

MINUTES
of the
Thirty-Seventh Session
of the
Current River Baptist
Association

Held with Moark Baptist Church,
Moark, Ark., Sept. 13, 14, 15, 1917

ELD. R. L. POWELL, Moderator
D. BLACKBURN, Clerk.

Next Session to be Held with New Home Church, Supply,
Ark., Thursday Before the Third Sunday in September 1918.

PROCEEDINGS

The Current River Baptist Association met with Moark Church, this 13th day of September, 1917, at 10 o'clock. The association was called to order by D. Blackburn, clerk. After singing and prayer, led by Bro. R. L. Powell, there was preaching by Bro. C. Watkins. Adjourned to meet at 2 p. m.

2 O'CLOCK

Called together by singing after which prayer was led by Bro. R. L. Powell. After electing a moderator pro tem the first item of business was the appointment of reading clerks. The following were appointed: Rev. W. A. Cummings of Maynard Academy at Maynard, and Bro. Stevens of Biggers.

The following called for letters from the following churches:

New Home—J. M. Redwine: Annie Redwine, and Grace Fowler.

Moark—J. L. Colson and James Tracy.

New Liberty—J. H. Ford, J. A. Arnold and Oscar Wheeler.

Reyno—G. A. Crawford, H. F. Pickett, and Ella Adams.

Union—J. G. Ray and B. Holland.

Hopewell—L. Q. Nelson and W. J. Dowdy.

New Harmony—J. A. Briggs.

Landmark—G. N. Jones and Rosa Wertenberger.

Mt Pleasant East—Ben Gibbs and John Gambill.

Black River—O. A. Alaway, Jeff Derring and wife.

Shiloh—John Leonard and Bro. Dickerson.

Every church in the association was represented by a messenger or letter but Biggers. Following are the church messengers:

Corning—F. E. Givens.

Independence—G. W. Moss and Joe Hines.

Knobel—Sister Hewell

Success—Represented by letter.

Datto—Tom Henderson, Wm. Mock and Henry Gowen.

Pleasant Grove—Bros. Tyler and Rasnic.

Mt. Pleasant West—Represented by letter

Association then elected R. L. Powell, moderator, and D. Blackburn, clerk.

First in order was appointing a committee on committees. The following were appointed: Bros. L. Q. Nelson, J. L. Colson, J. M. Redwine, Ben Gibbs and Tom Henderson.

Report of this committee:

"We, your committee on committees, appoint the following committees:"

DIVINE SERVICE—The messengers and pastor of Moark Baptist church.

WOMAN'S WORK—Rosa Wertenberger, Grace Fowler and W. A. Cummings.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—G. W. Jones, J. G. Ray, and E. T. Lincoln.

STATE MISSIONS—Eld C. Watkins, Ben Holland, J. A. Wheatly.

DISTRICT MISSIONS—J. L. Colson, G. A. Crawford, Ben Gibbs.

Adjourned to meet the 14th. Bro. W. A. Cummings preached at 8 o'clock p. m., text, Eph. 2:8, 9, 10.

MORNING SERVICE, SEPT. 14

Called together by singing and prayer. Lesson read by Bro. Wheatley, 133rd Psalm.

Report of committees:

Called for committee on Divine services, pastor and messengers of Moark church.

Report on Woman's Work read and adopted.

Report on Sunday School was read and after some soul lifting speeches by Bros. Aulick, Jones, Cummings and others, it was adopted.

Report on State Missions was read and after some stirring speeches, was adopted.

Report on District Missions was read and adopted.

Report on Foreign Missions was read and after some eloquent speeches by Bro. Aulick and others, was adopted.

Report on Finance:

Orphans at Texarkana	\$17.37
Printing minutes and clerk's fees	29.71
Balance on Eld. A. Conner's monument	7.00
Total	\$54.08

Reports on obituaries read and adopted.

Motion to adjourn business meetings until 8 o'clock Sept. 15.

Divine services at 11 a. m. Sept. 14, by Bro. J. R. Mitchell, and at 8 p. m. by Bro. J. A. Wheatley, Phil. 2:5.

SEPT. 15, 8 O'CLOCK a. m.

Called together by singing and prayer led by Bro. J. H. Harvey.

Ministers present were: J. L. Watson, Datto; J. A. Wheatly, Datto; R. L. Powell, Corning; C. Watkins, Delaplaine; J. D. Hays, Corning; G. B. Lafferty, Moark.

Visitors present were: W. A. Cummings, Maynard; J. H. Harvy, Maynard; J. M. Stephens, Mt. Zion; E. T. Lincoln, state missionary; J. R. Mitchell, and Otto Leverett, Missouri; J. J. Mathes, state missionary; W. R. McEwen, state missionary; A. L. Aulick, teaching secretary; Sister J. L. Burns, organizer of Woman's Clubs and B. Y. P. U., Jonesboro.

