



PROCEEDINGS
—OF THE—
Twelfth Annual Session
—OF—
Wolf Bayou Association
—OF—
General Baptists

**Held with New Hope Church, Independence County
Ark., September 1 and 2,**

1912.

J. W. JAMES, Moderator.
E. E. OSMON, Clerk, - Bradford, Ark.

**GENERAL BAPTIST PUBLISHING HOUSE
OWENSVILLE, INDIANA.**

PROCEEDINGS

Of the Twelfth Annual Session of Wolf Bayou Association of General Baptists, held with New Hope Church, Independence County, Arkansas (postoffice, Hutchinson), September 1 and 2, 1913.

The moderator not being present, Rev. Wm. Foust was chosen moderator pro tem.

Opening prayers by Rev. Thomas and Rev. Goff. The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Twyford; text, 21:15. Alternate, Rev. Foust.

Appointment of committee on Divine Service—Brother Landrum and Brother Angel.

Association adjourned till 2 o'clock P. M. Closed with singing, and prayer by Rev. Nelson.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION.

Opened with singing, and prayer by Rev. Isbell.

Called for letters. Following churches responded: Hickman Chapel, Dughill, Evening Shade, Mountain View, Antioch, Walnut Grove.

New churches called for. Three received—Bethlehem, Bethel and Wilburn. Delegates seated and given the right hand of fellowship.

Election of officers resulted in the choice of Rev. J. W. James moderator, Rev. Wm. Foust assistant moderator, E. E. Omon Clerk, Rev. Twyford assistant clerk.

Called for corresponding letters. One received from North Arkansas association, Bro. Laneer bearer.

Invitation to visiting ministers to seats in council.

Appointment of various committees:

Sunday-School—Bro. House, Bro. Thomas, Bro. Nash.

Prayer Meeting—Bro. Nelson, Bro. Goff, Bro. Berry.

Finance—Bro. Matheny, Bro. Angel, Bro. F. Foust.

Queries and Resolutions—Bro. Isbell, Bro. Arnold, Bro. Goff.

Temperance—Bro. Goff, Bro. Cobb, Bro. Twyford.

Credentials—Bro. Thomas, Bro. Curl, Bro. J. W. Foust.

Reports of Pastors and Preachers.

J. W. James—Preached 36 times, pastored 2 churches part of time, traveled 127 miles, held one revival service, received \$4.50 donation. Witnessed 19 conversions, received one into the church.

J. T. Goff—Preached 30 sermons, conversions 25, received \$25.00.

Mart House—Married 2 couples, preached 50 sermons, received about \$15.00.

J. W. Foust—Traveled 200 miles, funerals 10, marriages 4, baptized 14, organized one church, sermons preached 50, conversions witnessed 35, received \$25.00

W. F. Thomas—Sermons preached 25, conversions 5.

J. S. Isbell—Preached 43 sermons, funeral services one, married two couples, traveled 193 miles, received \$1.25, helped organize one church.

A. H. Twyford—Preached 54 sermons, preached 4 funerals, baptized one, organized one church, members received 5, money received \$23.60.

J. C. Matheny—Preached about 15 sermons, witnessed 7 conversions.

W. E. Arnold—Preached 76 sermons, traveled 420 miles, funerals one, married two couples, conversions 15.

Report of committee on Divine Services for Saturday night—Rev. Goff to preach and Rev. Curl alternate.

Committee on Credentials reported as follows: Report all O. K. except Rev. J. B. Cobb and Rev. Bufford.

After investigation, motion carried that we revoke Bro. Cobb's credentials and publish him.

Motion carried to investigate Bro. Bufford's case, and report at Milburn on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in September, 1912. Committee appointed—Frank Foust, W. S. Nash, A. H. Sutherland.

Bro. Curl's credentials were endorsed.

Adjourned till 8 o'clock Saturday night. Closed with singing, and prayer by Rev. Thomas.

