

MINUTES
OF THE
TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
Grand Prairie Baptist Association
HELD AT

Center Point Baptist Church, Oct. 24, 25, 26 and 27, 1901.



OFFICERS:

Moderator, R. H. PARKER,
Vice-Moderator, F. C. ROBINSON.
Clerk, R. L. DAVIS.
Treasurer, E. J. MCCUIN.

Next session to be held with the Oak Grove Church, ten miles west of Fairmount, on Friday night before the third Sunday in October, 1902,
at 7 o'clock, p. m.

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Proceedings of the Grand Prairie Baptist Association.

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Center Point Baptist Church, Oct. 24, 1901.

The Twenty-Seventh Annual Session of the Grand Prairie Baptist Association met at the above time and place, and after singing "Down at the Cross" and "Amazing Grace," was led in prayer by R. P. Bain.

The moderator then declared the Association ready for the transaction of business, and made the announcement that death had called away our clerk, Bro. N. G. Williams; whereupon R. L. Davis was elected clerk pro tem.

The Association then suspended business to hear the introductory sermon, by Bro. H. Y. Morris. Bro. Morris read the thirteenth chapter of Corinthians. Prayer by R. M. Best, after which the Association listened to an interesting sermon from Romans 11:13. Subject, "I Magnify My Office." After which the moderator appointed the pastor and deacons of Center Point church, with J. Cole, J. B. Wofford and S. K. Downs as a Committee on Divine Service.

Motion and second: That there be preaching at 11 a. m. and at night; adjourned.

Adjourned to a sermon on "God's Dealings with His People," by R. M. Best.

The committee announced that Eld. G. W. Thomason will preach at 11 a. m. tomorrow, and Eld. R. P. Bain at night.

Adjourned to meet at 9 a. m. tomorrow.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1901.

The Association convened by singing "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name." Prayer by R. F. Routh.

After reading the constitution and order of business, the moderator appointed E. J. McCuin and J. B. Wofford to read the letters from the churches to the Association. The following named messengers were present, viz.:

Center Point Church—W. R. Sanders, J. F. Isbell, W. A. Calley.

Hebron—By letter.

Dewitt—J. B. Wofford, M. A. Miller, Archie Vittitow.

Hurricane—Geo. Westrope.

Big Lagrue—Sisters Hagar Ward, Donia Almar, India Parker.

Oak Grove—W. L. Cole, G. W. Campbell, G. W. Bass.

Hazen—F. C. Robinson, Wm. Kennedy, Lucille Thompson.

Rising Sun—S. K. Downs, J. M. Fuller and Sister Fuller.

Pleasant Ridge—W. C. Everett.

Macedonia—R. G. Minton, S. R. Ross.

Petitionary letters next called for. Harmony and New Home presented petitionary letters, and were welcomed into the Association by the moderator, and their messengers, as follows, took seats with the body:

Harmony—Bros. Casson, Robert Buffalo, Jas Benson.

New Home—W. J. Weaver, J. F. Chapman, W. B. Turner.

Adjourned the business meeting until 1 p. m. and listened to an interesting discourse by Eld. G. W. Thomason, on the following subject: "Let Us Hold Fast to the Profession of Our Faith Without Wavering."

1 p. m.—Convened by singing "The Wicket Gate," followed by "Jesus Paid it All."

Prayer by R. M. Best.

Again called for letters from the churches.

Stuttgart presented her letter by R. G. Harper, messenger.

Annual election of officers next in order. Dr. F. C. Robinson and J. B. Wofford appointed as tellers, who reported the election as follows, viz.:

Moderator—R. H. Parker.

Vice Moderator—F. C. Robinson.

Clerk—R. L. Davis.

Treasurer—E. J. McCuin.

The moderator made a feeling talk in accepting his reelection.

Corresponding messengers from sister Associations called for, and Eld. R. P. Bain and Bro. H. C. Munger were received as corresponding messengers from Caroline Association, and Elds. G. W. Thomason and R. M. Best and Sister H. T. Bradford as visitors from Caroline Association.

The following were appointed as a Finance Committee: F. C. Robinson, W. L. Cole, J. B. Wofford.

A short recess was taken, and on reassembling the moderator announced the following committees:

Committee on Education—J. B. Wofford, D. D. Willis, I. Z. Kimbrough.

Committee on Sunday Schools—I. Z. Kimbrough, S. K. Downs.

