

MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-SEVENTH MEETING

OF THE

Big Creek

Missionary Baptist Association

HELD WITH

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH

FULTON COUNTY, ARK.

SEPTEMBER 21, 22 and 23,

1911.

D. W. H. BOWLING,	-	-	-	-	Moderator.
O. M. GOODWIN,	-	-	-	-	Clerk.

PROCEEDINGS

September 21, 1911, the Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association met in its 37th annual session with Macedonia Church.

Called to order by Moderator W. H. Bowling, who also led in prayer. Introductory sermon by S. M. Oliver. Text Psa. 65—2. Theme, prayer. After many good thoughts by Eld. Oliver the sermon was concluded by R. I. Hiner, who gave some good advice concerning the subject. Adjourned to 2 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. The former clerk being absent, Geo. M. Goodwin was appointed temporary clerk. After singing and prayer by Eld. S. M. Oliver, the moderator appointed Eld. R. I. Hiner and J. W. Carroll reading clerks. Called for letters from the churches and the following reported by messengers:

Macedonia—Pink Felts and C. T. Soden.

Oak Grove—J. T. McElmurry, Geo. M. Goodwin, M. J. Holman and P. C. Collier.

Shady Grove—Homer Floyd, R. E. Richardson, S. M. Oliver and Vista Richardson.

Liberty Hill—Sam Webb and Willie Webb.

Liberty—G. P. Keith, Isaac Allen and W. A. Williford.

Diamond Spring—G. W. Finley.

Mt. Zion—J. D. Cochran, Perry Prewitt and V. T. Woods.

County Line—C. B. Pope, E. F. Armstrong, Hattie Smith and Grace Pope.

Pleasant Grove—E. J. Bratcher, T. J. Holloway and Lonzo Foust.

Viola—R. I. Hiner, Edgar Burns and J. W. Carroll.

Highland Park—Henry Briscoe, W. C. McGinty, Lola Briscoe and Lena Cackley.

Enterprise—M. I. Ivester.

Flora—H. S. Talley, J. M. Goodwin and Jane Talley.

Salem—T. A. Goodwin and W. H. Bowling.

The several letters being read, a motion was made to go into election of moderator and clerk. Motion carried and the election

resulted in the election of Eld. W. H. Bowling moderator and Geo. M. Goodwin clerk.

A call was made for petitionary letters. None.

Called for corresponding messengers and ministers. None.

A motion was made to select place for next meeting of the Association. The motion carried and Viola Church was selected by vote. Eld. R. I. Hiner was selected to preach the introductory sermon, Eld. W. H. Bowling alternate.

The moderator appointed the messengers of Macedonia church committee on devotional exercises.

Committees were appointed on the following subjects:

State Mission—R. I. Hiner, J. D. Cochran and Joe Bratcher

Foreign Mission—R. E. Richardson, J. W. Carroll and Chas. Soden.

Home Mission—S. M. Oliver, T. J. Holloway and J. T. McMurry.

The committee on devotional exercises appointed Bro. Hiner to preach Thursday night. Adjourned to 8:30 Friday.

Preaching Thursday night by Eld. Hiner. Text, Acts 2:42. Theme, fellowship and doctrine. The subject was one of interest and being well presented was received with interest.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Called to order by singing and prayer led by Eld. Joe White. Minutes of previous meeting read and roll called.

The call was renewed for corresponding messengers and ministers, and responded to by Eld. White of Rocky Bayou Association. He was welcomed to a seat by the moderator.

Committees were appointed as follows:

Religious Literature—E. F. Armstrong, J. H. Briscoe and Isaac Allen.

Deceased Members—Sam Webb, M. I. Ivester and Thos. A. Goodwin.

Christian Education—R. I. Hiner, S. W. King and Homer Floyd.

Orphans' Home—S. M. Oliver, Chas. Soden and John Goodwin.

Temperance—R. I. Hiner, S. M. Oliver and E. F. Armstrong.

Finance—Pink Felts, Perry Prewitt and M. J. Holeman.

Sunday School—Geo. M. Goodwin, R. E. Richardson and S. M. Oliver.

Destitution—T. J. Holloway, Joe Bratcher and Will McGinty.

