

**PROCEEDINGS**

—OF THE—

**Twentieth Annual Session**

—OF THE—

**Wolf Bayou Association**

—OF —

**General Baptists**

Held With Wilborn Church, Wilborn, Ark.,  
September 3, 4, 5, 6,

**1920**

REV. G. M. GRANT, Moderator.  
J. E. TOWELL, Clerk, Ida, Arkansas.

GENERAL BAPTIST PUBLISHING HOUSE  
OVERSEER, INDIANA



## **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.

## PROCEEDINGS

Of the 20th annual session of the Wolf Bayou Association of General Baptists, met with Wilborn Church of General Baptists at Wilborn, Ark., Sept. 3, 4, 5, and 6, 1920.

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The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. G. M. Grant.

Then the election of Moderator and Clerk, Rev. G. M. Grant being re-elected as Moderator and J. E. Towell, Clerk.

Committee on Divine Service—Bros. J. W. Stone, Sam Sutherland, B. A. Liles.

Introductory sermon was preached by Rev. G. M. Grant, followed by Rev. J. W. Foust. Text, Titus, 2:12.

Service began with singing by congregation and prayer by Rev. John Goff. Dismissed until 8:30 o'clock next morning.

### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Session was called to order by Moderator, Rev. G. M. Grant. After singing and prayer by Rev. Grant, call for reading of the Church letters.

First letter, from Pine Grove church, was read and received. Delegates, Adam Southerland; Dan Hickson, Roma Foust and Sherman Liles.

Pleasant View church—Letter read and received. Delegates, J. W. Stone, W. A. Stone. Contribution, \$2.00.

Macedonia church—Letter received. Delegates, J. W. Liles, B. A. Liles. Contribution, \$1.00.

Center Ridge Church—Letter received. Delegates, E. F. Foust, F. L. Lacy, I. H. Foust, Zeb Lacy and J. E. Towell. Contribution, 50c.

Mt. Zion—Letter read and received. Delegates, Bro. Joseph Laneer and Sister Ida Laneer. Contribution \$1.

Wilborn church—Letter read and received. Delegates D. P. Butler and John Butler.

### **Committees Appointed.**

**On Sunday School**—J. W. Faust, Joseph Laneer and J. W. Liles.

**On Prayer Meeting**—Rev. John Goff, Roma Foust and B. W. Lacy.

**On Finance**—Rev. J. W. Foust, Rev. John Goff and J. W. Stone.

**On Temperance**—B. W. Lacy, Joseph Laneer and B. A. Liles.

**On Resolutions**—W. A. Stone, I. H. Foust and John Butler.

**On Credentials**—Dan Hickson, T. J. Chastain and John Butler.

A vote was taken by the body that we buy a record book for the purpose of keeping record of all business transacted during each gathering of this association. Also that our minutes be printed by the General Baptist Publishing House of Owensville, Ind.

Stand was filled at 11 o'clock by Rev. John Goff, followed by Rev. J. W. Faust. Subject, "Silver Lining in a Dark Cloud."

Adjourned until 2.30 o'clock P. M.

Benediction by Rev. Goff.

### **SATURDAY EVENING SESSION**

The body was called together promptly at 2:30 p. m., by singing and prayer by J. E. Towell.

Minutes read and received.

**Report on Prayer Meeting**—Resolved that every church in bounds of the Wolf Bayou Association organize a Prayer Meeting. B. W. Lacy, Foreman. The report was read and adopted.

**Temperance**—We your committee do resolve that our association be temperate in all things. B. A. Liles, Foreman.

Report was read and adopted.

**Resolutions**—Requested that our people be more temperate and affectionate one to another and study the good of eternal welfare. We return our heartfelt thanks to the people of Wilborn for their kindness during our stay with them. I. H. Foust, Foreman.

Read and adopted.

Adjourned until Monday at 8 o'clock A. M. Benediction by Rev. J. W. Foust.

Stand was filled Saturday night by Rev. J. W. Foust, followed by Rev. G. M. Grant, after singing by congregation and prayer by Blakely Chastain. Text, Exodus 6:4. Dismissed by Rev. John Goff.

### **SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES**

After singing by congregation and prayer by Bro. Blakely Chastain, Rev. G. M. Grant filled the stand, followed by Rev. J. W. Foust. Text, Acts 3:19. Dismissed by Rev. G. M. Grant until 3 o'clock p. m.

