

MINUTES

—OF THE—

Grand Prairie Baptist Association,

—HELD WITH—

Big LaGrue Church, Arkansas County. Ark., Sept, 26, 27, 28, 1891.



SEPTEMBER 26th. 1891.

The Association was called to order at 10 o'clock a. m. by the Moderator, Hon. J. B. Sanders, after which the congregation joined in singing "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing." Prayer was then offered by Eld. A. L. Johnston.

Upon motion the introductory sermon was deferred until 11 o'clock a. m.

Letters from the churches were called for, and as presented were read by Eld. A. L. Johnston and Bro. Walter Keaton.

After the reading of letters from churches that were members of the Association, petitionary letters were called for, whereupon the following new churches presented letters for admission, to-wit:

St. Charles, Beaulah, Cross Roads and Fairmount, all of which were received and their delegates enrolled.

11 O'CLOCK SERVICES.

The congregation sang "Jesus Lover of My Soul," after which Eld. B. F. House read 1st Tim. 3—15 and preached the introductory sermon, then the congregation sang, "How Firm a Foundation." Adjourned to meet at 2 o'clock p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After partaking of a splendid repast the body re-assembled at the appointed hour, sang "Come Thou Fount," after which prayer was offered by Bro. F. K. Flinn.

The Moderator then declared the election of officers for the ensuing year in order. Balloting was then had and resulted in the election of Hon. J. B. Sanders, Moderator; W. Theo. Smith, Secretary; S. K. Downs, Treasurer.

Upon motion it was agreed that the body would be governed by the rules governing the body in previous meetings.

The Moderator then proceeded to appoint the various committees, to-wit:

Committee on Religious Exercises--Pastor and Deacons of Big LaGrue Church and Brethren S. K. Downs and Geo. Beleher.

Committee on Finance--Brethren J. A. Ragan, J. H. Rousaville, J. H. Powell.

Correspondence called for, whereupon a letter was read from the North East Association. (Colored)

The following brethren were appointed as delegates to sister Associations:

Elders R. L. Cole and A. L. Johnston to Mt. Vernon Association;
Eld. R. L. Cole, Brethren J. B. Sanders and J. W. Grady to Caroline Association.

Elder R. F. Routh and Brethren J. H. Meritt and W. Theo. Smith to State Convention.

Eld. R. F. Routh to Southern Baptist Convention, with Eld. A. L. Johnston, Alternate.

Motion made and sustained, that any member of this Association meeting with any sister Association, will be recognized as our corresponding messenger.

Executive Board was granted further time to make its report.

Committee on Education asked for further time and that the Moderator appoint two brethren to assist in drafting the report, whereupon Brethren J. A. Gilliland and A. C. Parrish were appointed.

Committee on Foreign Missions asked for time and that they have the assistance of some one else. The Moderator added Eld. A. L. Johnston to the committee.

Committees on Publication and Temperance also asked for and was granted further time.

Committee on Religious exercises report that Eld. R. L. Cole Preach at 7:30 p. m.

Contributions from the churches were called for.

Resolutions and propositions were then called for, whereupon motion was made and sustained that we hereafter dispense with the committee on Temperance.

Several churches petitioned for the next meeting of the Association, and by vote, it was decided to meet with Cross Roads church, four miles south of Hickory Plains in Prairie County, at its next Annual meeting on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September 1892.

The Moderator then appointed the Executive Committee for the ensuing year. [See Appendix "A"]

On motion adjourned to meet after the sermon by Eld. Cole.

7:30 EXERCISES.

Congregation sang "Jesus Lover of My Soul." Prayer was then offered by Eld. A. L. Johnston After which Eld. Cole read the 15 chapter of Exodus and preached an able sermon from the 15th verse of said chapter; the subject being "Christian Activity."

After the sermon the body was called to order by the Moderator and proceeded to business.

