

MINUTES

OF THE

FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

BIG CREEK

MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH

MT. ZION CHURCH

UNION, ARKANSAS

SEPTEMBER, 23 AND 24, 1920

OFFICERS:

Moderator—Elder W. H. Bowling, Viola, Ark

Clerk—Oscar E. Ellis, Salem, Ark.

PROCEEDINGS

Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association met with the Mt. Zion church on Thursday, September 23, 1920, at 11 o'clock a. m., and after a song service and prayer led by R. K. Pope it was moved and seconded that the "Introductory Sermon be postponed until 8 o'clock p. m., which motion was duly carried.

Letters from the following churches and the following messengers were read and received:

Salem Church—Brother and Sister T. A. Goodwin and Oscar E. Ellis.

Viola Church—Brother and Sister J. W. Cain, G. E. Burns and Rice Alderson.

Flora Church—Brothers H. S. Tally and Grover Crotts and Brother and Sister D. W. Carroll.

County Line Church—Brother and Sister A. S. Galbraith, Elder R. K. Pope and Derrick Fore.

Mt. Zion Church—Brothers P. E. Lambeth, J. T. Cochran and Sam Miller.

A. S. Galbraith was appointed to take the vote for moderator and Reed King was appointed to take the vote for clerk. Whereupon the association went into the election and organization and Eld. W. H. Bowling was elected as moderator for the ensuing year and Oscar E. Ellis was elected as clerk.

The moderator appointed the various committees and the committee on devotional exercises to consist of the messengers from the Mt. Zion church.

The person selected by the last association to preach the "Introductory Sermon" being absent, the association elected Eld. R. K. Pope to preach this sermon. Association adjourned until 1:30 o'clock p. m.

THURSDAY EVENING SESSION.

The Association met at 1:30 o'clock and after a song service and prayer by the moderator the committee on missions made its report, which was discussed by R. K. Pope, Oscar E. Ellis and W. H. Bowling was adopted.

Oscar E. Ellis was elected as delegate to the Southern Baptist Convention and W. H. Bowling was elected alternate. The association now adjourned until 8:30 p. m.

PROCEEDINGS

Big Creek Missionary Baptist Association met with Mt. Zion church on Thursday, September 23, 1920, at 8 o'clock a. m., and after a song service and prayer led by R. K. Pope it was moved and seconded that the "Introductory Sermon" be postponed until 8 o'clock p. m., which motion was duly carried.

Letters from the following churches and the following messengers were read and received:

Salem Church—Brother and Sister T. A. Goodwin and Oscar E. Ellis.

Viola Church—Brother and Sister J. W. Cain, G. I. Burns and Rice Alderson.

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THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION.

After a song service and prayer by Bro. W. A. Davis, R. K. Pope preached the "Introductory Sermon." Subject was: "The Kingdom."

The committee on devotional exercises announced that Bro. W. A. Davis would preach at 11 o'clock tomorrow. The association adjourned with prayer led by Bro. C. T. Soden until 8:30 o'clock tomorrow.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION.

After a song service and prayer led by Bro. Charley Langston the moderator called the association to order and the letters from the following churches were received and messengers enrolled:

Macedonia Church—Brothers J. H. Copeland, W. M. Talley, J. C. Daniels.

Diamond Spring Church—Brothers Herman Tanner, Orby Wilson and Sisters, Ruth Copeland and Edna Wilson.

Oak Grove Church—Brothers A. M. Farrell and L. L. Claxton.

Union Hill Church—Elder C. F. Langston, Brothers W. W. Langston, W. J. Langston and O. E. Russell.

An invitation was issued or made to all visiting ministers from sister associations and Bro. W. A. Davis came forward as a visiting minister from Rocky Bayou Association and was introduced and given a seat in the association.

The committee on hospitals reported, which report was moved adopted and seconded and discussed by Oscar E. Ellis, was adopted.

The committee on orphans' home made their report, which was duly moved and seconded that it be adopted, and being discussed by R. K. Pope and Oscar E. Ellis, was adopted.

The committee on Christian publication reported and a motion was made and seconded that the report be adopted, and after being discussed by R. K. Pope, W. A. Davis and Oscar E. Ellis, was adopted.

The committee on Christian education made its report and a motion was made and seconded that the report be adopted and after being discussed by W. H. Bowling and Oscar E. Ellis was adopted.

R. K. Pope made a motion which was seconded by T. A. Goodwin that the association adjourn until 1:30 p. m., which motion prevailed and the association adjourned.

