

# MINUTES

OF THE

Seventy-Seventh Session of the Old Organization

AND THE

Fifty Second Session of the New Organization

OF THE

## WHITE RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH

Whiteville Church, Gassville,

Baxter County, Arkansas.

September 5, 6, and 7, 1919

OFFICERS:

Rev. W. H. McCuistion, Moderator	:	:	:	Gassville, Ark.
Eugene Horton, Clerk	:	:	:	Gassville, Ark.
T. O. Horn, Treasurer	:	:	:	Mountain Home, Ark.

# MINUTES

According to previons adjournment the White River Baptist Association convened with Whiteville church at Gassville, Ark., September 5, 1919 at 10 o'clock a. m.

Rev. R. J. Rimer preached the introdnctory sermon which was well received.

Called to order by the Moderator, Eld. W. H. McCnistion.

The Clerk being absent motion was made to authorize the Moderator to appoint a Clerk protem which he did. Eugene Horton was appointed.

W. B. O'Neal and J. M. Gibbs were appointed as Reading Clerks. Letters read and received.

Moderator appointed W. M. Cooper, H. C. Lamb and T. D. Thatch to take the vote for Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer respectively, which resnlted as follows: Eld. W. H. McCuistion, Moderator; Eugene Horton, Clerk; and T. O. Horn, Treasnrer.

Motion carried to adjourn until 2 o'clock p. m.

Prayer by Eld. J. M. Gibbs.

## AFTERNOON SESSION.

Prayer by Rev. Fred H. Ward.

Call for petitionary letters was made. None present.

Call for corresponding messengers from sister associations. Rocky Bayon Association represented by W. M. Cooper. Una Roberts representing Pulaski Connty Association was received.

The following committees were appointed:

Committee on Divine Service—Messengers from Whiteville church.

Committee on Associational Missions—Fred H. Ward, J. H. Talbert, W. B. O'Neal.

Committe on State Missions—W. J. Gray, A. D. Jordan, T. O. Horn.

Committee on Home Missions—J. F. Martin, Laurel Talbert, J. M. Gibbs.

Committee on Foreign Missions—Irwin Reed, J. M. Randall, J. C. Marler.

Motion carried to unite committees on Associational Missions and Destitution.

Committee on Sunday Schools—Ethel Philips, Mrs. Myrtle Brown and Jon. H. James.

Committeeon Baptist Literature—J. G. Dillihunty, L. T. Marler, Walter Firestone.

Committee on Christian Education—Henry White, Mrs. Lon Brown and Fred H. Ward.

Committee on Finance—Mervin Wolf, Clifton Talbert and Irl Paul.

Committee on Temperance—Jim Cooper, A. Walker and Marvin Langston.



Committee on Woman's Work—All lady messengers from the various churches.

Committee on Orphan Homes—R. J. Rimer, A. J. Ivy and S. F. Tucker.

Committee on Obituaries—J. H. Johnson, Rue Rogers and John Goff.

Committee on Resolutions—J. H. Nanny, A. P. White and J. H. Talbert.

Committee on Divine Service reported that Rev. Henry Lamb should preach Friday night.

Committee on Stewardship—J. M. Gibbs, Lois Wolf and Eugene Horton.

Committee on Young People's Work—Elsie Felts, Pearl Pierce and Irl Paul.

Motion carried to have a committee on Pastoral support.

Committee on Pastoral Support—T. O. Horn, J. C. Marler and A. P. White.

Constitution and Rules of Decorum read by Eld. J. M. Gibbs.

H. D. Morton, T. D. Thatch and W. H. McCuiston were appointed to visit Rocky Bayou Association.

W. B. O'Neal, T. O. Horn and Marvin Langston were appointed to visit Big Creek Association.

H. D. Morton, J. G. Dillahunt were appointed to visit Crooked Creek Association.

R. J. Rimer was appointed to visit County Line Association.

W. B. O'Neal was appointed to visit Independence Association.

By motion the body selected Eld. W. B. O'Neal to preach the introductory sermon at the next Association and Eld. J. M. Gibbs alternate.

Motion carried to select the next place of meeting of the Association, which resulted in selecting Wise Chapel church, Izard County.

Motion was made to change the time of the meeting of the Association to Friday before the first Sunday in October.

By motion the body adjourned until Saturday morning at 8 o'clock, sun time.

### FRIDAY NIGHT.

Prayer by Eld. J. M. Gibbs.

Preaching by Eld. H. C. Lamb.

