

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
TWELFTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
PIKE COUNTY BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION
WHICH CONVENEED WITH
UNION CHURCH, ALPINE, CLARK
COUNTY, ARKANSAS
SEPTEMBER 29, 30, AND OCTOBER
1, 1916

PROCEEDINGS.

The twelfth annual session of the Pike County Baptist Association met with Union Baptist church, Alpine, Arkansas, at 10 o'clock a. m., September 29, 1916. The services were opened by song service led by Brother A. M. Thomasson. The moderator being absent the meeting was called to order by Brother F. E. Teague and Brother W. P. Taylor was elected moderator pro tem, and Brother F. M. Thomasson, clerk pro tem.

In the absence of Brother D. W. Cornish the appointee to preach the introductory sermon Brother W. L. A. Stranburg was invited to preach at 11 o'clock a. m. and preached an able sermon from Isaiah 6: 1, after which the meeting adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2 o'clock p. m., the meeting met by singing, after which prayer was offered by Brother J. B. Thomas. The moderator then appointed reading clerks as follows: Brothers F. E. Teague, F. A. Holt and R. B. Porter. Then called for letters from the various churches and the following churches were represented by letter and delegates:

Union, C. N. Roberson, Omer Thomasson and J. H. Howell.

Bethlehem, W. J. Tolleson and R. B. Porter.

Liberty Hill, Arthur Henderson and M. Rountree.

Amity, G. B. Reid, John Ward and F. M. Thomasson.

Amity Ladies Aid, Sister John Ward.

Glenwood, A. L. Butcher, V. B. Morris and W. L. A. Stranburg.

Glenwood Ladies Aid, By Letter.

Pilgrims Rest, Charley Mitchell, E. Cowart and O. M. Yarbrough.

Caney Fork, O. H. Bryant.

Spring Hill, Brother Funderburk and Mable White.

Gethseminie, J. T. Speakman, B. F. Casin and Jeff Casin.

Center Ridge, J. E. Terry.

Midway, A. W. Burchfield and Guy Burchfield.

Salem of Clark, Jim Jackson and Wallace Garner.

Murfreesboro, G. W. Holder and O. A. Featherston.

Salem, W. S. Ward and Corra Holt.

Bethel, E. S. Kelley and C. S. Palmer.

Pike City, F. S. Patterson.

Caney Valley.

Upon motion the minutes as read was made the basis of organization. The body then went into the election of officers. And Brother D. W. Cornish was elected moderator, M. Rountree clerk, and C. A. Rankin treasurer.

Next the moderator called for petitionary letters, and the letter from the Red River Association for Union church was read, which had been admitted into the Association in view of a forthcoming letter.

Next the moderator called for corresponding messengers from Sister Associations.

The moderator appointed Brother F. E. Teague and the messengers from Union church as a committee on Divine services.

The following corresponding messengers were selected to Sister Associations:

Caddo River, F. A. Holt and W. S. Ward.

Caddo Valley, F. A. Holt, A. W. Burchfield, G. W. Reid and Brother Wilkerson.

Little River, D. W. Cornish, Sister Cornish and F. M. Thomasson.

Howard County, O. A. Featherston.

The committee on divine service reported that Brother F. A. Holt preach Friday night.

Upon motion and second the body adjourned until 9 o'clock Saturday morning. Brother Holt preached Friday night from 2 Cor. 8: 7.

The moderator at the Friday night session announced the appointment of the following committees:

Sunday School Work, O. A. Featherston and F. S. Patterson.

Young Peoples Work, F. S. Thomasson and G. W. Reid, Associational Missions, F. E. Teague and J. H. Funderburk.

State Missions, F. A. Holt and A. W. Burchfield,

Foreign Missions, Will Ward and Brother Wilkerson.

Orphans Home, J. W. Cowart and A. L. Butcher.

Temperance, J. H. Howell and O. H. Bryant.

Christian Education, F. A. Holt and O. H. Featherston.

Finance, C. N. Roberson and R. B. Porter.

Womans Work, J. B. Thomas and W. P. Taylor.

Obituaries, Omer Thomasson and Arthur Henderson,

Nominations, F. E. Teague and G. W. Holder.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

At 9 o'clock a. m. the body was called to order by the moderator and after song service prayer was offered by Brother A. W. Burchfield, after which the moderator made some impressive remarks regarding the needs of the Association. Next the moderator called for reports of committees.

