

# Minutes

## Houma Valley Missionary Baptist Association



October 1907

Mulberry Grove Church

# MINUTES

OF The Twentieth Annual Session of The Fourche Valley Baptist Association convened with Mulberry Grove Church Friday, October 11th, 9 o'clock a. m.

After devotional service the Association was called to order by the moderator. Prayer by Eld. J. A. Johnson.

Committee appointed on credentials consisting of G. T. Ford, W. Bland and Ike Potter. The committee reported the following churches entitled to seats, to wit:

Antioch, Ada, Aplin, Cherry Hill, Casa, Dixie, Esau, Hickory Grove, Mulberry Grove, Houston, Perryville, Union Valley, Moab, Mountain Grove.

Went into the election of officers which resulted in the election of Eld. G. W. Ried, moderator and H. N. Hefner, clerk.

On motion suspended regular order of business, and took up the appointment of committees as follows:

DEVOTIONAL—C. H. Duncan, G. C. McCabe and J. H. Alexander.

FINANCE—W. M. Porter, L. G. Shields and W. Rankin.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS—G. T. Ford, J. H. Hammons and W. E. Hill.

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION—J. M. Neal, H. N. Hefner and J. A. Johnson.

DESTITUTION—Wm. Smith, W. M. Porter and W. Bland.

OBITUARIES—J. H. Brazil, W. J. Upton and W. Rankin.

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS—J. H. Hammons, I. Potter and J. H. Brazil.

LITERATURE—H. N. Hefner, J. H. Hammons and G. T. Ford.

TEMPERANCE—J. M. Neal, H. P. Eubanks and W. Rankin.

ORPHANS HOME—H. N. Hefner, H. P. Grice and W. E. Hill.

HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS—Wm. Smith, W. M. Porter and H. N. Hefner.

RESOLUTIONS—J. M. Neal, W. E. Hill and J. Hammons.

Extended a call for petitionary letters. A letter from Fourche Valley Church was received. On motion adjourned until 2 o'clock p. m. Following ad-

Journalment, the introductory sermon was preached by Eld. G. W. Wilcox.

Friday 2 p. m. Association was called to order by the moderator, prayer by G. W. Wilcox.

Extended a call for visiting ministers to seats in our body. Eld. G. W. Wilcox and W. C. Palmer were received.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEES.

Called for report of committees as follows:

### SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Committee on Sunday Schools report as follows:

We your committee on Sunday Schools find that very few of our churches have any Sunday School. We recommend that the pastors and messengers of each church make an effort to organize and maintain a Sunday School in their church.

G. T. FORD, Ch'm.

### DESTITUTION.

Committee on destitution reported and report adopted as follows:

We your committee on destitution find considerable destitution in our bounds. We recommend that this body take steps to supply said destitution with gospel preaching. We mention the following as destitute points: Massey School House, Tibbit, Wright's School on South Fourche, and Divide on Rose Creek.

WM. SMITH, Ch'm.

Adjourned to meet Saturday 9 a. m. Prayer by Eld. G. W. Ried.

### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION.

Saturday 9 a. m. called to order by the moderator. Renewed the call for visiting ministers: Eld. E. Baldwin, of Buckner Association responded and was seated.

Committee on ministerial education reported and report adopted as follows:

In every avocation of life, we see the need of a preparation. Education to the minister is as the grinding of the ax to the chopper. It is the developing of powers which God has given us. Hence God has said, "study to show yourself a workman, that needeth not to be ashamed," therefore we recommend, that our young ministers use every opportunity to gain an education. We further recommend, that we patronize our own schools; especially, Ouachita, Central, Mountain Home and Magazine Colleges

J. A. JOHNSON, Ch'm

### LITERATURE.

Called for report on Literature which was adopted as follows:

We your committee on Literature recommend first of all, the Bible, together with the Baptist Advance, The Foreign Mission Journal, and for

Sunday School we recommend the use of Southern Baptist Convention Literature, and the Literature of the American Publication Society.

