

ARKANSAS BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

# MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-NINTH MEETING

OF THE

## Spring River Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE

LEBANON BAPTIST CHURCH

Nelsonville, Ark.

September 22-24

1917

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### OFFICERS

Moderator, J. L. HILL, Frisbee, Ark.

Clerk, J. E. MOORE, Smithville, Ark.

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**MINUTES**



FORTY-NINTH MEETING



**Spring River  
Baptist Association**

HELD WITH

LEBANON BAPTIST CHURCH

Nelsonville, Ark.

September 22-24, 1917



## MINUTES.

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The Spring River Baptist Association met in its 49th session with Lebanon Church, Sharp County, Ark., on Saturday, September 22, 1917.

Bro. G. W. Helm preached a good sermon on the "Setting Up of the Kingdom", after which the Clerk called the body to order. Bro. J. L. Hill was elected temporary moderator. The roll of churches was called with the following result.

Centerville—By Letter.

Calamine—T. W. Brashear, Mary Brashear, Sister Mary Street.

Corinth—J. F. Butler, A. J. McGinness and A. F. King.

Clear Springs—Floyd Butler, Bob Wayland and William Hudson.

Lebanon—J. P. Goff, W. H. Grooms and A. L. Grooms.

Lone Oak—J. A. Justus, J. L. Hill and W. A. Helm.

Mt. View—C. L. Bowers, Geo. Mobley and Clede Bowers.

Mt. Zion—S. H. Clements, Sister B. Clements and C. D. Wade.

New Hope—H. A. Moore, W. J. Field and D. C. Lee.

New Home—W. G. Helm, J. A. Abee and Amos Goff.

Pt. Grove—W. I. Dent, Ray Pickett and Nellie Dent.

Portia—S. M. Prince, M. A. Thompkins and M. E. Thompsons.

Pt. Hill—O. F. Rider, J. H. Box and R. B. Penn.

Rings Ghappel—B. F. Curtis, J. R. Goodman and C. W. McLeod.

Smithville—J. T. Helm, J. M. Bilbrey and J. E. Moore.

Union—J. A. Miller, J. R. Wilson and W. H. Wilson.

Adjourned to meet at 1:30 P. M.

### AFTERNOON.

1:30 P. M. the moderator opened the service by reading the first div. of the Psalms. Prayer by the moderator.

Motion and second to go into the permanent organization.

Bro. J. L. Hill was elected permanent moderator and J. E. Moore was re-elected clerk.

A petitionary letter was presented by New Home church asking admission into the body. Granted.

Call for visiting members. Bros. B. M. Bogard, of Texarkana, representing the Baptist & Commoner and Texarkana Orphans' Home; J. A. West, of Little Rock, and E. James.

Motion and second that Bro. J. A. Abee read the circular letter written by him. The letter was read and adopted. Motion and second that a copy of the letter be sent to the Baptist & Commoner.

The Committee on Divine Service reported that Bro. J. D. Butler preach at 7:30 P. M. and Bro. Bogard at 11 A. M., Sunday. By motion and second the body went into the selection of a place to hold the next session. Pleasant Grove was selected for the place, Bro. J. L. Hill to preach the introductory sermon and Bro. Bob Penn to write the circular letter. Com. on Sunday School—Ray Pickett, H. A. Moore and W. J. Field.

A collection was taken for the Texarkana Orphans' Home which amounted to \$11.91.

Adjourned to meet at 7:30 P. M.

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7:30 P. M.—Bro. Butler preached a good sermon from the 13th chapter of Cor.

#### SUNDAY.

Sunday, 9 A. M., the Committee on Sunday School made their report, and after being discussed by Bros. Stratton, West, Clements and Bogard, the report was adopted as amended. [See appendix I.]

Bro. Bogard preached a strong sermon from Deut. xxxi: 81, after which a collection was taken for State Missions which amounted to \$13.25.

The following committees were appointed:

State of Churches—W. R. Jones, B. F. Curtis and M. A. Thompkins.