Called for report of committees. Committee on state mission reported and motion made to adopt report. Discussed by R. I. Hiner and W. H. Bowling, after which a collection amounting to \$2.26 was taken for state mission. Report adopted. (See report.)

Report on foreign mission read and moved to adopt. Discussed by J. W. Carroll and W. H. Bowling. Adopted. (See report.)

Report on home mission read and moved to adopt. Discussed by S. M. Oliver, T. J. Holloway and R. I. Hiner. Adopted. (See report.)

The committee on devotional exercises appointed W. H. Bowling to preach at 11 a. m., and Joe White to preach at night.

Adjourned to 2 p. m. Preaching at 11 a. m. by Eld. W. H. Bowling. Text, John 14:16. Theme, "The Spirit's Work."

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Called to order by singing and prayer led by Eld. T. J. Holloway. While a song was being sung the hat was passed for Milton Battles, a blind boy, and the contributions amounted to \$5.24.

Report on religious literature was read and moved to adopt. Discussed by T. J. Holloway and W. H. Bowling. Report adopted. (See report.)

Report on deceased members read and adopted. (See report.)

Report on christian education read and moved to adopt. Discussed at length by Elds. R. I. Hiner, Joe White, R. E. Richardson and W. H. Bowling. Report adopted. (See report.)

Adjourned to 8:30 Saturday morning.

Preaching Friday night by Eld. Joe White. Text, Isa. 9:6. Theme, "Wonderful Counsellor."

MORNING SESSION, 8:30 A. M.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. Called to order by the moderator. After singing Bro. G. W. Finley led in prayer.

Minutes read and approved. Roll called.

Renewed call for letters and responded to by Union Hill. Letter was read and messenger, W. T. Fowler, was seated.

Call renewed for corresponding messengers. Responded to by Eld. W. M. Cooper from Rocky Bayou Association.

Report on destitution was read and moved to adopt. Discussed by T. J. Holloway, W. H. Bowling and E. F. Armstrong. Adopted. (See report.)

A collection was taken for associational mission amounting to \$20.25 and pledges to the amount of \$24.25 to be paid by December 1, 1911.

A central board was elected as follows: E. F. Armstrong, chairman, Geo. M. Goodwin, secretary-treasurer, J. D. Cochran, J. W. Carroll, W. C. McGinty and the clerks of the churches. \$27.39 was turned over to the treasurer to be paid out as the board directed.

Committee on orphans' home read report and after some short discussions the report was adopted. (See report.) A collection was taken for orphans' home amounting to \$4.23.

Committee on finance reported. Adopted. (See report.)

Report on temperance read and moved to adopt. Discussed by Elds. W. H. Bowling, R. I. Hiner and E. F. Armstrong. Report adopted. (See report.)

A motion was made to dispense with preaching at 11 a. m. that the work of the Association might be finished by noon, as several messengers wanted to get home Saturday night. Motion carried.

Report on Sunday school read and moved to adopt. Discussed by George Goodwin, E. F. Armstrong, Homer Floyd, R. I. Hiner and S. M. Oliver. Report adopted. (See report.)

The president of the Sunday School Convention made a report, which was adopted. (See report.)

A motion carried to continue the Sunday School Convention on each 5th Sunday and Friday night and Saturday before. The following officers were elected for this year: E. F. Armstrong, president, Geo. M. Goodwin, vice-president, Isaac Allen, secretary-treasurer. Oak Grove church was the place selected for the October meeting, to begin Friday night before the 5th Sunday.

The committee on condition of the churches of the Association made a report, which was adopted, (which see.) The committee

was retained for another year.

Corresponding messengers were appointed as follows:

To Rocky Bayou Association—J. T. McElmurry, T. A. Goodwin, J. D. Cochran and S. W. King.

To White River Association—R. I. Hiner and W. T. Fowler. Eld. W. H. Bowling and E. F. Armstrong were elected to attend the Southern Baptist Convention at Oklahoma City in May, 1912.

Resolutions: "Be it resolved, that the thanks of this Association be and are hereby tendered to Macedonia Church and vicinity for their kind hospitality in entertaining the members of the Association." Resolution adopted.

