

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

OF

SPRING RIVER

Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, BLACK ROCK,

LAWRENCE COUNTY, ARKANSAS,

SEPTEMBER 26-28, 1891.

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SEPTEMBER 20-28, 1891.

OFFICERS:

W. G. PICKETT, MODERATOR, - - - IMBODEN, ARK.

R. B. BELLAMY, CLERK, - - - SMITHVILLE, ARK.

SMITHVILLE, ARK.:
SMITHVILLE PRINTING CO.

MINUTES.

Spring River Baptist Association convened in its twenty-third annual session with the First Baptist Church at Black Rock, Lawrence County, Arkansas, on Saturday, September 26th, 1891.

According to previous election, Elder G. B. Borah preached the introductory sermon from Matthew 28-19. His theme was Missions, and was ably presented in the spirit of love. The body then took a recess until 1:30 o'clock p. m., when it was called to order by the Moderator, Bro. W. G. Pickett, and was opened by reading the 12th chapter Romans and prayer by Bro. R. B. Bellamy.

Letters from the various churches were read and messengers names enrolled. See statistics.

The body then went into the election of officers, which resulted in the choice of W. G. Pickett for Moderator and R. B. Bellamy for clerk.

On call, the following corresponding messengers came forward and accepted seats with us, viz: Eleven Points River, W. J. Young; Rocky Bayou, Wilson Price; State Line, Elder E. T. Lincoln; Independence, Elder Jas L. Brown.

On call, the following visiting brethren accepted seats with us, viz: Dr. B. G. Maynard, State Missionary, Little Rock; Prof. J. W. Conger, President of Ouachita Baptist College; Dr. J. T. Prior of Mountain Home, agent for the Mountain Home Baptist College; Elder W. W. Buckner of Harrison, and Elder J. J. McGuire.

On call for petitionary letters, the First Baptist Church at Walnut Ridge presented her letter, was received and the Moderator extended her messengers the right hand of fellowship.

On motion, the rules were suspended to give the Moderator further time to make his report of committees. On motion, the rules were further suspended and the Moderator was authorized to appoint a special committee on state missions, Elders W. P. Kime, G. B. Borah and Bro. T. J. Moore were appointed on said committee.

On motion, the body adjourned until 8 o'clock p. m. Prayer by Elder E. T. Lincoln.

NIGHT SESSION.

The body met at 8 o'clock p. m. in missionary mass meeting. Prayer by Bro. B. G. Maynard.

The special committee on missions made their report, which is as follows:

It is with great satisfaction that we note the success that has attended the operations of our State Board. Much of the worthy standing of Baptists is due to its energy and enterprise. Its policy is to give the gospel to all the state. A score of missionaries are at work, while vast fields appeal for aid. This body not only approbates the great work done, but emphasizes the vital importance of doing even more aggressive work. It is hoped that such advance measures may be adopted as will reach all the destitution. We recognize the fact that in aggressive state work we build up our cause along all lines. We would urge the wisdom of the Executive Boards of Associations co-operating with the State Board, and that our missionaries become their missionaries.

The State Board has generously aided the work at Walnut Ridge and Black Rock. We would urge the continuation of this aid and suggest that this body co-operate in this worthy work.

W. P. KIME, Chairman.

Speeches were made on the subject of Missions by Brethren Maynard, Conger, Prior, Brown, Kime, Holdford and Bellamy, and the report was adopted.

Committee on Preaching reported the following appointments, viz: For 11 o'clock Sunday, at the Methodist Church, Elder Jas. L. Brown; text: Matthew 5-17. Same hour at the Presbyterian Church, Elder J. T. Prior; text: Gal. 3-29. At 3 o'clock p. m., at the Methodist Church, Elder B. F. Holdford; text: Jer. 6-16. Monday at 8 o'clock p. m., Elder M. D. Bowers; text: Acts 3, 19-20. On motion, the body adjourned until Monday, 8 o'clock a. m. Prayer by Bro. W. P. Kime.

The Association met Sunday at 8 o'clock p. m. for the purpose of holding an educational mass meeting. Bro. W. P. Kime was appointed chairman of the meeting. Very entertaining and enthusiastic speeches were made by Prof. J. W. Conger and Elders B. G. Maynard and J. T. Prior. The claims of Ouachita Baptist College at Arkadelphia and Mountain Home Baptist College, now in course of erection at Mountain Home, Baxter County, were ably presented.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION.

