

*I just receive the minutes to
day W. H. Bowling*
MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association

HELD WITH

SALEM CHURCH

Salem, Ark.

September 21-23

1916

OFFICERS

Moderator, Eld. W. H. BOWLING

Clerk, OSCAR E. ELLIS

PROCEEDINGS.

Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association met with Salem Missionary Baptist Church at Salem, Ark., on Thursday, Sept. 21st, 1916.

After a song, "All Hail the Power," prayer by Bro. S. M. Oliver, Rev. W. H. Bowling conducted the devotional exercises, reading the 14th chapter of John.

After prayer by Bro. R. T. Farthing and the singing of "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes," W. H. Bowling preached the introductory sermon. Text, John 14:3; subject, "The Second Coming of Jesus Christ."

Adjourned until 2 o'clock, P. M.

The Association was called to order at 2 o'clock, P. M., and after singing led by Oscar E. Ellis and prayer led by Bro. W. R. McEwen, Bros. R. K. Pope and P. C. Goodwin were appointed as reading clerks, and letters from the following churches were read and the messengers were enrolled:

Flora Church—W. A. Mize.

Salem Church—Eld. T. G. Hawkins and Bros. Oscar E. Ellis, Monroe Woods and Wm. Guerin.

County Line Church—T. F. Neil, Sister Neil and R. K. Pope.

Oak Grove Church—Perry Collins and A. M. Farrell.

Diamond Spring Church—Sent letter by mail and neither of messengers was present.

Elizabeth Church—W. B. Hodges.

The next order was the election of a moderator and clerk and Bros. W. R. McEwen and R. T. Farthing were appointed to take the vote. W. H. Bowling was elected moderator and Oscar E. Ellis clerk.

The call was given for corresponding messengers and for visiting ministers. R. T. Farthing came forward as a corresponding messenger from Rocky Bayou Association and W. R. McEwen came forward as a visiting minister.

The committees were appointed by the moderator and the messengers from Salem church were appointed as the committee on Devotional exercises. The committee reported that W. R. McEwen preach at the 7:30 services. Adjourned until 7:30 P. M.

After a song service and prayer led by R. K. Pope the Association was called to order by the moderator at 7:30 o'clock.

The committee on State Missions offered the following report: We, your committee, submit the following: State missions preaches the gospel of the Son of God to the destitute of the state and helps weak

churches; therefore, we consider it one of our most important works. Our state mission work reported for three-quarters this year, ending September 1st, 2,511 conversions, 1,802 baptisms by missionaries. Each church should take a collection for the support of state missions each year. We recommend the co-operation with the state convention, as it has the best mission methods.—R. K. Pope, Chairman.

The committee on Home Missions sent up the following: Your committee submits the following: The task of Home Missions is to make real in this great republic a civilization. We prove that the gospel of Jesus Christ has power to save the world by proving its power to save the souls of American people and her christian institutions. The field is the United States, her possessions, and the Isle of Cuba, and our part of the field is the southern states, Cuba and the Canal Zone. In the United States we have 1,143 white and 41 negro missionaries, 71,386 new additions to the churches through their labors, maintained 34 mountain schools, built 321 church houses, organized 581 Sunday schools and distributed 29,352 bibles and testaments. In Arkansas the Home Mission Board has aided in the support of 60 missionaries who delivered 7,946 sermons, received into the churches 3,085 members, organized 54 Sunday schools, supported 4 negro missionaries and contributed to our Mountain School and many other things. The Home Mission Board should have the sympathy and support of every lover of his country and Lord. The churches are urged to give more thought, prayer and support to this work.—T. G. Hawkins, Chairman.

The committee on Foreign Missions reported as follows: The Foreign Mission Board reports a year of triumphant success both at home and abroad. A total contribution for the year in the sum of \$806,729. During the year there have been 6,471 converts baptized, 77 churches organized. We now have 315 missionaries at work. We have 462 Sunday schools that report 10,490 students, 19 medical missionaries, 9 hospitals, 10 dispensaries. Our medical missionaries treated 74,866 patients last year. We would urge our churches to make large use of the many free tracts that can be secured from the Foreign Mission Board. In a thousand ways God is calling upon Southern Baptists to make advances in this great work of preaching the gospel to the heathen. We would recommend earnest study of the situation, sacrificial effort, and earnest prayer for the success of the work.—S. M. Oliver, Chairman.