Saturday Night.—Opened with singing and prayer service. Preaching by Rev. Goff; alternate Rev. Curl. Text, Romans 11:1.

Committee on Divine Services reported for Sunday at 11 o'clock, Rev. Foust and Rev. Thomas. Closed with singing and prayer.

Sunday, 11 A. M.; opened with prayer services; preaching by Rev. Foust. Text, Numbers 14:9. Closed with singing and prayer.

Sunday Night Services.—Opened with singing and prayer services. Preaching by Rev. Twyford; text, Rom. 1:16. Closed with singing and prayer.

MONDAY MORNING SESSION.

Opened with singing, and prayer by Rev. James.

Report of Sunday-school committee: Recommend a union Sunday-school; we believe it promotes the honor and glory of God.

Report received and committee discharged.

Committee on Prayer Meeting reports: We believe every church should have prayer meeting.

Report received and committee discharged.

Committee on Temperance reports: We recommend our brethren be temperate in all things.

Report received and committee discharged.

Committee on Finance Reported \$6.65 on hand and \$1.75 promised from Walnut Grove.

Report received and committee discharged.

Donated to clerk, \$2.35.

Committee on Queries and Resolutions, Report No. 1.—We recommend that if any deacon or preacher walk disorderly, we call the presbytery and attend to it at once.

Report No. 2—Resolved, that we change the time of meeting of this association to Thursday night before the first Sunday in September, 1913.

Both reports received and committee discharged.

Appointment of delegates: To Post Oak Grove association, Bro. J. W. James, Bro. Mart House.

Moved and seconded that we correspond with North Arkansas association, Rev. A. H. Twyford delegate.

Moved and seconded that we represent by delegate in the State association. Rev. J. H. Goff and Rev. K. O. Curl chosen delegates.

Wilburn was chosen as place for next association.

Next business, presbytery ordained Bro. Angel and Bro. Lardrum as deacons.

Rev. J. S. Isbell was chosen to preach the introductory sermon at our next association.

Article of Thanks.

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

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

J. W. JAMES, Moderator, Stark, Ark.

E. E. OSMON, Clerk, Bradford Ark.

Ministers' Addresses.

J. W. James.....	Stark, Arkansas
A. H. Twyford.....	Bradford, Arkansas
J. Isbell.....	Jamestown, Arkansas
W. E. Arnold.....	R. F. D. No. 1, Newport, Arkansas
Mart House.....	Jamestown, Arkansas
J. J. Bittle.....	Shiloh, Arkansas
W. M. Foust.....	Wilburn, Arkansas
K. O. Curl.....	Bradford, Arkansas
John Goff.....	Heber, Arkansas
J. C. Matheny, licentiate.....	Almond, Arkansas

Addresse of Church Clerks.

Hickman Chapel—E. E. Osmon.....	Bradford, Ark.
Evening Shade—Francis Freeman.....	Shiloh, Ark.
Antioch—E. F. Foust.....	Ida, Ark.
Dug Hill—Mary E. Penner.....	Dug Hill, Ark.
Pethel—L. E. Higginbotham.....	Bradford, Ark.
Bethlehem—Plessie Ripley.....	Pleasant Plains, Ark.
Mount View—R. S. Isbell.....	Jamestown, Ark.
Walnut Grove—Thomas Berry.....	Newport, Ark.
Wilburn—E. E. Ramsey.....	Wilburn, Ark.

Roll of Delegates.

