

MINUTES
OF THE
Fourche Valley
Missionary Baptist
Association

HELD WITH

Perryville Baptist Church,
October 9 and 10, 1914
In 27th Annual Session

*The next session will be held with the
Houston Baptist Church in Perry County,
commencing Saturday before the Second
Sunday in October, 1915 at 10:00
o'clock a. m.*

H. G. JOHNSON, Magazine, Ark.....Moderator
JOHN L. HILL, Perryville, Ark., Clerk and Treasurer

MINUTES

The Twenty-Seventh Annual Session of the Fourche Valley Baptist Association convened with Perryville Church at 10:30 a. m.

The Association was called to order by J. E. Steely, the moderator, he conducting the devotional exercises by reading 23rd Psalm.

Reading Clerks Appointed—D. B. Moore, W. B. O'Neal and J. E. Brazil.

Committee on Divine Service appointed as follows, the Deacons of Perryville Church, together with her pastor and brethren, W. L. Dickens and A. J. Ussery.

Call for Letters—Letters read and messengers enrolled as follows:
Bigelow—W. B. O'Neal, J. E. Steely and W. L. Dickens.

Aplin—D. J. Guess, Calvin Black and J. H. Alexander.

Perryville—H. G. Johnson, D. B. Moore and John L. Hill.

Cherry Hill—Thomas Tillery and A. J. Ussery.

Harmony—J. A. Johnson.

Welcome Address by H. G. Johnson, pastor of the Perryville Church.

Response to the welcome address by Elder W. B. O'Neal of Bigelow Church, 11:00 a. m. Introductory sermon by Elder D. B. Moore.

EVENING SESSION, SATURDAY, 1:30 p. m.

Devotional exercise conducted by the Moderator, prayer by Elder W. S. Goodnight.

Resuming the call for letters and enrolling messengers.

Houston, J. A. Lovelace, Dr. and Mrs. R. A. Jones and John Gately.

Casa, R. S. Williams and J. H. Duncan.

Mulberry, Marion McCabe, Jr.

WENT INTO ORGANIZATION.

The Association went into the regular organization. Brethren H. G. Johnson and J. E. Steely were nominated for moderator, on request the nomination of Brother Steely was withdrawn and on motion H. G. Johnson was elected by acclamation.

John L. Hill was nominated as clerk and no other nominations the clerk was elected by acclamation.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us on motion and the visiting brethren present, J. R. Barnett of Ola, from Dardanelle Association and W. A. Dood from Texas, and G. A. Ross also from the Dardanelle Association.

THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES WERE APPOINTED.

State Missions—W. B. O'Neal and Prof. Neville.

Home Missions—D. B. Moore and J. E. Steely.

Foreign Missions—Elder Goodnight and W. H. Duncan.

Orphans Home—W. L. Tarvin, John L. Hill and Elder Goodnight.

Religious Literature—Elder Dodd, Calvin Black and Marion McCabe.

Prohibition—R. S. Williams and Elder J. R. Barnett.

Ministerial Education—Joe Lovelace and Dr. R. A. Jones.

Sunday Schools—Prof. Neville and W. L. Dickens.

Woman's Work—John L. Hill, R. S. Williams and John H. Alexander.

On Nominations—John L. Hill, D. J. Guess and J. E. Steely.

Finance—R. S. Williams and Joe Lovelace.

Deceased Members—A. J. Ussery and John H. Alexander.

Resolutions, Dr. R. A. Jones and Elder J. E. Steely.

Associational Missions, R. S. Williams and D. B. Moore.

On motion it was voted that this Association join Daranelle, Buckner and Concord Association in buying the Magazine Academy and the following committee was appointed as follows: John L. Hill, Dr. R. A. Jones and V. N. Redditt.

The report of the Committee on Deceased members were offered and adopted as follows:

We, your Committee on Deceased Members beg leave to report

that through the mercy of God He has spared the lives of all our ministers since our last meeting, but the following members have gone to their reward since our last gathering:

Sister Jennie Welch, of Alpin Church, Sister Morris, of Houston Church.

A. J. USSERY, Chairman.
J. H. ALEXANDER.

The report of the Committee on Nomination was offered and adopted as follows:

We, your Committee on Nomination find that Casa and Houston Churches ask for the next session of the Association, we therefore recommend that the next Association be held with Houston Church, Houston, Ark., and we further recommend that Elder J. E. Steely preach the introductory sermon the first day at 11:00 a. m. and that Elder H. G. Johnson, preach the missionary sermon on Sunday at 11:00 a. m.