Foreign Missions—J. H. Box, A. Grooms and Sister H. Clements.

Destitution—J. R. Wilson, S. H. Clemnts, and R. B. Penn.

Prohibition—J. A. Miller, G. W. Helm and Sister Mary Street.

Correspondence—R. E. Penn, John Abee and O. F. Rider.

Orphans' Home—Ray Pickett, J. T. Helm and W. H. Wilson.

The Dead—R. E. Penn, A. L. Groom and Sister H. H.



Thompkins.

... Baptist Literature—J. R. Goodman, O. F. Rider and Amos Goff.

Education—John Abee, Ray Pickett and C. L. Bowers.

Associational Missions—J. D. Butler, H. A. Moore and James Goff.

State Missions—W. J. Field, W. A. Helm and J. M. Bilbrey.  
Adjourned to 7:30 P. M.

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At 2 P. M. Bro. West preached a fine sermon on "Sanctification and the Gift of Tongues". A collection was taken for Evangelist, A. George, which amounted to \$5.16.

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At 7:30 P. M. Bro. West preached a fine sermon and at the close a great manifestation of the Holy Spirit was apparent. Several came forward for prayer and one professed faith in Christ.

#### MONDAY.

Monday, 9 A. M., the body was called to order by the Moderator and after reading and prayer the Committee on Associational Missions made its report. After being discussed by Bros. J. D. Butler, J. E. Moore, J. F. Butler, R. B. Penn, H. A. Moore, S. H. Clements, Ray Pickett and E. James, the report of the Committee was adopted with a verbal report from the Committee appointed last year. [See Appendix II.]

Reports from the following committees were adopted;

Committee on State Missions. [See Appendix III.]

Committee on Prohibition. [See Appendix IV.]

Committee on Correspondence. [See Appendix V.], and the following messengers were appointed: Macedonia, S. Stratton and J. F. Butler; Rocky Bayou, R. B. Penn, J. F. Butler, W. G. Helm and J. N. Sparks; Red River, J. A. Abee.

Committee on Colleges. [See Appendix VI.]

Committee on Orphans' Home. [See Appendix VII.]

Committee on Foreign Missions. [See Appendix VIII.]

Committee on State of Churches. [See Appendix IX.]

Committee on the Dead. [See Appendix X.]

Committee on Literature. [See Appendix XI.]

Motion and second carried to continue the committee selected last year as Associational Committee, and elect Bro. S.

Stratton to take the place of J. J. Bellamy.

Bro. J. F. Butler preached a fine sermon, subject, "arise let us go hence". Adjourned to 1:30.

AFTERNOON.

1:30 P. M. After reading and prayer the Finance Committee submitted its report, which was adopted. (See App. XII.)

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the members of Lebanon Church and the citizens of this community for their hospitality and kindness to messengers and visitors to this body during its present session, and especially to the young people for their splendid singing. Also.

Resolved, That we tender our thanks to the moderator and clerk for their faithful and patient service during our meeting, and that the clerk have 400 copies of the minutes printed, and that he have \$10 for his service.

After singing "God be with you 'til we meet again" and giving the parting hand, we adjourned to meet with Pleasant Grove church on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1918.

J. E. MOORE, Clerk.



## Circular Letter.

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Fellow Messengers of Spring River Baptist Association:-

In compliance with the wish you expressed at the last session of the body, I submit the following.

My subject is: God's Reward to His Children for Services.

Many people never learn to make a distinction between the gift of eternal life, and the REWARD for services to God. Thinking that eternal life is all that is promised them, and believing "He that heareth my word, and believeth on Him that sent me hath everlasting life, And SHALL NOT come into condemnation, but is passed from death unto life."—John v:24., they grow careless and fail to serve the Master as they should and are thereby deprived of their reward. This being a fact, (as I see it) is the reason I have chosen this subject.