Motion was made and seconded that the above reports be adopted and they were discussed by W. R. McEwen in a sermon on missions. Text, 1st chapter of Acts and 17th chapter of John, and was carried over till tomorrow morning. Adjourned until 8:30 A. M., Friday.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

After a song, "Glory to His Name," and prayer by W. H. Bowling, the Association was called to order at 8:30 A. M.

The call for letters from churches was renewed and letters from the following churches were read and the messengers enrolled:

Enterprise Church—Jim Roby.

Union Hill Church—J. J. Ivie.

Macedonia Church—W. M. Talley and Sister Alice Talley.

The reports carried over from the last session were again taken up and after discussion were adopted.

The committee on Associational Missions submitted the following: We, your committee, submit the following: We find a large per cent of the Association destitute of preaching, several churches without a pastor, and we recommend that this Association take some steps to try to remedy this.—W. A. Mize, Chairman.

After being discussed was postponed until 2 o'clock.

The committee on Devotional Exercises reported that Bro. R. T. Farthing preach at 11 o'clock and Bro. W. R. McEwen tonight at 7:30 o'clock. Adjourned until 2 o'clock, P. M.

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION.

After a song and prayer the call was again made for letters from churches and the following letters were read and messengers enrolled:

Mt. Zion Church —J. D. Cochran, W. R. King and Sister Cochran.

Shady Grove Church—Nathan Light, Daniel Beaver, S. M. Oliver.

The report carried over from the morning session was taken up and the report of the Executive Board was read, as follows: We beg leave to submit this, our report: We took the \$13.75 which was raised at the last Association and applied it to the liquidating the debt which at that time was hanging over the board, leaving a balance still due against the board. We had several board meetings at which we tried to raise money with which to meet said indebtedness, but have failed to do so. We did nothing toward having a missionary the past year.—G. C. Jones, Chairman.

The two above reports were adopted and a collection was taken which to pay the indebtedness of the board and enough was raised to pay the indebtedness except \$1.28.

A motion was adopted to the effect that the moderator appoint three who with the moderator and clerk are to be the Executive Board for the next year. The moderator appointed the following: G. C. Jones, R. K. Pope and J. T. McElmurry

The committee on Temperance sent up the following: We believe that men should be temperate in all things in which they engage, but

with reference to the use of intoxicating liquors we believe in complete abstinence and total prohibition. We urge that all members of Baptist churches in this Association to inform themselves that they may vote intelligently on the question to be submitted at the general election. We further express our belief that any member of a Baptist church who votes intelligently for that act should be subject to the severest penalty of church discipline.—R. T. Farthing, Chairman.

After being read and discussed was adopted.

The committee on Baptist Literature sent in the following report: That much depends, in the formation and maintaining of character, upon the kind of literature used for mind food. We recommend the Bible, the one good, safe and sound Baptist book. The Baptist Advance as our state organ and for our Sunday schools the literature, quarterlies and helps of the Sunday School Board at Nashville, Tenn.—T. G. Hawkins, Chairman.

After being read and discussed was adopted.

Adjourned until tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock, A. M.

FRIDAY NIGHT.

After a song service and the scripture lesson quoted by the congregation and prayer, W. R. McEwen preached. Text, Gal. 6:14.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

The Association was called to order at 8:30 o'clock, A. M., and after a song and prayer the committee on Sunday Schools submitted the following: The Sunday school, or more properly the Bible school, being the teaching service of the church, too much attention can not be attached to it and hence every member of the church needs to attend the Bible school. From the letters read only four churches reported Sunday schools. This is not as it should be. Every church could maintain a Sunday school if the membership were sufficiently interested. We recommend that the organization of Sunday schools be made a part of our ministerial work and associational mission work, and an effort be made to get a Sunday school in every church, and in as many school houses as possible in places where there are no churches. We recommend that our churches and schools buy their literature from our own publication society. All the profits from such publication goes to our denominational work.—T. F. Neil, Chairman.

After being read was adopted.

The committee on deceased members sent in the following: We find that the following deaths have occurred during the year: Bro. J. W. Grisso, of Salem Church, Sister Maude Ivie, of Union Hill, Wm. Davis, of Flora Church, Sister Julia McGill and Bro. Henry Hutson, of Elizabeth, Sister Martha Bray, of Mt. Zion, Sister Malissie McCandless

and Sister Maude Vaughn of Oak Grove Church. While we are to sorrow over the loss of our beloved ones, our loss is their gain.—Monroe Wood, Chairman.

The above report was read and adopted, and the Association was led in prayer by S. M. Oliver.

