

St. Clementine, Ark. - Oct. 16, 1916
13 minutes

MINUTES

Of The

Seventy-Fourth Session of the Old Organization

And The

Forty-Ninth Session of the New Organization

Of The

White River Baptist Association

Held With

Mountain Home Church, Mountain Home,

Baxter County, Arkansas.

September 1-2, 1916

OFFICERS:

ELD. B. L. BAYLESS, Moderator,	:	Oakland, Ark.
J. W. BARNETT, Jr., Clerk,	:	Gassville, Ark.
J. M. RANDELL, Treasurer,	:	Mountain Home, Ark.

MINUTES.

Pursuant to adjournment the White River Baptist Association convened with Mountain Home Church at Mountain Home, Ark., September 1, 1916, at 10 A. M.

Eld. J. P. Lovelace being absent Eld. J. B. Smith preached the introductory sermon.

By motion the body proceeded with the organization of the Association. Brethren B. A. Spradlin and T. O. Horn were appointed as reading clerks.

By motion the body went into the election of the officers. Elders Rector, Riggs and Rimer were appointed to take the votes respectively for Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, resulting as follows: for Moderator, Eld R. L. Bayless; for Clerk, J. W. Barnett jr; for Treasurer, Bro. J. M. Randall.

Motion made to take recess until 2 p. m.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Song. Prayer by Eld. J. H. Marler.

Reading of letters arriving too late for morning reading. A call for petitionary letters was made; none presented. A call for corresponding messengers was made; Eld. Rimer, from County Line Association came forth and was invited to a seat as a visiting member.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

Divine Service—The messengers of Mtn. Home Church,

State Missions—Elds. W. H. McCuistion, J. B. Smith and Bro. J. M. Randall.

Foreign Missions—Eld. J. H. Marler, Sister Cox, and Bro. J. L. Paul.

Home Missions - Eld. W. D. Jennings, Brethren S. J. Stone and A. F. Bayless.

Associational Missions—Elds. A. M. Crain and R. L. Barnett, Brethren G. W. Collins and Charley Talburt.

Christian Education—Brethren B. A. Spradlin, J. W. Barnett sr., T. O. Horn and Eld. H. F. Vermillion.

Temperance—Elds. H. F. Vermillion and R. J. Rimer, Brethren J. A. Pasco and John Coventon.

Woman's Work—All the sisters present who are messengers.

Orphans Home—Brethren Eugene Horton, Joe Crane, W. A. Love, and Eld. J. C. Marler.

Baptist Literature—Eld. J. B. Smith, Brethren B. A. Spradlin and J. W. Guinn.

Deceased Ministers—Eld. J. H. Marler, Brethren George Horner and A. P. White.

Finance—Brethren J. M. Randall, J. W. Barnett sr., and Joe Crane.

Sabbath Schools—Eld. Jacob Skiver, Eugene Horton and W. H. Douglas.

Resolutions—Mervin Wolf, Leslie Clem and J. W. Parnell.

Obituaries—Elds. W. H. McCuistion, J. B. Smith and J. H. Marler and Bro. S. F. Tucker.

Children's Work—Sisters Cox, Lydia McCuistion, Sallie Jordan and Della Mohney.

Motion made and carried to retain members of committees who are not messengers.

Reading of Constitution and Rules of Decorum.

Motion made to suspend the calling of the roll until Saturday morning.

Visiting Ministers invited to seats as advisory Counsel.

Call for report of Corresponding Messengers. Elds. Skiver and McCuistion visited Big Creek Association and they reported a nice time and that they found them to be loyal Baptists.

Appointment of Messengers to corresponding bodies.

Crooked Creek—Elds. A. M. Crain and J. B. Smith and Bro. Edgar Douglas.

Big Creek—Brethren G. W. Collins and Eugene Horton.

County Line—Elds. R. J. Rimer and J. H. Marler and Bro. J. M. Randall.

Rocky Bayou—Elds. H. F. Vermillion, W. H. McCuistion and J. B. Smith.

Blue Mountain—Eld. R. L. Barnett.

Motion carried to take fifteen minutes recess.

Call for report of committee on Divine Service. They reported as follows: J. S. Rogers to preach to night.

The committee on Baptist Literature made their report, which was adopted. See report 1.

The committee on Deceased Ministers made their report, which was adopted. See report 2.

On motion the body took recess until 8:30 Saturday morning.
Dr. Rogers failing to come Eld. H. F. Vermillion preached a very interesting sermon Friday night.

