

MINUTES

OF THE

TENTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

Quachita Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

CHURCH AT CONCORD,

POLK CO., ARKANSAS,

SEPTEMBER 15TH TO 18TH, 1877.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

ELD. J. F. MCLEOD, MODERATOR.

S. H. KELLY, CLERK.

Dallas, Polk Co., Ark.

MINISTERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

ELDERS J. F. MCLEOD, LEVI JOHNSON, J. M. GREEN, H. C. RIDLING,
WM. LAWRENCE, ISAAC MCGLAMERY, WM. REEVES, JOHN DILBECK.

LICENTIATES.

W. W. MCDANIEL, S. G. TAYLOR, JAMES JEFFERY.

MEMPHIS:

SOUTHERN BAPTIST PUBLICATION SOCIETY, 344 SECOND STREET.
1877.

MINUTES.

The Ouachita United Baptist Association met with Concord Church, Sept. 15th, A. D. 1877, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. M. Green, from the second chapter and twentieth verse of Ephesians, after which the messengers were assembled.

The Association was opened with prayer by Elder H. C. Ridling.

Letters from the different churches were received and read and messengers names enroled. (See Statistical Table.)

On motion, proceeded to the election of Moderator and Clerk. Elder J. F. McLeod was elected Moderator and S. H. Kelly Clerk.

Visiting brethren were then invited to seats.

Call for Correspondence, and received a corresponding letter from Caddo River Association, whose messengers were welcomed by the Moderator extending his hand in token of Christian fellowship.

On motion, Elder Levi Johnson was invited to a seat in the Association.

On motion, the Moderator was requested to appoint suitable committees to arrange the business of the Association.

The Moderator then announced the following committees, to-wit:

Committee on Preaching—Brothers S. G. Taylor, A. J. Howard, Thomas Wright, David Ladd, B. P. Strickland.

Committee on Finance—Brothers James Hilton, Wm. Lawrence and T. J. Robinson.

Committee on Publications—Elders J. M. Green, H. C. Ridling and S. H. Kelley.

Committee on General Business—P. McGlamery, Neil Gist, Solomon M. Kemp.

Call for petitionary letters; none presented.

On motion, adjourned till Monday morning 8 o'clock.

MONDAY MORNING, 8 O'CLOCK.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer was offered by the Moderator, Elder J. F. McLeod.

Roll called and absentees erased.

On motion, the minutes of the preceeding day was read and adopted.

On motion, the Clerk and Treasurer made his report, which was referred to the finance committee.

Reports of committees were called for. The committee on general business made their report, as follows:

We, your committee on general business, report that we find destitution south and southwest, and Northeast, destitute of Baptist preaching, and we would recommend that some step be taken to supply such destitution.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Moderator appoint a committee of five to report a plan for supplying the destitution, as reported by the committee on general business.

On motion,

Resolved, That the word "united," as it occurs in the first article of the constitution of this Association, be stricken out, and that this Association of churches be hereafter known by the name of Ouachita Association.

On motion, the vote was taken on the above resolution, which was lost for the want of a two-third vote.

On motion,

Resolved, That the Moderator appoint a committee to annex the Scriptures to each article of faith, to substantiate the same.

He then announced the following committee: Elder Wm. Lawrence, H. P. Coffman and James Hilton, as such committee.

On motion, took a recess till 2 o'clock, p. m.

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

According to appointment, the Association was announced in order for business by the Moderator.

On motion,

Resolved, That we continue correspondence with Caddo River Association, and that the Moderator appoint messengers to the same.

Whereupon he appointed Elder Wm. Lawrence and W. W. Shillito. Elder Wm. Lawrence to write corresponding letter.

On motion,

Resolved, That we continue correspondence with Concord Association

The Moderator appointed messengers to the same, as follows: Elder H. C. Ridling, Elder Isaac McGlamery, and Neil Gist to write the corresponding letter.

On motion, the Moderator was requested to write a corresponding letter to Saline Association.

The Committee on Publications made their report, as follows:

We recommend the Baptist, published by Elder J. R. Graves, of Memphis, Tennessee, as one of our best papers, and Dayton's Question Book, to the brethren for their children. Also the Southern Psalmist, as a suitable hymn book for the churches, all of which is respectfully submitted.