H. N. HEFNER, Ch'm.

### ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

Committee on Associational Missions reported and report adopted as follows:

We your committee on Associational Missions submit the following: In view of the destitution in our bounds we urge that this body take steps to put a missionary in the field for full time, and ask him to take collections for each month and forward same to treasurer of our Mission Board to be used to pay said missionary.

J. H. BRAZIL, Ch'm.

### HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Report on Home and Foreign Missions was adopted as follows: Whereas Christ has enjoined upon his church to preach the Gospel to all nations, and believing the Baptist to be that church, we recommend that our churches use all diligence to forward this work. We especially recommend that we co-operate with the Home and Foreign Mission Boards of the Southern Baptist convention.

WM. SMITH, Ch'm.

Adjourned until Saturday 2 p. m. Prayer by D. L. Reddick.

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Saturday 2 p. m, called to order by moderator. Prayer by G. W. Wilcox, Renewed the call for statistical letters.

Renewed the call for petitionary letters and Liberty Church was received.

On motion, New Home Church was reported for holding in fellowship members who were considered drunkards.

On motion the name of Viney Grove and Oppelo churches were dropped from the list.

### OBITUARIES.

Committee on obituaries reported and report adopted as follows:

We find that since our last meeting 14 of our members have passed from labor to rest; have exchanged the cross for the crown. They rest from their labors and their works follow them. The names of the departed are as follows:

Annie C. Bland  
Fred Rankin  
Brother Phillips  
Sister Jessie Reynolds  
Sister Mary Brazil  
L. Rodgers  
Rena Rankin

Minnie Jones  
James Middleton  
Sister L. Thayer  
Sister Jones  
Rebecka Adams  
Sister Martin  
One name could not be obtained  
J. H. BRAZIL, Ch'm.



## FINANCES.

Report of committee on finance was as follows:

For Minutes	\$25.98
Associational Missions	25.20
Orphans Home	.30
By Collection	7.63
Home Missions	.47
State Missions	6.20
	<hr/> \$65.76

WM. RANKIN, Ch'm.

## TEMPERANCE.

Report of committee on Temperance was adopted as follows:

We your committee on temperance, recommend that our churches maintain a firm position against the use of any intoxicants. We strongly condemn dram drinking as a sin. We urge our brethern to co-operate with the Anti-Saloon League and do all in our power to put the liquor demon from our churches, our county, and our state.

J. M. NEAL, Ch'm.

## ORPHANS HOME.

Report of committee on Orphans Home was adopted as follows:

We your committee on Orphans Home submit the following report. We find that there is 73 orphans in the home now. We feel that we should be interested in this home. We recommend that each church take regular collection for the support of this institution.

W. E. HILL, Ch'm.

## RESOLUTIONS.

Committee on Resolutions reported as follows:

Resolved that this body extend its heartfelt thanks to the brethern, and friends, to Mulberry Grove and community, for their kind hospitality shown us during our stay among them, and we pray Heavens richest blessing to rest on them.

WM. E. HILL, Ch'm.

Motion carried that H. N. Hefner be paid \$25.00 for his service as missionary the past year.

Arranged correspondence as follows:

To United Association, G. T. Ford and J. A. Johnson,

Dardanelle, H. N. Hefner and D. L. Redditt.

Saline, J. M. Neal and J. M. James.

To State Conyention, M. A. Vandalsem.

Selected Perryville as place of meeting of the next session, to begin Friday 9 a. m. before the second Sunday in October 1908.

On motion the clerk was ordered to draw on treasurer for \$3.30 last years deficit and \$8.00 for his services as clerk.

On motion clerk was ordered to have as many minutes printed as could

be paid for with funds in treasury.

Elected Eld. H. N. Hefner as missionary and agreed to pay him \$30.00 per month, to be paid monthly. On motion agreed that we ask the State Board to pay our missionary \$30.00 per month.

