

# MINUTES

OF THE

## THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE ORIGINAL ORGANIZATION AND THE THIRTEENTH OF THE NEW  
ORGANIZATION OF THE

# White River Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE

Church at Hopewell, in Baxter County, Arkansas, September 18,  
19 and 20, 1880.

*And 1881.*

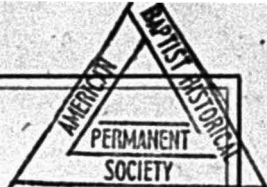
### OFFICERS:

Eld. H. H. HILTON, Moderator,	- - - - -	Mountain Home, Ark.
M. N. DYER, Clerk,	- - - - -	Mountain Home, Ark.
T. H. HORN, Treasurer,	- - - - -	Mountain Home, Ark.

LITTLE ROCK:

UNION PRINTING AND PUBLISHING CO.

1881.



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# CONSTITUTION

## OF THE

# White River Baptist Association.

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We, the Messengers from the Churches hereafter named, being thoroughly convinced of the great utility of Christian combination, and in order to cultivate Union, Love, Fellowship and Intelligence throughout the respective Churches in our bounds, and to promote the cause of Mission Sabbath Schools, the circulation of Religious Literature, and especially the Bible, and to advance the Redeemer's Kingdom in these parts of our country, do unanimously agree to adopt the following Articles:

### ARTICLE I.

This Association shall be called and known by the name of the "White River Baptist Association."

### ARTICLE II.

The members composing the annual meetings of the Association shall consist of the Messengers sent by the Churches.

### ARTICLE III.

The Messengers sent by the Churches to the annual meetings, shall not exceed four from each Church.

#### ARTICLE IV.

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

#### ARTICLE V.

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 meetings of the body.

#### ARTICLE VI.

This Association shall have no power to control or regulate the internal affairs or discipline of any Church, but it may adopt and recommend all such measures as shall be considered best calculated to produce the harmony and prosperity of the Churches, and to advance the Redeemer's Kingdom, and advise and consult upon such matters as the Churches may at any time present for their consideration and advice. And it may receive Churches into this Association, or dismiss Churches from the body, inquire into the State of 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.

#### ARTICLE VII.

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.

## Rules of Decorum.

1. The Association shall commence with Religious Exercises, and a sermon from some preacher who shall have been previously appointed, unless the Association shall otherwise direct.

2. The Moderator of the previous session shall preside, and the former Clerk shall act (provided they attend) until the letters from the Churches connected with the body shall have been read and a Moderator and Clerk appointed.

3. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the meeting during its session, and appoint committees (unless the Association shall otherwise direct), preserve order, reprove improprieties (except an appeal is made to the meeting by two members). He shall have a right to speak on all subjects, calling a member to the chair, and examine and correct the minutes if necessary.

4. The Clerk shall keep a correct copy of the proceedings of the meeting, read the letters and documents, and may call any member to assist him at the close of the meeting. He shall take charge of the papers and documents, unless otherwise directed.

5. The Churches shall designate their Messengers, and report their condition by letter.

6. Preachers in good standing in other Baptist Churches or Associations with whom we are in fellowship, when attending our annual meeting, shall be invited to a

seat as correspondents, and these meetings shall always be opened with prayer and closed in a similar manner.

7. Every member may speak twice on any one subject in debate before the meeting, but not more without leave; and when speaking, shall stand and address the Moderator, and use decorous and Christian language; and no member shall absent himself from the Association during the session, without leave; and any person who shall violate these Rules or the Constitution shall be reprov'd as the Association shall think proper.

8. These Rules may be amended by a majority of the members present at any regular meeting.

9. The Churches shall contribute funds for the ordinary expenses of the body, such as printing the Minutes and paying the traveling expenses of such members as the Association may send to other bodies.

10. A public collection shall be taken up at each session, and applied to such benevolent purposes as the Association may direct.

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## Order of Business.

1. Annual Introductory Sermon.
2. Call of Association to Order by Moderator.
3. Call for Church Letters and Enroll Delegates.
4. Election of Officers.
5. Call and Correct Roll of Delegates and Note Absentees.
6. Read Constitution and Rules of Decorum.
7. Call for Petitionary Letters for Membership.
8. Call for Corresponding Letters and Messengers.



9. Call for Reports of Messengers to Corresponding Bodies.
10. Appoint Delegates to Corresponding Bodies.
11. Appointment of Standing Committees.
12. Report from Ministers of Their Work.
13. Reports of Committees in the Order of Appointment.
14. Miscellaneous Business.
15. Call for Resolutions.
16. Appoint Place for Next Meeting of Association.
17. Appoint Brother to Preach Introductory Sermon.
18. Appoint Brother to Preach Missionary Sermon.
19. Adjournment.

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## Form for Church Letter.

The Baptist Church of Christ, at \_\_\_\_\_.  
*To the White River Baptist Association:*

DEAR BRETHREN:

We send as Messengers:

Elder \_\_\_\_\_, and Brethren \_\_\_\_\_.

Increase by baptism..... \_\_\_\_\_.

Increase by letter..... \_\_\_\_\_.

