

Smithville, Ark.

Minutes of the Fifty-first Session

of the

**Spring River Baptist
Association**



ARKANSAS BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

S. STRATTON, Moderator, Smithville, Ark.

A. V. BELLAMY, Clerk, Smithville, Ark.

MINUTES

of the Fifty-first Annual Session

of the

**Spring River Baptist
Association**

**Held with the
Pleasant Hill Baptist Church,
Lynn, Lawrence County, Arkansas.**

Sep't 27-29, 1919

**S. STRATTON, Moderator, Smithville, Ark.
A. V. BELLAMY, Clerk, Smithville, Ark.**

MINUTES

THE SPRING RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION met in fifty-first annual session with Pleasant Hill church, Lynn, Lawrence county, Ark., Sept. 27th, 1919.

The body was called together by singing, and a prayer by Eld. J. L. Brown.

According to previous election Eld. W. A. Watkins was to preach the Introductory Sermon, but in his absence, Eld. D. M. Smith, of Hall, Tenn., (R. No. 1) preached a very able sermon Isaiah 34. 16—Theme: "Seek ye out the work of the Lord".

On motion a recess was taken 'till 1:30 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Moderator called the house to order and read the 51st Psalm. Eld. Elam Hall offered a prayer, after which Bros. J. T. Osborne and W. J. Field were appointed reading clerks, and on call for letters from the churches the following answered by letter or messenger.

Jerusalem—R. E. Penn, E. Little and W. E. Jones.

Portia—Sisters Fannie Wilcoxon, S. E. Hastings and Eld. Elam Hall.

Lone Oak—Robert Holder, W. A. Helm and J. P. Justus.

Union—J. A. Miller, G. M. Jones and J. R. Wilson.

Little Spring—F. M. Biggs, Walter Norris and Joe Thompkins.

New Hope—H. A. Moore, W. J. Field and T. E. Helm.

Lebanon—I. N. Sparks, R. A. Groom and Sister Lois Sparks.

New Home—S. Stratton, J. A. Abee, Robert Taylor and Jas. Daily.

Mt. Zion—S. A. Payne, S. H. Clements and Sister S. B. Clements.

Pleasant Hill—Hosea Penn, G. C. Osborn and J. T. Osborn.

Rings Chappel—W. R. Jones, Claude Crigler and Sister Margaret Binkley.

Mt. View—C. L. Bowers, Homer West and Sister Myrtle Jernigan.

The business next in order being the election of officers for

the ensuing year, Bros. Tom McLeod and Gal Montgomery were designated to take the vote, which resulted in the re-election of Eld. S. Stratton as moderator, and A. V. Bellamy, clerk.

After thanking the body for their continued confidence and esteem, both officers resumed the duties of their respective positions.

On call for corresponding messengers, Eld. J. L. Brown, of Macedonia Association was enrolled.

On call for visiting members Eld. D. M. Smith, of Hall, Tenn., Eld. J. D. Butler, of Black Rock, Ark. and Bro. J. R. Norman, of Clover Bend, Ark., responded and were enrolled.

The Moderator then appointed the following committees.

Divine Service—Bros. C. C. Osborn, R. E. Penn and J. T. Osborn.

Sunday School—R. E. Penn, J. W. Field and C. C. Osborn.

Finance—C. C. Osborne, J. T. Osborn and R. E. Penn.

On motion the rules were suspended and the body went into the selection of a place to hold the next association, which resulted in the selection of Portia as the place, Eld. Elam Hall to preach the Introductory sermon, and Bro. J. A. Abee to write the Circular letter.

The Committee on Divine Service reported that Eld. Berry Wilson would preach at 7:30 P. M.

7:30 P. M.

After reading the 12th chapter of John, and prayer Bro. Berry Wilson preached a very interesting sermon on the subject of "Light", after which a collection was taken for the Orphan's Home at Texarkana, Ark., which amounted to \$17.11.

The Moderator then announced the names of the committees, the names of which will be found at the close of their respective report. (See appendix)

Adjourned to meet at 9 A. M., Sunday.

SUNDAY.

At 9:30 A. M. a Sunday School Mass Meeting was called, the report of the Committee on Sunday School was read, and discussed by Bros. S. H. Clements, Elam Hall, W. R. Jones and J. L. Brown, after which the report was adopted. (See app.)

