

MINUTES

OF THE

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

BENTON COUNTY

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

Bentonville Baptist Church,

September 12, 13 and 14, 1902.

Next session to be held with the Mt. Enterprise
Church, beginning at 10 a. m., on Friday be-
fore the Second Sunday in September, 1903.

OFFICERS.

W. F. GREENE

Moderator

DAN M. SETSER

Clerk

PROCEEDINGS.

Proceedings of the Benton County Baptist Association, which convened with the Baptist Church at Bentonville, Arkansas.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1902.

The Benton County Baptist Association met with the Baptist Church at Bentonville, Arkansas, on Friday, September 12, 1902.

Singing.

Reading a portion of the scriptures by Eld. A. J. Maxwell.

Prayer by Eld. W. F. Greene.

Reading of scriptures by Eld. J. H. Cole.

Eld. S. L. Holloway preached the Introductory Sermon. He earnestly urged the great necessity of cultivating a brotherly and Christ-like spirit.

The moderator being absent, Eld. I. R. Hall was elected moderator pro tem.

Eld. Holloway and Greene were appointed to read the Association letter.

The roll of messengers is as follows:

Antioch—J. D. Albury, E. M. Ragsby and G. R. Alden.

Bentonville—J. H. Cole, I. R. Hall, W. O. Young, W. W. Thomason and G. W. Martin.

Beothach—A. E. Phillips, L. C. Parale and G. W. Harris.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Bethel—E. B. Hardy and T. B. Lindsay.

Twelve Corners—W. L. Cardin, John Buttry and W. A. Buttry.
 Wager Mill—J. L. Lowe and J. P. Anglin.
 Walnut Hill—J. W. Stephen.
 Zion—W. C. Hamby and J. H. Sharp.
 Before completing this roll, recess was taken until 2 p. m.

Afternoon Session 2 P. M.

Singing.

Reading a portion of the scriptures by Eld. Maxwell.

Prayer by Eld. Estes.

Completing the reading of Association letters as indicated above.

There being two sets of messengers and two letters from Temperance Hill Church, a motion prevailed providing for the appointment of a committee to determine as to who were, if any, the proper messengers from said Church, and A. J. Estes, J. L. Chastain, A. J. Maxwell, C. P. Dean and John Givens were appointed on that committee.

Permanent organization was effected by the election of Eld. W. F. Greene as moderator and the re-election of Dan M. Setaer as Clerk.

Wm. Threet, E. C. Brooks, W. L. Cardin with the pastor and messengers of the Bentonville Church were appointed as a committee on Divine Services.

Petitionary letters were called for; no response.

Eld. I. M. Phillips was received as correspondent from the Fayetteville Association.

The following visiting brethren were invited to sit in council with this body: Ben M. Bogard, of Arkansas Baptist, Little Rock; W. W. Gardner, representing the Orphan's Home; J. H. Milburn, of Union City, Tenn.; W. E. Atkinson, of Little Rock, President of the Board of Trustees of Ouachita College.

The committee on Divine Services reported as follows: Eld. J. H. Milburn will preach this evening at this place at 7:30, after which committee on Orphan's Home will make their report and Eld. A. J. Maxwell will preach at 11 a. m.

A. J. Maxwell, W. D. Joyner and W. W. Thomasson appointed as a committee on Orphans' Home. Recess taken till after preaching this evening.

Evening Session, 8 P. M.

Divine Services concluded, committee on Orphans' Home reported as follows:

We are glad to report that since our last meeting we have made some progress and the new building is now complete and partially furnished. Then we had 40 children; now we have 56. Last June the Board purchased 160 acres of land joining us on the North. This cost us \$800 (\$5 an acre,) one-half of which is paid; the remainder is deferred payment with 8 per cent interest. The children all are in excellent health, and under the care of the same faithful matron. This work should lie near all our hearts. Fifteen of the children are now members of the Monticello Baptist church and attend all services of the church. Brethren, will you pray for that faithful matron that God may give her grace and patience to properly perform her great and arduous duties? Will you also at this time aid her in feeding and clothing these fatherless ones. A. J. Maxwell, chairman, W. W. Thomasson, W. D. Joyner.

The report was adopted after Eld. Maxwell had made a few well timed remarks and a collection of \$14.85 had been taken.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

State Missions—W. C. Hamby, J. L. Barton, W. D. Joyner, A. J. Russell.