J. M. GREEN, Chairman.

The Committee on Domestic missions made their report, which report was received and adopted, as follows:

We your committee appointed to report a plan to supply the destitution in the bounds of this Association, beg leave to submit the following: Your committee find that they are at a loss to know what plan to recommend, or what feasible plan could be adopted that would meet the views of this Association. Several plans have already been devised and attempted to be carried out, but which have partially failed. We are of opinion that the chief reason that has hindered the successful prosecution of the plans that have been devised, lies in the fact that a hearty co-operation in these plans have not been found among the churches of this Association; in other words, the churches have not extended their aid in carrying out the plans devised by the Association. The churches that have been appealed to, have not responded to the calls; To render the aid in the matter, the success of any plan that may be devised, depends upon the liberality of the churches towards the ministers. There is nothing at the disposal of the Association that would warrant any of our ministers in engaging in the work, with the least hope of being assisted; all of whom are poor, and unable to do this work until assisted. In view of these facts, we recommend the following: Resolved, that the churches be requested to send up by their messengers to the next Association, a fund for the purpose of sustaining a missionary, to supply the destitution in this Association.

THOMAS WRIGHT, Jr., Chair'n.

The committee on finance made their report, as follows:

We, your committee on finance make this our report: The amount sent, \$20.45, and by report of Clerk and Treasurer, \$2.55; total, \$23.

WILLIAM LAWRENCE, Chairman.

The committee on preaching made their report, and is as follows:

Elder Wm. Reeves to preach Saturday night at early candle light; Elder Wm. Lawrence to conclude. On Sabbath at 3 o'clock, Elder Levi Johnson—he to choose his own alternate. The missionary sermon was preached on Sabbath at 11 o'clock by Elder J. F. McLeod, from II Timothy, iv. chap. 2nd verse, to a large and well ordered congregation, followed by Elder J. M. Green.

B. P. STRICKLAND, Chair'n.

On motion,

Resolved, That this Association give Elder John Boyd a letter of recommendation as missionary to the Indian country.

On motion,

Resolved, That Elder Wm. Reeves preach the next Introductory Sermon, with Elder Isaac McGlamery, alternate.

Resolved, That Elder H. C. Ridling preach the missionary sermon at 11 o'clock, on Sabbath, at the next Association.

On motion,

Resolved, That the first district meeting be held with Pleasant Hill Church, commencing on Friday before the first Saturday in May, A. D. 1878.

On motion,

Resolved, That the next Association be held with Gum Spring Church, Polk county, Ark., to commence Saturday before the third Sabbath in September, A. D. 1878.

On motion,

Resolved, That the minutes of this Association be divided *pro rata* with the churches according to the amount of money sent to pay for the

printing of the same, and that the Clerk of this Association take said funds, and have as many minutes printed as he can for the same.

On motion,

Resolved, That this body tender their thanks to the brethren and friends in this vicinity, for the kind manner in which we have been entertained during the present session of this Association.

On motion, adjourned to meet with Gum Spring Church, commencing on Saturday before the third Sabbath in Sept., A. D. 1878, whereupon the minutes were read and approved, and while a hymn was sung, and prayer by the Moderator, the parting hand was given.

J. F. McLEOD, Moderator.

S. H. KELLEY, Clerk.

FORM OF LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION.

We, the Baptist Church of Christ, at ———, send greeting to the Ouachita Baptist Association, which is to convene with the ——— Church, commencing on Saturday before the third Sunday in September, A. D. 187—. We send as delegates to represent us in your body, our beloved brethren ———.

State the condition of the church.

STATISTICS.

Name of church; name of county; number baptized; number received by letter; dismissed by letter; excluded; restored; total in fellowship; contributions; Sabbath meetings; name of pastor; name of Clerk; name of post-office; names of ordained ministers; names of licentiates.

Done by order of the church in conference, on this — day of ———, A. D. 187—. ———, Moderator.

———, Clerk.

Constitution of the Ouachita Association.

ARTICLE 1. This Union of Churches shall be known and distinguished by the name and title of the "Ouachita United Baptist Association."

ART. 2. This Association shall be composed of delegates from Churches in Union. Each church shall be entitled to three (3) Delegates, who shall be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of their appointment by their several churches before they take their seats.

ART. 3. The Delegates, when convened, shall organize themselves into a deliberative body, by the appointment of a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by ballot at each annual Association, and continue in office until their successors are chosen.