### ASSOCIATIONAL MISSION BOARDS,

On motion the moderator appointed the following Associational Mission Board: W. P. Adams, W. Rankin and Wm. Smith.

Name and address of Board.

W. P. Adams, Ledwidge, Ark., Wm. Smith, Sec. Perryville, Ark., W. A. Rankin, Treas. Perryville, Ark.

Former Mission Board reported as nothing having been done and was discharged.

### TO PREACH INTRODUCTORY AND MISSIONARY SERMONS.

Eld. G. W. Wilcox was elected to preach introductory sermon at our next session with G. W. Ried Alternate.

Eld. H. N. Hefner was chosen to preach on missions, Sunday 11 a. m. of next session, with E. L. West Alternate.

### MISSIONARY BOARD.

Money paid on missionaries salary.

W. E. Hill of Esau, \$5.00	Perryville, \$1.50
Casa 1.50	Houston 1.50
Mountain Grove 1.50	Harmony 1.50
Hickory Grove 1.50	Antioch 1.50
Total	<u>\$15.50</u>

On motion missionary was made financial agent for the board. Adjourned to meet Sunday 9 a. m. Prayer by the moderator.

### SUNDAY MORNING SESSION.

Sunday 9 a. m. the Association was called to order. Prayer by G. W. Wilcox.

Renewed call for visiting ministers, and Eld. F. P. Turner of Little Rock was received, and made an interesting address in which he presented the orphans home work. The people responded with a donation of \$7.60.

By motion the minutes were read and approved.

After taking the parting hand, with sad hearts at the thought of parting, our parting prayer was led by Eld. W. E. Kimbrough. Adjourned to meet at Perryville Friday 9 o'clock a. m. 1908.

G. W. RIED, Moderator,

H. N. HEFNER, Clerk.

Perryville, Ark.

Casa, Arkansas.

# Articles of Faith.

## OF THE SCRIPTURES.

1. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired. That it is a perfect treasure of heavenly instruction. That it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter. That it reveals the principles by which God will judge us and therefore is, and shall remain to the end of the world the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions should be tried.

## OF THE TRUE GOD.

2. We believe that there is one, and only one living and true God; an infinite, intelligent spirit, whose name is Jehova, the maker and Supreme ruler of heaven and earth, inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love. That in the unity of the God head there are three persons, the Father. Son and Holy Ghost; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct, but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

## OF THE FALL OF MAN.

3. We believe that man was created in Holiness under the law of his Maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that Holy and happy state, in consequence of which all mankind are now sinners, not by constraint but by choice, being by nature utterly void of that Holiness required by the law of God, positively inclined to evil, and therefore under just condemnation to eternal ruin, without defense or excuse.

## OF THE WAY OF SALVATION.

4. We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of Grace, through the mediatorial offices of the Son of God; who by the appointment of the Father, freely took upon him our nature, yet without sin; honored the Divine law by his personal obedience, and by his death made a full atonement for our sins, that having risen from the dead he is now enthroned in heaven; and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with Divine perfections, he is in every way qualified to be a suitable compassionate, and all sufficient Saviour.

## OF JUSTIFICATION.

We believe that the great Gospel blessing which Christ secures to such as believe in him is justification, that justification includes the pardon of sin; and the promise of eternal life and principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any works of righteousness which we have done, but solely through faith in the Redeemer's blood; by virtue of which

faith his perfect righteousness is freely imputed to us of God; that it brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God and secures every other blessing needful for time and eternity.

### OF THE FREENESS OF SALVATION.

6. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to accept them by a cordial, penitent and obedient faith; and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel which rejection involves him in an aggravated condemnation.

### OF GRACE IN REGENERATION.

7. We believe that in order to be saved, sinners must be regenerated, or born again; that regeneration consists in giving a Holy disposition to the mind, that it is affected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit in connection with Divine truth, so as to secure our voluntary obedience to the Gospel; and that its proper evidence appears in the Holy fruits of repentance, and faith, and newness of life.