After a song service and prayer led by R. K. Pope, Brother W. A. Davis was introduced and preached at the 11 o'clock hour. The association was dismissed by prayer by Bro. Charley Langston.

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION.

After a song service and prayer led by Brother R. M. Hively the moderator called the association to order. Letters from the following churches and the following messengers were read and received:

Shady Grove Church—Bros. D. A. Beaver, W. L. Foster, Y. A. Arnold and W. B. Wilson.

The Relation Church presented a letter asking to be admitted into the association and sent as messengers: Bros. J. W. Linderman, I. N. Floyd and R. M. Kelton. It was moved and seconded that this church be received, which motion upon being placed before the association prevailed; and the messengers came forward and were seated in the association.

The Heart Church presented a letter asking to be admitted into the association and sent as messenger: Sister Clara Romine. It was moved and seconded that this church be received, which motion upon being placed before the association prevailed; and the messenger came forward and was seated in the association.

The association went into the selection of a place to hold the next association and Salem was selected as the place. Rev. C. T. Sodon was selected to preach the "Introductory Sermon" with R. K. Pope as alternate.

V. M. Lambeth and C. T. Sodon were elected as corresponding messengers to the Rocky Bayou Association and R. K. Pope, R. M. Hively and A. S. Gailbreth and wife were elected corresponding messengers to White River Association.

The committee on devotional exercises reported that W. H. Bowling would preach at 8:30 o'clock p. m.

The committee on associational missions and the executive board made their reports and a motion was made and seconded that these reports be adopted, and after being discussed by Oscar E. Ellis, R. D. King, R. K. Pope and D. A. Beaver, was placed before the convention and prevailed.

The association elected W. H. Bowling, J. T. McElmurry, B. B. Foster, J. D. Cochran and A. M. Farrell as an executive board for the ensuing year.

The committee on finance reported that there had been \$19.36 sent to pay for printing of minutes and a collection was taken whereby \$2.30 was realized.

The committee on Sunday schools submitted its report and a motion was made and seconded that the report be adopted, which motion after being discussed by R. K. Pope, C. T. Soden, Oscar E. Ellis and W. H. Bowling prevailed.

The committee on prayer made its report, which was moved and seconded that it be adopted, and after discussion by Bro. Charley Langston, was adopted.

Oscar E. Ellis offered a resolution of thanks to the people of Union, which was adopted.

R. K. Pope moved that the association do now adjourn to meet with the Salem church on Thursday, September 22, 1921, at 10 o'clock a. m., which was seconded and adopted, and after singing "God Be With You 'Till We Meet Again" the association was dismissed with prayer led by M. C. Burton.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION.

After a good song service W. H. Bowling preached.

APPENDIX

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, provided notice has been given at a previous meeting.

LIST OF MINISTERS IN THE ASSOCIATION.

W. H. Bowling, Salem, Ark.	R. K. Pope, Bakersfield, Mo.
J. F. Cox, Viola, Ark.	Chas. Langston, Hand, Ark.
Robt. Hodges, Elizabeth, Ark.	Wm. Fouts, Hand, Ark.
Isam Hodges, Elizabeth, Ark.	C.-T. Soden, Union, Ark.
S. M. Oliver, Sturkie, Ark.	

LIST OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Salem.....	B. B. Foster, Supt., Salem, Ark.
County Line.....	J. K. Powell, Supt., Bakersfield, Mo.
Mt. Zion.....	Eather Terwilliger, Supt., Union, Ark.
Relation.....	J. W. Linderman, Supt., Salem, Ark.

LIST OF W. M. U.

Salem.....	Mrs. Esther Goodwin, President, Salem, Ark.
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REPORT ON MISSIONS.

We, your committee on missions, beg to report as follows: We believe that the Great Commission "Go Ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Ghost; teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, even unto the end of the world" was given to Baptist Churches. Therefore, it is imperative that we do mission work if we obey our Master and please Him. Mission work is, for convenience only, divided into Foreign, Home, State and Associational. And this report is to deal with the first three and not the latter. However, the need, duty and principal of all mission work is the same.

Our foreign work is under the direction of the Foreign Mission Board with headquarters at Richmond, Va.; our Home work is under the direction of the Home Board with headquarters at Atlanta, Ga.; and our State work is under the direction of the State Board with headquarters at Little Rock, Arkansas, 405 Donaghey Building.