Our worship to God is two-fold in its nature: The first step is to exercise faith; the second is to serve the Lord. The blessing obtained by exercising faith is eternal life: that obtained by the second is reward. A reward is something paid for service done. The bible promises us a reward. Salvation, being a free GIFT, can not be that reward. Paul says "The WAGES of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life."—Rom. vi:23. Therefore, salvation being a free gift, we can do nothing to merit it, else it ceases to be a gift and becomes a reward. It is a manifestation of God's sovereign love toward us.

Again, Paul says: "By grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."—Eph. ii:8, 9. Again: "If by grace then is it no more of works: otherwise grace is no more grace."—Rom. xi:6.

But the Lord manifests his love toward us still further by offering us a reward for acceptable service. This reward is to be given at Christ's second coming.—"And behold I come quickly; and my reward is with me to give to every man as his works shall be."—Rev. xxii:12. Now, this reward is not eternal life, or salvation, because "He that believeth on the son hath everlasting life."—John iii:36. To the woman Jesus said "Thy faith HATH saved thee."—Luke vii:50; He said the same to the



blind man—Luke xviii:42. Paul said (Eph. ii:5) by grace ARE ye saved.

And he says every man's work shall be made manifest; for the day shall declare it because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon he shall receive a REWARD. If any man's works shall be burned he shall suffer loss, but he himself shall be saved yet so as by fire.—1. Cor. iii:13, 14, 15.

Paul realized that there was a CROWN for him to wear after he should leave this world.—II. Tim. iv:8. Was this crown laid up for Paul because he had believed? No, this crown was to be given him because he had fought a good fight for the Lord. It was given him for his faithful service.—II. Tim. iv:7.

This REWARD is sometimes called a crown, "be thou faithful until death and I will give thee a crown of life.—Rev. ii:10.

Now, this crown is something which might be lost: "Hold thou fast which thou hast that no man take thy CROWN.—Rev. iii:11.

The Bible seems to convey the idea that this crown will have jewels in it depending on our service done. Other places it seems to hold out other rewards. This REWARD is referred to in Rev. iii:12—"Him that overcometh I will make a pillar, and I will write on him my NEW NAME, etc." Whatever these rewards may be we may rest assured they will be of the Lord, while the REWARD we receive will depend entirely on the character of our service. Then is it not a joyful thought to know that our salvation is in the hands of one mightier than we.

What a precious inspiration, that if we serve Him faithfully, that by and by we will wear that beautiful CROWN given us as a REWARD for our Service.

Brethren, can we not resolve to begin anew to do MORE in the service of our Master, who has promised us so much.

Your Brother in Christ,

J. A. ABEE.

## Appendix.

### (I.)

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, beg leave to make our report. We notice from the reading of some of our church letters that some of our churches are using Union literature. This we condemn, and ask our denomination to use altogether sound Baptist literature. We also urge churches that are destitute of Sunday Schools to try and get same started at once.

This can be had at Texarkana, Ark.

Ray Pickett,  
H. A. Moore, } Committee.  
W. J. Field,

### (II.)

We, your committee on Associational Missions, report as follows: We find that there is much need of work being done throughout the bounds of this Association. Therefore we recommend that the present method of doing mission work be continued for another year.

J. D. Butler,  
H. A. Moore, } Committee.  
J. P. Goff,

### (III.)

We, your committee on State Missions, submit the following: State missions means to us missions in Arkansas. There are many destitute places in our State that need the old-time gospel of our Lord and Savior to be preached.

The State Association has seven missionaries in the field this year. They are doing a good work for the Lord, and we recommend that the churches contribute liberally to support the cause.

Respectfully submitted.

W. J. Field,  
J. M. Bilbrey, } Committee.  
W. A. Helm,



(IV.)

We, your committee on Prohibition, beg leave to submit the following; Whereas the practice of ardent drink has been greatly overcome: we therefore recommend that the churches of this Association use our utmost endeavor to keep it forever banished from our country.

J. A. Miller, }  
G. W. Helm. } Committee.

(V.)

We, your committee on Correspondence, recommend that we correspond with the following associations: Rocky Bayou, Red River, Jonesboro, Independence and Macedona.