ART. 4. This Association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which it is composed. It shall regard them as independent bodies in all matters of internal government and shall only act as an advisory council, assuming no authority except what is expressly delegated to it by the churches, or evidently implied by the very nature of the compact. It, nevertheless, claims authority over its own members, the Delegates from the churches—and, in justice and propriety, must have power to withdraw from, and disown all churches which depart from the principles of this compact, by becoming heterodox in faith, or

disorderly in practice. It should, therefore, regard all churches united under this Constitution with a vigilant eye for good. Its principal business shall be to promote the declarative glory of God, by extending the Kingdom of Grace on earth, through the medium of preaching the Gospel, and the means in accordance with that Gospel, to cultivate union and fellowship with all the churches of Christ, especially with those united under this Constitution.

ART. 5. Newly constituted churches, or churches dismissed from other Associations of the same faith and order, may be admitted into this Union on their sending up three delegates to the annual meeting of this Association, with a petition for admission, and, by their delegates agreeing to the abstract of principles herewith published.

ART. 6. The churches in this Union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association, a written communication, specifying the names of their Delegates, their number in fellowship, number baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, restored, or deceased, since the last session, and all other information which the churches may deem important, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

ART. 7. This Association may have a fund, supplied by contributions of the churches; and all money thus contributed shall be transmitted from the churches, and paid over, through the Committee of Finance, to the Treasurer; who shall be elected by ballot, and hold his office during the pleasure of the Association. He shall retain and manage the funds agreeably to the order of the Association, and present, annually, for insertion in the minutes, a clear and succinct statement of all the receipts and expenditures.

ART. 8. This Association shall furnish the churches with the minutes of every session.

ART. 9. This Association shall take cognizance of no query sent up from the churches, unless they have endeavored to solve the same, and have failed; nor of any difficulty between churches, unless they have pursued the directions in the xviii. chapter of Matthew, and have not been able to settle them. Then this Association shall take such matters into consideration, and act upon them at its discretion.

ART. 10. It shall be the duty of the Clerk of this Association to keep a regular file of the printed Minutes of this body, and deliver over the same to his successor in office.

ART. 11. This Constitution may be altered or amended at regular meetings of the Association by the concurring voice of two-thirds of the members then present; provided, such alteration or amendment, be approved of by the churches composing this Association.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrages of the members present.
3. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a right to call to order at any time.
4. A member, not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.
5. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise on his feet, and, obtaining permission, proceed.
6. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise.
7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject, or is guilty of personal reflection. Every motion made and seconded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it.

8. Every case taken up by this Association, shall be decided or withdrawn before another is offered.

9. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association on the subject, and the members on the affirmative side of the question shall signify the same by rising from their seats, and those in the negative shall retain theirs. The Moderator shall pronounce the decision before the standers resume their seats.

10. Any member wishing to retire, shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

11. No member shall speak more than twice on the same subject without permission of the Association, nor more than once till every member wishing to speak shall have spoken, nor shall any proposition be made to close the subject till the debates have been carried through.

12. The appellation of 'Brother' shall be used in the Association by members in their addresses to each other.

13. The names of members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

14. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member; provided, he appoint another to his seat during the time; but shall not vote on any question, unless the Association be equally divided.

16. Any member violating these rules may be reproved by the Moderator at discretion, but only on the day the breach shall be made.

ABSTRACT OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one only true and living God, and that there is a Trinity of persons in the Godhead—Father, Son and Holy Ghost and these three are one.—John iv. 26; Ps. clxvii. 5, clxxxiii 18; Heb. iii. 4; Rom. i. 20; Jer. x. 10.

2. We believe the Scripture of the Old and New Testament is the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.—II. Tim. iii. 16, 17; II. Pet. i. 21; Acts i. 16, iii. 21; John x. 35; Luke xvi. 29-31; Rom. iii. 1, 2.

3. We believe in the fall of Adam, and that the depravity of his fallen nature was entailed upon his posterity; and in the impotency of man to recover himself by his own free will and ability—Gen i. 27, 31, iii. 6-24; Rom. v. 12, 19; Isa. liii. 6.

4. We believe in the election, through sanctification of the Spirit, and belief of the Truth.—II. Tim. i. 8, 9; Eph. i. 3-14; II Thes. ii. 13, 14.

5. We believe in the final perseverance of the Saints, and that they will never finally fall away and be lost.—John viii. 31, ii. 19; Rom. viii. 28.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the righteousness of Christ imputed to them, and that it pleased God, by the foolishness of preaching, to save them that believed.—John i. 16; Eph. iii. 8; Rom. v. 9.