Pursuant to adjournment, the body was called together by singing. The 23d Psalm was read by the Moderator; prayer by Elder J. J. McGuire. The Moderator called the body to order; the Clerk called the roll and noted absentees, and the minutes of Saturday's proceedings were read and adopted. The Moderator announced the appointment of the following committees:

On Preaching—The messengers of Black Rock church and Elder G. B. Borah and Bro. H. B. Farmer.

On Finance—Jesse Croom, W. S. Wasson and T. F. Buchanan.

On State of Churches—Elder M. D. East, J. T. French and J. D. Haynes.

On Destitution—S. C. Teats; W. A. Henry and J. L. Myres.

On Missions—Elder M. D. Bowers, Hugh Spotts and Elder G. B. Borah.

On Sabbath Schools—T. J. Moore, W. H. Vance and J. E. Wilson.

On Baptist Literature—Elder B. F. Holdford, M. P. Chrisenberry and Ham B. Wayland.

On Education—Dr. N. R. Townsend, A. A. Andrus and Allen Pearce.

On Correspondence—Elder R. P. Bain, A. C. Prentice and H. C. Snow.

On motion, the Committee on Finance was granted further time to report.

The following circular letter was read, adopted and ordered published in the *Arkansas Baptist*:

PAYING PASTORS OF CHURCHES.

Is it right for pastors, as such, to receive wages for their services?

1. They are commanded to give themselves wholly to the things of the gospel. "Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them: that thy profiting may appear to all."—I Tim. 4-15.

2. If the man is needed to preach the gospel, the whole man is needed; all his talents, strength and time. "It is not reason that we should leave the word of God and serve tables."—Acts 6:2. How many of our pastors are compelled to leave the word of God, in a measure, and some almost wholly, because the church fails to do her duty!

3. They are to make no temporal preparation. "Provide neither gold, nor silver, nor brass for your purses, nor scrip for your journey, neither two coats, neither shoes, nor yet staves: for the workman is worthy of his meat."—Matt. 10:9, 10. How many of our pastors, living in the present age of the world, would starve if they should obey this injunction!

4. They are to live of the gospel. "Do ye not know that they

which minister about holy things live (or feed, as noted in the margined references) of the things of the temple? and they which wait at the altar are partakers of the altar? Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel." I Cor. 9:11. And yet, how greatly will some of us complain when asked to assist in the support of th' pastor; and, in our effort to excuse our negligence, we wrest the scriptures by exclaiming, "Oh, salvation is free!"

It is the duty of churches to pay their pastors?

1. We have covenanted to do so. "Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now, in the presence of God, angels, and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ. We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry." - Church Covenant.

2. We are commanded to do so. "Let him that is taught in the Word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things." Gal. 6:6. "Let the elders that rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially they who labor in the Word and doctrine. For the scripture saith, 'Thou shalt not muzzle the ox that treadeth out the corn. And, 'The laborer is worthy of his hire.'" I Tim. 5:17, 18.

3. How is this to be done? "Now concerning the collection for saints, as I have given orders to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by in store, as God has prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come." I Cor. 16:1, 2.

Is it possible that we, as Baptists and professed followers of the Master shall withhold our means while the Macedonian cries are so numerous, and souls are perishing for want of the bread of life, and our pastors are longing to preach the glad tidings to them. May God help us to arouse from our negligence in this respect and work while it is day; for, "The night cometh when no man can work."—John 9:4.

H. W. TOWNSEND.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

On motion the following reports of the following committees were received, read, adopted and committees discharged, viz:

ON STATE OF CHURCHES.— We, your committee on State of Churches, submit the following:

We find that most all the churches have regular preaching and there has been quite an increase in the way of conversions.

2. And while this is the case, a number of our churches seem to

be backward financially, failing to give to the cause as the Lord has prospered them.

3. Now, in view of the fact that this Association has about twenty-two ordained ministers, we recommend that each church in our bounds endeavor to secure the services of a pastor at once and carry on the work the Lord has assigned them. M. D. EAST, Chairman.