Increase by restoration. \_\_\_\_\_.

Decrease by Letter..... \_\_\_\_\_.

Decrease by exclusion..... \_\_\_\_\_.

Decrease by death..... \_\_\_\_\_.

Total membership..... \_\_\_\_\_.

Constituted in the year..... 188—.

Present pastor, \_\_\_\_\_.

Day of Church meetings, \_\_\_\_\_.

Number engaged in Sabbath School, \_\_\_\_\_.

Contribution for Minutes.....	8	_____
Contribution for Associational Missions.....		_____
Contribution for State Missions.....		_____
Contribution for Foreign Missions.....		_____
Contribution for ministerial relief.....		_____
Money expended for pastoral support.....		_____
Money expended for Church building.....		_____
Money expended for incidental expenses.....		_____

By order of the Church.

Date, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_, *Moderator.*

\_\_\_\_\_, *Church Clerk.*

Post Office:

\_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_.



# MINUTES

OF THE

White River Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

Church at Hopewell, Baxter County, Ark.,

COMMENCING ON

*Saturday Before the Third Sabbath in September, A. D. 1880,  
Being the Eighteenth Day of Said Month, and Making the  
Thirty-eighth Session of the Original and the  
Thirteenth of the New Organization.*

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HOPEWELL, September 18, 1880.

The Delegates representing the Churches comprising the White River Baptist Association, met with the Church at Hopewell, Baxter County, Arkansas, on Saturday before the third Sabbath in September, 1880, according to adjournment, when, as by previous appointment, the introductory sermon was preached by Elder C. H. Mayfield. Subject: "The Embassadors, Who They Are, Their Call and Duties." The important truths emanated during the discourse were received with marked attention by the Delegates and the congregation present.

After the sermon, the Moderator, E'der H. H. Hilton,

called the Association to order, Brother L. A. McPherson, the Clerk, being present and at his post.

Letters from the different Churches were called for and read, and the names of the Delegates enrolled.

Association held the annual election by ballot for Moderator and Clerk for the ensuing associational year, which resulted in the election of Elder H. H. Hilton, as Moderator, and Brother M. N. Dyer, as Clerk.

Called for letters petitioning for membership, when Brother L. Barksdale came forward and presented a letter from the Church at Lee's Mountain, asking for membership in this Association, and sending, as their Delegates, Brothers James Cull and L. Barksdale.

The Church was received and the right hand of fellowship extended to her Delegates by the Moderator.

Called for corresponding letters and Messengers from Sister Associations, when Elder A. J. Copeland and Brother Crosslaw came forward and presented a letter from Independence Missionary Baptist Association, and were received as correspondent Messengers and invited to seats with us and participation in our deliberations.

Elder J. S. Moss asked and obtained leave to present at some future hour of our session, a letter of correspondence from Crooked Creek Association, which had been sent him for presentation to this body, but which he had by inadvertance left at home.

Visiting Ministers of the same faith and order were invited to seats with us, when Elder J. G. Moss, from Crooked Creek Association, accepted the invitation and took his seat to participate in our deliberations.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

On Finance—Brothers T. H. Horn, M. B. Powell and J. W. Norton.

On Public Worship—Brothers T. H. Horn, W. C. Thorn, J. W. Cypert, Josie Horn and Lott Roberson, to which was added by resolution Elder H. H. Hilton.

On Arrangement of Business—Elders William Denton and J. B. Davis and Brother W. P. Cantrell, and by resolution of last Association the Moderator and Clerk.

On Missions—Brothers W. P. Cantrell and Josie Horn, and Elder W. D. White.

By resolution, Brothers T. H. Horn, J. W. Cypert, L. A. McPherson and J. T. Stone, and the Moderator and Clerk, were appointed a committee to draft and present to the Association for adoption a Constitution for this Association and to suggest any revision or amendment to the Rules and Decorum they shall deem proper.

By resolution, Brothers J. W. Cypert, L. A. McPherson and Elder C. H. Mayfield were appointed a committee to draft a form for letters from the Churches to the Association, and to report at present session.

Called for reports of Delegates appointed to corresponding Associations, when Brother James Dodd reported that Brother Wright, in compliance with his appointment, had visited and was received as Messenger by Crooked Creek Association, and Elder H. H. Hilton reported that he had visited and was received as corresponding Messenger by Union Association in the State of Missouri.

Association adjourned until 8 o'clock Monday morning. Prayer by Brother J. H. Paxton.

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## MONDAY MORNING.

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SEPTEMBER 20, 1880.

Association met pursuant to adjournment, the Moderator in the chair.

Prayer by Elder William Denton.

Saturday's minutes were read and adopted.

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Called and corrected roll of Delegates and marked absentees.

The report of the Committee of Arrangements was called for.

The report was received and committee discharged and their report adopted as the permanent order of business for this Association until changed, and ordered to be published with the minutes. [See Order of Business herewith published.]

