

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF

BIG CREEK BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE

LIBERTY BAPTIST CHURCH
VIOLA, ARKANSAS

SEPTEMBER 25, 26, 27, 1909

Moderator,	-	-	-	-	Elder Wm. Bowling
Clerk,	-	-	-	-	Bro. J. W. Carroll

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Saturday's Proceedings.

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. S. M. Oliver, of Shady Grove church. Text Acts 7th chapter and 28th verse. Subject "Paul's charge to the church of Ephesus."

The meeting adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m.

After devotional exercises by Elder McQuistian the 35th annual session of Big Creek Association met with Liberty Baptist church, Viola, Ark., September 25, 1909, at 2 o'clock p. m.

The association organized by electing Elder Wm. Bowling, of Salem, moderator and Bro. J. W. Carroll, of Viola, Ark., The moderator called for letters from the different churches within the bounds of the Association, whereupon the following churches were reported by their messengers:

Diamond Springs—W. M. Fout, Allen Wilkins, Peter Tanner, W. F. Wood.

Enterprise—M. I. Questian, William Cotton, R. L. Thompson, Elder R. K. Pope.

Macedonia—Oscar Talley, Arthur Talley, B. M. Talley.

Liberty—G. B. Keith, Ed Cargill, Isaac Allen and Pheobe Ellis.

Flora—W. A. Mize, W. B. Hodges, H. S. Talley, A. D. Barker.

Mt. Zion—Jake Moore, J. D. Cochran, G. W. Gipson, V. T. Wood.

Oak Grove—W. D. McElmury, A. A. McElmury, G. C. Jones, H. P. Walker.

Pleasant Grove—Marion Bench, T. I. Holloway, E. J. Bratcher.

Shady Grove—Walter Goodwin, S. M. Oliver, Thomas Fetter, J. G. Ferguson, Bob Kelton.

Salem—W. H. Bowling, T. A. Goodwin, J. T. Hudson, T. G. Hawkins.

Viola—A. B. Wainright, Harry Ashley, J. W. Carroll.

County Line—J. K. Powell, A. S. Gailbrath, E. F. Armstrong, Palestine Pope.

New Bethel—Walter Hines, Ed Batterton, Louis Millon, Ollie Cooper.

Liberty Hill—Sam Webb, W. R. Fountain.

Elizabeth—Ruth Case, W. P. Custer, Alice Shelton, W. M. Shelton.

Churches not represented, Spring River, Highland Park, Plum Grove.

Call for visiting ministers—whereupon Elders White, Chadwick, Cooper and Sanders were received and invited to council with us in our deliberations.

Call for corresponding messengers—Elder W. H. McChristian reported present from Rocky Bayou Association.

Call for petitionary letters—by motion the letter of Elizabeth Church was received and messengers seated.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

Religious exercises—Pastor and messengers of Liberty church.

To draft blank for a uniform associational letter—E. F. Armstrong, R. K. Pope and E. R. Treadaway.

Committee on devotional exercises—Reported preaching Saturday night by Elders W. M. Cooper and Sanders. Sunday morning at 11 o'clock preaching by Elders W. H. McChristian and W. H. Bowling.

The moderator appointed the following committees:

On foreign missions—Elders S. M. Oliver, T. F. Cargill and Bro. J. D. Cawhorn.

On home missions—Elders E. R. Treadaway, W. M. Cooper and W. H. McChristian.

On Sunday schools—Elders R. E. Richardson, N. T. Chadwick and Bro. G. C. Jones.

On church letters—Elders R. K. Pope, E. R. Treadway and Bro. E. F. Armstrong.

The association adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock Saturday night.

At 7 o'clock the association met and selected Oak Grove church 6 miles north of Viola, Ark., for the next association.

The association agreed to take up Sunday school work at 9:30 o'clock Sunday morning.

Preaching Saturday night by Elders W. M. Cooper and George Sanders, subject "Preciousness of Jesus."

Sunday's Proceedings.

The association met at 9:30 o'clock and after religious exercises led by Elder S. M. Oliver the committee on Sunday school made their report (see reports of committees) Elders S. M. Oliver, R. K. Pope, T. F. Cargill, E. R. Treadaway and W. H. Bowling spoke to the report.