ON DESTITUTION. —We, your committee on Destitution, report the following places destitute of Baptist preaching, namely: Allea, Swifton, Lindsay Switch, Clover Bend, Water Valley, Huffstutler's Mill, Evening Shade, Barker's Temple, Valley Chapel, Imboden, Powhatan, Old Jackson, Ravenlen, Portia, Sedgewick, Hoxie, Williford, Richwood, Stranger's Home, Arnold's School House and Center. We recommend that steps be taken to supply those points.

S. C. TEATA, Chairman.

ON MISSIONS. Your committee on Missions ask to make the following report:

1. We, seeing the great need of Domestic Missions, especially urge upon this body to inaugurate a plan to supply the destitution within the bounds of this Association.

2. We urge upon this body to continue to co-operate with the State Board in her grand and noble work.

3. That we fall in line with our brethren in the Foreign Mission interest, so that the great commission of our Master will be complied with: "Teach all nations."

M. D. BOWERS, Chairman.

ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.—We, your committee on Sunday Schools, are unable to get much information concerning the Sunday School work in the bounds of this Association. We can obtain no statistics as to number of schools and number of pupils and money expended, etc.; so we are led to believe that the Sunday School work is at a low ebb. There seems to be a want of independence in this great work throughout the bounds of this Association; therefore, we recommend the following resolution be adopted:

Resolved, That the pastors endeavor to see that Baptist Sunday Schools are organized in the bounds of their work, where as many as fifteen pupils can be had; and also that Baptist literature be used.

W. ARNOLD, Chairman.

ON BAPTIST LITERATURE.—We, your committee on Baptist Literature, recommend, 1st, the Holy Bible, which we regard as the great fountain and source of all truth.

2. It is said to be the history of God. It tells what God is and what God has done and what God will do. It sheds light in darkness; gives food to the hungry soul, and carries joy to the heart of the child of God, its companion.

3. We would recommend as helps to the study of the Bible the

works of Pendleton Dayton, D. B. Ray, with other good works that can be purchased cheap at the Baptist Book House, Little Rock, Ark.

4. We further recommend to our brethren our State paper and the American Baptist. B. F. HOLDFORD, Chairman.

ON CORRESPONDENCE.—We, your committee on Correspondence, would respectfully submit the following:

WHEREAS, We find that we as Baptists have an interest in common one with another, and as the interest of each is drawn out the good of the whole is most generally promoted; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we do correspond with the following Associations: Independence, White River Valley, Rocky Bayou, State Line, Eleven Points River, Current River, Big Creek, White River and Mount Zion.

R. P. BAIN, Chairman.

ON EDUCATION. Your committee on Education would respectfully submit the following:

We rejoice that it is given to us to bear an important part in the Christian educational movements of this age. The tendency of the times to a great degree has been to divorce Christianity and secular instruction. Our denomination has always taken a bold stand to counteract such tendency. Never before has there been such a deep interest in this educational work. Especially do we note with satisfaction the prominence that is being given to elective courses in Bible studies in our American Colleges. The time is not far off when the honors of a liberal education can be claimed by none who are ignorant of the Word of God. The Bible is closely related to all that is best in history, literature and civilization. An American student should be a Bible student. God will magnify His Word in our Colleges. These reflections impress upon us the importance of not only the education of our youth in general, but the necessity of ministerial education, for both of which purposes we recommend our own Colleges at Arkadelphia and Mountain Home. It is a matter of congratulation that Arkansas Baptists now have within their own State institutions worthy of their support and that commend themselves to their considerations. Let us consecrate them with our prayers, our patronage and our money. More commodious buildings, more active co-operation and organization in their behalf is needed. For our young ministers we also recommend the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

N. R. TOWNSEND, Chairman.

ON FINANCE.—Your committee on Finance would respectfully submit the following:

Received from the various churches for printing Minutes	\$32 40
Balance on hand from last year	6 15
Foreign Missions	29 95
State Missions	41 15
Spring River Association Missions	25 95

JESSE CROOM, Chairman.

The following resolutions were introduced and adopted, viz:

Resolved, That we heartily thank the brethren and friends of Black Rock for their kind and friendly hospitality, and the Methodists and Presbyterians for the use of their houses of worship while among them. M. D. BOWERS.