D. J. GUESS,
JOHN L. HILL.

The report of the Committee on Home Missions were read and adopted as follows:

We, your Committee on Home Missions report as follows: The work of the home board of the S. B. C. is composed of eighteen states and our possessions of the islands of the sea, our state received last year \$13,000 and we paid \$10,000. The need of evangelistic work is great; there are great numbers of unsaved of our own people and the foreign element of our home field is a problem that needs prayerful consideration and financial support, therefore we recommend that we cooperate with the home board of S. B. C.

D. B. MOORE,
J. E. STEELY.

4:30 p. m., adjourned to 7:15 p. m.

7:15 p. m., sermon by W. B. O'Neal, subject, The Power of Belief.

The report of the Committee on Prohibition was offered and discussed and was adopted as follows:

The cause of prohibition is gaining ground in our National Government, as well as in our State. Each year more states are added to the dry list, and better laws are being passed in favor of temperance. Arkansas has the best liquor law in the world. Under our present

law no place can secure license to sell liquors unless the county has voted for license, and fifty-one per cent of the white adult inhabitants have signed a petition for the sale of liquor.

A number of small towns went dry last January and recently Ft. Smith and Argenta has rid themselves of saloons. The liquor traffic being our greatest evil, we therefore, recommend that the churches of this Association unqualifiedly endorse the organization of forces in every effort to prevent the issuance of saloon license anywhere, and everywhere in Arkansas, and pledge their support to every effort that seeks for righteousness and seek the overthrow of the saloon in State, Nation and World.

Also that men be supported for office who do not subordinate moral issues to financial issues; and who do not put gold above honor and purity.

R. S. WILLIAMS,

J. R. BARNETT.

The report on Foreign Missions was offered and adopted as follows:

We, your Committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to report as follows: First to urge pastors and laymen to call upon their churches more regular in regard to Foreign Missions.

Second, we believe our Foreign Mission Board is doing all they can to preach the gospel in every nation and to every creature.

Third, that we urge this Association to assist this Board in carrying the commission out according to the expectation of our Lord.

Fourth, we feel so sad to think we have done so little to assist the Board in this great work.

Fifth, we again urge this Association to not only try but do more this Associational year than we have in all the past.

W. S. GOODNIGHT, Chairman.

H. W. DUNCAN.

Adjournment until 9:30 Sunday morning.

SUNDAY MORNING, 9:30.

After song service the further Devotional Exercises were conducted by Elder W. A. Dodd, by reading the 5th chapter of Psalms and a short talk.

Report on Sunday school was offered and discussed by Prof. Neville, John L. Hill, Elders D. B. Moore and W. B. O'Neal, and H. G. Johnson, and reported as follows

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools submit the following report: All of the seven churches sending letters to this Association say that they have a Sunday school, but only five give any statistics from which we get the following: Number of pupils enrolled, 406; officers and teachers, 31; and expense of schools, \$81.76. All use the S. B. C. literature.

As the Sunday School should be the Church at work, and as the knowledge gained there is the basis of the belief that makes us children of God, we would urge upon our churches the great importance of this work.

Respectfully submitted,

H. C. NEVILLE,

W. L. DICKENS.

11:00 a. m. sermon by H. G. Johnson, 2nd chapter of Paul's letter to the Phil. Theme or subject, Having the Mind of Christ. Collection for State Missions, \$7.00.

Adjourned until 2:00 p. m.

SUNDAY EVENING.

Devotional exercise conducted by moderator, prayer by R. S. Williams. Election of the Executive Board, on nomination the following were elected: Dr. R. A. Jones, M. A. Vandalsem, H. G. Johnson and Elder W. B. O'Neal.

On motion it was ordered that 10 minutes be spent in the further discussion of the Sunday School work, which was further discussed by Sister Neely.

Report on State Misisons was offered and discussed by Elder W. B. O'Neal, John I. Hill and Dr. R. A. Jones.

We, your Committee on State Missions, wish to call the attention of our brethren to the change made in our State work by the convention which met at Monticello last fall. Our work is now all

under one general secretary; he having charge of the secretary work for the State, covering State Missions, Foreign Missions, Christian Education, Ministerial Education, Publications, Orphans' Home and the Sunday School and B. Y. P. U. work. This plan greatly lessens the cost of the work, but at the same time makes it necessary for the churches and pastors to take care of almost all the collections for these objects and also to press campaigns to educate the people in regard to all these fields of labor. The general secretary has little time to give to visiting and lecture work.