Obituaries—Richard Edwards, T. L. Beard and M. V. Adams.

Ministers' Aid Association—W. B. Sumpter, A. J. Phillips, A. K. Stris.

Education—T. B. Lindsey, T. W. Keith, J. B. Whitesides.

Colleges—S. L. Holloway, A. J. Maxwell, A. J. Estes, W. O. Young and J. L. Chastain.

Ministerial Support—J. H. Cain, S. L. Holloway and E. M. Bagby.

Temperance—G. R. Alden, C. E. Brooks and J. T. Henson.

Books and Periodicals—J. L. Chastain, Wm. Edwards and J. O. Achley.

Sunday School Work—W. O. Young, T. B. Lindsey and H. Hisc.

Resolutions—A. J. Maxwell, G. M. Mayes and John Givens.

Association Missions—C. P. Dean, J. R. Hall and C. L. Denney.

Home Missions—A. J. Estes, Wm. L. Cardin and B. N. Stafford.

Foreign Missions—J. H. Cain, I. R. Hall and W. I. Caisey.

Finance—W. O. Young, J. H. Sharp and J. B. McCarty.

On motion adjournment was taken until 8:30 a. m., September 13.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13.

Morning Session, 8:30 A. M.

Association called to order by singing, moderator in the chair.

Prayer by Eld. Hammack.

Minutes of Friday read, corrected and adopted.

A committee on Order of Business was appointed by the moderator as follows:

S. L. Holloway, J. H. Cain, I. R. Hall and C. P. Dean.

There was no response to a call for Petitionary letters.

Visiting brethren called fore no response.

Committee on Colleges and Schools reported as follows: "We your committee on Colleges make the following report: Next in importance to the preaching of the gospel of Jesus Christ, our Baptist people have come to regard Christian education. All over the land, North and South, Baptists have erected seminaries, colleges and academies for the purpose of giving such training to the young, and especially to their young ministers as they can get nowhere else. Our Baptist fathers in Arkansas have not been careless in regard to this great work in our own state. The prayers and sacrifices of many of our sainted dead and of our most consecrated living have their fruition in Ouachita and Central Colleges and Magazine, Mountain Home, Maynard and Bentonville Academies. Ouachita College was founded in 1886. Since then hundreds of young preachers have gone from there, better equipped to combat sin and error; also strong to declare the doctrines of salvation through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Central College, at Conway, for girls, has since its existence done an inestimable great work in the teaching and Christian training of our daughters all over our beloved state. Our Academies, located in different parts of the state within the last two or three years, are, we pray and trust, under God, just beginning a career of usefulness and blessing to our boys and girls in giving them such christian education as shall make them good citizens and consecrated and useful servants of God. We therefore recommend to the Baptists of this Association that we pray for and send our children to these schools and colleges. We especially call attention to and recommend Ouachita Academy, located at Bentonville, Arkansas, which on account of location perhaps can reach a greater number of our boys and girls than any other of our Baptist schools. Respectfully submitted: S. L. Holloway, Chairman, A. J. Maxwell, A. J. Estes, J. L. Chastain and W. O. Young.

Remarks by Eld. Holloway and W. E. Atkinson, after which report was adopted.

In this connection, W. E. Atkinson announced that a dormitory had been secured for the Ouachita College at Arkadelphia in which boys can board themselves, and Eld. Hall stated that the dormitory of Ouachita Bentonville Academy will soon be completed, in which boys and girls can board themselves at actual cost.

The Associational Board reported as follows: "We, your Associational Mission Board for the Benton County Association, report as follows: We have received for this work as follows:

Balance carried forward from last year	\$11.10
Received from Rogers Church, S. L. Holloway	8.00
Received from Bentonville Church	5.00
Received from Pleasant Hill Church, Wm Threet	4.75
Received from Mt. Pleasant Church, Bro. Edwards	1.75
Received from Temperance Hill Church, B. S. Beach	2.57
Collected by F. A. Whiteley, field missionary	\$1.00

Total receipts

We report further, that on or about April 1, 1902, we employed Brother A. J. Adams for one-half of his time. Bro. Adams worked about fifteen days when he was compelled to give up the work on account of his health. We then employed Bro. F. A. Whiteley for the remainder of the year and he began his work May 17, 1902. Bro. Whiteley agreed to do this work for whatever amount could be collected during the Associational year, provided that he should not receive more than \$1 per day for the time employed. We have paid out as follows:

Bro. A. J. Adams	\$15.00
Bro. F. A. Whiteley	46.03

Total paid out

Ministerial Education.