Committee on Foreign Missions—R. F. Routh, Wm. Kennedy.

Committee on Home Missions—W. L. Cole, Robert Buffalo.

Committee on State Missions—J. M. Fuller, R. A. Ricks.

Committee on Temperance—W. R. Sanders, W. C. Everett.

Committee on Publications—Geo. Slusher, Henry Purdy.

Committee on Obituaries—D. D. Willis, E. J. McCuin.

New Bethel church presented her letter and enrolled as messengers: H. W. Birdsong, Bedford Holmes and Sister Wood.

The following pledges were received from churches and individuals:

FOR ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS.

Rising Sun Church.....	\$5 00
Hazen	2 50
DeWitt Church, per J. B. Wofford.....	2 50
Point Deluce Church, per Geo. Slusher.....	2 50
E. B. Gibson.....	5 00
H. B. Dudley.....	1 00
P. W. Dudley.....	1 00
Miss Bessie Dudley.....	1 00
Miss Nannie Dudley.....	1 00
Rodger Dudley.....	1 00

[For Associational Missions Continued.]

J. B. Wofford.....	1 00
M. V. Wofford.....	1 00
R. H. Parker.....	5 00
R. A. Ricks.....	2 00
H. C. Munger.....	2 50 paid
C. W. Bradbury.....	2 50
H. W. Birdsong.....	2 50

FOR STATE MISSIONS.

Hazen Church..... 2 50

The time and place of holding the next Association in order. Oak Grove and Rising Sun were put in nomination, each having petitioned for the next meeting of this body.

Motion and second: That we meet at Oak Grove church on Friday evening before the third Sunday in October, 1902: Carried, and Oak Grove declared to be the next place of meeting.

By motion and second I. Z. Kimbrough was appointed to preach the next introductory sermon, and D. D. Willis alternate; also B. F. House to preach the ext annual missionary sermon and T. K. Flynn alternate.

Adjourned to 7 p. m.

6 P. M.—Motion and second: That we rescind the action of adjourning to 7 p. m. and begin work at once. Carried.

Song, "Why Will Ye Die?"

Prayer by B. F. House.

The Association then proceeded to the selection of messengers to the State Convention, and the following named brethren were elected, viz.: B. F. House, T. K. Flynn, D. D. Willis, F. C. Robinson, I. Z. Kimbrough.

Eld. S. P. Davis was invited to a seat with us as a visitor from Caroline Association.

The former treasurer, A. H. Soakland, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

RECEIPTS.

October 27, 1900, Balance at DeWitt.....	\$ 52
October 29, 1900, Received of Sister Bass.....	5 00
October 29, 1900, Received of DeWitt Sunday School.....	2 50
October 29, 1900, Received of Sister Kimbrough.....	1 00
October 29, 1900, Received of H. A. Harkey.....	1 00
October 29, 1900, Received of C. Vittitow.....	1 00
October 30, 1900, Received of T. K. Flynn.....	5 00
October 30, 1900, Received of Bro. Miller, of Hazen.....	2 50
October 30, 1900, Received of Missionary Collection.....	7 00

Total Receipts..... \$25 52

DISBURSEMENTS.

November 30, T. K. Flynn.....	\$10 00
December 28, Balance on minutes.....	8 20
October 24, 1901, postage and stationary.....	1 38
October 24, 1901, balance cash on hand.....	6 94
	\$25 52

Bro S. P. Davis was appointed to lead the devotional exercises until the preaching hour.

Adjourned the business part of the meeting to 9 a. m. tomorrow, and after prayer service had an excellent sermon by R. P. Bain from First Corinthians, 15:35:

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1901

Met at 9 a. m. and sung "Come, Thou Fount."

Prayer by R. M. Best.

The report of the Executive Board called for, who requested further time, which was granted.

Motion and second: That we suspend the regular order of business and hear the report of the Committee on State Missions. Carried.

Report read and amendment offered by F. C. Robinson. During the discussion the Association took recess until 1 p. m., and listened to a live, practical sermon by Bro. S. P. Davis from Psalms 126:5, 6.

1 p. m.—Reassembled with song.

Prayer by H. C. Munger.

The Association then took up the report on State Missions. After a lively discussion by H. C. Munger, R. P. Bain, F. C. Robinson, A. H. Soakland, G. W. Thomason and R. M. Best, the report, as amended, was adopted and marked "A."