Moved to meet with New Home church at Supply, Ark., Thursday at 10 o'clock before the 3rd Sunday in September, 1918.

R. L. Powell, Moderator,

D. Blackburn, clerk.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

District Missions

We, your committee on District Missions, beg to report that there is still destitution in our borders, and we recommend that this association employ one or more missionaries in the bounds of this association for the purpose of building the weak points and make them self-sustaining and to try to organize churches where there are none, and see that the preacher selected shall meet with the approval of the people of the community as far as possible. The association is to locate the field of labor and the time at which the meeting is to be held and that the missionary receive not less than \$2.00 per day for each day's actual service and that he shall report all the work done at each place, together with all collections received to go on his salary and that cash and pledge collections be taken at this meeting for same. And also that a committee of five, composed of a secretary, treasurer and three others, whose duty it shall be to meet quarterly and receive reports of these missionaries.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. Gibbs,

J. L. Colson,

G. A. Crawford.

Home Missions

We, your committee on Home Missions, beg leave to submit the following: There are three general bodies of Baptists engaged more or less in Home Mission work, the General Association of America, the Northern Baptist Convention and the Southern Baptist Convention. Your committee has no

available statistics on what has been done by the two bodies first mentioned and very little of the work done by the last named. The Home Mission Board is a committee of Baptist brethren, appointed by the Southern Baptist Convention. It is located at Atlanta, Ga. Through this board Baptists of the South gave last year, the sum \$474,702, of which \$22,632. or 4 and 7-10 cents on the dollar were used for expense in administering this great sum of the Lord's money. Home Mission work includes the following lines: Mission work among the Indians, Negroes and Foreigners; Mountain schools, two of which are in Arkansas, Mountain Home College and Maynard Academy, both these schools receiving great financial aid from the Home Board; church building and loan, enlistment work, and Evangelistic work in Cuba and Parraina. Missionaries employed by the Home Board reported 22,946 baptisms. In co-operative work the Board received further reports of 14,779 making a total of 37,724 baptisms in the year ending last May. We recommend that our people inform themselves fully as to the great work of Home Missions, which looks to the salvation of America.

J. H. Arnold,
J. H. Ford,
T. J. Henderson,
Committee.

Foreign Missions

We, your committee on Foreign Missions, beg to submit the following report: Jesus said, "Go disciple all nations baptise and teach them." We find that the Baptists of the South have missionaries in nine foreign countries, and have 1,050 churches and out stations with a membership of 47,361. Last year there were 6,347 baptisms and 31,575 in Sunday school. \$769,245.93 has been contributed at an expense account of 7 and 1-10. Inasmuch as the Lord has so graciously blessed us in the little we have done, we earnestly request that all of our Baptist wake up to our opportunity in this great work.

Respectfully submitted,
J. W. Harvy,
T. J. Watson,
J. A. Gambill.
Committee.

Education

We, your committee on education make the following report: By looking into God's work, we find the place where Moses told the people of Israel to teach their children the

word of God to the close of God's revelation to man. In His word the great matter of teaching is emphasized. Hosea said: "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge." Jesus commanded Baptist churches to do three things—disciple, baptise, and teach. Baptists are failing to emphasize, as they should, the teaching part of their marching orders. Baptists own and operate two colleges in Arkansas, Ouachita at Arkadelphia and Central at Conway. We also have two mountain schools, Mountain Home Baptist Academy at Mountain Home and Maynard Baptist Academy at Maynard. Perhaps the one in which Current River Baptists are most interested is the one at Maynard. This school is owned, controlled and operated by Baptists. No one is officially connected with it except Baptists. This year we have greatly improved the building and added much new equipment. Through the gift of Mrs. G. W. Bottoms, Texarkana, Ark., we have been able to purchase and equip an eleven room home for girls. Here girls may go and do their own housework and live as cheaply as at home. The home will be under the management of a cultured Baptist woman, who will look after the comfort and spiritual welfare of the girls. The aim of Maynard Baptist Academy is to offer work in the literary branches of secondary schools under the leadership of the best trained and most consecrated christian men and women. In addition, an effort will be made to see that each Baptist boy and girl who receive diplomas from that school may have a comprehensive view of the whole Baptist program, historical, doctrinal and practical. In other words, to so train that each may know what the Baptists have done, or are doing and what a Baptist is and be able to know what God expects of every Baptist. We recommend that our preachers in each church preach at least one sermon on Christian Education and show the people that religion without education leads to fanaticism and that education without religion leads to infidelity. Furthermore we recommend that our Baptists support our schools by sending their children to them. Again we urge that our people study and teach God's word and inform themselves about what our great Baptist army is doing and teach others the same.