R'd from Benton Co. Association	\$15.00	Paid out for board of Bro. White-	
From Mrs. M. J. Rogers	8.00	ly as follows:	
S. L. Holloway, Rogers Church	8.05	December 20, 1901	\$10.00
Rev. J. L. Chastain	1.00	January 11, 1902	7.00
A. J. Maxwell	8.00	February 6, to Bud Smith	8.00
David Edwards	1.00	February 26, to Mrs. Summer	7.15
Bentonville Church, W. Thomesson	8.70	March 10, to Mrs. Baker	3.25
B. S. Beach	8.00	April 7, to Mrs. Duckworth	10.00
J. B. Phillips	4.00	May 5, to Mrs. Duckworth	10.00
W. O. Young	8.00	May 16, to Mrs. Duckworth	3.50
Pleasant Site Church, Sumpter	4.00	To Jackson Dry Goods Co.	7.00

Total amount received \$73.75

Total amount paid out

To balance on hand

I. R. Hall, Chairman; W. O. Young, Clerk.

Remarks by I. R. Hall, J. M. Phillips, W. O. Young, T. W. Keith, J. B. Whitely, J. B. Swaner, S. L. Holloway and H. Highfill, during which time a collection of \$33 was taken to pay Bro. Whitely for services as missionary.

On motion, it was agreed that the committee on State Missions report as the first matter of business afternoon.

The committee on Divine Services announced as follows: Sunday morning S. L. Holloway—C. P. Church; W. F. Green—M. E. South; J. H. Milburn—Presbyterian; W. W. Gardner—Baptist; Ben M. Bogard—M. E.; A. J. Maxwell—Christian. Sunday evening: A. J. Estes—Baptist Church; J. H. Milburn—C. P. S. L. Holloway—M. E. South; J. L. Chastain—M. E.; Ben M. Bogard—Presbyterian; Gen. W. E. Atkinson—Christian; W. F. Greene—colored people's Church.

At 11 A. M., the hour for preaching, recess was taken till 1:30 P. M.

Afternoon Session 1:30 P. M.

Singing.

The committee appointed to investigate the matter relating to the factions of Temperance Hill Church, this being a privileged question, reported as follows: "We, your committee appointed to investigate the matter of seating messengers from Temperance Hill Church report as follows: We find from the evidence before us that both parties have been out of order in their proceedings, and we can

not recommend that messengers of either faction be seated. We recommend to the Temperance Hill Church that they call a council from other churches to assist them to make a reconciliation." A. J. Estes, chairman; J. L. Chaastain, clerk; A. J. Maxwell, John Givens and C. P. Dean.

Remarks by S. L. Holloway. Eld. Hall moved to table the report, and sent the messengers representing the majority part of Temperance Hill Church. This motion was lost after being discussed by Elds. Maxwell, Coin, Phillips and Hall. The original report was then adopted.

A song was called for and the body joining in singing "Am I a Soldier of the Cross."

A majority and a minority report were offered by the committee on State Missions. These were discussed pro and con until 5 o'clock, at which time recess was taken until 7:30 P. M.

Evening Session, 7:30 P. M.

Association called to order by singing. moderator in the chair.

Eld. A. J. Maxwell moved that the two reports on State Missions be tabled as it seemed to be impossible to reach a satisfactory agreement. Motion pre-
failed.

It was then moved and seconded that this body adjourn till 8 a. m. Monday morning and that Eld. J. H. Coin preach instead of holding an evening session.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 15.

Morning Session, 8 A. M.

Singing.

Prayer by J. H. Coin.

Minutes of last meeting read and adopted.

The committee on Education reported as follows: "We, your committee on Education submit the following: Realizing the importance of good citizenship and believing that the best way to advance our country and enlighten our people is to give them proper religious instructions, and believing further that our young people can get better and purer Bible instruction in our own schools than in any other, we recommend to the Baptists of Benton County that they send their children to the Baptist schools of this state, and especially do we recommend our own Ouachita Academy, at Bentonville, Ark.; also Central College for girls, located at Conway, Ark., and Ouachita College, for boys and girls, at Arkadelphia, Ark. We further recommend that this Association aid in the completion of the dormitory now under construction at Bentonville, Ark. T. B. Lindsey, chairman, T. W. Keith and J. B. Whiteside.