Resolved, That we co-operate with the State Convention by representation. M. D. BOWERS.

Resolved, That each church in this Association take a collection on College Day, second Sunday in October, and send the same to A. W. Files, treasurer, at Little Rock. B. F. HOLDFORD.

Resolved, That this Association authorize the Executive Board of Associational Missions of Spring River Baptist Association to co-operate with the State Board in our Associational Mission work, and our Missionary be her Missionary if consistent with the judgment of the Board. N. R. TOWNSEND.

Resolved, That we request each church to appoint an agent to collect funds in their vicinities and send or bring the amounts collected to each meeting of the Executive Board. N. R. TOWNSEND.

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of the Clerk to have 600 copies of the minutes of the proceedings of this Association printed and distributed among the churches as per amount contributed by each church, and that he be allowed \$7 for his services. HUGH SPOTTS.

On motion, Elder B. F. Holdford was elected a delegate and Elder M. D. Bowers alternate to represent this body in our next State Convention.

On motion, the Association proceeded to elect a place to hold its next session, some one to preach the introductory sermon and some one to write the circular letter. The election resulted in Mount View church as the place of meeting, Elder M. D. Bowers, with Elder R. P. Bain alternate, to preach the sermon and R. B. Bellamy to write the letter.

The Moderator then appointed corresponding messengers to the following Associations, viz:

Independence—Elders R. P. Bain, B. F. Holdford and Bros. C. J. Andrews, and M. P. Chrisenberry; White River Valley, Elders W. P. Kime, M. D. East and Bro. Jesse Croom; Rocky Bayou, Wm. Rane and Elders R. P. Bain, A. A. Andrus and R. B. Bellamy; State Line, Elder M. D. Bowers and Bros. J. E. Wilson and J. D. Haynes; Eleven Points River, Elders W. P. Kime, W. Arnold and G. B. Borah; Big Creek, E. O. Wolf, Eli Huffman and Elder M. D. East; Mount Zlor., Elders G. B. Borah, W. Arnold, M. D. Bowers and Dr. N. R. Townsend.

Names and postoffices of the Executive Missionary Board of this Association:

Elder G. B. Borah, Chairman	Smithville, Ark.
Dr. N. R. Townsend, Secretary and Treasurer	Black Rock, "
Elder M. D. Bowers	Imboden, "
Jesse Croom	Strawberry, "
H. W. Townsend	Smithville, "
T. J. Moore	" "
E. Byron Andrews	Ravenden, "

CLERK'S REPORT, 1891.

To amount received from Committee on Finance	830 95
By amount paid for printing and distributing Minutes,	
including postage	18 80
By Clerk's fees	6 00 24 80
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Balance on hand	86 15

H. W. TOWNSEND.

NOTE. The sermons preached during the Association by Elders G. B. Borah, J. T. Prior, J. H. Brown, B. F. Holdford and M. D. Bowers were excellent, and it is hoped will bear much fruit to the glory of God.

CLERK.

On motion, the body adjourned to meet with Mount View church, Sharp county, Ark., on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1892. Prayer by Elder J. T. Prior.

R. B. BELLAMY,
Clerk.

W. G. PICKETT,
Moderator.

Church Directory and Statistical Table.