Hickman Chapel—J. R. Nelson, Eva Osmon.
 Wilburn—E. E. Ramsey, W. M. Stafford, J. W. Shears.
 Walnut Grove—W. H. Arnold, H. B. Cobb.
 Mount View—Ira Bufford, Mart Mason.
 Bethlehem—John Hopkins, Plessie Ripley.
 Bethel—Josiah Curl, L. E. Higginbotham.
 Dug Hill—Wm. Nash, Susie Nash.
 Antioch—E. F. Foust, A. H. Sutherland.
 Evening Shade—J. W. Stone, E. C. Stone, B. Leister, J. J. Hooton, T. J. Bittle.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES	PASTORS	Received Meeting Day	Number Members	Ministers Paid	Minute Fund	Sunday-School Prayer-Meeting
Evening Shade.....	R E Smallwood		29		1 70	
Hickman Chapel ..	A H Twyford	3	11		50	
Antioch	Elder Pierce	1 3	21	3 1	30	
Dug Hill			9		1 00	
Bethel	A H Tyford	2	4	1	50	
Bethlehem.....	Mart House		13		30	1
Mt View	J S Isbell		13		15	
Walnut Grove.....	W E Arnold	4	56	2		1
Wilburn	J W Faust		25	1	1 00	
Total	10 3	194	9	6 65	3

Program.

- Sermon by moderator.
- Committee on Divine Services appointed.
- Reading church reports and enrolling delegates.
- New churches called for.
- Election of moderator and clerk.
- Correspondence called for and messengers and visiting ministers invited to seats in council.
- Moderator Appoint the Several Committees.
- Reports of Ministers.
- Reports of permanent committees and boards.
- Call for contributions.
- Reports of committees.
- New business.
- Selection of minister and alternate to preach next introductory sermon.
- Selection of Place for Next Session.
- Resolution of Thanks.
- Adjournment.

Form of Petitionary Church Letter.

The..... church of General Baptists was brought into church capacity by Elders A B and C D, on the following class of members: By letter..., by recommendation..., by experience and baptism..., total... Received since organization, by letter..., by recommendation..., by experience and baptism... Total number of members in church at its....meeting. Total number of members in conference and baptism... Dismissed by letter..., number excluded... Total membership... We are all in peace and have chosen the following brethren, 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 meeting day is Saturday before the... Lord's day in each month. We have chosen Elder 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.

Elder 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 theSunday in 191... brothers A and C. We pray you receive them. We have had the labors of Eld the past year, and have chosen Eldfor the ensuing year, andchurch clerk. Our statistics are as follows: Received by letter; by experience and baptism; by recommendation....; dismissed by letter....; excluded; died; ordained ministers; licentiates....; our postoffice is; day of meeting is on Saturday before theSunday in each month. Done by order of the church at its meeting. Total number of members in good standing; our contribution it \$....

.....Moderator,Clerk.

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.

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 reprov'd by the moderator, according to the direction of the association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible Word of God and the only safe rule of faith and practice.—2 Tim. 3:16; Acts 4:12; 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.—St. John 1:1; 1 John 5:7; Isa. 45:12; Col. 2:8; Deut. 4:39; 1 Cor. 8:4.

3. That we are fallen and depraved creatures, and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature.—St. John 14:16, 17, 15:26; Rom. 8:7-20; 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.—Eph. 2:8,9; Acts 4:12; Heb. 10:10; Jer. 29:8.

5. We believe that he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved.—St. Mark 13:13; Matt. 24:13; 2 Pet. 2:20, 21, 22; Matt. 10:22.

6. That the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.—Rev. 20:4, 5; Matt. 25:46, Matt. 19:29.

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, Romans 6:4,

Acts 8:38, Col. 2:12. The Supper, Matt. 26:27, Mark 11:22, Luke 22:19, 1 Cor. 23:34. 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.—Isa. 26:19, St. John 5:2 and 29, Rev. 20:12-15, Acts 24:15.

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.—Gal. 6:10, 1 John 2:9, Rom. 12:10, St. John 15:23, Acts 20:30 and 31.

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).—Rom. 4:15, Acts 4:10, St. John 3:14 to 17, Heb. 2:9.

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, Rom. 6:5, Gal. 3:28, 1 Pet. 3:8, St. John 17:21 and 22.

Constitution.

1 This association shall be composed of such ministers and 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.

Article 2 This association, when properly organized, 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, provided 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 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 intringe 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 the association that individuals do to each other in the churches; that is to say, if a church transgress 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 authorized 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.