Remarks by T. W. Keith, W. E. Atkinson, A. J. Maxwell, I. L. Lowe, W. O. Young, J. H. Coin, I. R. Hall and S. L. Holloway, after which the report was adopted. During the discussion of the above report, the following pledges were made to assist in furnishing the dormitory of Ouachita Bentonville Academy: A. J. Maxwell, one red calf; Dan M. Setser, one red calf; W. O. Young, one red calf; Bentonville Church, furnish one room; Rogers Church, furnish one room; I. L. Barton, 100 pounds flour, one barrel apples and 50 pounds of meat; E. C. Brooks, \$5; A. J. Russel, \$1; W. M. Threet, 10c.

The committee on Temperance reported as follows: "We, your committee on Temperance, would submit the following report: Whereas, God in his word has promised a woe upon persons who distribute intoxicants to others—Habakuk 2:15—and, whereas intemperance in the use of intoxicants is the cause of more deaths, sorrow, degradation, poverty and shame than all the wars between the nations, and, whereas the Roman Catholic Church in the United States stands identified with the ungodly saloon business, thereby aiding and giving powerful strength to the whiskey forces, and, whereas we believe Christians have been sleeping while the enemies of temperance have been securing a mighty hold on our people; but

according to the election returns of the late election, we believe that our citizens are awakening to a sense of their duties to a certain extent, but not sufficient to eradicate the same. Therefore, we believe that Christians should awake to the full extent of their duties and strive to banish intoxicants of every description from our fair land. Therefore, be it resolved, that the brethren of this Association be advised to oppose the manufacture, use and sale of intoxicants as a beverage, by the exercise of their franchise as citizens, and by their religious influence in every conceivable way. Respectfully Submitted, G. R. Alden, J. F. Henson and E. C. Brooks

Remarks by G. R. Alden, A. J. Estes, Rev. Dunham of the Presbyterian denomination, W. F. Greene, A. J. Maxwell in the chair E. C. Brooks, W. E. Atkinson and Ben M. Howard, urging the adoption of the report. Adopted without dissenting vote

The following report of the committee on Books and Periodicals was adopted without discussion. "We, your committee on Books and Periodicals, beg leave to submit the following report: First in importance in all literature stands the Holy Bible, the word of God. Its language and teachings should be read, studied and memorized in order that we may be the better equipped for any of the vocational life, and especially for Christian work. We recommend the use and study of religious books and papers, especially the Sunday School literature of the Southern Baptist Convention and the American Baptist Publication Society as helps to the understanding of God's word, always keeping in mind that the Bible is authentic, while other books may contain errors. We would emphasize the importance of taking and reading some distinctly Baptist newspaper, especially those published in our own state, both of which we regard as being sound in the faith of our people." J. L. Chastain, chairman

On motion, Eld. T. W. Keith was appointed to receive and convey to Mr. Hovenden \$15, raised to help off the mortgage from Sister Tom Sitton's farm.

The committee on Ministerial Support made the following report: "We, your committee on Ministerial Support, would submit the following report: Ministerial support may, and in fact, does consist of two features: the support of the preacher actually engaged in the work, and the support of him who has worn out his life in the service and who has been left without material support. 'The Lord has ordained that they that preach the Gospel shall live of the Gospel,' and experience and observation has taught us that no preacher can come into the possession of his best powers nor do efficient service without giving his entire thought to the work. We therefore recommend that the churches see that their pastor have a sufficient support that will enable them to give all their time and thought to the 'feeding of the flock over which the Holy Spirit has made them overseers.' If the Lord has ordained that they who preach the Gospel shall live of the Gospel, and if there be a brother who has worn himself out in the service and has not a living, he should be supported by the churches during the few days he has to remain on earth." Respectfully submitted, J. H. Cain, E. M. Bagby and S. L. Holloway.

Discussed by Elds. Cain, Holloway, Joyner, Atkinson, Maxwell and Williams after which the report was adopted and a collection of \$14.50 was taken to supplement the amount to liquidate the debt of Sister Thomas Sitton of Springtown.

T. B. Lindsey, Sunday School lecturer for the Fourth District, reported as follows: Sunday meetings held 4, Lectures delivered 2, Conversions due to Sunday school work 26. Brethren there is a great work to be done in the Fourth District. I would therefore urge you to elect or appoint a lecturer with more ability than your present lecturer. T. B. Lindsey, Lecturer of Fourth District.