### **SUNDAY EVENING SESSION**

After singing and prayer, Rev. J. W. Foust gave a talk upon the ordinances of sacrament and foot washing, after which these were participated in by God's people. Dismissed by Rev. G. M. Grant until night services.

### **SUNDAY NIGHT**

Called together with a few songs and prayers and experiences of God's children. Rev. J. W. Foust filled the pulpit. Text, Hebrews 12:1. Benediction by Rev. Foust.

### **MONDAY MORNING SESSION**

Called to order by singing and prayer by T. J. Chastain.

Minutes read and received.

Motion made and seconded that we appoint Bro. Adam Southerland to act in Bro. Dan Hickson's place as committeeman on Credentials.

Motion made and seconded that we give our Clerk power to change figures of amount of money sent to printing office.

#### **Finance**

We, your committee on Finance do find \$12.06 for minute funds.

J. A. FAUST, Foreman.

#### **Credentials**

We your committee on Credentials find all O. K. Report read and received.

T. J. CHASTAIN, Foreman.

Motion made and seconded for Clerk to write Bros. T. J. Bittle and J. W. James.

In selecting a place to hold next Association, Pleasant View church was selected, commencing on Friday night before the first Sunday in September, 1921. P. O. Shiloh, Ark.

In selecting a place to hold district meeting, Center Ridge Church was chosen. Commencing on Friday night before the third Sunday in March, 1921. P. O., Ida, Ark.

Moved and seconded that ministers keep record of contributions received each year from church, also conversions and like business.

Moved and seconded to adjourn. Closed by singing and prayer by Rev. J. W. Foust. Dismissal and benediction by Rev. G. M. Grant.

REV. G. M. GRANT, Moderator,  
J. E. TOWELL, Clerk.

## PROGRAM FOR ASSOCIATION

Devotional exercises,

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 other associations.

Unfinished business.

New business.

Adjournment.

### Statistics of Churches

**Pine Grove Church**—Members received, 1; dismissed, 2; excluded, none; died, 2; total membership, 77. P. O., Ida, Ark. We have chosen for our pastor for the ensuing year, Rev. J. W. Foust and S. O. Liles, church clerk. Our days of meeting are Saturday before the first Sunday in each month.

**Macedonia Church**—Received, 4; dismissed, none; excluded, none; died, none; total membership, 20. We have chosen Rev. G. M. Grant, pastor for the ensuing year, and Lilly Prince, Church clerk. Our meeting days are on Saturday night before the fourth Sunday in each month. Our P. O. is Five Mile, Ark.

**Center Ridge church**—Received, 8; dismissed, 2; excluded, none; died none; total membership, 40. We have chosen Rev. G. M. Grant, pastor for the ensuing year and J. E. Towell, church clerk. Our days of meeting are on Saturday night before the third Sunday in each month. P. O., Ida, Ark.

**Mount Zion church**—Members received, none; dismissed, none; excluded, none; died, none; total membership, 20. We have chosen Rev. Parmer for our pastor for the ensuing year and Bro. Laneer, church clerk. Days of meeting are on Saturday night before the second Sunday in each month. P. O., Batesville, Ark.

**Wilborn Church**—Members received, 9; dismissed, none; excluded, none; died, none; total membership, 22. We have chosen Rev. J. W. Foust pastor, and Sister Ezza Butler, church clerk for the ensuing year.

Our P. O. is Wilborn, Ark. Days of meeting are on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in each month.

**Pleasant View Church**—Members received, 3; excluded, none; dismissed, none; died, none; total membership, 18. P. O. Shiloh, Ark. Days of meeting are on fourth Sunday in each month. Have chosen E. C. Davis, church clerk for the ensuing year. (I am unable to give name of pastor of this church as their letter failed to give it.—Clerk.)

### CONSTITUTION OF ASSOCIATION.

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.

2. The officers of this association when properly organized shall consist of a moderator and clerk, who shall be chosen.

en 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. Each church in this 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.

8. We agree to do all business by a majority of the members present.

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.

11. In case of a flat contradiction between two members, where gospel evidence cannot be obtained in our own church, we agree to take evidence from any orthodox church.