Again called for church letters, and the following responded, viz.:

Bethel—H. A. Willis.

Cross Roads—G. T. Toler, Robert Welch, J. W. Highfill.

Report of Executive Board read, and an earnest plea for Associational Missions made by R. F. Routh, H. Y. Morris and H. G. Manger.

Report adopted and marked "B."

Motion and second: That we defer the report on Sunday Schools until Sunday at 10 a. m. Carried.

Report on Foreign Missions read and discussed R. F. Routh. Report adopted and marked "C."

Report on Education read, adopted and marked "D."

Report on Publications read, adopted and marked "E."

Report on Temperance read, adopted and marked "F."

Report on Obituaries read, adopted and marked "G."

After which a collection of \$10.17 was taken for the benefit of Sister N. G. Williams, and sent to her by Bro. Slusher.

The moderator announced the appointment of the following Executive Board for the ensuing year:

Bethel—H. A. Willis.

New Home—J. F. Chatman.

Big Lagrue—Bryant Adams.

Center Point—J. R. Sanders.

Cross Roads—J. W. Highfill.

Crooked Creek—D. D. Willis.

DeWitt—A. D. Vittitow.

Fairmount—J. W. Robinson.

Hazen—F. C. Robinson.

New Bethel—J. S. Wood.

New Hope—Elmer Moon.

Adjourned to 6:30 p. m.

New Zion—Pat Danevan.

Oak Grove—W. L. Cole.

Pleasant Ridge—T. L. Ricks.

Point Deluce—Abbott Powell.

Rising Sun—S. K. Downs.

St. Charles—D. S. Ross.

Stuttgart—R. G. Harper.

Hebron—Sam Williams.

Hurricane—Geo. Westrone.

Macedonia—R. G. Minton.

Harmony—J. H. Benson.

8:30 p. m.—Song, "I Gave My Life for Thee."

The Finance Committee made their report, which was adopted and marked "I."

After singing, were led in prayer by D. D. Willis.

Adjourned to meet Sunday morning at 9:30, after which a large audience

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1901.

The Association convened at 9:30 a. m., and after singing "On Jordan's

~~my Banks~~" was led in prayer by Bro. Burson.

Report on Sunday Schools read and discussed by I. Z. Kimbrough, H. Y. Morris, F. C. Robinson, J. B. Wofford, B. F. House and H. C. Munger. Report adopted and marked "J."

Report on Orphan's Home read and discussed by F. C. Robinson, R. F. Hauth, H. C. Munger. Report adopted and marked "K."

Motion and second: That the clerk have 500 copies of the minutes printed, and draw on the treasurer for the balance over the amount in his hands for that purpose, and that the clerk be allowed \$10 for his services. Carried.

The following resolution of thanks was adopted:

Resolved, That we tender the thanks of this Association to the Center Point church and the citizens of this community for their kind treatment and generous hospitality during our stay with them.

Reading of the minutes.

This body then listened to the missionary sermon by I. Z. Kimbrough, who delivered an able discourse from First Corinthians, 16:1 and 2, making an earnest plea for the "old landmarks," or customs of the church; after which collection of \$12.25 was taken for Associational Missions.

After extending the parting hand, the Association closed with prayer by Morris.

R. H. PARKER,

R. L. DAVIS, *in E* Moderator.
Clerk.

APPENDIX.

"A"—STATE MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on State Missions, submit the following report:

We are glad to report that our State Mission work is in a good condition. We are somewhat behind at present with our funds, but we trust that by the sitting of the State Convention at Paragould November 15, we will be clear of debt; and we would urge that a collection be had from all our churches and sent to J. H. Kitchens, Jonesboro, as soon as possible, that we may go to the Convention without debt.

We have now some forty Associational missionaries and missionary passes in the field; two general missionaries—Bros. Frank White and R. C. McDaniel—and one corresponding secretary—A. J. Barton. We recommend the suspension of the corresponding secretary, and that we employ a general missionary, whose duties shall be: 1 To do the corresponding for the Board; 2 To look after the financial interest of the Board; 3 To do all the mission work possible in places of real destitution, at a salary not to exceed \$1200 a year.

J. M. FULLER,
R. A. RICKS.

"B"—EXECUTIVE BOARD.