SATURDAY 8:30 A. M.

Opened by prayer by Rev. Riggs.

Call for Church Letters, Wises Chapel responded.

Call for petitionary letters, none presented.

The committee on Foreign Missions made their report, which was adopted. See report 3.

The committee on State Missions made their report, which was adopted. See report 4.

The committee on Temperance made their report, which was adopted. See report 5.

The committee on Finance made their report, which was adopted. See report 6.

Motion made and carried to turn over the Minute funds to the clerk and to allow him five dollars for his service.

The committee on Home Missions made their report, which was adopted. See report 7.

Calling of the roll.

Motion to take recess until 1:30.

1:30 P. M.

Prayer by Eugene Horton.

Call for Church Letters, Salesville responded.

Call for petitionary letters, none came forth.

Call for reports: Bro. J. M. Randall, Associational Treasurer, gave an oral report.

The committee on Sabbath Schools made their report, which was adopted. See report 8.

The committee on Associational Missions made their report, which was adopted after a very lively discussion. See report 9.

The committee on Orphans Homes made their report, which was adopted. See report 10.

Motion carried to elect a Missionary for the coming year. Eld. A. M. Crain was elected as the missionary.

Motion made and carried to pay the Missionary \$2.00 per day for every day he works as Missionary.

Motion made to take pledges for the support of the Mission-

ary for the coming years work, which are as follows: Cotter, \$30.00; Friendship, \$5.00; Hopewell, \$10.00; Mt. Pleasant, \$10.00; Mt. Zion, \$9.50; Mtn. Home, \$75.00; New Hope, \$10.00; New Harmony, \$10.00; Eugene Horton, \$10.00; New Athens, \$5.00; W. D. White, \$10.00; A. P. White, \$5.00; J. H. Marler, \$5.00; J. C. Marler, \$2.50; Jake Hodge, \$2.00; Wises Chapel, \$10.00; Salesville, \$10.00; Sardis, \$5.00; Pleasant Grove, \$10.00; N. Yellville, \$5.00; Buford, \$15.00; S. J. Stone, \$5.00; L. A. Robertson, of Harrison, \$5.00, making a total of \$264.00

Committee on Children's Work made their report, which was adopted. See report 11.

Motion prevailed to elect five as a Board to secure means to support the Missionary, which was as follows: B. A. Spradlin, T. O. Horn, Eugene Horton, H. F. Vermillion and B. R. Hipp.

Motion to suspend the regular order of business to select the next meeting place for the body and also some one to preach the introductory sermon. Cotter was selected as the next meeting place; H. F. Vermillion was selected to preach the introductory sermon and J. B. Smith as alternate.

Motion made to have a night session.

Motion to take recess until 7:30.

7:30

Prayer by the Moderator.

The committee on Woman's Work made their report, which was adopted. See report 12.

The committee on Christian Education made their report which was adopted. See report 13.

Motion made to take a collection for the two Baptist Orphans Homes in the state resulting in a collection of \$30.66.

The committee on Obituaries made their report, which was adopted. See report 14.

Motion to take a collection for deficit in Missionary's salary, which resulted in a collection of eighty-two (\$82) dollars, the amount due.

The committee on Resolutions made their report which was amended and adopted. See report 15.

Motion to adjourn to meet with Cotter church on Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1917.

J. W. Barnett jr., Clerk.

Eld. B. L. Bayless, Moderator.

REPORTS.

1. We your committe on Baptist Literature respectfully recommend that the choice of Baptist newspapers and other current Baptist literature be left to the individual conscience of each Baptist in this Association. But we earnestly urge upon all the importance of reading current Baptist literature. We more earnestly urge the reading of the Bible in the home and everywhere. God's Kingdom can come only as his word is known and believed. Children should be taught to read the Bible. God's children should read his word and grow thereby. J. B. Smith, Chairman.

2. We your committe on Deceased Ministers beg leave to make the following report: In investigating we find that God has saw fit to spare the lives of all the ministers of this Association for which we are glad and praise his Holy name, and that this body bow in prayer lead by Elder J. B. Smith. Elder J. H. Marler, Chairman.

3. We your committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to submit the following report: Realizing the Commission was given to the Church by Christ, He its head and founder, to go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature, and realizing the responsibility of this Association to carry out this Commission, we would urge the churches of this Association to give of their means to carry out the Great Commission as given by our Lord and Master. Elder J. H. Marler, Chairman; J. L. Paul.