The association adjourned until 2:30 p. m.

Preaching at 11 o'clock by Elders W. H. McChristian and W. H. Bowling, subjects "Preaching of the Gospel." Text Acts 1st chapter and 8th verse.

At 2:30 p. m. the association met and after religious exercises led by Elder W. T. Chadwick, the discussion on report of Sunday school was resumed. Elder W. T. Chadwick and Bro. E. F. Armstrong spoke to the report, and by motion it was adopted.

By motion the association agreed to organize and maintain a Sunday school convention. Bro. E. F. Armstrong, of County Line church was elected president, G. C. Jones, of Oak Grove, vice president and Miss Saraphine Pope, of Vidette, Ark., corresponding secretary. It was decided by the officers to hold the first convention with Viola church, Viola, Ark., beginning on Friday night before the 5th Sunday in November.

The moderator appointed the following messengers to the different sister associations.

Union—Bros. John Powell, A. S. Gailbrath and E. F. Armstrong.

Rocky Bayou—Bros. Thomas Foster and Sam Webb.

White River—Bros. R. E. Richardson and Peter Tanner.

The committee on orphans' home made their report and Elder R. K. Pope preached an able discourse in support of the orphans' home, text 1st chapter of James 27 verse. After which a collection was taken resulting in \$9.10 for the support of the home. By motion the report was adopted (see report of committees).

Monday's Proceedings.

The association met according to adjournment, and after devotional exercises led by Elder R. K. Pope, the clerk proceeded to call the roll of messengers.

Reading of minutes of Saturday and Sunday meetings. A motion was made to strike out that part of the minutes referring to correspondence with Union Association, motion lost.

Call for corresponding messengers.

Call for petitionary letters.

Call for reports of committees, whereupon the following committees made their reports and by motion was adopted as follows:

We your committee on foreign missions would say: As Jesus commanded to teach and baptise and promised to be with his disciples all the way even to the end of the world. As we believe this has been perpetuated by the church, it is binding on the church to send the gospel to all nations, therefore we ought to give of our means in support of cause.

S. M. OLIVER,
T. F. CARGILL,
J. D. COCHRAN,
Committee.

We your committee on home missions would report the following: We advise that all of our churches make liberal contributions for home missions. We believe it is our duty to preach the gospel in this great land of ours, and that it is a part of the commission; and we urge that every member do all they can to spread the gospel in our own beloved land.

W. H. McCHRISTIAN,
W. M. COOPER,
E. R. TREADAWAY,
Committee.

We your committee on state missions submit the following report: Our state convention is doing all in its power to take Arkansas for Christ, and preach old time Baptist doctrines in every part of the state for this we praise God, but we are sorrow that Big Creek Association is doing so little to help them save our fallen brethren.

On the account of this lamentable account of affairs, we recommend that the pastor of each church preach on missions

more so that the members may understand their duty better in this respect.

R. K. POPE,
E. R. TREADAWAY,
W. H. McCHRISTIAN,
Committee.

We your committee on temperance would make the following report:

Dear brethren, we are all agreed that the use of intoxicating drinks is one of our Savior's worst enemies and the devil's best friend. Therefore we believe it is the duty of the church to be up and doing something on this line. We recommend that the churches in this association make the use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage a test of church fellowship.

W. R. FOUNTAIN,
G. R. SAUNDERS,
Committee.

Your committee on christian education would submit the following: True education consists in training the mind and heart for the duties of life, and we believe the best schools are the ones controlled by the Baptist denomination. We believe our schools in Arkansas offer special inducements to our young people. We believe the Baptists of Big Creek Association should seek out young men that feel called of God to preach, and urge them to attend one of our colleges, and urge the Baptists of this association to assist them financially in obtaining an education.

G. P. KEITH,
J. F. COX,
E. F. ARMSTRONG,
Committee.

We your committee on Sunday school work beg leave to submit the following: Realizing the great need of our children being taught the word of God, we urge the churches to organize Sunday schools and supply them with Baptist literature, and urge parents to attend Sunday school with their children, thereby showing greater interest in religious education; we further urge that collections be taken in the Sunday schools for the following causes: 1st Sunday, foreign missions; 2nd, orphans' home; 3rd, for home missions; 4th, for Sunday school purposes.