12. Where a difference arises between two members and the church acts upon it and settles it, they shall not have the right to act on it again; but if any party be aggrieved, they have a right to bring it to the association and have it settled.

13. Where a church or churches have a minister they desire the ordination of, they must make application to the presbytery with recommendation of the same; and if the presbytery, on examination, find him ripe for ordination, and he believing in the Articles of Faith and submissive to the Constitution, shall proceed to ordain the same, and not without. And if after ordination he should be teaching contrary to the principles of his ordination, he shall be subject to expulsion. But we desire our brother ministers to preach the gospel, and warn sinners to repent, and encourage the saints to live faithful.

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.

15. 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.—Mat. 5:17-19; Acts 17:11-12; 2 Tim. 3:16-17; 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.—Deut. 4:39; John 1:1-5; Acts 17:29; 1 Cor. 8:6; Col. 2:9; 1 John 5:7.

3. That we are fallen and depraved creatures, and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature.—Gen. 3:16-19; John 6:44 and 12:32 and 16:8-11; Romans 3:10-12 and 8:7-20.

4. That Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification, Justification and Redemption are by the life, death, resurrection, ascension and intercession of our Lord and Savior

Jesus Christ.—Isiah 45:22; Matt. 1:21; Eph. 2:1-22; Heb. 2:11; Rom. 15:16; 2 Tim. 2:21; Heb. 10:10-14; Rom. 5:1 and 8:23; Eph. 4:30.

5. We believe that he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved.—Matt. 10:22 and 24:13; Mark 13:13; Heb. 6:4-6; 2 Peter 2:20-21.

6. That the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.—Matt. 19:29 and 25:16; 1 Thess. 4:17.

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.—Matt. 28:7; John 20:26; 1 Cor. 16:2; Rev. 1:10.

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.—Daniel 12:2-3; John 5:28-29 and 6:40; Acts 24:15; Jude 14:15; Acts 10:42; 2 Tim. 4:8.

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.—Rom. 12:10-16; Gal. 6:10; Acts 27:3 and 28:7; 1 Peter 3:8-11.

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.)—John 3:14-21; Acts 4:12 and 10:43; Heb. 2:9; Luke 13:3 and 15:7; Acts 17:30; Rom. 4:15; Luke 18:15-16.

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

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

### 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... Dismissal by letter..., number excluded... Total number of members in good standing... Contribution money.... We are all in peace and have chosen the following brethren, D E and B S, to bear this petitionary letter and sit with you in council. We pray you receive them. We have ordained minister..., licentiates... Our meeting day is Saturday before the.... Lord's Day in each month. We have chosen Elder G H for our pastor the coming year and Brother E C for church clerk. Our postoffice is..... This done by order of the church in 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.

## CHURCH COVENANT.

Having given ourselves to God, we now give ourselves to His church, and covenant with it and with each other, as also with God—

1. That we will forsake all unrighteousness—even the appearance of evil. We will abstain from all questionable pursuits and pleasures—we will forego all hurtful habits—we will “touch not, taste not, handle not” any unclean thing.

2. That we will follow earnestly after righteousness and true holiness, in the fear and love of God. We will seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, trusting that all needful and helpful things will be added to us. We will seek entire consecration to God—we will live a life of prayer—we will seek the constant abiding of the divine life within us—we will be satisfied only when we have the evidence that we please God and are accepted of Him.

3. That we will faithfully improve all the means of grace. We will attend and support the services of the church, the preaching, the gospel services, the business meetings. We will contribute freely of our means for the advancement of the gospel—we will co-operate with our brethren in every enterprise having for its end the glory of God and the salvation of men.

4. That we will be Christ-like in all our deportment. We will be tender and affectionate toward each other—we will be careful of each other's reputation, thinking no evil and backbiting not with our tongues—we will return good for evil—we will be just and honest, truthful and honorable in all our dealings—we will do unto others as we would be done by—we will be meek, loving and forgiving, as we desire and hope to be forgiven.

5. That we will be faithful Christian workers. We will do whatsoever Christian work comes to hand, shunning no cross, shirking no duty. We will even seek opportunities to do good, glorify God and save souls. We will study to win our associates, our neighbors, our family, all whom we may influence, to become Christians. We will count it more than all things else to do the will of our Father in heaven, to lead souls from sin and death and lead them to God and heaven.