### SATURDAY MORNING.

Prayer by Eld. A. M. Reed.

Motion prevailed to grant the Moderator the privilege of attending the funeral of Tom Murphy.

Committee on Sunday Schools made their report which was adopted. See report No. 1.

Committee on State Mission made report and same was adopted. See report No. 2.

Committee on Pastoral Support made report which was adopt-

ad. See Report No. 3.

Committee on Temperance made report which was adopted.

See report No. 4.

Committee on Obituaries made their report which was adopted.

See report No. 5.

Committee on Young People's Work made report which was adopted. See report No. 6.

Committee on Home Missions made their report. See report No. 7.

Motion prevailed to adjourn until Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Prayer by Eld. H. C. Lamb.

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Prayer by Eld. W. D. White.

Motion carried to authorize the Moderator to appoint a committee to make recommendations on the appointment of a Missionary Board. Committee J. G. Dillahunt, T. O. Horn and A. P. White.

Committee on Stewardship made report. See report No. 8.

The committee to select a Missionary Board for the Association recommended Eugene Horton, E. W. Owens, H. M. Horn, Irl Paul and W. H. White. This Board to operate in Baxter County.

Committee on Foreign Missions made report. See report No. 9.

Motion carried to create a separate Board for Marion County, which was chosen as follows: J. H. Talbert, Ed James, Jeff Gray, John Cochran and Tom Angel.

Committee on Divine Service reported that Eld J. S. Compere would preach Saturday night.

Committee on Associational Missions and Destitution made report. See report No. 10.

Missionary Report.

Motion made to adjourn until Sunday morning at 9 o'clock

Prayer by Eld. J. S. Compere.

#### SUNDAY MORNING.

Prayer by Eld. R. J. Rimer.

Committee on Baptist Literature, Christian Education, Orphan's Home, Finance and Resolutions all made hurried reports. See reports 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15.

On account of lack of sufficient funds to print the Minutes, a motion was made to permit the Clerk to solicit advertising from our schools and publications houses. Carried.

By motion the Association adjourned to meet with Wise Chapel church Friday before the first Sunday in September, 1920.

Prayer by Eld. W. M. Cooper.

W. H. McCUISTION, Moderator.  
EUGENE HORTON, Clerk.



## REPORTS

Report No. 1. Report of Sunday School Committee—God's Word clearly commands that his laws and statutes should be taught. Clearly the church is the teaching force of God; and the Sunday School is the teaching arm of the church. This teaching factor is sadly neglected in the White River Association. Many of our churches maintain no Sunday School at all. There is also a great lack of trained teachers.

We urgently recommend that our Association take some steps toward the organization of more Sunday Schools and for the training of teachers. We also recommend that the Association arrange for a Sunday School Convention. Ethel Phillips, Chairman; Myrtle Brown; Flora Rimer; J. H. James.

Report No. 2. Report on State Missions—Arkansas Baptists are today making the greatest effort in their history to evangelize our own state. Through the source of State Missions many weak churches are given aid to enable them to secure pastors. Many District missionaries are being maintained in the most destitute sections of the state. State Missions also are assisting in the support of a large number of Associations Missionaries. In addition to the above mentioned work a large number of evangelists are employed for the summer months. All of this work has been completely justified in the thousands of souls saved and the great number of churches developed.

We urge that our churches give their most loyal support to State Missions and increase their gifts, striving to reach every member for this great work. W. J. Gray, Chairman.

Report No. 3.—We your committee on Pastorial support beg leave to submit the following report: After hearing the letters read from the various churches to the Association we are forced to the conclusion that our pastors are the poorest paid class of public servant. Therefore we recommend that the churches more than double the salaries of their pastors, and that each church select a committee of three members whose duty it shall be to visit each member of his or her church and solicit a contribution to the funds for the pastor. We realize the stubborn fact that we must pay our pastors or go without preaching. T. O. Horn, J. C. Marler, A. P. White.

Report Number 4.—We your committee on Temperance report as follows: It is a matter of satisfaction and rejoicing that this great Government of ours has awakened to a world wide prohibition. It is also gratifying to see the people of Arkansas as well as the other states to stand for the removal of whiskey from among us. Let us urge our law makers both in the state and nation to stand firm for prohibition. Furthermore we urge our officers to do their duty in the enforcement of all Temperance laws. No great-

or steps can be taken than those to defend our young men from the liquor traffic. J. M. Cooper, Chairman; J. M. Langston; Albert Walker.