Committee on Religious exercises reported that prayer meeting would be conducted by Bro. L. Moon at 10 o'clock and that Eld. A. L. Johnston would preach the missionary sermon at 11 o'clock, owing to the regular appointee being absent.

Finance Committee made their report. [See Appendix "B"]

On motion adjourned to meet Monday morning at 9 o'clock a. m. Benediction by Eld. Cole.

SUNDAY MORNING, 10 O'CLOCK

Brother Moon, the appointee, not being present, Eld. R. F. Routh conducted prayer meeting. Many earnest petitions were offered up. The meeting resulted in good to the brotherhood.

An intermission of ten minutes was then had, during which time it was decided to move the benches to the grove near by the church in order to accommodate the vast assemblage.

11 O'CLOCK SERVICES.

Congregation sang, "Jesus Lover of My Soul." Prayer by Eld. House.

Eld. Johnston then read the 11th chapter Hebrews and selected as his text, Hebrews 11: 6. 1. John 2: 17. The sermon was an earnest plea for Baptists to be Missionaries indeed. After the sermon, which had been well received, a collection was taken up for

Associational Mission work, amounting to \$40.25 in cash and \$18.00 in pledges.

On motion, adjourned. Benediction by Eld. House.

A bountiful repast was had on the ground, which was relished by the hundreds present.

3 O'CLOCK SERVICES.

At this hour Sunday School Mass Meeting was conducted by Bro. J. A. Gililand. Much interest was manifested and many pledges made. From the deep earnestness of the brotherhood it is believed that many of the churches now without Sunday Schools will be able to report at our next Annual meeting, evergreen schools.

7:30 SERVICES.

Song by congregation, after which the third chapter of Isaiah was read by Eld. A. L. Johnston. He then preached from John, 4: 13—14.

MONDAY MORNING SERVICES.

At the appointed hour the body was called to order by the Moderator and Bro. Parker lead in prayer.

Correspondence called for. No response.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

On Education: Elds. R. L. Cole and B. F. House and Bro. D. S. Bass.

On Sunday Schools: Brethren W. Theo. Smith, J. A. Gililand and W. W. Moxley.

On Publication: Eld. A. L. Johnston and Bros. I. R. B. Davis and R. L. Davis.

On Foreign Missions: Eld. R. F. Routh and Bros. R. H. Parker and J. H. Highfill.

Committee on Education made their report and after some discussion, it was adopted. [See App. "C"]

A collection amounting to \$10 was then taken for Ouachita College. [See App. "D"]

Committee on Foreign Missions made their report, which was adopted. [See App. "E"]

A collection of \$6 was then had for Foreign Missions.

Committee on Publications read their report which was adopted. [See App. "F"]

Executive Committee made its report and after some discussion it was adopted. [See App. "G"]

Treasurer made his report which was adopted. [See App. "H"] Several pledges were made by individuals for Associational work. Eld. R. L. Cole was appointed to preach the next Introductory sermon; Eld. R. F. Routh, alternate.

Eld. A. L. Johnston was appointed to preach the next Annual Missionary sermon; Eld. B. F. House, alternate.

On motion the Clerk was instructed to have as many minutes printed as the money in hand would pay for.

On motion, it was advised that the next Association have Sunday school mass meeting at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

On motion the Association recommended that each church in the Association conduct a weekly prayer meeting during the ensuing year.

On motion a collection was taken for the benefit of Sister Morris, which amounted to \$3.50 in cash and the following persons pledging the amount set opposite their names:.

Chas. Marshall \$1, P. R. Noble \$1, W. F. Price \$1, U. F. Simpson \$1, L. C. Swartz \$1, Sister G. M. Boone \$2, B. K. Adams \$1, Sisters Ganbel and Miller \$1 each, J. B. Sanders \$1, C. P. Chappel \$1, I. A. Ragan \$1 and Eld. A. L. Johnston \$1.

