher education at our own beloved institution at Mountain Home.

T. E. GIDEON,

F. A. SLATER,

M. N. DYER,

Committee.

Report of Eld. J. T. Hand, missionary, read and approved, and is as follows:

Report of Eld. J. T. Hand, missionary of White River Association, from April 2 to July 9, 1897: I began the work by establishing monthly appointments at Western Grove, new school-house near Valley Springs, Cofford school-house, and Peel, besides some appointments going to or coming from those places. I traveled 824 miles, labored 43 days, preached 38 sermons, prayed 48 public prayers, delivered 14 exhortations, attended one funeral, baptised one in the fellowship of Rocky Mount church, held prayer for a sick lady; for which I received \$39.70, which leaves the board due me July 9, \$3.30.

J. T. HAND, Missionary.

Joint report of Elds. J. T. Hand and B. L. Bayless, as follows:

We began protracted meetings together, held a meeting of days at each place mentioned in our separate report, organized one church, ordained one deacon, witnessed four conversions, preached 66 sermons, prayed 66 prayers, delivered 36 exhortations. Eld. J. T. Hand traveled 253 miles, labored 39 days. He made one visit to Peel as a supply pastor, and spent four days, for which he received nothing, which was donated to the cause of Christ. Eld. B. L. Bayless traveled 180 miles, labored 37 days, received \$24.25. Amount due me for labor, \$23.25. Amount paid J. T. Hand, \$41.60. Balance due, \$40.20.

ELDS. J. T. HAND & B. L. BAYLESS,

Missionaries.

Report of executive board read, approved, and is as follows:

We, the executive board beg leave to submit the following report: On the 20th day of March, 1897, we employed Elds. J. T. Hand and B. L. Bayless to travel as missionaries in the western part of our association. Since we hired said missionaries we have received \$62.10 in cash and pledges. On the associational pledges \$23.25 is paid, and \$32.50 remains unpaid; \$38.35 of last pledges are paid; \$24 unpaid. Owing to the failures we have made in collecting of pledges, we have failed to pay our missionaries what is due them. There remains \$11.40 more due the missionaries than we have money and pledges. According to missionaries' reports we are due them \$63.45, and we earnestly request every one who knows himself indebted on subscription to pay the same as soon as convenient, and we further request that this association take some steps to secure to our missionaries the amounts due them for their services as said missionaries.

N. LAMB, Chairman.

G. W. BAYLESS, Secretary.

On motion, the treasurer was ordered to pay the money in his hands, to pay for printing minutes, over to the clerk, and take his receipt.

Resolution, offered by Eld. H. H. Hilton, read, approved, and is as follows:

Be it resolved, That this body return our thanks to this church and the people composing this neighborhood and community for their brotherly love and kindness bestowed upon us during our stay with them.

Report of committee on foreign missions read and approved, and is as follows:

We, your committee, would beg leave to submit the following report: We regret to see from the reports that so little has been done by the churches of the White River Association for foreign missions. This is a great and important work in which Baptists have ever led the world. Christ said to the church: "Go." We urge upon the churches to be more active in this part of the Master's work. Brethren, shall it be said of us that our claim to be missionaries is an empty claim, or shall we prove our faith by our works?

ELD. WM. A. COLLIS, Chairman.

The executive board organized and made their report. Read, approved, and is as follows:

We, your executive board, beg leave to submit the following report: We, this Sept. 11, 1897, met and organized by electing Bro. H. L. Stanley president; Bro. J. A. Thompson vice-president; Bro. J. H. Hand secretary, and Bro. G. W. Bayless treasurer. And we hereby urge that each pastor

withint he bounds of this association preach at least one missionary sermon at each of their several appointments during the ensuing year, and take up a collection for the cause of the associational missionary and turn the proceeds over to the treasurer of this board.

H. L. STANLEY, Chairman.

J. H. HAND, Secretary.

A collection was taken up. Received, on pledges and in cash, \$12.30 to pay our missionaries.

On motion, this body adjourned, to meet with Pleasant Grove church, Marion county, on Friday before the second Sabbath in September, A. D. 1897, at 10 o'clock a. m. of said day.

Prayer by Eld. H. H. Hilton.

ELD. C. H. MAYFIELD, Moderator.

W. M. TUCKER, Clerk.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	POST OFFICE.
Mount Pleasant	Eld W D White, N Lamb	Eld Wm A Collis	J W Gordon	Gassville, Ark.
Pleasant Grove	{ J A Thompson, J H Hand, J F Horner, W S Young,	Eld H Sasser	J W Reed	Onset, Ark.
Mountain Grove	{ Eld S P Downing, John Pruett, M M Jenkins,	Eld B L Bayless	M M Jenkins	Oakland, Ark.
Mt. Olive	A S Wood	Eld J H Wade	Jesse Edleron	Yellville, Ark.
Pleasant Ridge	J W Talbert	Eld John Holman	G W Brooks	Henderson, Ark.
Hopewell	{ Elds H H Hilton, J T Hand, W M Tucker, T H Horn,	Eld H H Hilton	W M Tucker	Gassville, Ark.
Whiteville	{ Eld J G Walker, L E Tucker, J W Bruce, G W Anglin,	Eld J G Walker	L E Tucker	Independence, Ark.
Oak Grove	Eld J B Smith, John Crofford	Eld J B Smith	N D Fuller	Mountain Home, Ark.
Antioch	James Ervin Joseph Wood	Eld W D Jennings	A Johnson	Flippin, Ark.
Pilgrim's Rest	{ Eld C H Mayfield, J H Wade, W A Collis, J H Marler,	Eld W D White	L T Marler	Independence, Ark.
Oakland	C F Stone, T J Meredith	Eld J C Holman	C F Stone	Mountain Home, Ark.
Pleasant Hill	H L Stanley, Jesse Cooper, L S Webb	Eld H Sasser	H L Stanley	Bruno, Ark.
New Harmony	{ G W Bayless, J M Randall, Eld B L Bayless,	Eld W D Jennings	J F Coventon	Oakland, Ark.
Friendship	{ J R Carter, J W Hargraves, M L Crownover, F M Morgan,	Eld Wm A Collis	F M Morgan	Pembina, Ark.
Bethel	E M McCarty	Eld H Sasser	T A Sasser	Yellville, Ark.
Rehobeth	J H Burch, W L Phillips	Eld J A Harrelson	J H Burch	Flippin, Ark.
Mountain Home	F A Slater, T E Gideon, M N Dyer	Eld H F Vermillion	A B Brewster	Mountain Home, Ark.
Macedonia	M A Dyal	Eld J T Hand	M A Dyal	Peel, Ark.
Rocky Mount	Eld W J Paxton	Eld W J Paxton	J F Wallis	Valley Spring, Ark.
New Hope	J W James	Eld H Sasser	J G Dillahonty	Bruno, Ark.
New Prospect	W Compton	Eld J H Parmer	L P Casey	Powell, Ark.
Palestine	W H Roberds	Eld John Smith	Joe Eubanks	Buford, Ark.