4. We your committee on State Missions submit the following report: All New Testament churches find their origin and end in missions. The ultimate origin of missions is to be found in the heart of God and the practical origin of missions is found in the life and death of Christ. The practical origin and application of missions is entrusted to Baptist or New Testament churches. Baptists have the restricted supper of our Lord or the preservation of the saints. State missions are in many respects the very heart of our denominational work. State missions are the constant friends of the Associational missions. The conservation of home missions are the base of supplies for foreign missions. No church in this Association can afford not to make an offering to state missions this year. State missions includes revival, meeting, baptising, reviving, and enlisting laggard

churches, colportage, helping to build church houses, aiding weak churches, in supporting pastors, Sunday Schools, Baptist young peoples work and woman's work. Your committee would recommend three things: 1.—That our people in this Association pray devoutly for state missions. 2.—That every pastor, by sermons, gifts and visits, do his utmost in every church for state missions. 3.—That our pastors, active laymen, and women organize themselves into committees of two or more and go out and try to get every church in the Association to make an offering to state missions. W. H. McCuistion, Chairman.

5. The cause of temperance has gone forward with rapid strides in recent years and the Baptist denomination has contributed much to this progress. In the state of Arkansas we have complete prohibition of the liquor traffic for beverage purposes. This law has proven very beneficial to the people of the state and we are gratified to witness the improved condition of our people under the law. The liquor interests have circulated a petition and secured the submission to a vote of the people of Arkansas, of a law to repeal the prohibition law and to bring the saloons, with their evil effects and influences back into our fair state. We hereby renew our former declaration of relentless hostility to the liquor traffic in all its forms. We call upon all good citizens to join us in opposing the return of the saloons to Arkansas and in opposing the enactment of this law which would make their return possible. We pledge ourselves to co-operate with the W. C. T. U., The Anti-Saloon League and all other organizations that by honest methods seek to destroy the liquor traffic in our whole nation and in any part of the nation. H. F. Vermillion, Chairman.

6. We your committee on Finances make the following report: We received from the different churches as minute funds \$24.20. J. M. Randall, Chairman.

7. We your committee on Home Missions beg to submit the following report: Not having an exact report of the work done this year will say home mission money is spent for the evangelizing of America. At least 25 nationalities receive the Gospel opportunities through our preachers by this fund. Some of our strongest churches are among the foreigners and many of them return to their home lands carrying the message with them. Much of our home mission money is spent for evangelism in the cities

and small towns and in other destitute places. Baptists make no investments that brings larger returns than this one and none is more needed. The task of home missions is immense. Too few of our churches know the opportunity and results of our endeavors. Every member can and should have a part. We must preach the gospel to the destitute among us or deny our loyalty to Christ. Eld. W. D. Jennings, Chairman.

8. We your committee on Sabbath Schools find from reading the letters that there are but few Sunday Schools in the Churches of this Association. The Bible enjoins upon us the duty of training the children in the way they should go. We therefore recommend that a Baptist Sunday School be organized in each church, these schools be officered by Baptists. We also recommend that the church exercise scrutiny in selection of Baptist teachers. Eld. Jacob Skiver, Chairman.

9. We your committee on Associational missions submit the following report: We find that in the bounds of this Association there is great destitution, for instance the north end of this county from Mtn. Home north clear across the county east and west, there is but one Baptist church, that of Friendship, with 12 members. Then in Marion County from Flippin and Yellville northwest to Peal thence east to Oakland and Promised Land there is not a Baptist church in all this territory, and very little Baptist preaching. During the Associational year now closing the Missionary has worked 248 days, and much of the destitution is untouched. We recommend that this Association employ a Missionary for the full year, and that a Committee (or Board) be appointed, consisting of five or seven members, who shall co-operate with the Missionary in soliciting means and carrying on this work. And in view of the severe drouth that prevails in our country we further recommend that we ask the State Board to pay one half the salary of our Missionary this coming year. A. M. Crain, Chairman.

10. We your committee on Orphans Homes report as follows: There are two orphans homes the State of Arkansas, one at Monticello with more 130 children with good equipment but much in need of funds. The home at Texarkana has about 35 children who are greatly in need of financial aid, and we recommend that a collection be taken and the money be apportioned to these according to the number of children in each home. We further

recommend that each church be requested to use at least one Sunday during the year in taking an offering for these worthy institutions. Eugene Horton, Chairman.