Our State Board consisting of seventy-five men from over the State and these representing each district in the State, has asked this Association for a donation of \$150.00 for State Missions for the year. The collections to date have reached \$133.50 and many of the churches have not yet taken their collection for this object. We advise that this work be supported most heartily by the churches for it is the prime factor in all our mission work. Many churches would be pastorless, many associations without a missionary and many points without meetings did not State Missions come to the rescue. Still we are hampered. Means have never been secured to reach all the needy fields. Let us aid this work with our prayers and means and look to God for the results.

W. B. O'NEAL,
H. C. NEVILLE.

Report of Committee on Finance was offered and adopted.

We, your Committee on Finance report that we have \$21.90.

R. S. WILLIAMS,
JOE LOVELACE.

Report of Committee on Ministerial Education, was offered and discussed by Dr. R. A. Jones, R. S. Williams, John L. Hill, Elder W. A. Dodd and adopted:

Realizing the necessity of a school nearer home, where our young people can get Christian training, we most heartily endorse the plan to repurchase the Ouachita Academy at Magazine and recommend it to any young men who contemplate studying for the ministry and who have no high school or academic education and to the Baptist parents of the Association. We would recommend that this Association endorse anything the committee from this, Fourche Valley, the Dardanelle, Concord and Buckner Associations may do in planning and arranging for the purchasing the academy.

We further endorse Ouachita College, Central Baptist College to the parents who have children ready for college work as well as young men studying for the ministry who are ready for college training.

We also endorse the work of our Baptist seminaries and recommend that all young ministers who have completed college work and can do so take a course in one of these schools.

R. A. JONES, Chairman.

JOE LOVELACE.

Report of Committee on Woman's work was offered and adopted:

We, your Committee on Woman's Work beg to report that when we begin to look for Woman's Work we find that it begun with the beginning of the world and more especially did it begin from a religious standpoint. With the life of our Saviour since among his greatest and most faithful friends was woman. We, therefore find that wherever the church has a live Woman's Work in the way of ladies aid or looking after the orphans' home it gives great strength to the church and to the pastor.

We further find the Woman's Work along side with our State Convention and State Board work is very greatly helpful. We, therefore recommend that all the churches of this Association organize ladies aids and other branches of the ladies work and that they have the full cooperation of the church membership in her work from every standpoint, because we feel that her hands are largely responsible for the saving of man's soul.

JOHN L. HILL,

JOHN H. ALEXANDER,

R. S. WILLIAMS.

Report of Committee on Literature was offered and adopted.

Your Committee on Religious Literature submit the following report: "Back to the Bible" has been preached by Baptists all through the Christian era, the tendency of the human race, while unevangelized, has always been to retrograde. We rejoice to know that our Lord and Master has always had a people who have adhered to the Bible, making it their only rule of faith and practice. They have, instead of limiting its transcendent truths to the clergy and leaving the laity to grope in darkness, it has ever been their policy to translate the Bible into the native tongues of the people so they could read and understand for themselves. It is in keeping with his direct word to

reach first individual, and after, as a sufficient number of them have become evangelized; to organize them into independent churches, in order to secure cooperation in the work left by the Master for them to do, with only one head and lawgiver, our Lord Jesus Christ. And, although the history of these witnesses for Him can be traced by their blood to the banks of the Jordan, and we feel to rejoice with all of our being today that we can justly claim them as our ancestors. May we never be ashamed of such a lineage.

In the matter of modern literature we recommend the taking and reading of all our good Baptist papers, and the brethren cooperate with the editors in the difficult and arduous labors they have to perform. As helps to pastors in leading their churches and securing their hearty cooperation in mission and other work. We recommend the Foreign and Home Mission journals and the literature supplied by our Baptist Publishers together with the Sunday school literature and other reading matter, that may be obtained from the Baptist Publishing Company. We believe we should thoroughly sow down our field the Southland with mission tracts which may be had of our Baptist publishers without cost.

W. A. DODD,
C. A. BLACK,
MARION McCABE.

Report of Committee on Orphans' Home was offered and adopted.

Adjourned until 7:15.

We, your Committee on Orphans' Home, beg leave to report as follows: We find that our denomination has two homes in our State, one at Monticello, with about 180 children and one at Texarkana, with about 30 children. We therefore recommend that our churches give these institutions their full and hearty support with all the finance that can well be raised.

W. L. TARVIN,
JOHN L. HILL.

7:15 p. m., sermon by J. R. Barnett, Heb. 11:24:27, The Choice of Moses.

Report of Committee on Associational Missions offered, discussed and adopted.