The committee on State Missions made the following report which was adopted: 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. The historical origin of missions is found in the life and death of Christ. And the practical origin and application of missions is en-

trusted to Baptist New Testament Churches. Missions believed in and practiced is one of the works of a true Baptist church. State missions is in many respects the very heart of our general mission work. State Missions is the constant friend of Association missions, the conservator of Home Missions and the base of supplies for Foreign Missions. Therefore we recommend that all the churches of this Association make a worthy offering for State Missions this year. State Missions include revival meetings, reviving and enlisting laggard churches, colportage, helping to build church houses, aiding weak churches in supporting pastors, aiding in Sunday school, young people and woman's work.

The statistics of 1915 show a great work done by our State mission forces.

This year this work has been greatly blessed. Over 2500 conversions reported up to Sept. 1st, and 2518 additions to our churches. This work must be supported by the churches composing the different associations in our State. And your committee recommends that pastors in this association by sermons and gifts and visits do their utmost in every church for State missions.

F. A. Holt and A. W. Burchfield, Committee.

The committee on Orphans Home made the following report which was adopted being amended so as to include both homes at Monticello and Texarkana:

Orphans Home work is grounded, not on human sympathy alone, but on the Supreme authority of the Word of God. Jesus said: "The poor ye have with you always, and whensoever ye will ye may do them good." The Apostle James expresses our duty to the fatherless: "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this---To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, etc." God commanded the Jews to provide for the Levite, the Stranger, the Fatherless and the Widow in a systematic way, so that these should come and eat and be satisfied. Deut. 14:28-29.

At our last convention there was a resolution passed requiring the Board to place the children in good homes. In obedience to this resolution we have placed between 75 and 80 children in good homes. We have received 14 into the Home since January 1, 1916. We have now between 125 and 130 in the Home at Monticello and about 40 in the Home at Texarkana.

We have done our best to reduce current expenses by placing children in good homes; by declining to take at least 21 children who have applied for admittance, arranging either with the communities or County Judges to care for them; and by doing on as little as we could so as to give the children food sufficient to keep them healthy and growing. We are glad to report that the pellagra children are doing well, and under the wise and skillful treatment by our physician, Dr. B. P. Kimbro, they seem to be making good progress toward permanent recovery.

Our \$17,000 debt is a heavy burden, and our beloved brethren of Monticello and Texarkana who have been under this load for so many years are begging us to give them relief. This is your debt as much as theirs. The Baptists of Arkansas can pay these debts any day if they can only come to realize that it is their debt. We are planning and working to get all this debt provided for by the meeting of the convention in November. We have now, in cash and good pledges, about \$4,000 of this amount. So far our churches and W. M. S. and individuals have pledged the full amount asked of them. This is good, but your field man cannot visit every church in the State. Our task from now until the convention is to provide for the other \$13,000, and at the same time provide for current expenses, for our orphans must eat three times a day just like your children.

Your committee therefore recommends:

1. That every pastor in this Association lay the matter of this great work on the hearts of his people, and take the lead in caring for our orphans as God commands.

2. That our Sunday schools be requested to continue their regular monthly offerings for current expenses, and that we urge Sunday schools not making monthly offerings to adopt the plan and join with the other Sunday schools that have done such noble work for our dear orphans.

3. That our Ladies Societies be requested to join in with this debt raising campaign, pledging each a definite amount, taking care of all they possibly can now, and the balance not later than December 25, 1916.

4. That we do now take a collection in cash and pledges to receive the heavy demands; pledges to be paid at the earliest date possible, certainly not later than December 25, 1916.

J. E. Cowart and A. L. Butcher, Committee.

Collections were here taken for the Orphans Homes in cash and pledges. Monticello, \$14.05 and Texarkana \$12.20.

The committee on Associational missions reported as follows: We realize that the field is white unto harvest and the need for the laborers is great but facts compel us to state we have done nothing and we cannot say that we have tried to do anything in the past year and believing as we do that there is a burning desire in the hearts of the faithful men and women in our Association to do the Masters will that the great work for this body is to devise some plan through the council of God to put their desire into effect. Your committee humbly acknowledges that the conditions and circumstances existing baffle the intelligence of your committee to recommend a wise and successful plan to work under the next associational year. So after prayerfully considering all things as we see them we recommend first, That this body select a committee of five of the most competent men or women of this association who shall have the general supervision or control of the work that will try to carry out the plan and desire of this body. 2nd, That we call on every church and all well wishers of the mission cause for contri-

butions to aid in the work. 3rd, That the committee be authorized to employ a missionary and put in the field at the time and places they believe they can finance successfully. 4th, That we ask every minister in this association to donate what part of their time they are willing to do in the evangelistic cooperation with the committee. 5th, That we solicit the prayers, co-operation, contributions and sympathies of all lovers of the cause that we may do our Master's will.

