

MINUTES OF THE FORTIETH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE

Big Creek

Missionary Baptist Association,

HELD WITH COUNTY LINE BAPTIST
CHURCH, COUNTY LINE, ARKANSAS,

September 24, 25, 26,

1914.



ELD. W. H. BOWLING,	-	-	-	-	-	MODERATOR.
OSCAR E. ELLIS,	-	-	-	-	-	CLERK.

PROCEEDINGS.

Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association met with County Line Missionary Baptist Church at County Line, Arkansas, on September 24, 1914. The house was called to order by Rev. W. H. Bowling, the moderator of the preaching association.

After a beautiful song service conducted by Bro. Grover Ellison, Rev. J. F. Cox preached the introductory sermon. Subject, "Why I am a Baptist."

EVENING SESSION

House called to order by the moderator at 2 o'clock. After prayer by Bro. Henry Smith, the work of the Association was taken up. The clerk being absent, Oscar E. Ellis was appointed by the moderator as temporary clerk. Bros. Oscar Jones and E. F. Armstrong were appointed reading clerks. Letters from the following churches were read and the messengers enrolled:

Flora Church—Bros. J. F. Cox, Glen Clements, Davy Carroll, and Sister Mary Carroll.

Mt. Zion Church—Bros. J. D. Cochran, W. R. King, Toly Cochran, and R. I. Ballard.

Liberty Church—Bros. I. B. Allen, Edd Williford, Willis Williford, and Sister Belle Keith.

Salem Church—Bros. W. H. Bowling, Ed Ellis, and Sisters Martha Carter and Maud Crouch.

Enterprise Church—Bros. Troy Ivester, James Roby, Oscar E. Ellis, and Sister Cora Ivester.

Oak Grove Church—Bros. G. G. Jones, A. M. Farrell, P. C. Collins, and S. S. McElwee.

Diamond Spring Church—Bros. G. W. Findley, Sherman Queen, Herman Tanner, and W. L. Fowler.

Union Hill Church—Bros. J. M. Langston, C. F. Langston, C. W. Hill, and J. J. Ivie.

Pleasant Grove Church—Bros. E. J. Bratcher, T. J. Holloway, R. A. Holloway and C. L. Foust.

Highland Park Church—Bros. Ed Kackley, Robert Crowder, J. M. Lamons, and Sister Sopha Kackley.

County Line Church—Bros. E. F. Armstrong, W. S. Fore, and Sisters Amanda Hays and Ednie Galbreath.

Next in order was the election of a moderator and clerk for the next associational year. The vote was taken by Bros. Henry Dixon and E. F. Armstrong. Rev. W. H. Bowling was elected moderator and Oscar E. Ellis was elected clerk.

Next called for was corresponding messengers from sister Associations. Bro. Henry Smith introduced himself as a corresponding messenger from White River Association. After extending to him the right hand of fellowship, he was invited to a seat in the body by the moderator.

Motion was made and seconded that the moderator appoint the committee on Devotional Exercises. Motion carried. The messengers from County Line Church with their pastor were appointed as committee on Devotional Exercises. They reported as follows: Rev. W. H. Bowling to preach Thursday night at 7:30 P. M.; Rev. C. W. Hill seconded by J. J. Ivie to preach Friday at 11 A. M.; Rev. C. H. Browning to preach Friday at 7:30 P. M.; Rev. J. F. Cox to preach at 11 A. M. Saturday.

Following were appointed messengers to sister Associations:

Bros. E. F. Armstrong, J. K. Powell, and T. F. Neil were appointed as messengers to the Ozark County Association.

Bro. A. S. Galbreath and Rev. R. K. Pope were appointed messengers to the White River Association.

Bros. Reed King and T. J. McElmurry were appointed messengers to the Rocky Bayou Association.

Motion to adjourn until 9 A. M. Friday. Motion carried.

Preaching at 7:30 P. M. by Rev. W. H. Bowling, text Mat. 28

—20.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

The house was called to order by the moderator at 9 o'clock. Rev. R. K. Pope conducted the opening exercises by reading the 5th chapter of Matthew. Rev. C. H. Browning introduced himself as a visiting minister from Ozark County Association. After extending to him the right hand of fellowship, he was invited to a seat in the body by the moderator.

Next called for was the report of the committee on Foreign Missions: We, your committee on Foreign Missions, beg to report

as follows: The gospel of Jesus Christ is a world wide gospel and it is to be sent to the world by the Church of Christ. Therefore, if we are the Church of Christ, and certainly we are, we should do all we can to send this gospel to the entire world of mankind.—G. W. Findley, C. W. Hill, J. F. Cox, Committee.

After being read in hearing of the body and discussed by Rev. J. F. Cox, W. H. Bowling and R. K. Pope, was adopted.