Motion to adjourn to meet with Viola Church at 10 a. m. on Thursday before the 4th Sunday in September, 1912.

ELD. W. H. BOWLING, Moderator.

GEO. M. GOODWIN, Clerk.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

State Mission: We, your committee on state mission, make the following report: Our state convention is doing a great work in preaching the gospel to the lost. The work is increasing year by year, which necessitates a greater amount of means. We therefore recommend that the Baptists of Big Creek Association pray the Lord to send more laborers into the field, and with their means contribute liberally to the support of the great work.—R. I. Hiner, E. J. Bratcher, J. D. Cochran, Committee.

Foreign Mission: We, your committee on foreign mission, prayerfully submit the following: That we have more missionaries in foreign fields and their labors have been rewarded in the past year more than any other year in the history of the church. We especially commend the work of our missionaries in the South American republics, where a few years ago we had no church. We have now 58 regular churches with a combined membership of over 5,000. The gospel is being preached in almost every country upon the globe, and faithful men and women are sacrificing their lives to the cause. We should all help in this great work if we would receive the reward. Last year the foreign board fell behind \$65,000, and as this amount, together with this year's expenses, must be raised, we must make a greater effort than ever

before. We recommend that the pastors of each church of this Association take a collection at their regular meeting in April for this purpose.—C. T. Soden, R. E. Richardson, J. W. Carroll, Committee.

Home Mission: We, your committee on home mission, submit the following report: We realize the great need of gospel preaching in this home land of ours. We recommend that the churches make contributions and also that each individual member give of their means to support the work that is being carried on in spreading the gospel and preaching it where it is not.—S. M. Oliver, T. J. Holloway, J. T. McElmurry, Committee.

Religious Literature: We, your committee, report the following: As is the reading so is the mind. This is an age of reading and the country is filled with trashy literature, and it behooves us to look well to the reading of the young people. For this we have nothing better to recommend than the word of God and the different publications issued by our publishing houses.—E. F. Armstrong, I. B. Allen, J. H. Briscoe, Committee

Deceased Members: We, your committee, report the following: We find that death has removed from our ranks Sister Kate Light of Shady Grove Church, Anna Talley and Drew Chadwick of Macedonia Church. We are sad to report our loss, but we believe that our loss is their eternal gain.—T. A. Goodwin, M. I. Ivester, Committee.

Christian Education: We, your committee, report the following: As education is the qualifying of youths for life's duties, and as parents are responsible for the early training of the child, (Pro. 22:6), we recommend the schools of Arkansas that are controlled by the Baptists, and that we as Baptists should urge our young preachers to attend one of our Baptist colleges. We also recommend that our pastors and preachers of Big Creek Association preach one sermon on this subject this coming year and take a collection to aid the work.—R. I. Hiner, H. H. Floyd, Committee.

Destitution: We, your committee on destitution, report the following: We find a great part of this Association destitute of Baptist preaching, especially in the east and west.—T. J. Holloway, W. C. McGinty, Committee.

Orphans' Home: We, your committee, make the following report: We have about 135 orphans in the home at Monticello

that are being educated and cared for by the Baptists. We recommend that each church make a contribution in October for orphans' home.—S. M. Oliver, C. T. Soden, John Goodwin, Committee.

Finance: We, your committee, submit the following: We receive from the several churches \$16.50 for minutes fund. A collection amounting to 50 cents was taken; total, \$17.50.—Pink Felts, M. J. Holeman, Committee.

Temperance: We, your committee on temperance, beg to submit the following: We reiterate our previous position on the question of temperance, and urge our people to use every means possible to eradicate the nefarious and degrading sale and use of intoxicating liquors.—R. I. Hiner, E. F. Armstrong, S. M. Oliver, Committee.

Sunday School: We, your committee on Sunday school, beg leave to submit the following report: We find that only a few of the churches of this Association are running a Sunday school. Realizing the importance of the Bible being taught to the young, we urgently insist that each church organize and maintain a school throughout the year, and that each school co-operate with the Sunday School Convention. We recommend Baptist literature in connection with the Bible. We also urge each pastor to talk and do more Sabbath school work.—Geo. M. Goodwin, R. E. Richardson, S. M. Oliver, Committee.