Resolved.—That we hereby tender our thanks to the members of Big LaGrue Church—and community—for the hearty welcome and hospitality which has characterized their treatment of us,

A. L. JOHNSTON.

Adjourned for dinner, after which came together by singing "Nearer My God to Thee." The parting addresses were then made by Eld. Routh and the Moderator. All who heard them will long remember the deep impressions made. The parting hand was given and a fervent prayer offered up by Eld. Johnston. Thus closed one of the most harmonious meetings ever held.

Adjourned to meet with Cross Roads Church, four miles south of Hickory Plains, Prairie County, Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1892.

J. B. SANDERS, Moderator,

W. THEO. SMITH, Secretary.



APPENDIX.

"A."—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Big Lagrue Church	R. H. Parker
Salem Church	Wm. Lockett
Stuttgart Church	J. A. Gililland
Pt. DeLuce Church	J. H. Powell
Bell View Church	C. C. Wood
Center Point Church	J. W. McMillin
De Witt Church	J. H. Merritt
Rising Sun Church	J. A. Ragan
New Hope Church	J. L. Cooper
Pleasant Ridge Church	J. T. Lumpkin
Oak Grove Church	Geo. Campbell
Hazen Church	T. K. Flinn
Grand Prairie Church	J. J. Alderson
Liberty Church	Sister M. A. Honer
St. Charles Church	D. S. Bass
Fairmount Church	Geo. Belcher
Cross Roads Church	J. W. Highfill
Beulah Church	B. G. Huffman

"B"—FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

Beulah	50	Salem	1.60
Center Point	1.60	New Hope	2.00
Rising Sun	1.60	Hazen	2.00
Pt. DeLuce	1.10	Cross Roads	1.50
St. Charles	1.10	Stuttgart	1.50
Big LaGrue	2.00	Oak Grove	1.55
Fairmount	1.50	Bell View	1.50

Total amount sent up for minutes, \$21 05.

"C"—REPORT ON EDUCATION.

Your committee on education would report.

WHAT IS EDUCATION?

First, it is to store the mind with knowledge

Second, the feelings are to be disciplined, the passions are to be restrained, true and worthy motives are to be inspired, a profound religious feeling is to be instilled and pure morality inculcated under all circumstances. All this is comprised in education.

THE NEED OF EDUCATION.

We are to instruct others, as we are commanded to "Go and teach all nations" and how can we teach others unless we know how and what to teach, nor will we be able to fill these store-houses to fullness unless we educate ourselves. All around we may find individuals to impart knowledge to, provided we have cultivated our own minds, yet like the candle from which a thousand other candles may be lit without diminishing its flame, so our supply will not be impaired. And to enable us to attain to this end we would direct you to the Bible, which is able to make "Thee wise unto Salvation" and as a help we would recommend the Ouachita Baptist College, as an institution of learning and refinement, second to none in the state and in every way worthy of our patronage.

ROBT. F. ROUTH chairman,

"D"—REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee to whom was referred the subject of Sunday-schools, beg leave to report as follows:

The sabbath-school may be made a very effective means in the study of God's word, and the diffusion of scriptural knowledge, but can not take the place of

preaching the Gospel; but as an auxiliary, it should be held in high esteem, and we could therefore recommend, first, that every church in the bounds of this Association organize, and keep in successful operation, a Sabbath-school. Second: That they use discretion in selecting superintendents and teachers. Third: That Pastors and Missionaries use their best efforts to have a Sunday-school organized in every church to which they preach. Fourth: We would recommend that all schools in this Association use Kind Words published under the auspices of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, Atlanta, Georgia.

Respectfully submitted,

Committee.

"E"—REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS

Your committee on Foreign Missions would report as follows: The rich opportunities to labor on foreign fields for Jesus, and the singular and remarkable manner in which God is blessing the work, should elicit the profoundest gratitude of every Christian heart. And the gracious manner in which God is answering the prayers of his people for more laborers, is very gratifying, and justly demands our giving, even to a sacrifice.