The committee on Obituaries reported as follows: "We, your committee on Obituaries, beg leave to report as follows: God in his wisdom and mercy has seen fit to call from among us to their eternal reward, the following brethren and sisters:

- Decatur—Sister Evans.
- Butler Creek—Wesley Ashford.
- Twelve Corners—Ella Butsey.
- Mount Olive—T. Hulord.
- Orange Mills—R. Horton.

Antioch—George Die, Sister Filk.

Bentonville—Sister E. Jackson, Sister **Hamard**.

Rogers—H. Doescher, Nancy Duckworth, Eliza Felker.

Mount Enterprise—Martin Wilkins, Caroline Cowart, W. Wilkins, Maggie Crittenden.

Cherokee City—John Barea.

Honey Creek—Lena Johnson.

Lowell—H. M. Phillips, Eliza Johnson.

Illinois—B. A. Brady.

Mount Pleasant—A. L. Edwards, Dora Holt, Nora Owendby.

Mason Valley—Geneva Maxwell, C. C. Hopkins.

Oak Grove—Boney White, Ula Mgr.

Sulphur Springs—Sarah Phillips, Maule Wright.

Springtown—Francis Smith, S. C. Sager, John Reynolds, Eld. T. J. Sifton.

Garfield—Lulu McBride Litch.

M. V. Adams, chairman.

APPENDIX We find on the roll of our deceased, the name of our beloved Bro. T. J. Sifton, one of our devoted ministers. The good God has seen fit to call him from his labor to reward above. His ministry among us has been greatly blessed. He leaves a wife and a large family of children. Therefore, be it resolved, that Sister Sifton and family have the sympathy of this Association, and further that we bow with reverence to God who does all things well. J. H. Hogan.

The committee on Associational Missions reported as follows: "Our committee on Associational Missions reports as follows: 'Some mission work has been done the past year but there seems to be a great lethargy among our churches as to the importance of this Associational mission work, and, while we regret this, we would recommend that the Association renew its efforts of last year to keep a missionary on the field as much of the time as possible. It will be impossible to do this without the hearty co-operation of the churches; therefore we would recommend the continuation of an Associational Board, and that the churches co-operate with work, their prayers and their means. As the Board cannot accomplish the work without means, we would further recommend that the churches all give something for this work and that they at once inform the Board of the amount they can depend on from their church.'" C. P. Hogan, chairman, J. R. Hall.

Remarks by Elds. Hall, Keith and Estes. W. O. Young stated that about \$100 had been raised for our Associational Missionary.

W. O. Young, I. R. Hall and C. L. Dennie were appointed as the Associational Mission Board.

The committee on Home Missions reported as follows: "The object of Home Missions is to carry the Gospel to the destitute parts of our South-land, Indian Territory, Oklahoma and Cuba. It has been and is the policy of the Home Mission Board, as far as possible, to send missionaries where there no churches, and to aid churches where they are not able to support themselves. In view of the fact that this work is done largely among the poor white people, the negroes, the Indians and the priest-ridden inhabitants of Cuba, and recognizing the fact the Gospel is the greatest thing these people need and that the Gospel is the greatest thing we can give them, we recommend that the churches make regular contributions for this object and send same to secretary of Home Board." A. J. Estes, W. L. Carden, B. S. Stafford.

Eld. I. R. Hall made a motion that this body select delegates to the State Convention, but the moderator ruled the motion out of order as he held that the matter had been settled in tabling the two reports relating to this same subject. An appeal from the chair was not sustained.

Bro. H. Highfill, Sunday School lecturer for the First District of the Baptist Association of Benton County, reported as follows: "Average attendance 527, teachers 65, total attendance 592; number of students converted 42, lectures delivered 20, miles traveled about 270. The young men and the young women are the hope of our country. Go on with this district work; encourage the young people; feed them upon the very heart of the Gospel and leave out those mooted questions that

we have been trying to settle for hundreds of years and are no nearer than at the beginning. We have no time to fool with them while the devil is catching our children." H. Highfill.