CHURCH.	MESSENGEES' NAMES.	PASTORS.	CHURCH CLERKS.	POST OFFICE.	Rec'd by Baptism	Rec'd by Letter	Rec'd by Restoration	Rec'd by Relation	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Total Membership.	Home & For. Miss.	Am't contributed to Home or State Miss.	Am't contributed to Missions	Value of Church Property	Ar't contributed to Minute Fund	Members	Post'r's Salary	Day of Meeting			
Ash Flat	No intelligence (Statistics 1890.)	J. W. Wicker	Robert Warren	Walnut Ridge	5	4					42					61						
Azotus	W. A. Henry, G. A. Henry, Rob't Warren	W. P. Kime	S. C. Teats	Black Rock	10	1					52					52	100	60	100			
Black Rock	N. H. Townsend, F. Kirkpatrick, S. C. Teats	W. M. Johnson	Bennett Watkins	Maxville	3	1					22					22						
Big Creek	W. H. Vance, W. A. Watkins	G. B. Borah	G. L. Armstrong	Portia	2	5					34	7	80	4		34			73			
Cross Roads	J. T. French, H. B. Farmer, J. W. Buster	J. W. Wicker	W. H. Park	Black Rock	5	1					50					50			20			
Clear Spring	M. D. East, Ham B. Wayland, David Helms	J. M. Davis	Mrs. L. Craig	Kenyon	5	1	2	4	1	1	50					50			100			
Centreville	H. F. Holdford, Mrs. L. Craig, J. H. Holdford	Geo. James	Jasper Justus	Calamine	5	5					57					57			100			
Calamine	Wm. Towasley, Leo. Chaney	Frank Bridges	J. K. Winemaker	Walnut Ridge	10	1		4			33					33			100			
Evergreen Ch'pl	J. K. Winemaker, J. A. Fry, L. D. Brown	H. P. Bain	P. Christenberry	Ben Gay	1	1					18					18			20			
Katerpiles	P. M. Christenberry	T. J. Robinson	F. M. Lee	Hoxie	4	11	1	5	8	1	31					31			100			
Harmony	W. M. Gilkerson, David Gullin, F. M. Lee	H. P. Bain	G. H. Ballard	Strawberry	3	1					22					22			100			
Jerusalem	Wm. Raney, Jesse Croom, A. A. Andrus	Geo. James	Jas. Hill	Smithville	1	5					30					30			100			
Lebanon	A. D. Taylor, J. R. Madison, Jas. Hill	G. L. Ford	B. F. Vanzant	Smithville	1	1					47					47			80			
Little Vine	No messenger	S. J. Park	J. A. Justus	Evening Shade	1						51					51			100			
Lonoke	J. A. Justus, J. L. Myers, J. P. Trafford	H. W. Abee	R. F. Howerton	Smithville	11						55					55			85			
Little Spring	D. A. Shoup, J. H. Brandon			Poughkeepsie															85			
Macdonia	No intelligence (Statistics 1890.)	J. L. Brown	G. S. Gernigan	Reed's Creek	14	5		3	2		22					22			200			
Mt. View	H. P. Bain, C. J. Andrews, D. M. LeWallen	G. B. Borah	H. A. Moore	Smithville	41	2	1	4	2	2	130	29	13	10	15	130			300			
New Hope	G. B. Borah, T. J. Moore, H. J. Colbert	H. B. Bellamy	W. G. Pickett	Annieville	10	2		3	1	1	27					27			100			
Pleasant Grove	H. B. Bellamy, W. G. Pickett, T. F. Buchanan	M. D. East	G. W. Goodwin	Smithville	4			2			27					27			100			
Pleasant Hill	E. T. Glenn, Stephen Adair, J. G. Wells	G. B. Borah	J. P. Goodwin	Smithville	9	4		3	5	2	27	12	30			27			400			
Smithville	Hugh Spotts, H. S. Miller, A. C. Prentice	M. D. Bowers	J. D. Haynes	Pochoontas	13	1		3	4		128					128			100			
Shiloh	M. D. Bowers, J. E. Wilson, J. D. Haynes	S. J. Park	Bethel Parsley	Calamine	9						35					35			100			
Union No. 1	Wm. Jones, W. S. Wasson, J. T. Helms										36					36			100			
Union No. 2	No intelligence (Statistics 1889.)	J. J. McGuire	J. C. Biggs	Walnut Ridge	6	4	1		4	1	34					34			100			
Wilson Grove	Henry Snow, Dudley Leonon, Abe Strickon	W. P. Kime	Ida R. Wilson	Walnut Ridge	1	2					16					16			100			
Walnut Ridge	D. A. Pears, — Swindle, Slatet Van Camp	H. B. Bellamy	J. A. Abee	Smithville	4	5			11	3	18					18			60			
Willow Spring	H. W. Abee, J. A. Abee, J. P. Holland																		60			
Total					178	61	6	27	30	25	23	143	51	25	14	25	281	60	100	31	30	700

Received of R. B. Bellamy \$20 00 for printing and distributing 600 copies of these minutes — BATESVILLE PRINTING CO.