11. We your committee on Children's Work, submit the following report: We feel the need of the organized work in the churches. We believe that it is the foundation work of the church life. Train the children for world wide service. Saludie Cox, Chairman.

12. The committee on Woman's work wish to submit the following report: We find much of our encouragement in the record of our work for the past year. But still we see broad fields ready for the harvest and we need to do our share of the great reaping. We urge an organization of women in each and every church of the Association. In addition to the necessity of missions we urge the need of social work on behalf of the young people in our churches, the Sunbeam Band and Orphan home work. We should give the woman's work our best endeavor and we ask the prayers of the Association that our next year's report be our best thus far, and an inspiration for the following years. Mrs. B. A. Spradlin, Chairman.

13. Your committee on Christian Education submits the following: The Bible is definitely in favor of Christian education, Matthew 28:20; Ephesians 4:18; Hosea 4:6; indeed every word in God's book that speaks against ignorance is for Christian education. Jesus was a great teacher as well as a great preacher. Christ and his apostles everywhere emphasized the importance of knowledge touching religious work. We as Baptists and followers of Christ and his apostles must believe in and practice Christian education as thoroughly as we do missions. The education of preachers is especially important for Baptists. We will be woefully undone in time if we neglect this fundamental matter. We urge with all possible emphasis that every young preacher in this Association do his utmost to get a good education. Preachers are given free tuition in all our Baptist schools in the state. At Ouchita College and at Mountain Home College other financial help is given when needed. It is hoped that our Baptist people will patronize our Baptist schools. They are as good as the best. The atmosphere in all these schools is religious and Baptist. The study of the Bible is given a large place in each of them. Your committee earnestly recommends that all our preachers

preach often each year on the needs and benefits of our Baptists schools, and that they urge our folks to send their children to them. We further emphasize the great importance of every church in this Association to make a worthy offering to our schools each year. We heartily endorse the efforts now making for re-establishment of a Baptist school in the Mountain Home College building. We urge the churches to support this school morally and financially, and that they patronize it and make it grow into a mighty force for the uplifting and enlightening the people of this part of Arkansas. We recommend that the churches aid young preachers in maintaining themselves in this school this year. B. A. Spradlin, Chairman.

14. We your committee on Deceased Members find that since the last sitting of this body that it has pleased our Heavenly Father to call from our midst eleven brethren and sisters, whom we believe are now enjoying the reward of their earnest efforts on earth. We recommend that while we shall miss them from our ranks, and our homes are made sad and lonely, we bow our heads and thank our Heavenly Father for this great victory through Christ. Eld. W. H. McCuistion, Chairman.

15. We your committee on Resolutions beg leave to submit the following report: Resolved that this body return thanks to Mountain Home church and community for their kindness while with them. And also that the Clerk be allowed to take five (5) dollars from the minute funds as his fee. J. W. Parnell, Chairman.