The committee on Sunday Schools reported as follows: "We, your committee on Sunday Schools, submit the following report: We find reported twenty-two Sunday Schools with 1134 students in average attendance, 171 teachers and officers, total 1305. Eighteen schools are using Baptist literature and one using Union. We find that there has been given and expended in the Sunday School work in this Association during this year \$274 37. We would recommend the continuation of the literature for the various districts and insist on their fifth Sunday meetings, and that the work be strictly Sunday School work, and that the lecturers work with the members of the churches to get them interested in the Sunday School work, and through them get the young people interested. We further recommend that each Sunday School in the bounds of this Association make a more complete report to the Association, that we may know what we are doing in this work in the bounds of this Association. We earnestly recommend that those churches in the Association, having no Sunday Schools, organize at once Baptist Sunday Schools and report the same to the next Association. W. O. Young, H. Highfill, T. B. Lindsey.

Remarks by E. C. Brooks after which the report was adopted.

Following is the appointments for Sunday School lecturers: For District No. 1—H. Highfill; Districts No. 2 and 3—C. L. Dennis, and for District No. 4—T. B. Lindsey.

Mt. Enterprise was selected as the place for holding the next session of the Benton County Baptist Association.

Recess was taken till 1:30 P. M.

Afternoon Session, 1:30 P. M.

Opened with singing, moderator in the chair.

Eld. A. J. Maxwell moved to appoint delegate to the State Convention. Ruled out of order by the moderator. In an appeal from the ruling, the chair was sustained. Thereupon W. O. Young and I. R. Hall resigned from their positions on the Associational Mission Board, and Bro. Hall withdrew the name of C. L. Dennis. The moderator then appointed E. C. Brooks, J. L. Chastain and J. L. Martin to compose said Board.

Eld. J. H. Coin was elected to preach the Introductory Sermon at our next Association, and Eld. W. F. Greene alternate.

The following is the report of the committee on Finances: "We, your committee on Finance, submit the following report: We have received the following amounts:

For Minutes.....	\$31.60
For Home Missions.....	2.55
For Foreign Missions.....	5.45
For Associational Missions.....	21.95
For State Missions.....	1.15
For Foreign Missions—J. T. Moore.....	7.25
For General Associational.....	1.50
For benefit of Mrs. T. J. Sitton.....	35.60

W. O. Young, J. H. Sharp, J. B. McCarter

Received of W. O. Young \$31.60 as minutes money. DAN M. SETSER.

A unanimous vote of thanks was extended to the Church and good people of Bentonville for the generous and hospitable manner in which they entertained the messengers in this Association.

The motion prevailed that the clerk retain \$10 of the minutes money and the rest be paid for the printing and distributing of minutes.

After prayer, adjournment was taken to meet with the Mt. Enterprise Baptist Church, about three miles west of Gravette, at 10 o'clock A. M., on Friday before the second Sunday in September, 1902.

ELDER W. F. GREENE, Moderator.

DAN M. SETSER, Clerk.

RECEIPT.

Received of W. O. Young \$35.00, to be applied on the mortgage on the farm of Mrs. Tom Sitton.

This September 15, 1902.

T. W. KEITH.

RECEIPT.

Received of Dan M. Setsyer \$21.00 for printing and distributing 900 minutes of the Benton County Baptist Association.

ROGERS DEMOCRAT JOB DEPARTMENT.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

I. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end and truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

II. We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth, incomprehensibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

III. We believe that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state; in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but choice, being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.

IV. We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace; through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin, honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins; that having risen from the dead he is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections, he is every way qualified to be a suitable, a compassionate, an all-sufficient Savior.

V. We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him in justification, that justification includes the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness, that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood, by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God, that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God, and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

VI. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel, which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

VII. We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind, that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance and faith and newness of life.

VIII. We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties and also inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy; at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on him alone as the only and all-sufficient Savior.

IX. We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes love, humility, prayer, praise, trust in God and active imitation

of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the Gospel; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to our selves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

X. We believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration, and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means, especially the Word of God, self-examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

XI. We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special Providence watches over their well fare and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XII. We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good, and that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts arise entirely from their love of sin, to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

XIII. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel; observing the ordinances of Christ; governed by his laws; and exercising the gifts, rights and privileges invested in them by his Word; that its only scriptural officers are bishops, or pastors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the epistles of Timothy and Titus.

XIV. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, into the name of the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost; to show forth, in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, proceeded always by solemn self-examination.

XV. We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreations; by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

XVI. We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed, except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience, and the Prince of the kings of the earth.

XVII. We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

XVIII. We believe that the end of the world is approaching; that at the last day Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. This Association shall be composed of messengers, who shall be members of the churches they represent (except such as may be invited to a seat by consent of the body,) and shall be styled, "The Benton County Baptist Association."