Report No. 5.—We as a committee on Obituaries beg leave to submit the following: We find that God in his wisdom has seen fit to call to their eternal home twenty of our brethren. While we feel a great loss in the home-going of these, our brethren, we humbly submit to the will of Him who doeth all things well. J. H. Johnson, Chairman; J. M. Goff; Rue Rogers.

Report No. 6. Committee on Young People's Work—That there is a place and a very important place for young people in the activities of this church is a well established fact. When Jesus looked into the strong, earnest fact of the rich young ruler and realized the almost infinite possibilities wrapped up in his life, we are told "He loved him." Ever since Christ has had a peculiar interest in the lives of young people.

The young people of today are preparing themselves for leadership in the church of tomorrow. This being true it behooves us as those interested in the Kingdom affairs to give our best attention to the training of the young. There are many agencies in the church which are well calculated to develop our future leaders both in church and state.

We especially recommend that every church in the bounds of the White River Association organize a B. Y. P. U. at once, if one is not already organized. This is the most important training school of the church and merits our most thoughtful consideration. Elsie Felts, Chairman.

Report No. 7. Home Mission Report—Missions are the very genius of the Christian religion. It was the missionary idea that brought Jesus to earth. In defining his mission he said: "The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost."

On the occasion of his farewell address to his disciples he said: "As my Father hath sent Me into the world even so send I also you."

That's the Christian's mission. The Christian's mission is to be interpreted in the light of Christ's mission. It is really a continuation of Christ's mission. That's the meaning of the unfinished task as respects the missionary cause.

Jesus had a well defined missionary program. It is found in Acts 1:8. "After the Holy Spirit" etc. Here we find our authority and complete justification for every phase of our mission work. We have a "thus saith the Lord" for our missionary program. The Home Mission program is commended and commanded by our Lord Himself. Home Mission work is the mission work done in the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention. Also the work done in Cuba. This is a big field and a very needy field. This is our "Samaria." Of Jesus it was said: "He must need go through Samaria." So must we. Our opportunity represents the measure of our



obligation. Our obligation imposes upon us responsibilities that are commensurate with our opportunities.

The \$75,000,000 campaign is the logical and legitimate answer to the needs of our beloved Southland. The Home Mission Board will receive out of this campaign \$12,000,000 as their part. This money will be spent in developing the work along various lines. Baxter County will receive from the Home Mission Board alone \$84,000 to help in this work. The entire county is only asked for \$5,000 a year or \$25,000 in five years for all objects fostered by our denomination. So the Home Mission Board alone will give us back more than three times as much as we put into the cause for everything. They want to help us and they are going to do so. Shall we not respond to their appeal for help in this hour of need. It is Jesus' appeal to our higher selfishness. Respectfully submitted.

Report No. 8. Stewardship—The doctrine of stewardship is one of the most important Christian doctrines. It needs special emphasis today. The acceptance of it is absolutely imperative, if we succeed in the vast undertakings which are claiming our attention today. The doctrine finds its root in the old Testament but comes to flower and fruitage in the teachings of Jesus. The term stewardship is a very comprehensive term. It includes more than our money obligations. We speak of the stewardship of life time, talents, money, etc., and all these phases of the subject are important. That was an exceedingly fine statement of the doctrine expressed by Livingstone in his famous words: "I will place no value on anything I possess except in its relation to the Kingdom."

God, our heavenly Father, is proprietor of this universe and we are simply stewards in it. As stewards of God we are under obligation to hold whatever comes into our hands as a sacred trust. We are not to be tramps nor embezzlers in the Kingdom of God but trustees. As respects our money obligations are to give to God at least one-tenth of our income to the support of the interests of His Kingdom. The N. T. teaching respecting stewardship is comprehensive enough to include tithing. Tithing as a standard of giving has never been repealed and never can be. This is because it is a moral obligation and moral law never changes. Moral law is a reflection of God's nature and as such is as changeless as God. Therefore tithing as an obligation is still binding upon us. Then too, Jesus endorsed tithing. Listen to the words of Jesus in Matt. 23:23: "Ye pay tithe of mint and anise and cummin, and I have omitted the weightier matters of the law. judgment, mercy and faith: These ought ye to have done, and not to leave the other undone." Here we have as plain case of endorsement of a principle by our Lord himself. Once more those who are under Grace can not afford to do less than those who were under law.

These three reasons are sufficient to establish our contention that the tithe is the minimum a Christian can give as a steward of the manifold blessings of God. Respectfully submitted by Com-

mittee.