### OF REPENTANCE AND FAITH.

8. We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties, and also inseparable grace wrought in our souls by the regenerating spirit of God; whereby being deeply convinced of our guilt, danger and helplessness, and of the way of salvation, by Christ we turn to God with unfeigned contrition, confession, and supplication for mercy at the same time heartily receiving the Lord Jesus Christ as our Prophet, Priest, and King and relying on Him alone as the only and all sufficient Saviour.

### OF GOD'S PURPOSE OF GRACE.

9. We believe that election is the eternal purpose of God according to which he graciously regenerates, sanctifies, and saves sinners; that being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man it comprehends all the means in connection with the end; that it is a most glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, being infinitely free, wise, holy and unchangeable; that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, love, prayer, praise, trust in God, and active imitation of his free mercy; that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree that it may be ascertained by its effects in all who truly believe the gospel; that it is the foundation of christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves demands and deserves the utmost diligence.

### OF SANCTIFICATION.

10. We believe that Sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of his holiness, that it is a progressive work, that it is begun in regeneration and that it is carried on in the hearts of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Healer and Comforter, in the continual use of the appointed means, especially the word of God, self denial, watchfulness and prayer.

### OF THE PERSERVERANCE OF SAINTS,

11. We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end;



that their perservering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare; and they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

## OF THE HARMONY OF THE LAW AND THE GOSPEL.

12. We believe that the law of God is the eternal and unchangeable rule of his moral government; that it is Holy, Just and Good, and that the inability which the scriptures ascribe to fallen men to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from their love of sin; to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to unfeigned obedience to the Holy Law is one great end of the Gospel, and of the means of Grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.

## OF A GOSPEL CHURCH.

13. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptised believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel, observing the ordinances of Christ, governed by his laws, and exercising the gifts, the rites and privileges invested in them by His word. That its only scriptural officers are Bishops or Pastors and Deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles to Timothy and Titus.

## OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S SUPPER.

14. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer into the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, to show forth in a solemn and beautiful emblem our faith in the crucified buried and risen Savior, with its effect in our death to sin and resurrection to a new life; that it is a prerequisite to the privileges of a church relation; and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church by the sacred use of bread and wine are to commemorate together the dying love of Christ, preached always by solemn self-examination.

## OF THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH.

15. We believe that the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath, and is to be kept sacred to religious purposes, by abstaining from all secular labor, and sinful recreations; by the devout observance of all means of Grace both private and public, and by preparation for that rest that remaineth for the people of God.

## OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT.

16. We believe that civil government is of Divine appointment for the interests and good order of human society; and that magistrates are to be prayed for, conscientiously honored and obeyed except only in things opposed to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ who is the only Lord of the conscience and the Prince of Kings of the earth.

## OF THE RIGHTEOUS AND THE WICKED.

17. We believe that there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked that such only as through faith are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of our God, are truly righteous in his esteem; while all such as continue in impenitence and

unbelief are wicked and under the curse and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

18. We believe that the end of this world is approaching; that at the last day Christ will descend from Heaven, and raise the dead from the grave to find retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place; that the wicked will be adjudged to endless punishment, and the righteous to endless joy, and the judgement will fix forever the final state of man, in Heaven or hell on principles of righteousness.

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#### DEVOTIONAL SERVICES.

Friday 11 a. m.—G. W. Wilcox.

Friday night—J. H. Hammons.

Saturday, 11 a. m.—E. Baldwin.

Saturday night,—G. W. Wilcox and H. N. Hefner,

Sunday, 1 a. m.—E. L. West.

Sunday night—F. P. Turner.