We, therefore, recommend, First, that a collection be now taken, to be forwarded to Bro. H. A. Tupper, Secretary Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Virginia. Second, that the pastors be requested to preach on Foreign Missions, at some favorable time during the next twelve months, and request their people to contribute for the purpose, ten cents per capita, to be sent to Bro. H. A. Tupper.

B. F. House.

"F"—REPORT ON PUBLICATIONS

Your committee on publications would report: First, that the proper cultivation of the minds of the rising generation depend, to a great extent, on the strength and unadulterated truthfulness of its religious reading matter. We therefore recommend the following publications: 1st, the Bible; second the "Arkansas Baptist," because it is our state paper and deserves the patronage of every Baptist in the country, especially in Arkansas. Third, Kind Words," published at Atlanta, Georgia; fourth, the publications of the American Baptist Publication Society, at Philadelphia, also the "Baptist Gleaner" Published at Fulton, Ky., all of which is respectfully submitted.

R. H. PARKER, Chairman.

"G"—EXECUTIVE REPORT.

Your Executive Board would report as follows; our first meeting was with Salem Church, and at our meeting there it was agreed that your board should assist Grand Prairie Church; giving her two dollars for one night's service each month, provided that the church would call a preacher that the board could endorse. Our next meeting was with Fairmount Church and at that meeting it was ordered that the Treasurer pay to Eld. T. J. Burton, twenty dollars, balance due him for Missionary services for 1890.

Next met with Stuttgart Church, 5th Sunday in June, also at Roe station, Saturday night before the 5th Sunday in August. At the meeting at Roe, the board ordered Treasurer to pay Eld. B. F. House \$2. for services rendered.

Your committee regret that they must report almost nothing done in the mission field of our Association for want of funds. Weak churches that have been organized by Missionaries employed by former boards of this Association have been uncared for. We would, therefore, recommend that this Association extend to them the help necessary, with what they may contribute, so they may have preaching once a month during this Associational year, that we may water what other Missionaries have planted.

Respectfully Submitted,

J. B. SANDERS, president.

N. G. WILLIAMS, clerk.

REPORT OF MISSIONARY.

Your Missionary would report that he has preached five sermons at Roe, for which is due him \$10. He pledged five dollars to the board, which is deducted, leaving five dollars, which he has received of S. K. Downs, Treasurer.

B. F. House, Missionary.

“H”—TREASURERS’ REPORT.

Balance on hand	\$72 43
By cash, J. W. Grady.....	1 00
By cash, S. N. White.....	50
By cash, J. Rapier.....	1 00
By cash, W. W. Bird.....	25
By cash, J. W. Dicus.....	25
By cash, W. H. Dicus.....	1 00
Center Point Church.....	5 75
Hazen Church.....	1 00
Salem Church for Sister Morris.....	10 60
Hazen Church.....	13 50
S. C. Swartz.....	4 75
J. A. Burrows.....	25
Oak Grove Church on pledge.....	10 00
Cross Roads, Foreign Mission.....	2 00
New Hope Church, clerks fees.....	1 00
Point DeLuce, for clerk.....	65
Salem Church, for clerk.....	1 00
Sunday collection.....	40 25
Point De Luce for Sister Morris.....	3 20
New Hope Church for Sister Morris.....	2 20
Bro. House.....	5 00
Ouachita College.....	10 05
Foreign Mission.....	6 00
Minute money.....	21 05
Hazen Church.....	7 00
Total collections.....	221 68

PAID OUT.

Jan. 7th, to T. J. Burton.....	50 00
September 25th, to T. J. Burton.....	20 00
August 30th, to B. F. House.....	10 00
Morris Fund.....	10 60
“ “	5 40
For clerk.....	2 65
Foreign Missions.....	2 00
To clerk for Ouachita College.....	10 05
For Missions.....	6 00
“ Minutes.....	21 05
Total amount paid out.....	\$137 75
Balance on hand.....	\$83 93