MINISTERS MESSENGERS AND CLERKS

CHURCHES	MESSENGERS	PASTORS	CLERK	ADDRESS
Cotter	B. A. Spradlin, Sisters Spradlin and Cox	W. A. Riggs	D. B. Lee	Cotter Ark.
Friendship	Elds. R. J. Rimer, R. L. Barnett and J. M. Randall	J. H. Marler	J. M. Randall	Mountain Home, Ark.
Hopewell	T. O. and Minnie Horn, J. B. Crane and J. Coventon	W. D. Jennings	John Coventon	Mountain Home, Ark.
Mt. Pleasant	J. W. Barnett, Sr. and Jr., S. F. Tucker and J. W. Guinn	B. L. Bayless	J. W. Barnett	Gassville, Ark.
Mt. Zion	Eld. J. B. Smith	J. B. Smith	Sarepta Carey	Arkana, Ark.
Mtn. Home	Eld. A. M. Crain, W. H. Douglass, W. A. Love and Sister Jordan	R. L. Finley	J. L. Paul	Mountain Home, Ark.
New Hope	George Horner, J. A. Pasco and Babe Firestone	W. H. McCuiston	Finnie Watts	Ralph, Ark.
New Harmony	Eld. B. L. Bayless, A. F. Bayless and Della Mohnney	B. L. Bayless	J. F. Coventon	Oakland, Ark.
Norfolk	Eugene Horton	W. H. McCuiston	Eugene Horton	Arkana, Ark.
New Athens	Laurel and Charley Talburt, A. Walker, and G. Collins	R. M. Ballard	Charley Talburt	Cumi, Ark.
Oakland	S. J. and Dink Stone and Jas. Haley		S. J. Stone	Mountain Home, Ark.
Pilgrims Rest	Elds. J. H. and J. C. Marler, W. D. White and A. P. White	B. L. Bayless	L. T. Marler	Gassville, Ark.
Pleasant Grove	Eld. W. H. and Lydia McCuiston, J. W. Parnell, Ethel McManners	W. H. McCuiston	J. W. Parnell	Rea Valley, Ark.
Blooming Grove	Leslie Clem and Mervin Wolf	R. L. Carson	L. D. Wolf	Yellville, Ark.
Antioch	By letter	A. M. Crain	Asbury Johnson	Flippin, Ark.
Yellville	By letter	Sup. by W. R. Jones	T. G. Angel	Yellville, Ark.
Pleasant Hill	By letter	R. L. Carson	F. M. Angel	Bruno, Ark.
Buford	Archie Hipp, Arthur Nelson, and James Eubanks	Not mentioded in letter	James Eubanks	Buford, Ark.
Wise's Chapel	D. A. and J. D. Hively and Herman Lovelace	C. T. Soden	J. D. Hively	Cross Roads, Ark.
N. Yellville	A. W. Reed and Rebecca Richardson		C. T. Tilley	Summit, Ark.
Salesville	Eld. H. Adkins and Marcus Wilson	R. M. Ballard	W. A. Ellis	Arkana, Ark.
Sardis	M. C. and J. R. Willbanks and S. E. Hillhouse	To Be	Supplied	Pontiac, Mo.

STATISTICAL TABLE

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CONSTITUTION.

Article I.—This Association shall be called and known by the name of the "White River Baptist Association."

Article II.—The members composing the annual meeting of the Association shall consist of the messengers sent by the churches.

Article III.—The messengers sent by the churches to the annual meetings shall not exceed four from each church.

Article IV.—The Association shall meet annually at such time and place as shall have been previously appointed.

Article V.—The officers of the Association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer, who shall be chosen by a majority of the messengers annually at the annual meetings of the body.

Article VI.—This Association will have no power to control or regulate the internal affairs or discipline of any church, but it may adopt and recommend all such measures as shall be considered best calculated to produce the harmony and prosperity of the churches, and to advance the Redeemer's kingdom, and advise and consult upon such matters as the churches may at any time present for their consideration and advice. And it may receive churches into this Association or dismiss churches from the body, inquire into the state of religion in its bounds, and suggest measures for its advancement, and be a common bond of union among the churches, but shall not exercise any legislative power over the churches.

Article VII.—This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a vote of two thirds of the members present, provided notice has been given at a previous meeting.

DECLARATION OF FAITH.

1. We believe the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired, and is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction: that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter, that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us; and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world, the true center of Christian union and the su-

preme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

2. We believe that there is one and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is Jehovah, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of heaven and earth; inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love; that in the unity or the God head there are three persons, the Father, the Son, the Holy Spirit; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

3. We believe that man was created in holiness, under the law of his Maker; but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint, but choice; being by nature utterly void of that holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin without defense or excuse.

4. We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God, who, by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the divine law by his personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins; having risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfections He is every way qualified to be an all sufficient Savior.

5. We believe that the great gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in Him is justification; that justification includes the pardon of sin and the promise of eternal life on principles of righteousness; that is bestowed, not in consideration of any work of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood, by virtue of which faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

6. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent and obedient faith, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth but his own

determined depravity and voluntary rejection of the gospel, which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

7. We believe, that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, or be born again; that regeneration consists in giving a holy disposition to the mind; that it is effected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, in connection with the divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the gospel, and that its proper evidence appears in the holy fruits of repentance, faith and newness of life.

8. We repeat that repentance and faith are sacred duties and inseparable graces, wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation by Christ, we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession and supplication for mercy, at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest and King, and relying on Him alone as the all-sufficient Savior.

9. We believe that election is the eternal purposes of God, according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners, that doing so is perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, it comprehends all the means in connection with the end, that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being perfectly free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting, and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God and active imitation of his free mercy; that it encourages to use of means in the highest degree; that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the gospel; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

10. We believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration, and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Healer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means—especially the Word of God, self examination, self-denial, watchfulness and prayer.