Report No. 9.—We your committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to make the following: We find that we have many foreign missionaries in the different foreign fields, and we urge that each pastor and missionary of our Association bring these things before our churches knowing that we as churches of Christ have the authority to carry the gospel to all nations. We realize the great responsibility that rests on each and every member of our churches and seeing these things so, let us put forth every effort we possibly can and provide of our means for the support of our missionaries in the foreign fields. And we your committee pray that each and every church and member may do his duty in this line of work for the Master. Erwin Reed.

Report No. 10. Associational Missions and Destitution—The Mission Board employed Rev. W. B. O'Neal, the former missionary at a salary of \$1350, the Association to pay \$600 and the State Mission Board to pay \$750. Bro. O'Neal began work immediately after the meeting of the Association last year and has continued the work to date. We will let the Missionary's report, which is attached hereto, speak as to the wisdom of the Board in the selection of a Missionary. However, we would call the attention of the body to the fact that the great number of pastorless churches and the scarcity of help in any way causes the missionary to be employed for most of his time in going before the churches for collections. We, also, wish to state that the "flu" which raged through the fall and winter deprived the missionary of a large part of his valuable time. We find that Bro. O'Neal has been paid to date \$412.04 by the Association, leaving a balance of \$178.96 due him at this time.

Of the eighteen churches represented at this Association, there are seven pastorless. There are five other churches in the bounds of the Association besides, at least, three inactive bodies, and only one of all these has a pastor. There are only three Baptist Sunday Schools in Marion County. There are only two W. M. U. in the Association and only three B. Y. P. U. There are now five important points earnestly soliciting the missionary for meetings. There are three or four able but inactive or practically inactive preachers in the bounds of the Association who could and would do valuable service if the churches would call them and pay them enough to justify them in some measure for their labor. How to get these preachers and churches together is a problem.

We recommend the employment of two missionary pastors; the Association to pay each the sum of \$400; and that the State Board be asked to supplement the salary to the amount of \$800, so as to give each a total salary of \$1200; that these men be asked to live one in Marion County and the other in Baxter County; that they be permitted to accept the care of fourth time churches, or in some instances left to the judgment of the Mission Board and of the missionary pastor, the latter may accept the care of one half time



churches; each missionary pastor to act as a regular missionary for all his time not employed as pastor or till all his time is taken as pastor; the missionary pastor to give his time to the development of the churches along all religious lines and to apply all money paid on his salary to Association Missions. Fred H. Ward, Chairman.

Report No. 11.—We your committee on Baptist Literature beg to submit the following: Realizing the fact that the world is swaying with literature, we your committee recommend that we, as Baptists should endeavor to (1) Get God's Word read and studied in every home. (2) That we in this Association try to get in every home good Baptist literature and good Baptist papers, books and tracts. These tracts may be had free of charge by applying to the Baptist Executive Board, 410 Donaghey Bldg., Little Rock, Ark.

Therefore we recommend that every pastor of various churches try to get some good Baptist papers and tracts into every community where he preaches. J. G. Dillahunt, Chairman; Walter Firestone. L. T. Marler.

Report No. 12. Christian Education—We are gratified at the progress that has been made throughout the Southland is the past year in the enlargement of our educational institutions. Many of our schools now have substantial endowments, insuring their permanency, new schools are being established and the old one enlarged.

Arkansas Baptists have had a long hard struggle in behalf of their schools and colleges, but today they are seeing their efforts crowned with glorious success. We now have two standard colleges, Ouachita and Central, one junior college, at Mountain Home and the following academies: Maynard, Montview and a new one just established at Hagarsville. The demands upon these schools are very great. There are scores of young preachers throughout the state who must be educated to meet the new problems confronting the churches today. The preachers must be given free tuition and many of them other financial aid if they attend these schools. This is a very heavy drain upon the financial condition of the schools. Tuition rates must be kept low so that they may be in reach of those whom we are trying to reach. The great increase in the cost of living makes it necessary to pay higher salaries for efficient teachers. The schools must have the best teachers possible. These things make it imperative that we increase our appropriations to Christian Education. The \$75,000,000 campaign provides that \$1,000,000 of Arkansas' quota be spent for Christian education. This will make a new day for Baptist schools. It will mean a new day for the Kingdom in Arkansas.

Therefore we urge that every Baptist give our denominational schools their financial support and loyal patronage. H. W. White, Chairman.