R. B. Penn, }  
J. A. Abee, } Committee.  
O. F. Rider. }

(VI.)

We, Your Committee on Education, beg leave to submit the following: We believe that education is elevating, in a measure, both literary and spiritually, and we recommend that our members take advantage of our public schools, and when financially able, take advantage of our Baptist colleges, such as Jacksonville College, Texas.

R. B. Penn, }  
Ray Pickett. }  
J. H. Box. }

(VII.)

We, your committee on Orphans' Home, report the following: We have in the orphans' home at Texarkana, Ark., 80 children for our support. In this home everything will be needed that is needed in any home—beds, clothing, provision, etc. We recommend that all supplies be sent to J. H. Carter, Texarkana, Ark., and that collections be taken in every church and the money sent to Eld. J. W. Sims, Malvern, Ark.

Jno. T. Helm, }  
Ray Pickett. } Committee.  
W. H. Wilson. }

(VIII.)

The subject of foreign missions is one of great importance. At this particular time it is of more importance, perhaps, than

at any time in the past, on account of the conditions of unrest in the world. Many souls are being hurled into eternity on account of the world war, and many are going unprepared. We, your committee, urge that we use all our efforts to carry the gospel to those who need it most.

J. H. Box,  
Sister B. Clements, } Committee.  
A. L. Groom.

(IX.)

We, your committee on State of Churches, submit the following: We notice most of the churches have pastors, but little has been accomplished during the year, as the spirituality of the churches is at a low ebb. Some churches are pastorless and some have reported poor meetings. Therefore, we recommend that the brethren and sisters engage much in prayer for a great outpouring of the Spirit on the work—laying themselves upon the altar of service by supporting the ministry and other causes.

B. T. Curtis,  
M. A. Thompkins, } Committee.  
W. R. Jones.

(X.)

We, your committee on Memorials of the Dead, beg leave to report as follows: Again the death angel has visited some of our homes and plucked flowers of earth to plant in the garden of Heaven.

We find there has been ten deaths in our Association the past year.

A. L. Groom,  
Sister H. E. Thompkins } Committee.

(XI.)

We, your committee, submit the following:

We believe the bible should be read more, therefore, we urge a more careful study of the bible in our Sunday Schools. We further recommend that all churches of this Association use Landmark Baptist Literature.

J. R. Goodman,  
O. F. Rider, } Committee.  
Ralph Ross.



(XII.)

We, your committee on Finance, beg leave to submit the following:

Received from churches for minute fund..... \$19.85

Collection taken for minute fund, ..... 7.05

Total..... \$26.90

S. H. Clements, }  
S. Stratton. } Committee.  
Jno. T. Helm, }

(XIII.)

J. E. Moore in acct. with Spring River Baptist Association,  
1916.

Received from Finance Committee..... \$24.60

To Clerk's fees..... \$10.00

For printing minutes..... 12.50

Postage..... .90

Balance due clerk, 1915..... 5.60

Total..... \$29.00 \$24.60

Balance due clerk..... 4.40

## SUNDAY SCHOOL DIRECTORY.

CHURCH	SUPERINTENDANT	SECRETARY	Officers & Teachers	Number of Pupils	Contributions	ADDRESS
Glear Springs	R. B. McGhehey	Clara Underwood	4			Black Rock, Ark.
Jerusalem	W. E. Jones	E. W. Felix	5	40	\$9.00	Strawberry, Ark.
Lebanon	H. S. Miller	Julah Stanfill	4	135	5.00	Nelsonville, Ark.
New Hope	W. J. Field	Flora Cole	4	48		Denton, Ark.
Pleasant Hill	J. R. Winford	Hosea Penn	4	45		Lynn, Ark.
Portia	S. M. Prince	Pauline Watson	3	52	10.00	Portia, Ark.
Rings Chappel	J. S. Johnson	Ila Ring	4	67	2.90	Emery, Ark.
Smithville	V. A. Erwin	Marie White	3	26	2.75	Smithville, Ark.
Union	B. H. Wilson	Bertha Wilson	5	45	4.00	Jesup, Ark.
		Total	36	458	33.65	