F. E. Teague and J. H. Funderburk, Committee.

Which was after discussion adopted as read.

The committee on Christian Education made the following report which was adopted: The Bible is definitely in favor of christian education, Mat. 28-20; Hos. 4-6; 2 Peter 1-5. In fact every word in God's book that speaks against ignorance is for christian education. Christ and his apostles every where emphasized the importance of knowledge touching religious work. We as Baptists and followers of Christ must believe in and practice christian education as thoroughly as we do missions. The education of our preachers is especially important. The preacher because of his calling and his official place in the kingdom work is the most responsible and most influential individual in Kingdom affairs 2 Cron. 5-20. Therefore we urge that every young minister in this association do his utmost to get a good education. Preachers are given free tuition in all our Baptist schools in the State. And at Ouachita College other financial help is given when needed. Arkansas Baptists have two great Baptist colleges; Ouachita, at Arkadelphia, for boys and girls and Central College at Conway for girls. We also have Mountain Home Academy at Mountain Home and Maynard Academy at Maynard. Both of these schools are mountain schools of the home mission board of Atlanta, Ga., for boys and girls and are doing well. It is hoped that our Baptist people will patronize our Baptist schools, they are as good as the best. The atmosphere of all these schools is religious

and Baptist. The study of the Bible is given a large place in each of them. Your committee recommends that all our preachers preach often on the need and benefits of our Baptist schools and that they urge our folks to patronize them and make worthy offerings each year for christian education.

F. A. Holt and O. A. Featherston, Committee.

Upon motion the body adjourned at 10:50 until 1:30 p. m. At the 11 o'clock service Brother D. W. Cornish preached from Mat. 28: 8-10.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

The body at 2 p. m. was called together by the moderator and after prayer the committee on Temperance made the following report which was adopted: Against temperance there is no law, no condemnation, because it is God's will and pleasure that we should be temperate, because one great command of our Lord and Master to all people is to be temperate in all things. May God speed the day when all things that cause intemperance and immorality be removed from our midst. Brethren and sisters, let us work and pray to God to help us to try to remove every cause of intemperance, that our country and young people may be saved from the influence and curse of intemperance. We can see and feel the effects of intemperance every day and we do hope to see in the near future all of the Baptist denominations in one great army opposing intemperance.

James Howell and O. H. Bryant, Committee.

Next the committee on Woman's Work made the following report which was adopted: By way of investigation we find two churches reporting Woman's Work in our Association. Glenwood church has raised \$97.25, besides this they have acted the part of Dorcas in preparing garments for the needy, they say "it would be hard to estimate in dollars and cents." Amity church Ladies Aid report the following money raised: For benevolent work \$66.60, \$7.25

raised by sewing and quilt making, which is high commendable. It being scriptural, we prefer it to a cake auction. May the God of all grace give our women more of the good spirit of missions. We recommend a Ladies Aid in each church just so long as they labor in sympathy with the teachings of our dear Lord.

Respectfully Submitted J. B. Thomas.

Next the report of the committee on Nominations was read and adopted as follows: Finding only two churches asked for the Association to meet with them next year: Salem, of Pike county, and Midway, of Clark county. And now that the Association met with Salem since it met with Midway, we recommend that we meet with Midway church and that Brother I. W. Feazell preach the introductory sermon and F. E. Teague, alternate. We recommend O. A. Featherston, chairman, with M. Rountree, W. M. Patterson, F. M. Thomasson and A. L. Butcher for Associational Committee.

F. E. Teague and G. W. Holder, Committee.

The committee on Young People's work made the following report which was adopted as read. We your committee on Young People's work make the following report: We feel assured that the B. Y. P. U. is doing a great and good work toward training our young people in christian work by reading and study of the Bible. Not only young christians are made better but others are persuaded to read the Bible and by so doing many are brought to Christ and to the church. We think that our older people ought to take notice and encourage the work more, because we learn by observation that ones life is more useful when enlisted while young.

To grow in grace and the knowledge of God, deepen their spiritual life, to learn the doctrine of the Bible in deed and in truth as they were taught by Christ and his apostles, educate in all lines of missionary activity as are taught by

Baptists all over the world. It leads them to systematic giving and efficient usefulness in all lines of our church and missionary work, to evangelize the world and teach them to observe all things whatsoever is commanded us to do. We are glad to know that our people are alive to the work in many places but not as much as they ought to be. Therefore we would beg every messenger of this body to encourage the work and try to enlist your young people in this work.