Report No. 13. Your committee on Orphan's Home report as follows: We Baptists have two orphan homes in this state, one at

Monticello under the care of the State Convention and one at Texarkana under the care of the State Association. We urge upon all Baptists in this Association to support one or both of these orphan homes. We urge that our pastors encourage this work in the churches, and that our Sunday Schools contribute quarterly to this cause. Committee—R. J. Rimer, S. F. Tucker, A. J. Ivie.

Report No. 14. We your committee on Finance have raised \$29 from the various churches for the printing of the Minutts. Mervin Wolf, Chairman.

Report No. 15. We your committee on Resolutions beg to report as follows:

Resolved that we thank the Moderator and Clerk for their efficient and faithful service and resolved further that we thank the Whiteville church and community for their hospitality in entertaining the body. Also we recommend that the Clerk be allowed \$5.00 to be paid to him out of the funds for his services as Clerk of this session of the body. J. H. Nannay, Chairman.



## MISSIONARY'S REPORT.

To the White River Missionary Baptist Association, when convened with the Whiteville Baptist Church, Sept. 5, 1919.

Following is my report for the year 1918-1919:—

Miles traveled .....	4250
This includes five round trips to Little Rock, 2050 miles leaving a total of 2200 miles traveled in the bounds of the Association.	
Visits to Churches .....	83
Visits to Mission Points .....	9
Religious Visits .....	120
Prayers in Homes .....	42
Sermons Preached .....	255
Other Addresses .....	33
Subscriptions taken for the Baptist Advance .....	25
Subscriptions taken to Home and Foreign Fields.....	15
Books Sold .....	85
Tracts Distributed .....	800
Collected for:—	
Home and Foreign Missions .....	\$ 88.65
State Missions .....	171.81
Associational Missions .....	287.78
Orphans Home .....	18.00
Books Sold .....	45.00
Christian Education .....	35.00
Subscriptions taken for the Baptist Advance .....	24.75
Subscriptions to Home and Foreign Fields .....	7.50
Local church expenses .....	90.00

Total Raised and Collected .....\$768.49

Additions to Churches:—

By Baptism .....	32
By Letter .....	7
Professions of Faith in Christ .....	45

Submitted with the best of love for the entire brotherhood; with heart-felt gratitude for the loyal souls that have sustained me with prayers and means to the end; also with deep yearning for and abiding faith in the future growth and development of the Association.

Fraternally,

W. B. O'NEAL, Missinery.

# MINISTERS, MESSENGERS AND CLERKS

CHURCHES	MESSENGERS	PASTORS	CLERK	ADDRESS
Antioch	J. M. Goff, Laura Goff, G. M. Pangie, Kitty Bowman	D. Thatch	A. Johnson	Fillin
Cotter	W. H. White, H. Goodman, Mrs. W. H. White, Mrs. H. Goodman		H. H. Goodman	Cotter
Friendship	J. H. Marler, J. M. Randall, J. M. Cooper, Rue Rogers		J. M. Cooper	Gassville
Hopewell	Myrtle Brown, Margaret Perkins, Minnie Napier, T. O. Horn		T. O. Horn	Mtn. Home
Mtn. Home	J. M. Gibbs, Fred H. Ward, A. D. Jordan, Irl Paul	J. M. Gibbs	J. L. Paul	
Mt. Pleasant	W. H. McCuistion, W. B. O'Neal, E. Dennington, J. W. Barnette, Jr.	W. H. McCuistion	J. W. Barnette, Sr.	Gassville
New Hope	Ethel Phillips, Walter Firestone, J. H. James, Will Nanny	W. H. McCuistion	Ethel Phillips	Ralph
Buford	J. H. Johnson, C. D. Pitchford, Archie Hipp, Della Johnson	T. E. Lawrence	J. E. Eubank	Buford
New Athens	W. B. Easley, Clifton Talburt, Albert Walker, Laurel Talburt	W. H. McCuistion	Chas. Talburt	Cumi, Ark.
Norfolk	Eugene Horton, W. A. Baker, J. B. Vest		Eugene Horton	Norfolk
Pilgrims Rest	W. D. White, J. F. Martin, J. C. Marler, L. T. Marler		J. F. Martin	Gassville
Pleasant Grove	Laura Toulson, Ruby Rea, J. W. Parnell, Troy Rea		J. W. Parnell	Rea Valley
Blooming Grove	Erwin Rell, Mervin Wolf, Pearl Pierce, Lois Wolf		L. D. Wolf	
Salesville	Marvin Langston	A. M. Langston	Ball Ellis	Norfolk
Shilo	R. J. Rimer, Flora Rimer		Beuna Rimer	Three Brothers
Pleasant Hill	W. J. Gray, Tally Adkins, J. H. Nanny, Dolph Angel		Wils n Angel	Bruno
Whiteville	W. E. Newman, Jesse Powell, G. W. Waldon, W. W. Lamb	W. H. McCuistion	W. E. Newman	Gassville
Wise Chapel	J. M. Langston, W. F. Clark, Allen Ivy, Ed Hively	J. M. Langston	H. Lovelace	Wise Chapel

## STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	Increased by Letter	Increased by Baptism	Increased by Restoration	Decreased by Letter	Decreased by Exclusion	Decreased by Death	Total Men'ship	Year Constituted	Days of Church Meetings	Number in Sunday School	Go'tributed for Minutes	Associations	Home	Missions State	Missions Foreign	Missions Pastoral	Support	Incidental Expenses an Church Building	Orphans	Home	Sunday School	Ministerial	Relief	Christian Education
Antioch	3	10			2	1	115	1891	Embracing the Third Sabbath	72	\$ 2 15													
Cotter				3		1	70	1904			1 50	\$44 00		\$46 75	\$70 00	\$23 00	\$ 10 00	\$10 00						
Friendship						1	23	1874	Third Saturday and Sunday		1 60													
Hopewell							42	1874	1st Sunday	35	1 00	5 00												
Mountain Home	30	15		3		1	161	1868	Every Sunday	100	5 00	125 00		230 50	183 74	400 00		141 00	400 00	71 91				
Mt. Pleasant	6			3			66	1868	3rd Saturday and Sunday	70	2 00	12 00	\$16 00	9 50	16 00	96 50				2 35				
New Hope		11		1		4	70	1881	2nd Saturday and Sunday		3 00	16 85	9 00	27 40	9 50	48 00				15 00				
Buford	3	3		4		1	25	1871	3rd Saturday and Sunday	50	1 00		5 00		5 00	60 00								
New Athens						1	61	1891	2nd Saturday and Sunday	35	1 50	15 00												
Norfolk	1				1				1st Saturday and Sunday	28	1 00	18 25		3 00	2 00	36 00								
Pilgrims Rest		22				7	140	1872	2nd Sunday in and Saturday before	6	2 00	2 00		4 25		11 60								
Pleasant Grove						1	12	1882	2nd Sunday in each month		1 00	1 00		10 00										
Blooming Grove		6		2		1	63	1904			1 00	34 75	5 25	12 50	5 25									
Salesville		2				1	37	1913	2nd Saturday and Sunday			75				36 00								
Shilo		4			2		17	1917	Saturday before 2nd Sunday															
Pleasant Hill		10		1			69	1871	1st Sunday in each month		1 50	7 85		26 00	16 00									
Whiteville	6	12		2			79	1892	4th Sunday	80	1 00					31 25								
Wise Chapel	2			4		3	96				50	12 00				46 40		3 60						



### 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 shall 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 bonds, 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 supreme 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 Jehova, 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 ever 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 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 affected 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 unto 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 establishments of the visible church.

13. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptised believers, associated by covenant in 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 of the week is the Lord's Day or Christian Sabbath, and that 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 in things 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 graves to final retribution, that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be judged to endless punishment; and that 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 the 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 reproved as the Association shall think proper.

8. These rules may be amended by a majority of the members



**CENTRAL BAPTIST  
COLLEGE  
ARKANSAS'  
GREATEST  
SCHOOL  
FOR YOUNG WOMEN**

---

**Full Literary Course**

**Special Normal Training**

**Music, Fine Arts, Expression**

**Domestic Science and Art**

---

**For Information Write**

**J. W. CONGER,       :       :       :       :       :       :President**

**CONWAY, ARKANSAS.**

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.
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 someone to preach 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 exclusion .....

Decrease by death .....

Total membership .....

Constituted in the year .....

Present Pastor .....

Day of church meeting .....

Number engaged in Sabbath School. ....

Contribution for Minutes .....

Orphans Home \$.....

Contribution for associational missions \$.....

Contribution for state missions \$.....

Contribution for foreign missions \$.....

Contribution for home 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 .....

# **ATTENTION**

**ALWAYS GET YOUR SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**LITERATURE FROM THE**

**BAPTIST SUNDAY SCHOOL  
COMMITTEE**

**TEXARKANA, TEX.—ARK.**

---

**C. A. Gilbert, Business Manager.**

---

**SAMPLES FREE**