At 11 A. M., Sunday, Eld. D. M. Smith read the 3d chapter of John and preached a doctrinal sermon,—Theme: "Why I am

a Baptist." The services were appropriately concluded by Eld. J. L. Brown, after which a collection was taken for Eld. Williams, a State Missionary, which amounted to \$10.00.

The Committee on Divine Service reported that Eld. Elam Hall would preach at 2 P. M.

The body then took a recess until 1:30, for dinner, of which there was a bountiful supply upon the grounds, and which was greatly enjoyed by the people.

1:30 P. M.

At 1:30 the association convened by singing, and after prayer Eld. Elam Hall preached from Acts 16. 30-31. The sermon was a very strong one, and was well received, and left the impression very strongly on his audience that salvation comes through repentance toward God, and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and is not conditioned on water works or formalities. A recess was then taken 'til 7:30 P. M.

At 7:30 the body reassembled, and after singing and prayer Eld. J. D. Butler preached a good sermon from Acts 17. 16,— Theme: "The Importance of Christ's Resurrection".

Adjourned 'til 9 A. M. Monday.

MONDAY

At 9 A. M., Monday the body was called to order by Moderator Stratton. Prayer by Bro. I. N. Sparks, after which reports from the following committees were read and adopted. (See appendix)

Committee on Orphan's Home. Report was discussed by Eld. J. L. Brown, and adopted.

Committee on State Missions. Report was discussed by Elds. W. R. Jones and J. L. Brown, adopted.

Committee on State of Churches. After a spirited discussion by Bros. R. E. Penn, J. L. Brown, Bro. Williams, J. A. Miller, S. H. Clements, R. B. Penn, I. N. Sparks, J. D. Butler, and H. A. Moore, the report was adopted as amended. (See appendix)

Committee on Memorial of the Dead.

The association then took a brief recess.

At 11 A. M., Eld. W. R. Jones preached from Rom. 8. 1,— Theme: "Security of the Justified". We believe the proof he presented is so strong that it is presumption on the part of any one to deny it. The body then took a recess, during which

time refreshments were again served on the grounds.

At 1:30 P. M., the work of the day was resumed. Reports of the following committees were read and adopted.

Committee on Education.

Committee on Foreign Missions.

Committee on Prohibition, discussed by Eld. J. L. Brown, and adopted.

Committee on Associational Missions. After a warm discussion by Bros. J. L. Brown, H. A. Moore, W. R. Jones, S. Stratton, R. B. Penn, and J. D. Butler, the report was adopted.

On motion the present method of doing associational mission work (adopted in 1916) was adopted and continued and the following were elected members of the associational committee: R. E. Penn, H. A. Moore, J. A. Abee, R. B. Penn, and W. J. Field.

Committee on Destitution, adopted.

Committee on Correspondence, adopted, and the following brethren were named as corresponding messengers: Jonesboro, J. D. Butler; Macedonia, S. Stratton; Rocky Bayou, W. R. Jones.

Committee on Finance, discussed by Elds. Brown and Butler and adopted.

Committee on Literature, adopted.

The following resolutions were adopted: Resolved. That we extend our thanks to the members of Pleasant Hill Church and the citizens of the community for their hospitality and kindness during our stay with them; and be it resolved. That We thank the Moderator and Clerk for their faithful work during our meeting, that the clerk have 250 copies of the minutes printed, and that he have \$8.00 for his service.

On motion the body adjourned to meet with Portia Baptist Church on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in September, 1920.

While singing "God be with you 'til we meet again", the messengers and visitors gave one another the parting hand. Dismissed with prayer by the moderator.

A. V. BELLAMY, Clerk.

Appendix

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

ON DIVINE SERVICE

Saturday, 7:30 P. M., Eld. Berry Wilson.

Sunday, 11 A. M., Eld. D. M. Smith; 2:30 P. M., Eld Elam Hall; 7:30, P. M., Eld J. D. Butler.

Monday, 11 A. M., Eld. W. R. Jones.

C. G. Osborn, R. E. Penn,

J. T. Osborn, Committee.

ON SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, your committee on Sunday School, beg leave to make report. We notice from the reading of our church letters reporting Sunday Schools, that they are using Landmark Baptist literature, which, in our opinion teaches sound Baptist doctrine, and is endorsed by your committee. We further notice that a number did not report any Sunday School. We would recommend that each church organize and maintain a Sunday School. We further recommend that ministers who have pastoral charge of churches in Spring River Association, urge their members to organize and maintain a Sunday School.