ART. II. This Association shall meet annually on Friday before the second Sabbath in September, at the place previously appointed; and after public worship, reading the letters from the churches and acting upon those soliciting membership, a moderator and clerk shall be chosen from the messengers by ballot, both of whom shall hold their offices until others shall be elected.

ART. III. It shall be the duty of the clerk to make an accurate record of the proceedings of each meeting of the Association, in a book provided for the purpose. He shall also act as treasurer.

ART. IV. Each church of fifty members or less, may send two messengers and one member for each fractional part of fifty over. The members shall present letters certifying their appointment and briefly expressing the state of the church, their increase and decrease, and their aggregate number. Each church shall send with the letter money for printing the minutes.

ART. V. Churches wishing to unite with this Association may apply by letter and messengers, and giving satisfactory information of their being sound in doctrine and correct in practice, they may be received by a unanimous vote, in token of which the moderator shall give to their messengers the hand of fellowship in behalf of the Association. Churches may be dismissed upon application.

ART. VI. We acknowledge the independence of the particular churches and that no authority or jurisdiction is to be exercised over them by this Association, nor will the Association decide in any controversy that may arise in any church. Nevertheless, they deem it their duty to disown any church belonging to this body which may have essentially departed from the faith.

ART. VII. When a church shall neglect making any communication to the Association for three years successively, it shall be considered as having withdrawn from us, and shall be dropped from the minutes of the Association, unless at least two members request their continuance, who shall engage to inquire into the standing and report at the next meeting of the Association.

ART. VIII. This Association shall have the right to open and hold correspondence with other associations, as may be expedient.

ART. IX. It shall be the duty of the Association, from time to time, to suggest to the several churches such measures as may be wise and proper to promote the interest of the Messiah's kingdom, and spread the Gospel throughout the world.

ART. X. This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Association by a two-thirds vote of all the members present.

CHURCHES, PASTORS, CLERKS AND POSTOFFICES.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	CLERKS	POST-OFFICES
Antioch		E M Bagby	Gravette
Bentonville	J. H. Coin	W W Thomason	Bentonville
Bethesda	W G. Greene	T C Fagala	Collville
Butler Creek	J. C. Rhea	T B Lindsey	Sulphur Springs
Cherokee City	J. W. West	A R Keith	Cherokee City
Dug Hill	C. P. Dean	J W Jackson	Bentonville
Decatur		W C Hastings	Decatur
Garfield	A. J. Maxwell	F M Haswell	Garfield
Gentry	F. A. Whitely	B S Stafford	Gentry
Honey Creek	G. W. Setser	D K Netherton	Maysville
Illinois	J. E. Moss	Herbert Nokés	Cincinnati
Logan	E Randels	A Twiggs	Logan
Lowell	W. F. Greene	E F Wilmoth	Lowell
Mt. Olive	W. D. Joyner	W J Smith	Osage Mills
Mt. Enterprise	J. H. Hogan	A J Russel	Gravette
Mt. Zion	J. H. Hogan	G W Lindsey	Beaty
Mt. Pleasant	C. P. Dean	J A Calhoun	Gravette
Mason Valley	J. H. Hogan	S J Griffith	Mason Valley
New Prospect	John Stevens	C N Still	Herd
Oak Grove	W. D. Joyner	R C Williams	Gentry
Pleasant Grove	W. F. Greene	T L Beard	Lowell
Pleasant Hill		Wm Threot	Rogers
Pleasant Site	I. N. Phillips	W B Sumpter	Bentonville
Pea Ridge	E. J. Adams	H V Chiles	Pea Ridge
Pilgrim Home	W. D. Joyner	J F Watkins	Centerton
Pleasant Valley	W. S. Super	J M Spear	Siloam Springs
Rogers	S. L. Holloway	A R Doescher	Rogers
Siloam Springs	C. L. Owen	O T Moore	Siloam Springs
Springtown	G. W. Setser	A B Mitchell	Springtown
Sulphur Springs	C. P. Dean	John Brown	Sulphur Springs
Twelve Corners	A. J. Maxwell	W B Warren	Buttry
Wager Mills	W. H. Hamby	N M Thompson	Elm Springs
Walnut Hill	J. W. Stevens	W T Ferrel	Garfield
Zion	I. M. Phillips	W P Ferguson	Lowell