# CHURCH DIRECTORY.

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Centerville.....	J. L. Brown.....	J. W. C. Gardner .....	Kenyon, Ark.
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Clear Springs .....	G. B. Borah.....	W. A. Hudson.....	Imboden, Ark.
Corinth.....	G. W. James .....	M. McGinness.....	Grange, Ark.
Jerusalem .....	G. W. James .....	W. A. Campbell .....	Strawberry, Ark.
Lone Oak.....	J. D. Butler.....	Bessie Justus .....	Frisbee, Ark.
Lebanon.....	G. W. Helm.....	A. L. Groom .....	Nelsonville, Ark.
Mt. Zion .....	J. L. Hill .....	G. D. Wade .....	Worill, Ark.
Mt. View.....	J. T. Jones.....	G. L. Bowers.....	Cave City, Ark.
New Hope.....	G. W. James .....	W. J. Field.....	Denton, Ark.
New Home .....	J. D. Butler.....	J. A. Abree .....	Smithville, Ark.
Pleasant Grove .....	W. R. Jones.....	Ray Pickett.....	Ravenden, Ark.
Pleasant Hill .....	W. A. Watkins .....	James Goodwin.....	Lynn, Ark.
Portia.....	P. J. Henry .....	S. M. Prince .....	Portia, Ark.
Rings Chappel .....	Wm Casey.....	Glaud Crigler.....	Bengay, Ark.
Smithville .....	J. L. Brown.....	Dora White .....	Smithville, Ark.
Union .....	G. W. James .....	J. R. Wilson.....	Jesup, Ark.

# STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCH	Ordained Ministers	Licentates	MEMBERSHIP								Value of Church Property	Pastor's Salary	MISSIONS			Orphans' Home	Miscellaneous Contributions	Minute Fund	Improvement on Church Property	Total Contributions	
			Baptized	Rec'd by Letter	Restored	Total Admissions	Dis'd by Letter	Died	Excluded	Total Diminutions			Total Membership	Associational	State						Home
CENTERVILLE			3	3	2			2	40	\$ 090	\$ 120		\$ 2.00		\$ 5.00	\$ 28.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 756.00		
CALAMINE			3	3	1			1	37								.50		.50		
CLEAR SPRINGS	2		1	1	2	3		3	122	400	47						1.00		48.00		
CORINTH	1			1	1	2	1	3	28		60						.50		60.50		
JERUSALEM			6				1	1	66		75					7.85	2.00	40.00	195.00		
LONE OAK	1			3	3	19		19	73	325	24	.75				1.50	1.00		27.25		
LEBANON			10		1	11	2	1	3	75	100	23		6.25		8.00	1.00		38.25		
MT. ZION	2					4	1		5	27							1.00		1.00		
MT. VIEW			2			2	1		1	41	300	36					1.00		37.00		
NEW HOPE	1		3			3	7	1	8	133	1000	60				36.00	1.50		97.50		
NEW HOME	1		9	2		11			52								2.00		2.00		
PT. GROVE				1		1	9	2	11	81	500	27	1.00	22.71		4.36	1.50		56.57		
PT. HILL	1		16	1		17		1	1	2	140	600	44				95.00	1.50	140.50		
PORTIA	1		1	2		3	1		1	35	600	134	36.50			5.21	5.00	1.00	181.71		
RINGS CHAPPEL	1		6			6	1	1	2	46	400				7.50	4.40	.75		12.65		
SMITHVILLE	1						4		2	6	40	600	120	15.25	7.50		5.75	1.50	16.00	166.00	
UNION								1	1	65	400	72	1.85					1.00		74.85	
	12		54	16	2	61	56	10	6	70	991	5225	852	55.35	38.46	7.50	14.57	261.65	19.25	656.00	1895.28



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