J. T. Osborn, }
W. J. Field, } Committee.
R. E. Penn, }

ON FINANCE

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

Paid by churches for minutes.....	\$15.90.
Collection taken for minutes.....	6.50.
Lone Oak association missions	4.12.
Mt. Zion " "	5.00.

J. T. Osborn, G. C. Osborne,

H. J. Penn, Committee.

ON ORPHANS' HOME

We, your committee on Orphans' Home, ask permission to submit the following report. We feel that there is no institute

that should appeal to our sympathy more than the orphans' home where they are taught the doctrines of the bible, clothed and fed. As we now have established at Texarkana, an Orphans' Home, we recommend that the churches of this association take regular collections for the benefit of this institution, and that pastors be urged to take collections regularly for the support of the Home.

Robert R. Taylor, J. W. Daily,
I. N. Sparks, Committee.

ON STATE MISSIONS

We, your committee on State Missions, submit the following. We recommend that the Spring River Association work in conjunction with the Arkansas State Association, and the churches make their contributions to our State Missionaries indorsed by the State Association, and other independent missionaries who are recommended by the churches they are identified with.

Elam Hall, W. R. Jones,
Robert Wilson, Committee.

ON STATE OF CHURCHES

We, the committee on State of Churches, beg leave to submit the following report. We find that most of the churches have pastors and are spiritually in very good working order, but there is great need of a wide awakening, for the field is white unto the harvest.

B. H. Wilson, J. W. Daily,
Robert R. Taylor, Committee.

Amended, asking that the associational letters state their total membership, and also their active members.

ON MEMORIALS OF THE DEAD.

We, your committee on Memorials of the Dead, beg leave to make the following report. We find that the Death Angel has called and taken from our homes, in the last twelve months, eight of our loved members.

H. A. Moore,
J. A. Miller, Committee.

ON EDUCATION

We, your committee on Education, ask to make the following

report. Believing that education is the handmaid of religion, we recommend that, as Baptist, we do all we can to educate our people, both in the pulpit and in the pew. We recommend our churches to aid in the building and support of the Sherudon College; and we further recommend that we aid and encourage Eld. W. R. Jones in obtaining an education.

H. A. Moore, R. E. Penn,
J. A. Abee, Committee.

ON FOREIGN MISSIONS

We, the committee on Foreign Missions submit the following report. We have eight missionaries working among Foreigners as follows: Charles Tedder and wife in China; S. M. Jureidian and wife, Syrian missionaries, now working in Nicosia, Cyprus; L. M. Galassi and wife in Rome, Italy; Absolom George and wife, missionaries to Persia, now working among the Persians in Chicago, Ill. These missionaries are supported in the work by the churches co-operating together in the general association of Baptist churches. Money can be sent to either, or all of the above named missionaries through G. C. Winters, Missionary Treasurer, Texarkana. Ark.

J. L. Brown, J. P. Justus,
R. B. Penn. Committee.

ON PROHIBITION

We, your committee on Prohibition, beg leave to submit the following. Whereas God looked upon strong drink with such degree of displeasure that He said to not look upon wine when it sparkled in the glass. We, therefore, recommend that the Churches of this Association urge the banishment of strong drink forever from our Country and Nation.

J. R. Norman, Mrs. J. A. Miller,
D. M. Smith, Committee.

ON ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS

The report was lost, and on motion, the present method of doing mission work (method adopted in 1916) was continued for another year, and the following were elected as Association-
al Missions Committee: R. E. Penn, H. A. Moore, J. A. Abee, R. B. Penn, and W. J. Field.

Amount of mission fund brought forward.....	\$46.15
Amount received from churches.....	9.12
Amount on hand, Sept. 30th, 1919.....	<u>55.27</u>
	Clerk.

ON DESTITUTION

We, your committee on Destitution, beg to make the following report. We find that there is much destitution within our association, to wit:- Evening Shade, (Methodist church) Macedonia, Fairview, (near Grange) Shelbyville, Blanville, Powhatan, Powell's Chappel, and Mt. Tabor. There is also, some destitution east of Black river, and very near all of the north-west fourth of our Association has destitution. We, therefore, beg that the churches of this Association support a man, or men, in these places.