11. We believe that such only are true believers as endure.

to the end; that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare, and they are kept by the power of God through faith into salvation.

12. We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is holy, just and good, and that the inability which Scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts arises entirely from their love of sin, to deliver them from which and to restore them through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law is one great end of the gospel and the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

13. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptised believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the gospel, observing the ordinance of Christ, governed by his laws and exercising the gifts and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only scriptural officers are bishops or pastors and deacons, whose qualifications and claims and duties are defined in the epistles of Timothy and Titus.

14. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer into the name of the Father and Son and Holy Spirit, to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem, our faith in the crucified, buried and risen Savior with its effect, our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is a prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation and the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church by the sacred use of bread and wine are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ preceded always by solemn self-examination.

15. We believe that the first day in the week is the Lord's Day or Christian Sabbath, and it is to be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and sinful recreation, by the devout observance of all the means of Grace, both of private and public, and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

16. We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and

obeyed, except in things opposed by the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the only Lord of the conscience and the prince of the kings of the earth.

17. We believe that the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day Christ shall descend from heaven and raise the dead from the grave to final retribution, that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be judged to endless punishment; and the righteous to endless joy; and that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell on principles of righteousness.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. The Association shall commence with religious exercises and a sermon from some preacher, who shall have been previously appointed, unless the Association shall otherwise direct.

2. The Moderator of the session shall preside, and the former Clerk shall act (provided they attend) until the letters from the churches connected with the body shall have been read and a Moderator and Clerk appointed.

3 It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the meeting during its session and appoint committees (unless the Association shall otherwise direct), preserve order, reprove improprieties (except an appeal is made to the meeting by two members). He shall have a right to speak on all subjects, calling a member to the chair, and examine and correct the minutes if necessary.

4. The Clerk shall keep a correct copy of the proceedings of the meetings, read the letters and documents, and call any member to assist him at the close of the meeting. He shall take charge of the papers and documents unless otherwise directed.

5. The churches shall designate their messengers and report their condition by letter.

6. Preachers in good standing in other Baptist churches or Associations with whom we are in fellowship, when attending our annual meeting, shall be invited to a seat as correspondent, and these meetings shall always be opened with a prayer and closed in a similar manner.

7. Every member may speak twice on any one subject in debate before the meeting, but not more without leave; and when speaking shall stand and address the Moderator and use decorous and Christian language; and no member shall absent himself from the Association during the session without leave; and any person who shall violate these rules, or the constitution, shall be reprov'd as the Association shall think proper.

8. These rules may be amended by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting.

9. The churches shall contribute funds for the ordinary expenses of the body, such as printing the minutes and paying the traveling expenses of such members as the Association may send to other bodies.

10. A public collection shall be taken by the Moderator at each session and applied to such benevolent purposes as the Association may direct.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Annual introductory sermon.
2. Call of Association to order by the Moderator if present.
3. Call for church letters and enrolling messengers.
4. Election of officers.
5. Call for petitionary letters and messengers.
6. Call for corresponding letters and messengers.
7. Appoint the following committees: Divine service, associational missions, state missions, home missions, foreign missions, destitution, Sunday schools, Baptist literature, christian education, finance, temperance, woman's work, orphan homes, obituaries, deceased ministers, resolutions.
8. Read constitution and rules of order.
9. Call and correct the roll and note absentees.
10. Call report of messengers to corresponding bodies.
11. Appoint messengers to corresponding bodies.
12. Call for report of committees in order.
13. Miscellaneous business.
14. Resolutions.
15. Appoint place for next meeting of Association.
16. Appoint some one to preach the introductory sermon.
17. Adjournment

FORM FOR CHURCH LETTER.

The Baptist church of Christ at.....

To the White River Baptist Association:

Dear Brethren:—We send as messengers Elder.....
Brethren.....

Increase by baptism.....

Increase by letter.....

Increase by restoration.....

Decrease by letter.....

Decrease by exclusion.....

Decrease by death.....

Total membership.....

Constituted in the year 19....

Present pastor.....

Day of church meeting.....

Number engaged in Sabbath School.....

Contribution for Minutes \$.....

Contribution for associational missions \$.....

Contribution for state missions \$.....

Contribution for foreign missions \$.....

Contribution for ministerial relief \$.....

Money expended for pastoral support \$.....

Money expended for church building \$.....

Money expended for incidental expenses \$.....

By order of the church.

Date.....19....

.....Moderator

.....Church Clerk

Postoffice.....