Next called for was the report of committee on State Missions: "Your committee on State Missions would respectfully submit the following: The State Missions have grown until it is one of the greatest evangelical movements in the state. We have found when there is union there is strength. The board is more in need of funds than ever before. We should all contribute liberally to this work."—R. K. Pope, G. C. Jones, Committee.

After being read in the hearing of the body and discussed by R. K. Pope and J. F. Cox, motion carried to postpone further discussion of the report until 2 o'clock. The Association stood adjourned until 2 P. M. Preaching at 11 A. M. by Rev. C. W. Hill seconded by J. J. Ivie, text St. John 16—13.

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION.

The house was called to order by the moderator promptly at 2 o'clock. After a beautiful song service conducted by Bro. Grover Ellison and prayer by Rev. C. H. Browning, a further discussion of the report carried over from the morning session was undertaken by Rev. W. H. Bowling and Brother E. F. Armstrong. The report was adopted.

Next called for was the report on Associational Missions and Destitution: "We, your committee on Associational Missions and Destitution, would respectfully submit the following: Whereas, there is great destitution in our bounds, we would therefore recommend that this Association take steps to occupy the field by the appointment of an executive board whose duty it is to appoint a missionary for a part or all of his time to labor in our bounds next Associational year, and ask all the churches to contribute to his support and that they ask the state board to help pay him for his labor.—S. S. McElwee, E. F. Armstrong, Troy Ivester, Committee.

After being read in the hearing of the body and discussed by E. F. Armstrong, J. F. Cox, and T. F. Cargill, was adopted. At

this point pledges were made by several of the churches represented and several individual pledges were made by which a nice sum was pledged for the support of the mission work for the next year. The missionary board provided for by the report of the committee was appointed and are as follows: G. C. Jones, Chairman, Moody, Mo., J. T. McElmurry, Moody, Mo., Fred Walker, Moody, Mo., E. F. Armstrong, Secretary, Bakersfield Mo., E. J. Bratcher, Treasurer, Lanton, Mo.

Adjournment was taken until 9 A. M. Saturday. Rev. C. H. Browning preached at 7:30 P. M., text Mark 16—6.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

The house was called to order at 9 A. M. by the moderator. The song service was conducted by Oscar Ellis and prayer by J. J. Ivie.

Next called for was the report of the committee on Christian Education: "We, your committee, beg to report as follows: We believe that christian education is the only really correct education to be had. Therefore, we urge our brethren to render all possible assistance to our Baptist teachers and to support with genuine zeal our Baptist schools. Respectfully submitted.—T. F. Cargill, Tom Neil, J. F. Cox, Committee.

After being read in the hearing of the body and discussed by Revs. J. F. Cox, R. K. Pope, and W. H. Bowling, was adopted.

Next called for was the report of the committee on Home Missions: "We, your committee on Home Missions, beg to report as follows: In obedience to the commands of our beloved Master, who said go teach all nations, and as our home land is included in that commission, we urge all our churches to do all that they can for the great cause of missions, and urge that all our pastors preach at least twice a year on missions. Respectfully submitted.—T. F. Cargill, E. F. Armstrong, Committee.

After being read in the hearing of the body, was adopted without any discussion.

Next called for was the report of the committee on Baptist Literature: "We, your committee on Baptist Literature, would respectfully submit the following: The Bible is to be studied as the base and foundation of all religious knowledge, then we recommend the Baptist Advance or some other religious paper as a help.—R. K. Pope, J. K. Powell, Committee.

After being read in the hearing of the body and discussed by J. F. Cox and R. K. Pope, was adopted.

Next called for was the report of the committee on Sunday Schools: "We, your committee on Sunday Schools, beg leave to submit the following: Realizing the need of a good live evergreen Sunday School in every church in Big Creek Association, we ask the aid of each and every Baptist in the furtherance of this great work. We recommend the use of Baptist literature and Baptist publications to supplement the Bible. Also we recommend that Big Creek Association organize a Sunday School Convention, at this time, to help in the work.—J. D. Cochran, J. K. Powell, Committee.

After being read in the hearing of the body and discussed by R. K. Pope, J. F. Cox, J. K. Powell, E. J. Bratcher, T. F. Cargill, and G. C. Jones, was adopted. The Association at this time organized a Sunday School Convention, with E. J. Bratcher president, R. K. Pope vice president, and J. K. Powell secretary.

Next called for was the report of committee on Temperance: "We, your committee on Temperance, beg to submit the following report: Realizing as we do the immoral and evil effects of the sale and use of intoxicating liquors, and believing as we do that its sale and use has wrecked more homes, caused more heartaches, blighted more lives, brought more reproach on the church than any evil with which we are confronted, we therefore recommend that every member of this Association abstain from its use and use every means within their power to prevent the sale and use of same, and that all parents teach their children the dangerous and evil effects of its use and to abstain from the use of same —Henry Smith, James Roby, A. M. Farrell, Committee.