G. C. JONES,
N. T. CHADWICK,
R. E. RICHARDSON,
Committee.

We your committee on deceased members would submit the following: In this year providence has seen fit to call from our

rank Brothers M. W. Wilkins, Lum Webb, B. M. Shelton and J. A. Bowling and Sisters Maria McElmurry and Janie Bray. These brothers and sisters have passed to a home on high. We miss their presence and mourn our loss, but knowing that our loss is heaven's gain, we meekly submit to the will of Him who doeth all things well

G. C. JONES,

T. A. GOODWIN,

JOHN K. POWELL,

Committee.

We your committee on destitution would say: That we find the gospel is being preached in all parts of the county except the eastern and a portion of the west, and we therefore recommend that the board employ a preacher to go into these places and preach the gospel.

MAT IVESTER,

JOSEPH WHITE,

J. D. COCHRAN,

Committee.

We your committee on finances would make the following report:

Received from the different churches for minute fund \$13.60.

A. D. BARKER,

A. S. GAILBRATH,

Committee.

We your committee on orphans' home beg leave to submit the following report: We find that our orphans' home at Monticello supported and maintained by Baptists throughout Arkansas where children of our deceased brothers and sisters are cared for and educated is an institution that every member of the Baptist family in our state should feel proud; for which we should all give the glory to the Lord. But by an earnest effort on our part much more could be accomplished on this line; therefore we should contribute liberally and cheerfully to its support.

S. M. OLIVER,

R. E. RICHARDSON,

W. P. CUSTER,

Committee.

Report of Central Board for the year 1909: We employed Elders R. K. Pope and J. F. Cox to do some preaching at Elizabeth, Ark., for which we paid them \$12.50. We also employed R. E. Richardson to hold a meeting at Pin Hook for which we paid him \$10.

J. D. COCHRAN,

W. R. KING,

G. W. BRAY,

Committee.

The following brethren compose the Central Board for the year 1910. G. C. Jones, chairman, Moody, Mo.; E. F. Armstrong, clerk, Bakersfield, Mo.; J. D. Cochran, treasurer, Union, Ark.; Z. T. Carroll, Viola, Ark.; E. J. Bratcher, Lanton, Mo.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK	LOCATION	Days Meeting	Received by Letter	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Deaths	Total Membership	Minutes Fund	Value of Property	Pastor's Salary	Paid Missions
Diamond Springs	Geo. Sanders	Allen Wilkins	Elizabeth, A	3	1				1	25	50			
Enterprise	J. F. Cox	Edna Grisso	Viola, A	1	1	4				48	1 00	300	40	
Macedonia	J. P. White	Arthur Talley	Byron, A	2	3		3	1	1	42	65		12	
Liberty	E. R. Treadaway	G. P. Keith	Viola, A	3					1	45	1 00			
Flora		Z. T. Carroll	Viola, A	2						27	1 00			
Mt. Zion	J. F. Cox	Sam Miller	Union, A	3	3		4			89	1 50		50	
Oak Grove	R. K. Pope	Fred Walker	Moody, Mo	2	22	4	1			100	1 50		36	4 78
Pleasant Grove	T. J. Holloway	Jane Bench	Lanton, Mo				1	1		65	50	200		
Shady Grove	J. P. White	J. G. Ferguson	Viola, A	4	1		6		1	65	40	300		
Salem	E. R. Treadaway	H. A. Goatcher	Salem, A	2	4	1	1			65	1 50	500	30	
Viola	E. R. Treadaway	Chas. Dixon	Viola, A	4	19	1				33	1 50		43	
County Line	J. F. Cox	E. F. Armstrong	Bakersfield, Mo	4			1			36	1 00		42	3 75
New Bethel	S. M. Oliver	L. Million	Viola, A	1			5	1	1	27	1 05		16	
Liberty Hill	W. B. Mason	James Webb	Oxford, A	1	1					40	50	100	15	
Elizabeth	G. R. Sanders	W. P. Custer	Elizabeth, A	1	5	5					50			