We, the Executive Board of the Grand Prairie Association beg leave to submit the following report:

We have not had a meeting since the last Association, so have done nothing. We recommend that the incoming Board employ a missionary for his entire time for the pasturing of the weak churches that the Board may designate; and we would further recommend that the pastors of the various churches take a collection at the last meeting at each church before each fifth Sunday, that the members of the Board might have the funds to take to the Board meeting; and request that the pastors preach a mission sermon on that occasion; and we ask the co-operation of every pastor within the bounds of this Association, as without their co-operation the efforts of the Board will be a failure.

J. B. WOFFORD,
WM. L. COLE,
R. G. HARPER,
J. S. WOOD,
E. J. McCUIN,
GEO. WESTROPE,
H. A. WILLIS.

"C"—FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Master said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."—Matthew 28:19. And in obedience to that command, Wm. Cary, of England, in 1792, cried for help to have the gospel preached to the heathens, and that cry was heard. \$65 was raised and one missionary was ready to go, and this was the reviving of mission work in foreign lands. That work has continued until the present, with great results. From one nation to six; from one missionary to 100; over 1200 baptisms last year; near 6000 church members; contributions near \$700,000 last year. With this start, let us push on in God's name, until the kingdoms of this world shall become the kingdoms of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ; and that Grand Prairie Baptist Association contribute their part to this great work; and that the churches be requested to collect the same and send to R. J. Willingham, Richmond, Va.

ROBT. F. ROUTH,
WM. KENNEDY.

"D"—EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Education reports as follows:

Education is necessary to the understanding of language, and to properly convey the truth and become better men and women as well as to successfully overcome the falsehood taught by suppressors of the truth; it is necessary, so that every one may be enabled to better understand the truth when presented. Education enlarges our understanding, increases our intelligence and makes us useful Christians, as well as better citizens. To those who desire to be better, wiser, happier and more useful on earth, we cheerfully recommend Ouachita Baptist College, Central and Mountain Home colleges as institutions of learning and refinement, and in every way worthy of our patronage.

J. B. WOFFORD,
D. D. WILLIS,
I. Z. KIMBROUGH.

"E"—PUBLICATIONS.

Your Committee on Publications report the following:

We are thankful for our Board of Publication; it is doing a grand work. We are pleased with the Arkansas Baptist and other papers by the way in which they confront error. We recommend our doctrine to the world, and especially the word of God as a perfect rule of faith and practice.

GEO. SLUSHER.

"F"—TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on Temperance, submit the following report:

Whereas, we feel that intemperance is one of the great evils of our land, we think that each and every Christian should do all in his power to destroy its influence. We are glad that our Christian people have taken steps to support it. We recommend the Anti-Saloon League of Arkansas, and trust that our people will stand by it and help it to drive this viper out of our land, which is destroying our church, moral and civilized land. Our prayer is that we may soon become so faithful to our God as a Christian people, that we will put this evil at every opportunity.

W. R. SANDERS.

"G"—OBITUARIES.

Your Committee on the most solemn subject (Obituaries) committed to the Association respectfully make the following report:

That, while we feel that God has been very merciful to us during the past year, that to a great extent sickness and death has been kept from us; and yet we are reminded that a cloud of sorrow swept over this entire Association when the news came of the terrible accident and death of our beloved brother, Elder N. G. Williams, who has so faithfully served Grand Prairie Association as clerk, missionary, and many of its churches as pastor. That in his death this Association suffers a loss that will be and is felt by all; and should bring to a full understanding of the certainty of death; and that we extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of our deceased Bro. Williams, and earnestly submit all to the will of God, who doth all things well.

E. J. McCUIN,
D. D. WILLIS.

"H"—HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Home Missions beg leave to submit the following report:

The Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention is doing great things in spreading the gospel of our Lord, and we should be under lasting obligations to it for what it has done in Arkansas. Let us not overlook the fact that the religious destiny of the world is lodged with the English speaking people. To the Anglo Saxon race God seems to have committed the work of the world's conversion.

Of the 5,000,000 Baptists, more than 3,000,000 are in this country, and a majority of these are within the bounds of the Home Mission Board. It is through this Board we reach the moral wastes of the frontier and the slums of cities. Nothing will save us from such a fate but a Christianity strong enough to hold in check the infidelity and crime that infest our land—Christianity pure enough to write upon our governmental policy and upon everything we have to do, "Holiness to the Lord." Multitudes of people, speaking

strange tongues, will flow into our Southland from every nation. To Christianize these millions will be largely the work of the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

W.M. L. COLE,
R. L. BUFFALO.