Convention Report by the President: Dear Brethren: The Sunday school board has held three conventions this year, and the letters to the Association would indicate that our people are beginning to realize the importance of this wonderful means of leading the world to Christ and the training of God's people to a higher plane of christianity and usefulness. We recommend a continuation of this great work.—E. F. Armstrong, President of Board.

Church Report: We, your committee appointed to report at this session of the Association, report the churches in better condition than a year ago. We find every church of the Association represented by letter and messengers. We also find the churches of this Association have been increased 96 members by baptism this year, and there are 9 Sunday schools in the Association. Signed, Geo. M. Goodwin.—W. T. Fowler, R. E. Richardson, T. A. Goodwin, Committee.

Ordained Ministers Present—W. H. Bowling, R. I. Hiner, T. J. Holloway, S. M. Oliver, R. E. Richardson, Joe White, W. M. Cooper, W. T. Fowler, Chas. Soden.

Licensed Minister Present—Shelby King.

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This Association shall be known by the name of Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association, and shall be for the purpose of creating a stronger bond of love and fellowship among the members of the churches composing it. (as amended in 1910.)

Art. 2. The members composing the annual meeting of the Association shall consist of messengers sent by the churches.

Art. 3. The messengers sent by the churches to the annual meeting shall not exceed four from each church.

Art. 4. The Association shall meet annually at such time and place as shall have previously been appointed.

Art. 5. The officers of this Association shall consist of a moderator, clerk and treasurer, who shall be chosen by a majority of the messengers annually at the annual meeting of the body.

Art. 6. This Association shall have no power to control or regulate the internal affairs or discipline of any church, but it may adopt or recommend all such measures as shall be considered best calculated to produce the harmony and prosperity of the churches, and advise and consult upon the matter as the churches may at any time present for their consideration and advice. It may receive churches into this Association or dismiss churches from the body, inquire into 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.

Art. 7. 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.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	P. O.	Days of Meeting	Membership.					Deaths	Value of Church	Pd. Pastor	Pd. Minutes	Pd. Orphans' H.	Pupils in S. S. ...	Pupils Enrolled
					Incr.		Decr.									
					By Letter Baptisms.	Restored	Recomdn	Excluded.	Dismissed							
Oak Grove.....	W. H. Bowling	J. T. McElmurry.	Moody, Mo.	2 16	4	2	3	1	5	118	\$.....	\$60.00	\$2.00	\$.....	30	60
County Line.....		E. F. Armstrong.	Bakersfield, Mo ..	4 5	8		1	3	1	83	300	57.65	2.00	2.50	66	106
Shady Grove.....	J. P. White	Van Richardson	Salem, Ark	2 4	1			1	4	46	200	30.00	1.00			
Liberty	S. M. Oliver	G. P. Keith	Byron, Ark.....	3 8	1	1		1	3	51	300	30.00	1.00			
Macedonia.....	W. M. Cooper	C. T. Soden.....	Wheeling, Ark..	4 6		1		1	4	46	100		1.00			
Viola	R. I. Hiner	J. W. Carroll	Viola, Ark..		6			1	1	40		40.00	2.50	2.70		
Union Hill.....	J. H. Porterfield	J. M. Langston	Hand, Ark.	3						26			.50			35
Highland Park	— Burton	Lola Briscoe	Lanton, Mo	3 32		2	8			84	600		1.50		60	106
Mt. Zion	J. P. Lovelace	Sam Miller	Union, Ark	13	1		4		6	98	400	50.00	1.50			
Salem	J. H. Porterfield	W. W. Humphries	Salem, Ark	2 2	2		1		2	93	700	60.00	1.00		46	64
Flora		Z. T. Carroll	Viola, Ark..	3	1					34			1.00			
Enterprise.....	W. H. Bowling	Rosa Wood	Vidette, Ark.	1 4	1				4	42	300	60.00	1.00		25	
Pleasant Grove		E. J. Bratcher	Moko, Ark						2	12	200				50	
Liberty Hill	— McCuiston	S. W. Webb		1						30	100	25.00	.50			
Diamond Spring	— Sanders	A. Wilkins	Henderson, Ark.	4 12						45			.75			

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