

PROCEEDINGS

AMERICAN
PERMANENT
SOCIETY

Eleventh Annual Session

Wolf Bayou Association

—OF—

General Baptists

Held with Walnut Grove church, Jackson Co., Ark.,
September, 1 and 2, 1911.

1911

Rev. J. W. JAMES, Moderator.

E. E. OSMON, Clerk, Bradford, Arkansas.

GENERAL BAPTIST PUBLISHING HOUSE
OWENSVILLE, INDIANA.

Program for 1912.

Association called to order.

Introductory sermon.

Call for letters from churches.

Call for new churches.

Election of Moderator and Clerk.

Appointment of committee on Divine Services.

Call for correspondence from other bodies.

Inviting visiting ministers to seats in council.

Appointment of the various committees.

Call for reports of pastors and preachers.

Call for report of Treasurer, permanent committees, boards, Sunday-schools; contributions, etc.

Call for committee reports.

Appointing delegates to General and sister associations.

Miscellaneous business.

Time and place of holding next session.

Vote of thanks.

Closing ceremony.

PROCEEDINGS

of the eleventh annual meeting of Wolf Bayou association of General Baptists, held with Walnut Grove church, Jackson Co., Ark., September 1 and 2, 1911.

Introductory sermon preached by moderator, Rev. W. E. Arnold, alternates Rev. J. Isbell and Rev. K. O. Curl. Opening prayer by Rev. Curl: Text, Romans 5:6. Closed by singing and prayer, to meet at 3 P. M.

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION.

Met at 3 o'clock and called to order by singing and prayer.

Called for letters from churches. Following responded: Mill Spring, Hickman Chapel, Evening Shade, Antioch, Walnut Grove.

New churches called for. Two received: Mt. View and Dug Hill. Letters read and approved, delegates seated and given right hand of fellowship.

Election of officers resulted in selection of Rev. J. W. James, Moderator, Rev. A. Twyford, Assistant Moderator, and E. E. Osmon, Clerk.

Committee on Divine Services:—Sister Soward, Thomas Berry and Rev. W. E. Arnold.

Call for corresponding letters. One received from Post Oak Grove association. Bearer, Rev. R. E. Smallwood.

Appointment of various committees:

On Sunday-school:—F. G. Clark, J. W. Freeman, Thomas Berry.

Committee on prayer meeting:—J. A. Thatcher, W. F. Thomas, G. W. Bufford.

Committee on Finance:—W. E. Arnold, J. J. Hooten, Levi Sipea.

Committee on queries and resolutions—J. C. Matheny, J. B. Cobb, Tony Vanoven.

Call for reports of Ministers:

Rev A H Twyford—Preached 52 sermons, witnessed 20 conversions, preached 4 funeral sermons, received \$30.00.

Rev J Isbell—Three funerals, received \$11.05.

Rev J B Cobb—witnessed one conversion, received 2 into church by recommendation, received \$1.65.

Rev J C Matheny—Preached 22 sermons.

Rev G W Bufford—Pastored 2 churches, witnessed 6 professions.

Rev. W. E. Arnold—Preached 3 funeral sermons.

Rev Mart House—Baptized 3, organized one church, witnessed 50 conversions, preached 1 funeral, received \$30.00, traveled 380 miles.

Rev J W James—Preached 68 times, burial services 2, traveled 260 miles, received \$3.75, marriages 1, organized 1 church and 1 Sunday-school.

Reports of ministers not in full; but few of them had any report.

Motion made, seconded and passed that all ministers make a full written report during the coming year.

Report on divine services: For Friday night services, Rev. Smallwood, followed by Rev. Twyford.

Adjourned until 7 o'clock Friday night. Closed by singing and prayer by Rev. Isbell.

Friday night services opened by singing, and prayer by Rev. J. Isbell. Stand filled by Rev. Smallwood, followed by Rev. A. H. Twyford. Text, St. John 14:6.

Adjourned by singing, and prayer by Rev. Mart House, till Saturday morning 9 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

Saturday morning session opened by singing, and prayer by Rev. J. W. James. Reading of minutes. Motion made and carried that we receive minutes.