F. M. Thomasson and G. B. Reid, Committee.

Next the report on Obituaries was read and adopted as follows: We are sorry to report the loss of so many of our brethren and sisters. We report the following number of deaths: Center Ridge, Elnora Terry; Liberty Hill, L. M. Loomus; Glenwood, 4; Amity, 5, S. N. Studdard, W. T. Garrett, Hildred Jernigan, Sina Garner and Annie Abernathy; Union 2, Cassie Payne, and Carrie Hancock; Bethlehem 1.

Omer Thomasson and Arthur Henderson, Com.

Brother F. S. Patterson at this time made a short talk referring to the illness and absence of Brother J. R. Hardy, after which he read the report of the committee on Sunday school work which was adopted. Sunday school work means more than has ever been imparted to us as a people. More than we are able to tell you. Its good work and influence is deeper than we have ever been able to comprehend. Here in the Sunday school is where we as Baptist people have the blessed privilege of instilling the principles of the gospel of our blessed Master Jesus Christ, as he has taught by precept and example which we know is not the crafty work of man, but according to the Holy word of God. Every Baptist church today is appealed to to discountenance every effort to unionize with the doctrine of men. We can not as loyal subjects of our blessed Redeemer intrust our children to the care and tutorage of men or women who practice and teach doctrines contrary and inconsistent to the declarations of

God's divine word. As Baptist people we have the right to organize Baptist Sunday schools wherever there is a Baptist church without apology to any man or woman. And as the right of way is ours, we insist that every Baptist church under the province of God organize and maintain a Baptist Sunday school under its own jurisdiction. Union Sunday schools never were born of legitimate parentage, but from the greed of plurality instead of a Holy passion of the Glory of God. How can you or another harmonize and discord to the praise of God?

F. S. Patterson and O. A. Featherston, Com.

The report on Foreign Missions was next read and adopted as follows: We your committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to report that while the general work of the Baptist church on foreign missions has been very extensive and on the increase the interest of our association seems to have lagged. From the church letters read we conclude that foreign missions are not urged by local pastors and laymen as they should be. We suggest that each church delegation return home at the close of this association more determined than ever to see that the good work of foreign evangelization shall go forward till every human creature shall know of Christ and his redeeming Love.

W. S. Ward and R. P. Wilkerson, Committee.

The committee on Finance made the following report which was adopted: For Minutes and Clerk \$26.36; Orphans Home Texarkana \$1.00; Home Missions \$1.06; Associational Missions \$1.50.

C. N. Roberson and R. B. Porter, Committee.

Next the Committee on Divine services reported that Brother W. P. Taylor would preach Saturday night at 7:30 and Brother D. W. Cornish Sunday at 11 o'clock a. m.

Upon motion of Brother F. M. Thomasson a vote of thanks was extended to the church and the good people of Alpine for their grand hospitality.

Upon motion of Brother Teague the clerk was authorized to print as many minutes as the minute fund would permit.

By motion and second the body adjourned to meet with Midway Church, Clark County, at 10 o'clock a. m. on Friday before the first Sunday in October, 1917.

Brother W. P. Taylor preached an able sermon Saturday night, and Brother D. W. Cornish preached at 11 o'clock a. m. Sunday to a large and appreciative audience.

D. W. Cornish, M. Rountree.

Moderator. Clerk.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in a true and living God.
2. We believe that the Scriptures, comprising the Old and New Testaments, are the words of God, and the only rules of faith and practice.
3. We believe in the doctrine of election according to the foreknowledge of God the father, through sanctification of the spirit unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ.
4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin by the fall of Adam.
5. We believe in man's inability, of his own free will and ability, to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature.
6. We believe that the sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imparted righteousness of Christ only.
7. We believe that the saints shall be preserved in grace and never fall finally away.
8. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are the ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of baptism, and that immersion is the Apostolic mode.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and in the general judgment, and that the felicity of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

10. We believe that no minister has any right to administer the ordinances of the gospel but one who has been regularly baptized and comes under imposition of the hands of the Presbytery.

11. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have any right to commune at the Lord's Supper.

12. We believe that the Lord's day should be observed as a day of rest and religious devotion.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This union shall be known and distinguished by the name of the Pike County Baptist Association.

ART. 2. This Association shall be composed of delegates from the churches of the union. Each church shall be entitled to three delegates, who shall be required to furnish satisfactory evidence of their appointment by the several churches before they take their seats.