Respectfully,

W. A. Cummings,
Mrs. S. E. Dearing,
Mona Gambill,

Committee.

Resolutions

Be it resolved by the Current River Association in session at Moark: That we undertake to do our district mission work next year through an executive committee of five members to be selected by the association. Said committee to have full authority to secure a man or men for district mission work. That this committee raise and expend funds necessary to maintain the work, and receive reports of missionaries employed, and make full report of the work of the year at the next session of the association.

We, your committee, offer the following resolutions:

First. That we offer our heartfelt thanks to the Moark church, especially the sisters, for their kind hospitality during our stay with you.

Second. We also extend our gratitude to our moderator and clerk for their service and we recommend that the clerk have the supervision of printing and distributing the minutes, and that he receive \$10 00 for his services and that if any deficiency exists in the matter of expenses that it be made up now.

Third. That we adjourn to meet with New Home church, in September, 1918. And that Rev. W. A. Cummings preach the introductory sermon.

Respectfully submitted,

H. F. Pickett,
J. A. Gambill.

Licensed and Ordained Ministers

W. T. Caldwell, Neeleyville, Mo.

J. A. Wheatley, Reyno, Ark.

J. F. Spriggs, Corning, Ark.

D. Sharp, Pitman, Ark.

Geo. Lafferty, Mork, Ark.

C. A. Fowler, Supply, Ark.

T. J. Watson, Datto, Ark.

W. F. Bridges, Walnut Ridge, Ark.

R. L. Powell, Corning, Ark.

Wm. Shively, Pitman, Ark.

J. C. Grider, Neeleyville, Mo.

John Wilson, Datto, Ark.

J. D. Hayes, Corning, Ark.

E. Rennard, Piggott, Ark.

S. N. Dickerson, Corning, Ark.

Charley Watkins, Delaplaine, Ark.

Henry Rodgers, O'Kean, Ark.

W. J. Mock, Datto, Ark.

J. A. Riggs,

G. D. Lafferty,

W. J. Mock, Committee.

State Missions

We, your committee on State Missions find that there has been great improvement made in our state work, still there is room for greater work, if we only had the workers. We find that the state convention force have eight full time missionaries, beside assisting a great many weak churches and associations. The state association force has two full time and two half time missionaries. This amount of workers is not sufficient for our great state work. Therefore let us pray and pray that we may have workers sufficient to do the work this next year, that will glorify and honor God.

Respectfully,

J. A. Wheatly
Ben F. Holland,
C. Watkins.

Womans' Work

We, your committee on Womans' Work, make the following report:

We find that two of our churches reported Womans' Missionary Unions, New Home and Reyno. The work of these organizations are to help look after the welfare of the church at home and to assist in sending the gospel to all the world.

Women have always had a prominent part in carrying out the Lord's work. It was woman impelled by woman's devotion to the object of her love, that followed Christ to the cross in the dark hour when all seemed lost. It was woman who first carried the news of the resurrection and proclaimed man's freedom from the sting of death. We recommend:

1st. That all our preachers preach on the work of women in the churches and urge our women to organize for the study of the word of God and for assisting in the church work.

2nd. That some woman in each church take up the matter of leading our women into this work.

3rd. That prayers be made for all who are endeavoring to relieve the wants of suffering humanity and send the gospel to the lost.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Rosa Wertenberger,
W. A. Cummings,
Mrs. Grace Fowler.

Publications

We, your committee on publications, recommend a careful study of the divine word of God, and we further recommend

that our Sunday school use Landmark literature and give it a more careful study, and we furthermore urge that our association read other religious and sound patriotic literature.

L. D. Tyler,
Jeff Dearing,
John Leonard.

Temperance

We, your committee on temperance, offer the following report:

We thank God for the wonderful results of the temperance reform. To see Arkansas free from the blighting effects of alcohol is a source of first joy to every Christian heart. We rejoice in the part our Baptist brethern have had in the victory.

We recommend:

1. That we pledge ourselves to the enforcement of our State laws barring liquor from our State.

2. That we put ourselves on record as being fully in accord with the movement in our National Capital to make the United States absolutely a "bone dry" nation.

3. When the proposition of amending our National Constitution, so as to make national prohibition secure, is submitted to the voters of Arkansas, that we do our utmost to lead our state to ratify the action of the senate. Respectfully submitted,

Committee.

Sunday School

We, believe that Sunday school work is second only to the preaching of the gospel by a regular ordained minister. We also believe that it is the most neglected of all church work. We have but to look around us and take lessons from possibly the strongest organized body on the earth. They never have any revivals nor any converts, from whence do they derive their strength? Where do their members come from? We answer, "they raise them, they begin to train them in their infancy." why then should not we as Baptists, yes, as individual members of the Baptist church be more interested to inculcate into the minds of the young, the principles of the church and the doctrine of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. How often is it hard work and sometimes impossible to get church members to teach, or even take an interest in Sunday school work?