Report of clerk on finance: on hand \$4 17.

Motion made and seconded that we correspond with Post Oak Grove association by letter; bearer, Rev. J. W. James, at Pleasant Grove church, Denard, Ark.

Report of committee on divine service: For 11 o'clock services, Rev. Thomas, followed by Rev. Bufford.

Appointment of a committee on Finance on Missionary Board. Motion made and carried, we elect Bros. A H Twyford, Thomas Berry and E E Asmon. E E Asmon chosen clerk of board.

Adjourned by singing and prayer till 2:30 P. M.

11 o'clock services opened by singing and prayer. Stand was filled by Rev. Thomas and Rev. Bufford. Text, Heb. 2:3. Closed by singing, and prayer by Rev. Smallwood.



SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Opened by singing, and prayer by Rev W E Arnold. Report of committee on Missionary Board. We have chosen Rev W E Arnold as a Home Missionary.

Report of committee on Sunday-schools: We recommend that every church should organize and support a union Sunday-school to enlighten the old and to raise the young and rising generation for a higher and better life in Christ Jesus. We pray you brethren that you maintain a Sunday-school.

Report received and committee discharged.

Committee on Prayer Meeting report: We find it useful to hold weekly prayer meetings.

Report received and committee discharged.

Report of committee on Finance: On hand \$9.77.

Report received and committee discharged.

New business: Form of dismission letter changed.

Resolved, that our preachers and deacons hold a quarterly meeting every fifth Sunday, and we divide in three separate places. Eastern part to commence at Hickman Chapel; middle part at Mt. View; western part at Evening Shade.

Moved and seconded that we examine our preacher's and deacon's characters at our next annual meeting.

Election of minister to preach introductory sermon, 1912, resulted in choice of Rev A H Twyford.

Moved and seconded that we allow \$2.00 for clerk fees and postage.

Donated to clerk, \$1.30.

Two applications made for next association. On voting it carried to go to Mt. View, and time changed to Saturday before the first Sunday in September, 1912, at 11 A. M.

Committee on Divine Services reported: For Saturday night, Rev. Smallwood to preach, followed by Rev. House.

Adjourned till 8 o'clock Saturday night. Closed by singing and prayer by Rev. Mart House.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION.

Saturday night services opened by singing, and prayer, and experience service before preaching. Preaching by Rev. Smallwood, followed by Rev. House and Rev. Spence.

Reading John 13:1-17. Text, "Jesus Christ our liberator." After preaching, the ordinances of Lord's supper and washing of saint's feet were attended to.

Resolved, that the delegates composing this association tender their heartfelt thanks to the brethren and community at large for the kindness shown them during their stay among them.

The parting hand was then given until our next coming together. So ended a grand and glorious good association.

Eld. W. E. ARNOLD, Moderator.

E. E. OSMON, Clerk.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MINISTERS.

J W James, Stark, Cleburn Co., Ark.
 A H Twyford, Bradford, Ark.
 J Isbell, Jamestown, Ark.
 R E Smallwood, Higdon, Ark.
 W E Arnold, Newport, Ark. RFD 1, B 15A.
 Mart House, Jamestown, Ark.
 W F Thomas, Dug Hill, Ark.
 J B Cobb, Newport, Ark., EFD 1, B 15A.
 J J Bittle, Shiloh, Ark.
 Wm Foust, Wilburn, Ark.
 G W Bufford, Jamestown, Ark.
 K O Curl, Bradford, Ark.
 J Goff, Heber Springs, Ark.
 J C Matheny, [Licentiate] Almond, Ark,

CLERKS' ADDRESSES.

25 Hickman Chapel—E E Osmon, Bradford, Ark.
 20 Mill Springs—Rosa Matheny, Almond, Ark.
 15 Dughill—Mary E Penner, Dughill, Ark.
 2.5 Antioch—A H Sutherland, Moorehead, Ark.
 20 Mt View—R S Isbell, Jamestown, Ark.
 40 Evening Shade—E C Stone, Stark, Ark.
 30 Walnut Grove—Thomas Berry, R 1, Newport, Ark.