After being read in the hearing of the body and discussed by J. F. Cox and T. F. Cargill, was adopted.

Next called for was report of committee on Deceased Members: "We, your committee on Deceased Members, report the following deaths during the last year: Bro. A. A. McElmurry, Oak Grove; Bro. Fout, Union Hill; Sisters Findley, Diamond Spring; Jane Talley, Flora; P. M. Keith, Liberty. While we are made sorry over the loss of our loved ones, let us not weep as those who have no hope.—E. F. Armstrong, J. D. Cochran, Committee.

The report was adopted and the Association sang: "Oh, Think of the Home Over There." Motion was made, seconded, and carried to dispense with the preaching at 11 o'clock and continue the regular work of the Association.

Next called for was the report of the committee on Finance: "We, your committee on Finance, find that there has been \$11.05 sent by the different churches to pay for the printing of minutes. Respectfully submitted.—P. C. Collins, A. S. Galbraith, committee. The report was adopted. This amount was supplemented by a collection by which \$4.27 was raised. It was ordered by the Association that the clerk have 300 copies of the minutes and distributed to the various churches.

Next called for was resolutions.

Resolution of Thanks: Resolved, that we extend to the members of this community our sincere thanks for the generous hospitality so kindly given us while in their midst.—Offered by J. F. Cox.

Resolved, that the name of Big Creek Association be changed to Fulton County Association.—E. F. Armstrong, R. K. Pope.

Rev. R. K. Pope was selected, with C. W. Hill as alternate, to preach the next introductory sermon at the next Association, which will be at Diamond Sping on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1915.

Next called for was the report of the committee on Orphan's Home: "We, your committee on Orphan's Home, beg to submit the following report: It is true religion to visit and care for the fatherless children. We have gathered a number of them together at a home at Monticello, Arkansas, to educate and care for. This is done by the free will offering of the Baptists, and they ask for your hearty contribution.—R. K. Pope, T. F. Cargill, J. F. Cox, Committee.

A collection was taken for the support of the Orphan's Home by which means \$12.00 was raised.

A resolution to change the day of meeting, which was offered at the last Association, was taken up. A motion to table the resolution prevailed and the resolution was lost.

The President of the Sunday School Convention announced that the Convention would meet with Oak Grove on Friday evening before the second Sunday in November, 1914

Motion to adjourn to meet with Diamond Spring Church at Diamond Spring, Ark., on Thursday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1915. After singing, "How Firm a Foundation," the body was dismissed with prayer by Rev. J. F. Cox.

CONSTITUTION.

Article 1. This Association shall be known by the name of Big Creek 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.

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

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

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

Article 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.

Article 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 this 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 among the churches.

Article 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 BIG CREEK ASSOCIATION.

Names of Churches.	Names of Pastors	Church Clerks and Addresses.	Days of Meeting	Baptism	Letter Restoration	Exclusion	Letter	Deaths	Total Membership	Value of Property	Paid Pastor	Paid for Minutes	Paid Orphan's Home	Pupils in Sun. Sch	Paid Missions	S. S. Expenses
Flora	None	Lizzie Mize, Viola	2	0	0	0	0	1	61	300	0	1 00	0	0	0	0
Mt. Zion	J. H. Porterfield	Sam Miller, Union	0	2	3	0	0	0	107	400	50	1 00	0	0	5 00	0
Pleasant Grove	M. C. Burton	E. J. Bratcher, Lanton	0	0	0	0	0	1	13	200	0	50	0	0	0	0
Highland Park	M. C. Burton	J. M. Lamons, Lanton	3	5	0	0	0	0	117	500	30	1 20	0	50	0	0
Enterprise	M. C. Burton	Troy Ivester, Viola	4	7	1	0	0	0	55	300	0	1 00	0	0	0	0
Liberty	M. C. Burton	I. B. Allen, Viola	4	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	50	0	0	0	0
Salem	W. M. Fout	Bertha Carter, Salem	4	22	11	1	0	1	112	900	75	1 10	0	62	65 00	9 60
County Line	R. K. Pope	E. F. Armstrong, Bakersfield	3	0	0	0	2	0	86	0	75	1 50	0	49	18 50	10 36
Oak Grove	M. C. Burton	A. M. Farrell, Moody	2	0	3	0	6	0	92	500	60	1 50	0	0	0	0
Diamond Spring	W. M. Fout	Allen Wilkens, Field	1	14	0	5	0	3	64	0	17 75	1 00	0	0	0	0
Union Hill	G. R. Sanders	C. F. Langston, Hand	0	4	3	0	5	1	44	0	20	75	0	0	0	0
T. B. Hawkins, Salem, Ark.			55	22	6	13	5	6	751	3100	327 75	11 05	0	161	88 50	19 96

A. A. Weeser, Missionary Pastor