"I"—FINANCE.

We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to submit the following report:	
The churches sent for minutes.....	\$19 29
For Home Missions.....	8 75
For Foreign Missions (by Rising Sun church).....	1 00
For State Missions (by Rising Sun church).....	1 00
For Orphan's Home (by Rising Sun church).....	1 00
For Associational Missions (pledges at DeWitt, October, 1900)—	
H. B. Dudley.....	2 50
P. W. Dudley.....	2 50
E. B. Gibson.....	5 00
H. Coleman.....	5 00
W. L. Cole.....	2 50
Mrs. Georgia Boone.....	2 50
M. A. Miller.....	2 50
R. H. Parker.....	5 00
New Bethel church (by James Glass).....	5 00
Cash paid, Macedonia church.....	1 45
Rising Sun church.....	1 00
G. W. Campbell.....	1 00
H. C. Munger.....	2 50
Mrs. Hattie Sanders.....	1 00
From A. H. Soakland, retiring treasurer.....	6 94
Collection after preaching, October 27, 1901.....	12 25
	\$89 68

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. WOFFORD,
F. C. ROBINSON,
W.M. L. COLE.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

- D. S. Cannon, DeWitt, Ark.
- I. Z. Kimbrough, DeWitt, Ark.
- R. F. Routh, Hazen, Ark.
- T. K. Flynn, Hazen, Ark.
- D. D. Willis, Hazen, Ark.
- B. F. House, Barrettsville, Ark.

"J"—SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, report the following:

We recognize the Sunday School as a great help to the church in the study of the scriptures, but not above, or equal to, the preaching of the gospel, as some seem to think. As helpers, we recommend the American Baptist and Southern Baptist literature as being good. We urge a Sunday School in every church.

I. Z. KIMBROUGH,
S. K. DOWNS.

"K"—ORPHAN'S HOME.

The Orphan's Home, located at Monticello, Ark., is an institution controlled by Baptists for the care, support and education of orphan children. We would recommend that each church in this Association be requested to aid in their support.

ROBT. F. ROUTH.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

NAMES OF CHURCAES.											CLERKS.							
	By Letter	By Baptism	By Restored	By Letter	Died	Excluded	Males	Females	Total Membership	Sunday Schools.	For Ministers.	Associational Missions.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Day of Meeting.	Value of Church Property.		
Stuttgart	1		1	1	1	1	20	27	47	1	1 50	85 00	5 00	2d	4th	1200 00	Mrs. A. G. Moore	
Center Point	2	2	4	5	1		48	59	107		1 75	75 00		1st		600 00	W H Bullock	
New Hope																	Hazen	
Point DeLuce	16	4	5	1	1	1	40	37	77		1 00	50 00	5 00				DeWitt	
Hebron	3	7	2		1		8	13	21		1 10			1st			R H Bradberry	
Bethel					2	1			20		75					200 00	H M Garrett	
Bellvue																	Stuttgart	
Big LaGrue	2	1		1	1		22	44	66		1 18	50 00				600 00	R H Parker	
DeWitt	2	43		3	2		59	55	114	1	2 00	300 00	28 00	16 00	5 00	1st & 3	2000 00	
Hurricane								8	13	21		50	17 00	2 75		2d	30 00	
New Bethel	9	1	7	6	2	27	31		58		1 00				Ist	400 00	Mrs Jessie Wheeler	
Cross Roads.	1		10		1				53						4th	500 00	Geo Gerren	
Oak Grove.			2	5	1				26		75				2d		Carlisle	
Hazen	12	8	10	1	6	10	37		47	1	1 15	66 00		23 40		3d	900 00	J B Highfill
Rising Sun	7	1							67		1 70	75 00					W L Cale	
Crooked Creek																	Hamilton	
Pleasant Ridge	1	7		3	1	1	17	23	40	1	1 01	30 00				4th	200 00	Mrs Hattie Sanders
Salem																	Hazen	
Fairmount																		
St Charles																		
Macedonia	1	1	1	6	2	3	4	10	14		50		1 45			4th		S R Ross
New Zion																		
Harmony									25		1 00						J H Benson	
New Home	3	32		3	1				41		1 30				3d		J F Chapman	
Total	35	12	14	59	19	17		8 44	19 09		42 20	44 40	5 00					Des Arc