ROLL OF DELEGATES.

Hickman Chapel—Tony Vanover, Lizzie Hudson.
 Evening Shade—J J Hootin, J W Freeman.
 Mill Springs—G Puckett, M E Mason.
 Mt View—James Thatcher, John Thatcher.
 Walnut Grove—Thomas Berry, W H Arnold.
 Dughill—Wm Nash, Susie Nash.
 Antioch—Newt Sipes, James Martin.

EXPLANATION.

The delay in printing of these minutes is no fault of the Association Clerk. The printer simply could not get them out sooner.

THE PUBLISHER.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES.	PASTORS	Day of Meeting...	Members Rec'd...	Total Members...	Died	Ministors	Minute fund.....	Sunday school	Prayer Meeting...
Evening Shade....	J W James.....	1	47			21	60	1	
Mill Springs,	W E Arnold.	3	213				75		
Hickman Chapel	A H Twyford.....	3	510			11	00	1	1
Walnut Grove	A H Twyford.....	4	72	3			...	1	1
Antioch	W F Thomas.....	1	40				...		
Mt View.....	J S Isbell.....	4	522			21	25		
Dughill.....	J W James.....	2	19			11	00		

Minute fund on hand from last year \$4.17. Total \$9.77.

213

40
 20
 25
 30
 30
 20
 20
 185

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The association, when convened, shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.
2. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet and address the moderator.
3. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in speech, except by the moderator, until he gets through; nor shall the moderator interrupt him unless he break order.
4. The person speaking shall adhere to the question, and shall in no wise cast personal reflections on any person who may have spoken before him.
5. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the association.
6. Members shall address each other by the appellation of Brother or Brethren.
7. No member shall laugh or whisper in time of public speech.
8. No member of this association shall absent himself when the association is sitting in conference without leave of the moderator.
9. No member shall speak longer than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the association.
10. Any member who shall knowingly break any of these rules shall be reproved by the moderator, according to the direction of the association.

Form of Petitionary Church Letter

The _____ church of General Baptists was brought into church capacity by Elds. A B and C D, on the following class of members: By letter —; recommendation—; experience and baptism —; total —. Received since organization. By letter —; by recommendation —; experience —. Dismissed by letter —; num. excluded—; total membership —. We are all in peace, and have chosen following prethrrren, D E and B S to bear this petitionary letter and sit with you in council. We pray you receive them. We have ordained ministers —; licentiates. Our day of meeting is Saturday before the Lord's day in each month. We have chosen Eld. G H for our pastor the ensuing year and Brother E C for church clerk. Our postoffice is Total number members in good standing —; contribution money —. This done by order of the church at its — meeting.
E I, Church Clerk. Eld. E D Moderator.

Form of Church Letter

The church of General Baptists to association: We are all in peace. We have elected the following brethren to sit with you in council when convened with of General Baptists at, on the day before the Sunday in + 191.. brothers A and C. We pray you receive them. We have had the labors of Eld the past year, and have chosen Eld for the ensuing year, and church clerk. Our statistics are as follows: Received by letter; by experience and baptism; by recommendation....; dismissed by letter....; excluded; died; ordained ministers; licentitates....; our postoffice is; day of meeting is on Saturday before the Sunday in each month. Done by order of the church at its meeting. Total number of members in good standing; our contribution it \$....

Form of Dismission Letter.

We, the General Baptist church known as —, dismiss our beloved brother (or sister) from our watch-care in full fellowship and good standing. Done by order of the church while in conference.
A B, Moderator.
C D, Clerk.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible Word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice.—2 Timothy 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21.

2. That there is but one living and true God, and in the Godhead, or divine essence, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.—Deut. 4:39; 1 Cor. 8:4; 1 John 5:20.

3. That we are fallen and depraved creatures, and can not extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature.—Rom. 6:12-20; Rom. 3:10-12.

4. That Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification, Justification and Redemption are by the life, death, resurrection, ascension and intercession of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.—Acts 4:12; Heb. 10:10.