7. We believe that good workers are the fruits of faith, and follow after justification; and are evidences of our own gracious state.—John ii 29; Phil. ii. 12, 13; Eph. iv. 11, 12.

8. We believe there will be a resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be never ending.—Acts xxiv. 15; Cor. xv. 12-59; Luke xiv. 14.

9. We believe that the visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful baptized persons, who have gained Christian fellowship with

each other, and have given unto the Lord, and one another, and have agreed to keep up a Godly discipline agreeable to the rules of the gospel.—I. Cor i 13; Mat xviii. 17; Acts ii. 41, 42.

10. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the Church, and the only law-giver, and the discipline is with the body, and should be faithfully kept up for the glory of God and the prosperity of his people.—John xiv. 21; Eph. v. 23, 24.

11. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are ordinances of the gospel, and none but true believers have a right thereto, and should be administered by regularly ordained ministers, and that immersion is the only gospel mode of baptism.—Acts viii. 36-39; Rom. vi. 4; Col. ii. 12; I. Cor. xi 26; Mat. xxvi. 26-29; Luke xxii. 14-20; Mat. iii. 5, 6; Acts ii. 38; Acts viii. 12.

We, your committee, appointed to select Scripture from which our Articles of Faith were abstracted, beg leave to report the above references as set to each article.

JAMES M. HILTON, Chairman.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	NAMES OF MESSENGERS.	Baptized by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Restored	Rec'd by Recom'd.	In Fellowship	Sabbath of Meeting	Died	Contributed	PASTORS.	POST-OFF'S	CLERKS.
Mt. Gilad ..	Montgomery	W W Shillito, Rob't Terin	13	3	...	...	55	2	2	\$2 50	H C Ridling	Big Bend.....	W W Shillito
Sulphur Springs	"	S D Spake Jos Stendridge, J F May .	1	2	9	...	49	2	2	75	John Dilbeck	Big Fork	J Hutchison	
Cossatot	Severe	David Ladd .....	...	4	2	...	21	2	5	1 60	W I Flannigan	Cossatot	L D Low
Haw Creek	Scott	Wm Reeves, D W Reeves	8	1	1	4	24	4	...	1 2	J McGlamery	Waldran	D W Reeves	
Antioch	"	Isaac McGlamery, Nell Gist	10	3	2	14	1	47	1	2 00	Wm Reeves	Waldran.....	N Gist	
Pleasant Grove	Polk	Eld J M Greep, Eld J McLeod, H T Coffman	1	5	2	3	1	58	3	...	85	J F McCod J M Green...	Eagle Hill.....	...
Concord	"	T J Robinson, S G Taylor, A J Howard .....	...	4	1	...	...	22	4	2 50	H C Ridling	Dallas	T J Robinson
Gum Springs...	"	S H Kelley, Thos Wright, Jr., Wm Mount...	2	3	3	...	...	32	7	2 00	J M Green	Dallas	S H Kelley
Mt Pleasant ..	"	B P Strickland, S M Kemp W P Hilton	8	9	5	...	...	50	1	1 25	H C Ridling	Big Bend.....	S M Kent
Big Fork	"	Wm Lawrence B G Dilbeck .....	...	1	2	3	1	18	4	50	J Dilbeck, W Lawrence	Big Fork	J Morris
Shiloh .....	"	...	...	1	...	...	...	12	2	...	J F McLeod	Eagle Hill	W J Milina
Fountain Head	"	Eld H C Ridling, J J Egger, W C Holmes	5	4	3	...	...	68	3	2 25	H C Ridling	Big Bend.....	J J Eggar
Pleasant Hill...	"	Thos Mills, W W Yeargon .....	...	5	3	...	...	16	1	2 1 00	...	Dallas	J R wattery
Dallas	"	Jos M Hilton .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
			35	32	40	31	6	1	472	14	\$20 45			

LICENTIATES --Mt Gilad—James Jeffrey; Cossatot—T. J. Low; Haw Creek—Ordained: W. Reeves; Antioch—Ord.: G. McGlamery, Lic.; E. Scruggs; Concord—S. G. Taylor; Fountain Head—W. W. McDaniel.

Received of S. N. Kelly, Clerk of the Onehita Association, \$22 00 for printing 400 copies of these Minutes.

J. C. ROGERS