Brethren these things ought not to be. We believe all Baptist church members should take their children to Sunday school and then help in the work themselves. May the Lord

open the eyes of His people to the needs of this great work.

E. T. Lincoln,

J. G. Ray,

G. N. Jones.

Obituaries

We, your committee on obituaries, beg leave to report that during the past year, eleven brothers and sisters have been called home. we extend our sympathy to the bereaved, and though we mourn, we do not as though we have no hope, and thank God for his blessings in taking so few.

Mrs. Ella Adams,

Miss Marie Kamerman,

Mrs. Annie Redwine.

Orphans' Home

We, your committee, recommend that we request the churches of this association to take regular collections for our Texarkana Orphans' Home. There are now 30 or 40 children in the home, and they are looking to us for support. we recommend that every church in this association set apart one special day for an appeal for the orphans' home. Jesus taught His deciples to care for the widow and orphan, so let every member of this association go to work for the support of this home. The home is in debt and children are in need of clothing for the winter. will you help? May the God of the orphan put it into your hearts to do something for the home.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. Riggs,

L. Q. Nelson,

J. M. Redwiue.

Finance Report

Amounts contributed for printing fund etc.

New Home	\$1.60
New Liberty	1.50
Success	1.50
Black River75
Reyno	2.50
Knoble75
New Harmony75
Union	2.00
Texarkana Orphans' Home	13.05
Independence	2.01
Pleasant Grove	1.50
Datto	2.00
Moark	1.50

Corning	1.90
Shiloh	2.00
Hopewell	1.55
Bro. Russell	1.00
Orphans' Home	2.00
Landmark	2.05
Texarkana Orphans' Home	1.90
Mount Pleasant East	2.00
Moark, remainder of pledge last year for the	
Orphanage	1.32
Mount Pleasant west	2.00
Left over on monument fund25
Total	<hr/> \$46.33
For Orphans' Home	\$17.37
For Minute Fund	\$28.96

Statistical Table

CHURCH	DAY of Meeting	PASTOR	CLERK	ADDRESS	Membership						Paid Pastor	Sunday School	Orphans Home	Incidentals	Membership	Value of Church Property		
					In-crease		De-crease		Excluded	Dead							Letter Restoration	Baptism
Moark	1	Otto Levorette	L Collins	Moark, Ark.	6	2	1	3	1		\$56 55	\$26 30	\$ 3 68	\$ 7 20	82	\$ 300		
Reyno		W A Cummings	Mrs E Adams	Reyno, "	18	5	6	3	1		130 00	30 01		120 00	113	600		
New Liberty		J M Stevens	J W McElmurry	Biggers, "	4	3	1		1	1	150 00		7 50	48 00	75	300		
New Home			I D Redwine	Supply, "							75 00	20 72		95 00		1000		
Union	13	J E Sherrill	J H Story	Walnut Ridge "		6			3	3	400 00	30 00	13 05	65 00	222	1000		
Hopewell	4	S N Dickenson	Mary Parks	Datto, "	9		2	4	1		50 00		1 00	1 00	90	1000		
New Harmony	2	C Watkins	J A Riggs	Sharum, "	12	5					44 89			75				
Landmark		R L Lewis	Rosa Wertenberger	Corning, "	2	2		4	2		23 90			2 05	61			
Mt Pleasant E		R L Powell	R R Block	Palatka, "	13	3	2	2		2	69 00		5 00	18 00	77			
Black River		D A Lemmons	F N Lemmons	McDougal, "	1	1	1		4					4 75	21	100		
Shiloh	1	S N Dickenson	Jeff Dearing		19	24			1						57			
Pleasant Grove	4	R L Powell	L D Tyler	Naylor, Mo.	1	3			1		66 40		4 41	7 50	68			
Mt Pleasant W	23	D H Sharp	Myra Gerrish	Pitman, Ark.				4	1		85 00			12 00	112	100		
Datto		Knox Belew	Betty Cheek	Datto, "	24	19	5	5	2	8	106 00		5 00	168 00	167			
Success	3	W A Cummings	Mary T Sprague	Datto, "		1		1		30	107 00			127 00	100			
Knoble			Mary Moore	Knoble, "				1			30 00				37			
Independence	4	W T Caldwell	WE Trentlebaum	Neelyville, Mo.	2	1		3	1	2	39 71			12 61	86			
Corning		L W Russell	F E Givens	Corning, Ark.	9	9	1				400 00	53 45	25 00	103 35	55			