These boards employ missionaries, evangelists and singers who work in their various spheres and fields and who in addition assist in raising funds to carry on the work. These agencies have for years been spending large sums of money but never at any time have any of them had adequate support. The results of their work have been marvelous. It has been a custom for years to have a campaign for raising of funds for the support of each cause each year, but last year they were all centered in one campaign seeking to secure the pledging of funds for five years to the various causes. This did not mean that any Baptist was forced to give to any one or all of these objects, but requested to do so. Baptists are firm believers in individual responsibility and a free conscience.

We therefore recommend that all who can continue to pay to these things through the regular channels, and those who have not so begun commence at once to do so, and that we give a portion of our time and means to fulfilling the command of our Master and in so doing we will glorify Him Who gave Himself for us.

Respectfully,

R. K. Pope, Oscar E. Ellis, Committee.

STATISTICAL TABLE

BIG CREEK
Missionary Baptist Assn

NAME OF CHURCHES	PASTORS AND ADDRESSES	CLERKS AND ADDRESSES	Days of Meeting	Received by Letter Baptism	Excluded by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Deaths	Membership	Value of Property	Paid Pastor	Minutes Fund	Paid Missions	Pupils in Sunday School	Sunday School Expense
Salem		Bertha Carter, Salem	1	0	0	1		92	\$900	\$50 00	2 50	\$ 2 73	50	\$41 52
Shady Grove	R. M. Hinley, Cross Roads	C. F. Langston, Hand	4	7	8	1	3	62	250	60 00	1 50	28 50		
Viola		Mary Cain, Viola						750			2 00			
County Line	W. H. Bowling, Viola	J. P. Hall, Bakersfield, Mo.		1				1 56	500	105 00	3 00		35	15 00
Flora		Lulu Scott, Viola						1	500	8 93	1 50			
Diamond Spring	T. D. Thach	Orby Wilson, Hand	4	6	1		1	1 94		14 95	2 00			
Macedonia	R. M. Hinley, Mt. Home	J. H. Copeland, Byron	2	1			1	2 48	150	36 00	1 00			
Relation	S. M. Oliver, Sturkie	J. W. Linderman, Salem	2		26		1	39			1 51	5 40	40	4 25
Mt. Zion	R. M. Hinley, Cross Roads	P. E. Lambeth, Union		7	3		2	1 25	400	100 00		73 00	50	
Union Hill	D. A. Hinley, Cross Roads	C. F. Langston, Hand			1	1	2	1 38			1 25		25	
Oak Grove	M. C. Burton, Cross Roads		2				5	2 40	800	60 00	1 50		25	12 00
Heart		Clara Romine, Heart		9				13			47			
*Enterprise														
*Elizabeth														
*Liberty														
*Highland Park														
*Hall's Chapel														
*Pleasant Grove														

Salem Church contributed \$18.75 to Orphans' Home.

*Not represented or not reported.

REPORT ON HOSPITALS.

Roman Catholics number 23,000 in Arkansas, white and colored; while the white Baptists alone number 126,000 and the colored Baptists number more than 96,000, or a total of 222,000 Baptists in the state.

The Roman Catholics have six hospitals in Arkansas managed by about 75 of the Sisters and these hospitals last year treated very near 10,000 patients. The only big Roman Catholic hospital in Little Rock, known as St. Vincent's Infirmary, has 225 beds, nearly always crowded and treated 4,685 private patients last year among which were almost 650 Baptists!

Do you recall how the Children of Israel had to go down to the Philistines to get their axes sharpened? What about 126,000 white Baptists in Arkansas allowing 23,000 Catholics to do most of the hospital work for the Baptist sick folks?

One hundred and eleven times, the New Testament mentions Christ's care and concern for the sick. Why do Baptists claim to follow Him and leave untouched this great work of healing the sick? It is sinful!

Besides, this neglect of hospital work is very foolish and short sighted. The Catholics accomplish three things with their hospitals. First, the Roman Catholics use their hospitals to make "converts" or Catholics out of non-Catholic patients which come to them. Second, after the second year, practically all the great hospitals bring in great returns financially, even with paid nurses in charge, whereas, with the Catholic Sisters working for their board and clothes, and not much of these, all the large Catholic hospitals that are well managed are bound to be small mints of money. Third, the hospital work of the Catholics makes a great opportunity for them to serve a real and deep human need in the name of Christ, which is one of the greatest Christian privileges.