5. We believe that he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved.—Matt. 22.

6. That the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.—Matt. 25:46.

7. We believe that baptism, the Lord's supper and washing of saints' feet are the ordinances of Jesus Christ appointed in the church, and that none but true believers are proper subjects, and that the only true mode of baptism is immersion.—On baptism Matt. 3:15; Rom. 6:4; Acts 8:38; Col. 2:12. The Supper, Matt. 26:27; Mark 14:22; Luke 22:19; 1 Cor. 11:23-26; washing of feet, John 13:4-17; 1 Tim. 5:10; 1 Peter 2:21.

8. We believe in the sanctity of the first day of the week—or Lord's Day—and it ought to be observed and spent in the public or private worship of God, and on it we should abstain from our worldly concerns, except in case of necessity or mercy.—Ex. 20:8; Acts 20:7; Mark 2:27-28.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both the just and the unjust, but every one in his own order—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life; and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of damnation; and that God hath appointed a day in which he will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ.—Acts 24:15; 1 Cor. 15:16-17; John 5:29; Matt. 25:32-41; Acts 17:31.

10. That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another, and to study the happiness of the people of God in general, and to be singly engaged to promote the honor and glory of God.—Rom. 12:10.

11. We believe that Jesus Christ, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man, and that none can partake of His divine benefits only by repentance toward God, and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. (Infants and idiots excepted, they being included in the covenant of God's grace.)—Heb. 2:9; John 3:16; 2 Cor. 5:15; 1 John 2:2; John 3:36.

12. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the door into the church, and that baptism is a duty in answer to a good conscience.—St. John 10:9.

13. We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him, therefore should be one at His table.—1 Cor. 12:13; St. John 17:11, 21, 22; Matt. 26:27, 28.

CONSTITUTION.

1. This association shall be composed of such messengers as shall be chosen by the different churches composing this association, thought most fit for that purpose and sent with letters testifying to their appointment to represent them in the association, who shall be entitled to seats; ministers and deacons included.

2. The officers of this association when properly organised shall consist of a moderator and clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present. The duty of the moderator shall be to keep the association in order, state questions fairly and take their minds thereon; to have the liberty of speech as other members, providing his seat be filled, to have no vote unless the association be equally divided, in which case he shall have the deciding vote. The duty of the clerk shall be to keep a fair record of all the proceedings of the association.

3. In the letters from the several churches shall be expressed their respective number of members in fellowship, and the number received, dismissed, excluded and died since the sitting of the last association, and day of church meeting.

4. No query shall be received by this association from any church unless it has been acted on in said church and cannot be settled, in which case the association shall take up the same and act on it.

5. Every church in the association shall be entitled to a representation of any number of delegates not exceeding six.

6. Every motion made and seconded shall be acted on unless withdrawn by the mover.

7. The association shall not have the power to lord it over God's heritage so as to infringe on any of the internal rights of the churches; nevertheless we agree that the churches composing this association shall stand in the same relation to each other in this association that individuals do to each other in the churches; that is to say, if a church trespass against a sister church, the church injured shall try to reclaim them by gospel steps; if they cannot be reclaimed they shall be dropped from our union.

8. We agree to do all business by a majority of the members present.

9. Any church may be admitted into this association by letter and delegate, if upon proper examination it is found to be orthodox and orderly; such admission shall be manifested by the moderator giving the right hand of fellowship to the delegates thereof.

10. This association shall have power to sit as an advisory council; to give churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty; to inquire into the cause why churches neglect to represent themselves in this association; to appoint any member or members, by and with his or their consent, to transact any business they may deem necessary; to invite any brethren in the ministry to a seat with the association; to adjourn the association to any time and place that may be thought necessary; to exclude from his seat any member who will not conform to the Rules of Decorum, and shall report his or their conduct to the church from which he or they were delegates.

11. Where a church has a deacon that they desire the ordination of, they are authorised to have it done at any time or place where a presbytery can be found.

12. This constitution is not to be altered without a majority of three-fourths of the members composing this body. But if any person after becoming a member shall become dissatisfied with any part of this constitution or articles of faith, he shall be entitled to a letter of dismission, if in fellowship in his own church.

General Baptist Publishing House,

OWENSVILLE, INDIANA.

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