W. R. Jones, J. D. Butler,
E. Little, Committee.

ON CORRESPONDENCE

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

Elam Hall, R. E. Penn,
J. D. Butler, Committee.

ON LITERATURE

We, your committee on Baptist Literature, report as follows. We recognize the press as one of the strongest powers we have for good or bad. We, therefore, recommend the most careful and prayerful reading of the bible, as it should be our standard text-book. Our children should be taught its sacred truths.

We, also recommend that we use Associational Baptist Literature as conforms to God's word. We, also recommend the Baptist and Commoner.

B. H. Wilson, B. T. Curtis,
H. J. Penn, Committee.

Sunday School Directory

Churches	Sup't.	Sec'y.	Officers and Teachers	Pupils.....	Contributions	P. O.
Lebanon	J. P. Goff.....	Ola Spotts....	6	40	\$ 5.00	Nelsonville
Portia	34
Union	G. M. Jones...	L. Bilbrey	6	40	3.00	Jesup
Lone Oak	T. C. Clements	Bessie Justus.	4	52	1.75	Frisbee
Pleasant Hill.	R. B. Penn ...	Pearl Goodwin	6	42	12.86	Driftwood
Jerusalem....	R. E. Penn ...	Orbra Jones...	6	32	3.50	Strawberry
Mt View.....	Earl Harris...	Ethel West...	5	85	12.46	Cave City
Rings Chappel	Claud Grigler..	Ella Howard..	14	90	5.00	Bengay

Church Directory

Church	Pastor	Clerk	P. O.
Jerusalem	B. H. Wilson....	W. E. Jones	Strawberry
Portia.....	W. A. Watkins ..	Sis. L. A. Watson	Portia
Lone Oak.....	W. G. Helm.....	Nellie Clements.	Smithville
Union	B. H. Wilson....	J. R. Wilson	Jesup
Little Spring...	W. R. Jones	Geo. W. Smith ..	Poughkeepsie
New Hope.....	C. C. Marshal...	W. H. McLeod..	Denton
Lebanon.....	J. L. Hill	W. H. Groom....	Nelsonvile
New Home	S. Stratton	M. C. Clements .	Smithville
Mt. Zion.....	W. A. Watkins ..	C. W. Wade.....	Ravenden
Pleasant Hill	J. L. Brown.....	J. T. Osborne ...	Lynn
Rings Chappel .	W. R. Jones	B. T. Curtis	Emery
Mt. View.....	W. R. Jones	E. A. Mobley....	Cave City

General Statistical Table

Churches	Ordained Ministers	Licentates	MEMBERSHIP								Value of Church Property	Pastors Salary	MISSIONS		Orphans' Home	Minute Fund	Foreign Missions	Visiting Ministers	Incidentals	
			Baptized	Rec'd by Letter	Restored	Total Admissions	Dis'd by Letter	Died	Excluded	Total Diminutions			Total Membership	Associational						State
Jerusalem....			6			6				62	\$23.35	\$ 12.50	\$ 14.25	\$ 1.50		112.25				
Portia.....	1		1	4		5	4	4	28	25.60			10.15	1.35						
Lone Oak....									57		\$ 4.12			1.50						
Union.....	1		3			3	3	3	63	50.00				.75						
Little Spring.			11			11			71					1.00		128.00				
New hope....			4	2	1	7	4	4	128	90.00		9.50		1.50	9.50		3.00			
Lebanon.....	1		1	1		2			91	\$ 250	65.98			1.00						
New Home...	1			3		3	1	1	2 49	500	27.00		6.50	1.50		17.45				
Mt. Zion.....	2								31		8.50	5.00		1.00						
Pleasant Hill.							1		1 138		89.77		31.50	2.30			7.44			
Rings Chappel	1	1		2		2	3	2	5 34		35.00		3.00	1.00			5.00			
Mt. View....	1		1	2		3	1		1 44	350	27.15			2.10			2.10			
Total..	8	1	17	14	1	42	10	7	3 20 796	1100	442.10	9.12	15.00	62.40	15.1	9.50	267.70	17.54		

Clover Bend sent no letter nor messenger, b paid for minutes 75¢.
 Portia's letter reports having sent \$1.35 min. a fund, but this fund was not reported by the