We, your committee on Associational Missions report as follows: The Executive Board of our Association employed Bro. J. E. Steely for half time for five months, commencing May 1, 1914, our mission-

ary has organized one church, has now 27 members, they have subscribed \$100.00 for pastor's salary next year. He collected on the field \$28.76 and has aroused the people at other points for a desire for the gospel preaching, the need is appalling and unless we occupy the field we will lose the labor done this year. Therefore, we recommend this body to assist the weak churches in obtaining pastors and that each preacher so assisted hold a revival meeting during the summer in some destitute place.

Respectfully submitted,

R. S. WILLIAMS.

REPORT OF J. E. STEELY, MISSIONARY OF FOURCHE.

Valley Association from May 1, 1914, to Sept. 30, 1914.

Sermons preached, 107; homes visited, 137; miles traveled, 523; days of labor, 89; conversions witnessed about 33; churches organized, one; members received, 31; amount collected on the field, \$28.76; Applin Church paid \$8.75; Bigelow Church paid \$14.50; Casa Church paid \$5.50, Houston Church paid, Perryville, Mrs. Neely, \$3.00; total amount paid by churches, \$38.75; labor done previous to May 1, 1914, sermons, 15; days of labor, 13; miles traveled, 143; homes visited, 30; collections, \$25.40.

Beside this work I pastored two churches up to July 5, since then only one, could have organized two more churches if it had been the policy. But I think it folly to organize so many weak churches unless we intend to give them assistance until they are self-supporting. This I think is the proper course, but I was not so instructed, under the circumstances I have striven at all times to do the best for our Lord's cause which is our Baptist cause, in love and fellowship of the gospel:

I am your servant,

J. E. STEELY.

Talk of Mrs. J. O. Jackson, on Woman's Missions, which was sweet, elevating and well received.

Report of the Committee on Resolutions was offered and adopted.

We, your Committee on Resolutions submit the following report: Resolved, that we tender our heartfelt thanks to the Perryville Baptist Church for the royal way they have entertained us and further resolved that we thank our moderator for his impartiality while in the

chair and resolved further that we thank our clerk for his efficient services and untiring energy.

John L. Hill was nominated and elected as the member of the State Convention Executive Board for the two ensuing years. X

9:30 p. m. On motion the Association adjourned to meet with the Houston Baptist Church, Houston, Ark., at 10:00 a. m. Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1915.

H. C. JOHNSON, Moderator.

JOHN I. HILL, Clerk.

STATISTICAL TABLE OF CHURCHES.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS	CLERKS	POSTOFFICE	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Restored	Dismissed by Letters	Died	Excluded	Present Membership	Amount for Minutes	Amount of Asso- ciational Missions	Amt. for State Mission	H. and F. Missions	Pastors' Salary	Orphans' Home	Days of Meeting	No. Enrolled in S. S.	Cost of Literature	Value of Church Property
Antioch	E. L. West	E. F. Rankins	Perryville ...	Did Not Report.																
Aplin	J. E. Steely	C. A. Black	Alpin	17	7	6	1	1	96	\$5.00	\$8.75	\$22.00	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....	4	35	\$.....	\$ 250
Casa	W. V. Walls	R. S. Williams	Casa .....	.....	2	8	.....	.....	59	3.00	8.00	30.00	10.00	20.00	.....	.....	73	12.00	1,000	
Cherry Hill ...	J. E. Steely	Thomas Tillery	Perryville ...	.....	4	.....	.....	.....	30	1.50	4.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	1.75	.....
Cove Chapel .....	.....	.....	.....	Did Not Represent.																
Bigelow	W. B. O'Neal ..	O. D. Harris	Bigelow	8	29	1	.....	.....	38	2.50	18.50	64.75	35.85	400.00	44.00	.....	150	33.43	1,500	
Houston	W. B. O'Neal ..	J. A. Lovelace	Houston	19	1	1	8	1	173	.....	.....	60.00	44.00	300.00	10.00	.....	80	24.00	1,000	
Harmony .....	.....	.....	.....	Rep. by Messenger.																
Hawkstone .....	.....	.....	.....	Did Not Represent.																
Mt. Moriah .....	.....	.....	.....	Did Not Represent.																
Mt. Grove .....	.....	.....	.....	Did Not Represent.																
Mulberry Grove ..	D. B. Moore ...	Miss Maud MsCabe	Adona	6	1	9	.....	.....	35	1.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pleasant View ..	.....	.....	.....	Did Not Represent.																
Perryville	H. G. Johnson ..	J. E. Brazil	Perryville ...	10	7	1	.....	1	3	66	2.50	.....	56.50	25.00	200.00	22.16	.....	12.11	800	
Total				60	38	11	16	3	5	470	15.50	39.25	22.32	109.95	900.00	76.16	.....	337	83.91	4,500