The committee on Orphan's Home sent up the following: For twenty years now there has been a shelter for the fatherless and motherless at Monticello. In the home there are 135 orphans. Some forty of the older boys and girls were converted and baptized last year. Since the last State Convention 75 of the children have been placed in good homes in different parts of the state. We recommend that an offering be now taken for the support of these poor homeless children. James said pure and undefiled religion before God is this: "That we visit the widow and the orphan and keep ourselves unspotted from the world.—G. C. Jones, Chairman.

After being read and discussed was adopted. A collection was taken by which \$8.25 cash was raised and \$1.00 was pledged for the Orphan's Home.

The committee on Queries sent in the following: Query 1. It is our advice to the churches that a party is not a member of the Baptist church until a letter is received by the church, or until baptized, and his name is not entitled to go on roll until one or the other is done. Query 2. It is our advice to the churches that all persons who are members and have gone and the place of their membership is not known and cannot be found, that the church revise the record of the church and make a list of the unknown members' names.

The above queries were read and after discussion were adopted.

The committee on Finance reported that \$12 15 had been sent by the churches to pay for the minutes. A collection was taken to supplement this amount and \$1.25 was raised.

J. D. Cochran and W. R. King were sent as corresponding messengers to Rocky Bayou Association and J. J. Ivie was sent to White River Association.

A motion was adopted to the effect that any member presenting a minute with his name in it to any corresponding Association, he shall be received as a corresponding messenger from this Association.

Enterprise was selected as the next place for the Association and S. M. Oliver was chosen to preach the introductory sermon.

The report of the committee to settle the difference between R. A. Holloway and Will Zorn was received and the committee discharged.

The clerk of the Association was ordered to have 300 copies of the minutes printed and distributed.

The following resolution was adopted: Resolved, that we tender our thanks to the Salem Church and the town for their hospitality and kindness in caring for the messengers and visitors of this Association, and also to the moderator and clerk.

The committee reported that J. J. Ivie preach at 11 o'clock. After singing "God Be With You" the Association adjourned. Bro. J. J. Ivie preached at 11 o'clock. Text, Ps. 92:12.

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 from this body, or 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, providing notice has been given at a previous meeting.

The time for the next Association will be on Thursday at 10:00 o'clock before the fourth Sunday in September, 1917, and the place will be Pickren Hall.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

Names of Churches.	Names of Pastors.	Church Clerks and Addresses.	S. S. Expenses											Paid Missions	Pupils in S. S. Orphan's Home	Paid Minutes	Paid Pastor.	Value of Property	Total Membership	Deaths	Letter	Exclusion	Restoration	Letter	Baptism	Days of Meeting			
Salem	None	Bertha Carter, Salem, Ark.	4	4	1	0	0	0	1	106	\$900	0	2	00	2	65	79	36	00	11	95								
Oak Grove	R. K. Pope	O. S. Jones, Moody, Mo.	2	0	0	0	0	3	2	82	600	\$60	1	50			0	60	10	00	12	00							
County Line	None	Eva Hall, Bakersfield, Mo	x	0	0	0	0	0	0	80	x	0	1	50			0	62		0	9	80							
Enterprise	R. K. Pope	Troy Ivester, Viola, Ark.	1	0	1	0	5	0	0	39	300	30	1	00			0	0		x		0							
Diamond Spring	W. M. Fout	Herman Tanner, Field, Ark.	2	13	1	2	7	0	x	70	x	x		75		x	x		x		x		x						
Union Hill	W. M. Fout	O. E. Russell, Hand, Ark.	3	5	0	0	0	2	1	46	x	20	1	25		x	x		x		x		x						
Flora	None	Lizzie Mize, Viola, Ark.	x	0	0	0	0	5	1	57	x	0	1	00		x	x		x		x		x						
Elizabeth	W. M. Fout	Effie Owens, Elizabeth, Ark	1	4	0	0	0	1	2	27	x	x		50		x	x		x		x		x						
Mt. Zion	R. T. Farthing	Sam Miller, Union, Ark.	3	7	0	0	0	0	1	107	400	50	1	50		x	x		x		x		x						
Macedonia	C. T. Soden	J. W. Jones, Byron, Ark.	2	6	1	x	0	6	0	56	x	x	1	00		x	x		x		x		x						
Shady Grove	S. M. Oliver	Dan Beaver, Salem, Ark.	4	x	x	x	x	2	x	42	150	x		65		x	x		x		x		x						
Viola x																													
Liberty x																													
Highland Park x																													
Hall's Chapel x																													
Pleasant Grove x																													

x means not represented or not reported.