Finally, THERE IS A VERY GREAT NEED OF MORE HOSPITALS IN ARKANSAS. Men who have given their lives to the study of these things tell us that a civilized community ought to have one hospital bed for every 200 persons. If this is anything like correct, then Little Rock alone needs 800 hospital beds AND HAS ONLY ABOUT HALF THAT NUM-

ER, for the people who live in the capitol city, to say nothing about the hundreds who go to the city every week from over the state.

The hospital committee of our Baptist State Convention has a well defined plan for a great central hospital at Little Rock and when that has gotten under successful operation, we will begin the building of regional hospitals as they are called and can be financed. This is a part of the great work of our 75 Million Campaign.

Arkansas Baptists now own and operate the Davis Hospital at Pine Bluff and have an interest in the Baptist Trinitate Hospital at Memphis. The Little Rock Hospital will probably be begun to be erected before many months. The association would urge our churches to pay their pledges to the 75 Million Campaign so this great hospital work may go on as Christ would have it.

Oscar E. Ellis, C. H. Dixon, Committee.

REPORT ON ORPHANS' HOME.

Since the establishment of our Orphans' Home at Monticello, approximately one thousand children have been cared for.

These have gone out into the various walks of life making good and useful men and women, many of whom but for your benefactions would in one way or another have become a menace to the social order and a burden to the state.

There are now about 60 children in the Home. They are received at any age up to 13 and are released at 18.

The health of the children has been remarkably good the last year, there being no deaths and no cases of serious illness.

There are enough cows on the farm to furnish milk and butter for one meal each day. There are also a number of cattle and hogs to be slaughtered for food this fall and winter.

We understand that Mr. Horton is a very practical farmer and that the farm is in a good state of productivity. This year there will be a good crop of corn, peas, peanuts, sweet potatoes and sorghum harvested. Ample feed stuff is raised on the farm to supply the live stock.

Indications are good that the year will close with a balance on hand in the maintenance fund.

The buildings and equipment are sadly inadequate. Our Five Year Program provides for proper construction and maintenance and we recommend that the State Board proceed early to ascertain just what is necessary in the way of reconstructing the plant and what changes, if any, are needed in the matter of management in view of our enlargement program.

We recommend further that our Sunday Schools continue to contribute one Sunday's collection each month to the Orphans' Home, not only because of the need but for the educational value to our Sunday School pupils is systematic giving.

We commend Brother Dorris and Brother and Mrs. Barton and all who are connected with the management for their faithful labors in behalf of this sacred trust. We urge all the churches to pay their pledges to the 75 Million Campaign promptly that our orphans may be cared for promptly.

T. A. Goodwin, Chas. Dixon, Committee.

REPORT OF PUBLICATIONS.

It is hardly possible to overestimate the importance of getting and using the right sort of reading matter. For many years we have been saying that this is a reading age. It becomes more and more so every year. The great war whetted the people's appetite for the printed page, and the reading habit is bound to grow.

The future belongs to the people who produce and read the best literature and the most of it. The country is being sowed down with literature, and a great deal of it is hurtful in the extreme. A very large per cent of the literature that our young people read is shot through with vulgar and profane suggestions as well as infidel teaching. The most senseless and unreasonable heresies are widely advertised in the literature that is being read on all sides. It is not possible to overcome the bad effects of such literature except by circulating the right sort.

The Bible holds first place in our literature. When we

know what the Bible teaches on any subject that settles it. There is not the slightest excuse for our people to be in ignorance of the teachings of the Bible. We urge regular, systematic Bible study by all our people, and that parents teach the Bible to their children.

But people are going to read other things besides the Bible. We believe that every home should have a good supply of the best books, including books on subjects of general interest as well as books on religious subjects and especially on Baptist doctrines. Such books can be had from the Baptist Book House, 405 Donaghey Building, Little Rock, Ark.

Another matter of the very greatest importance is to see that every Baptist home has a Baptist paper. It is estimated that 600,000 Baptist homes in the South are without a Baptist paper. In Arkansas among the Baptists who are in sympathy with the Convention there are not less than 16,000 or possibly 18,000 such homes without a Baptist paper. If the Baptist Advance could be put in all such homes it would be a mighty help to our cause.

A special effort is being made all over the South to put a Baptist paper in every Baptist home. This campaign was approved by the Southern Baptist Convention and it was recommended by the 75 Million Commission in its report to the Convention. It is strongly urged by the Conservation Commission that was appointed to go on with the work of the campaign. We believe that if we are to go on through the five years of the 75 Million Campaign with success we must get Baptist papers into the homes of our people.