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

ART. 4. This Association shall not interfere with the rights of the churches of which it is composed. It shall regard them as independent in matters of internal government, and shall act as advisory council, assuming no authority except what is expressly delegated to it by the churches, or evidently implied by the nature of the compact. It, nevertheless, claims authority over its members, the delegates from churches, and in justness and propriety must have

power to withdraw from, and disown, all churches which depart from the spirit of the compact by becoming heterodox in faith or disorderly in practice. It should, therefore, regard all churches united under this constitution with a vigilant eye for good. Its principal business shall be to promote the declarative glory for God by extending the kingdom of grace on earth through the medium of preaching the gospel and the means in accordance with the gospel, to cultivate fellowship and union with all the churches of Christ, especially those united in this constitution.

ART. 5 Newly constituted churches dismissed from other associations of the same faith and order may be admitted into this union by sending three delegates, their number in fellowship, baptized, received by letter, dismissed, excommunicated, restored and deceased since last session, and all other information which the churches may deem important, which shall be read and minuted.

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CHURCHES, PASTORS AND CLERKS

CHURCHES	PASTORS	POST OFFICE	CLERKS	POST OFFICE
Amity	F. A. Holt	Amity	G. B. Reid	Amity
Alpine	F. E. Teague	Amity	J. H. Howell	Alpine
Bethel	A. W. Burchfield	Amity	C. S. Palmer	Glenwood
Bethlehem	F. E. Teague	Amity	W. J. Taylor	Kirby
Caney Fork	F. E. Teague	Amity	J. W. Kelley	Shawmut
Caney Vale	F. E. Teague	Amity	J. W. Cantrell	
Center Ridge	W. I. Feazell	Pike City	Andrew Terry	Pike City
Gethsemane	J. F. Wears		J. T. Speakman	Leard
Liberty Hill	W. M. Patterson	Pike City	M. Rountree	Delight
Midway	J. A. Shackelford	Glenwood	J. T. Harvey	Amity
Murfreesboro				
Pike City	W. I. Feazell	Pike City	Mrs. S. N. Harris	Pike City
Pilgrim's Rest	T. J. Wright	Fancy Hill	J. R. White	Lodi
Spring Hill	W. M. Patterson	Pike City	P. M. Funkerburk	Pike City
Salem	F. E. Teague	Amity	P. B. Thrash	Glenwood
Salem, of Clark	A. W. Burchfield	Amity	J. C. Garner	Glenwood
Glenwood	W. L. A. Stranburg	Glenwood	A. L. Butcher	Glenwood

STATISTICAL REPORT

CHURCHES	Increase			Decrease			Membership	Days of Meeting	Pastors Salary	Association Missions	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Orphans Home	Minutes & Clerk	Incidentals	Sunday School Enrollment	Expenses	Kind of Literature
	Baptism	Letter	Restoration	By Letter	Died	Excluded													
Amity		6		10	5	3	276		400 00		13 50	17 13		14 53	3 00	30 15	118	48 45	S.B.C.
Alpine	2	4		3	2	2	53								1 40		45		
Bethel				1			23	3							1 40		Not	Given	
Bethlehem	2			3	1	1	91								1 00		Not	Given	
Caney Fork	2			3		4	49	2						1 00	40		35		L. M.
Caney Valley	4	1		3											1 00				
Center Ridge	1	1	1	1	1		47	2	40 00						1 50				
Gethsemane	4	2				3	20		43 16	1 50					85				
Glenwood	3	10		10	4	4	109	2&4	400 00			26 66		38 35	4 00	43 00	125	71 00	S.B.C.
Liberty Hill	7	2		2	1		76	1		2 00	1 75	2 00			1 25		46	12 00	L. M
Midway	1						80								1 00		Not	Given	
Murfreesboro															1 65		41		S.B.C.
Pike City	1		1	2			29							35	1 00				
Pilgrims Rest	3						36								1 95				
Spring Hill						1	29								75				
Salem	6				1	2	74	1							3 30				
Salem, of Clark				2			25	2							60				
Totals	46	26	2	40	15	20	1072			3 50		45 79		57 23	26 36			131 45	

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to order.
2. Devotional Exercises.
3. Temporary Organization.
4. Introductory Sermon.
5. Appointment of Reading Clerks.
6. Reading of Church Letters.
7. Permanent Organization.
8. Call For Petitionary Letters.
9. Invitation to Visiting Brethern to Seats in Council.
10. Appointment of Committees.
11. Miscellaneous Business.
12. Report of Committees.
13. Report of Treasurer.
14. Miscellaneous Business.