*Resolved*, That we correspond with Independence Missionary Baptist Association, which meets with Maple Spring Church, Independence County, Ark., the second Saturday in September, 1881, and chose as Messenger Elder H. H. Hilton and Brothers T. H. Horn and W. M. Horn; also, that we correspond with Crooked Creek Association, which meets on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in September, 1880, and chose as Messengers Elder C. H. Mayfield and H. H. Hilton. Also, that we correspond with Union Association, which meets in Oregon County, Mo., with the Church at Birch Valley, on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in August, 1881, and chose as Messengers Elder H. H. Hilton, and Brothers William Haney, J. M. Dodd and T. M. Ray. That we correspond with Barley Bayou Association, which meets on Lafferty's Creek on Saturday before the second Sabbath in October, 1880, and chose as Messengers Elders William Denton and H. H. Hilton, and Brother T. M. Horn. Also with Big Creek Association, which meets on Friday before the first Sabbath in September, 1881, and chose as Messengers Elders H. H. Hilton and William Denton, and Brothers John W. Cypert, W. C. Thorne, William Haney, M. N. Dyer and James Deatherage. And that the correspondents to each Association write the letter of correspondence to be presented by them.

Called upon the Ministers present belonging to the Association for a report of their Ministerial labors during the past associational year, when Elders J. B. Davis, William Denton, H. H. Hilton, C. H. Mayfield, J. A. Butler, W. D. White and J. G. Mass, and Licentiates W. M. Horn, W. J. Paxton and W. C. Thorne, each reported.

Committee on Finance reported as follows:

Received from the Churches for Minutes.....	\$22 00
In hands of former Clerk.....	5 25
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$27 25

Report received and committee discharged.

On motion, Brother T. H. Horn was chosen Treasurer of this Association and ordered to receive the funds belonging to this Association.

Committee on Missions reported as follows:

Your Committee on Missions beg leave to submit the following:

WHEREAS, There exists great destitution in the bounds of this Association and are whole communities where there is no Baptist preaching and souls are perishing for the Bread of Life, and are several feeble Churches in our bounds; in view of this sad state of affairs, we recommend the following resolutions:

*Resolved*, That this body shall appoint and constitute a Central Mission Board, whose duty it shall be to receive contributions and employ a Missionary to labor in the destitute portions of White River Association, and to fix his salary and time of service.

*Resolved*, That this body appoint one member from each Church composing this Association, whose duty it shall be to take up collections for the benefit of the said mission, and to report to the Central Board at such times and places as said Board may designate.

*Resolved*, That the Central Board meet first with the Church at Mount Pleasant, Baxter County, on Saturday before the third Sabbath in March, 1831.

The report was received and adopted.

The following brethren were appointed as the Central Mission Board: Thomas Reed, J. T. Stone and L. A. McPherson.

And the following brethren were appointed from the different Churches belonging to the Association, to collect Missionary funds:

Church of Jefferson Hall—Brother W. P. Cantrell.

Church of Harmony—Brother J. R. Calton.

Church of Egypt—Brother John Sales.

Church of Mountain Home—Brother M. N. Dyer.

Church of Mount Pleasant—Brother William Denton.

Church of New Harmony—Brother W. P. Bayless.

Church of Hopewell—Brother J. W. Cypert.

Church of Unity—Brother William Haney.

Church of Palestine—Brother C. L. Straight.

Church of Pilgrim's Rest—Brother A. B. Tramwell.

Church of Zion Hill—Brother J. H. Pangle.

Church of New Liberty—Brother Adam Hampton.

Church of Lee's Mountain—Brother L. Barksdale.

Church of Rehobeth—Brother Fred. Williams.

During the discussion of the Report on Missions, some highly interesting and instructive remarks were made by Elders William Denton, J. B. Davis, J. G. Moss, H. H. Hilton, and others.

The Committee on Constitution and Rules of Decorum reported, and their report was received, amended and adopted, as found published with these Minutes, and the Committee discharged.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk of this Association be authorized to procure a suitable book in which to transcribe and keep a record of the Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Minutes of this body, and that he record the same therein.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk of this Association be instructed to have printed 300 copies of the Minutes, for distribution among the Churches, according to the number of members, and that he reserve four copies for each corresponding body.

*Resolved*, That Committees be appointed to visit the different Churches belonging to this Association which have failed to send up Delegates to the Association for the last two years.

[The following Committees were appointed :

To Visit the Church of Macedonia—Brother J. W. Paxton.

To Visit the Church of Pleasant Grove—Brother W. C. Thorne.



To Visit the Church of Liberty Hill—Elder W. D. White.

To Visit the Church of Mount Pleasant—Elder J. A. Butler.]

*Resolved*, That we return our thanks to the Church at Hopewell, and the community around it, for the hospitality extended to this body during its present sitting.

*Resolved*, That the Clerk be allowed ten dollars for his services as Clerk of this body.

The Association chose Elder W. D. White to preach the Introductory Sermon at its next session, and Elder J. B. Davis as his Alternate; and Elder William Denton to preach the Missionary Sermon, and Elder W. M. Horn as his Alternate.

Adjourned to meet with the Church at Mount Pleasant, on Saturday before the third Sabbath in September, 1881. Adjourned by singing and giving the parting hand.

H. H. HILTON, *Moderator*.

M. N. DYER, *Clerk*.