The Baptist Advance is the property of the Baptist State Convention. It is our paper. It promotes all the work in which we are engaged. It ought to go to every Baptist home in the state. We recommend that special effort be made by pastors and churches to see that every family represented in their resident membership gets the Advance.

On the first of September the Advance had about 9,000 regular subscribers. This number ought to be doubled in a short time. Also Home and Foreign Fields published by the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., and Royal

Service, published by the Southern Baptist W. M. U., Baltimore, Maryland, are of very great value, and we recommend that our people subscribe for and read them.

R. K. Pope, A. M. Farrell, Committee.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We are what we are very largely, almost entirely because of the teaching we have had. If we had been brought up in homes of the infidels and taught by infidel parents and infidel teachers, not many of us would now be serving the Lord Jesus Christ. In every school in the land we should have Christian teachers. If we are concerned about the spiritual welfare of our children, if it is our purpose to help our young people to become useful Christian men and women, we must stand loyally for our Baptist schools and support them with our means and our patronage.

Every good Baptist in Arkansas rejoices over the prosperity of our educational institutions.

Ouachita College, at Arkadelphia, has property values in buildings, grounds and equipment worth about \$250,000. The endowment is about \$112,000. New buildings to cost about \$250,000 are now in course of construction.

In Central College, at Conway, we have property worth about \$125,000, and new buildings to cost about \$100,000 are to be constructed right away.

In Mountain Home College, at Mountain Home, our junior college, we have property worth \$60,000 or more.

The property values of our academies at Maynard, Blue Eye and Hagarville average about \$12,000 for each school.

A Baptist college is to be built at Jonesboro soon and Baptist academies open their first sessions this fall in Montgomery and Union counties.

Our colleges and schools are well patronized, so well that additional buildings are absolutely necessary, and yet only a very small per cent of our boys and girls are attending Baptist schools. We urge upon our people the duty of sending their children to our own schools and colleges.

Never has there been greater need for an educated min-

etry. Young preachers are given free tuition and additional financial help in Ouachita College and in our mountain schools. Let us call out the called and encourage them and help them to attend college. To fail in this means ruin. Several good friends have recently remembered Ouachita College in their wills, a splendid way to bless mankind.

The most helpful sign of progress in all our work is the prosperity of our Baptist schools and colleges, and the ever increasing interest of our brotherhood in this work, manifested by the enlarged patronage and the liberal contributions through the 75 Million Campaign.

Oscar E. Ellis, R. K. Pope, Committee.

REPORT OF ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS

We, your committee on associational missions, beg leave to report as follows: For the first time in several years this association has been able to do any mission work at all; and the extent and result of such work will appear from the report of the executive board which is hereto attached. It may not have been as extensive as some had hoped for, but remember that most everything which eventually terminated in something great or successful had a small beginning. If we will but look around us and keep in mind The Great Commission we will be convinced of the need and of our duty along this line.

We recommend that we carry on the Associational Mission work as set out in the report of our Associational Mission Board, and urge our churches and brethren to support said work liberally both with their time and means.

J. D. Cochran, A. S. Galbraith, Committee.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT.

This report after giving in detail the work and result thereof of the board and missionary for the past year made the following report or recommendation, to-wit:

We recommend that this association do mission work for the next year and for such purpose that it secure the services of one or more missionaries for three months during the

summer, to-wit: July, August and September, and that it select an executive board of five members to supervise the work.

J. D. Cochran, W. H. Bowling, J. T. McElmurry, Oscar E. Ellis, Committee.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your committee on Sunday schools submit the following report: As the Sunday school is a place to learn and train for the Lord's service we urge that each church in this association organize and maintain a Sunday school and that the Bible and sound Baptist literature be used in the Sunday school.

C. T. Soden, J. T. Cochran, Committee.

REPORT ON PRAYER.

We report as follows, to-wit: Realizing the great need of prayer we earnestly urge that all christians devote more time to earnest fervent prayer. We recommend that there be more devotion and prayer with our children around the family fire-side. We would advise that each and every church have a prayer service once a week, at least.

C. F. Langston, C. T. Soden, Committee.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

We, the messengers of Big Creek Association assembled with Mt. Zion church wish to thank the good people of this church and vicinity for the kind and hospitable treatment received by us while here assembled. Oscar E. Ellis.