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	Day of Meeting	No. of Minutes	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Home	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	For Minutes	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	State Missions	Associational Missions	Paid to Pastor	Other Purposes	Ordained Ministers	Total Expenditure
Antioch	1 2 3	2 28	5			7	2	85	1 00	1 50	1 50	18 50	08 61	5 00		3 03 91	14 00	1	168 81
Bentonville		4 42	23			20	1	154	1 50	1 50	1 50	18 50	08 61	5 00		600 00	2260 23	2	2046 84
Bethesda		4 17	1 2			4		86	80			3 50				29 15			42 65
Butler Creek		4 72				2		48	80			1 80				15 00		1	16 80
Cherokee City		2 25	2 1			3	2	52	00			8 80			p r mo	3 50	69 00	2	
Dag Hill		2 14	1			1 4	4	18	50							28 50			28 50
Decatur		2 14	6 5			18		48	50	1 00				2 05			4 25		8 20
Garfield		3 14	3			3		32	50						per mo	4 00	12 00	1	
Gentry		1 28	3 0			1		50	1 00					7 50					
Honey Creek		3 14	2					1 25	50			2 70		00	per mo	3 00		1	
Illinois		3 21	12 6			3 13		52	75					5 00		40 00		1	45 00
Jagan		1 14	1					30	50									1	
Lowell		1 45	3			4		137	1 65			5 70				50 00	65 00	2	120 70
Mt. Olive		1 21	3 2					32	75							30 00	7 40		37 40
Mt. Enterprise	2	4 42	26 13	1				130	1 50	50	5 00					39 05		1	
Mt. Zion		3 14						20	50							21 00	15 00	2	
Mt. Pleasant		1 14	4 1			5 2	3	87				3 05		1 75		39 35	1 45		45 80
Mason Valley		2 28	1 1					90	1 00					4 25	per mo	1 00			
New Prospect		3 28						58	1 00	90	1 78			1 55		11 25		1 1	14 50
Oak Grove		3 18	3 1					42	65			2 05		50		60 00	16 25		70 40
Pleasant Grove		3 35						70	1 25			2 05							
Pleasant Hill		2 32				1 6		61	1 11	20	1 15	10 5 70				50 25		1	41 20
Pleasant Site		3 28	10 10			5		84	1 00			9 25		5 50		50 00	95 52		179 77
Pea Ridge		4 28	20 4			4		90	1 00	2 20	2 20					60 00	15 00		77 40
Pilgrim Home		1 14	1			1		2	50					1 00		50 00			51 00
Pleasant Valley		1 28	6			1		48	1 00			2 25				63 00	23 75		80 00
Rogers	1 2 3	4 42	6 11			8		173	1 50	10 25	17 05	61 50	2 50			450 00	98 08	2	645 80
Siloom Springs		4 28	6 23			1 17	1	125	1 50	1 20	15 05	90 85				500 00	68 10	3	678 20
Springtown		4 28	4			2		90	1 00			0 61			per mo	2 50		2	
Ralph Springs		3 14	8			2 2	1 2	26	50			3 50				35 70			39 20
Twelve Corners		1 34	1			1		110	1 20							30 25			
Wager Mills		2 14						2	42	50									
Walnut Hill		4 14	3					39	50		95			90 94		15 00		1	
Zion		4 37	7					74	1 30			40 00				62 80		1	102 80

This table is not absolutely correct. Several churches did not report the amount paid to pastor. The want of uniformity in Associational Letters made the work more difficult. Figures in letters written with pencil were illegible.

LETTER TO ASSOCIATION.

The Baptist Church at.....to Benton County Association, when convened
with Mt. Enterprise Church on Friday before the Second Sunday in September, 1903—GREETING:

We send as Messengers:

Alternates:

Our statistics are as follows: Received by baptism....; by letter....; by relation....; restored
....; dismissed by letter....; excluded....; died (names).....

.....; total membership. For printing minutes we send

\$..... Have raised for Home Missions \$.....; Foreign Missions \$.....; State Missions

\$.....; Associational Missions \$.....; for our Pastor \$.....; for other purposes \$.....

Our ordained Ministers are (names).....

Our meeting day is on the....Sunday, and Saturday before, of each month. Our Pastor is.....

.....; postoffice.....; our clerk is.....

.....; postoffice.....Sunday School

statistics are as follows: Officers and teachers.....; average attendance.....; literature

used.....Remarks

.....

Approved in Church Conference thisday of.....1903.

.....MODERATOR