# STATISTICAL TABLE

NAME OF CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK	POST OFFICE	Baptisms	By Letter	Restored	Dis'msd by let, r	Exclusions	Died	Membership	For Minutes	Associational Missions	State Missions.	Home Missions	Pastors Salary	Day of meeting	Orphans Home
Antioch..	G W Wilcox	W Rankin	Moab	5	3	3	2	1	2	41	1. 50	3. 00			32.50	3	
Aplin	S O Welch	C A Black	Aplin	12	3	3	4	2	1	95	3. 15	5. 00	.45			4	.87
Cherry Hill.	G W Wilcox	W M Porter	Aplin	20			2	3	2	63	2. 35				50.00		
Casa.	H N Hefner	V N Redditt	Casa.	3	8		1	1	1	58	2. 00	5. 35			34.50	4	
Dixie...																	
Esau		Aaron Bland	Fourche..		4		5		1	52	2. 00	.50		.40	45.00		
Hickory Grove.	G T Ford	G W Bland	Houston..	5			1	2	1	57	1. 00					4	
Mulberry Grove	H N Hefner	C H Duncan	Adona..	10	3	1				52	1. 75	1. 75			33.00	3	
Houston	H G Johnson	O D Harris	Houston..	13	4	2			6	139	2. 00		87 00	10 00		2	20.50
Perryville	E Baldwin	J L Hill	Perryville	7	3					46	1. 76		5.75			2	
Moab	G W Ried	W A Bond	Moab.	24	3		20			8	.50	3. 90					
Mount'n Grove	G T Ford	Wm. Smith	Perryville	2						53	2. 00	.80					
Liberty	J M Neal	G W Wilson	Roland.	6						22	.50	2. 00				4	
Fourche Valley	G T Ford	W A Price	Perryville		1					28	1. 45					3	
Harmony	J M Neal	M Brazil	Maumelle	22	4	1	4				2. 50	1. 80				1	
Hawkstone	S O Welch	A Grice	Index					1		31	1. 75					3	
				139	35	10	45	10	14	745	26.21	22 20	93.20	10.40	196.80		21.37

**Special Notice** Clerks of the Church will PLEASE tear out this leaf and make their report on it, as it will make it much easier on the clerk.

## Form of Letter.

To the Fourche Valley Baptist Association when convened with . . . . .

Greeting, we send as Messengers Brethren . . . . .

. . . . . Alternates . . . . .

### OUR STATISTICS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Our Pastor is . . . . . Clerk . . . . .

P. O. . . . . Increased by Baptism . . By letter . . . Restored

. . . Decreased by letter . . . By exclusion . . . Died . . . Present membership

. . . Days of meeting . . . For Minutes . . . . . Associa-

tional Missions . . . State Missions . . . Home Missions . . . Foreign Mis-

sions Pastors salary . . . . .

### Sunday School Report.

Number enrolled . . . . . No. classes . . . Average attendance . . .

Supt. . . . . Sec'y . . . . .

Literature . . . . . Cost of Literature . . . Total expense for the year . . . . .

Approved by church in conference . . . Day . . . . . 190 . . .

Clerk.



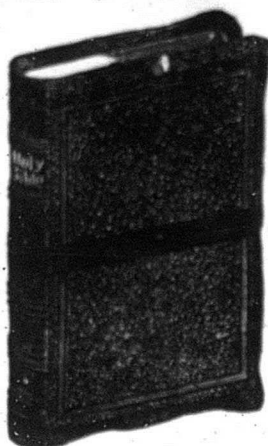
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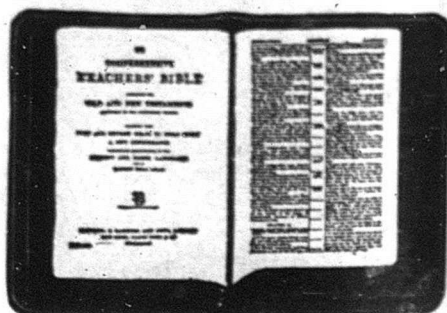
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