

# Minutes

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OF THE

Thirty-First Annual Session

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OF THE

## Benton County Baptist Association

HELD WITH THE

Baptist Church at Maysville

BENTON COUNTY, ARK., OCTOBER 18, 19, 20, 1916

### Officers

MODERATOR..... Eld. T. P. Jones, Decatur, Ark.

CLERK..... Eld. J. L. Chastain, Genesee, Ark.

Next session to be held with the Baptist Church at Lowell,  
Ark., beginning at 10 a. m. on Friday before the  
second Sunday in September, 1916.

BAPTIST FLAG PUB. CO.

Fulton, Ky.

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# Proceedings

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The Benton County Baptist Association met, according to previous arrangement, with the Baptist Church at Maysville, Ark., on Wednesday, Oct. 18, 1916.

Call to order and devotional service conducted by the Moderator of the previous session, Eld. J. W. West.

The introductory sermon was then preached by Eld. T. F. Jones from 1 John 1:3 on Fellowship. Prayer by Eld. G. W. Birkes.

Motion prevailed to take recess till 2:00 p. m. Prayer by Eld. J. L. Chastain.

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## AFTERNOON SESSION

Song, "Jesus Paid It All." Scripture reading and prayer by A. R. Hall. Song, "Shall We Gather at the River?"

J. M. Beard, P. T. Keller, and the pastor and messengers of Maysville Church were appointed as Committee on Divine Service.

Jas. H. Jones and Eld. E. F. Rice were appointed as reading clerks, and the letters were read and messengers enrolled.

Motion prevailed that messengers present by appointment of their churches, their letters having not yet arrived, be enrolled.

Motion prevailed to go into permanent organization by election of Moderator and Clerk. Eld. E. F. Rice and W. G. Jones were appointed as tellers, and the vote was taken by ballot, resulting in the choice of Eld. T. F. Jones as Moderator and Eld. J. L. Chastain as Clerk.

Petitionary letters were called for and was responded to with letter from the Landmark Missionary Baptist Church at Indianola, Okla., which was read and on motion the church was received and messengers enrolled. The hand of fellowship was then extended to their messengers by the Moderator in behalf of the Association.

The courtesies of the body were extended to visitors, and several responded.

Motion prevailed to adjourn till 7 p. m. tonight, and that the time of meeting tomorrow be 9 a. m.

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## EVENING SESSION

Singing. Reading of Rom. 12 and prayer by Eld. J. A. Hall. Singing. Preaching by Eld. G. W. Birkes from John 4:29.

Several committees were announced by the Moderator. (See list.)

Adjourned to meet at 9 a. m. tomorrow. Prayer by J. M. Ketchum.

## THURSDAY—MORNING SESSION

Song, "What a Friend." Reading of John 10:1-29 and prayer by Roy Daugherty. Minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read, corrected and adopted.

On motion took up the question of the place of next meeting and the preacher of the introductory sermon, resulting in the choice of Lowell as the place, and Eld. L. L. Johnson as the preacher of introductory sermon, with J. A. Hall as alternate.

The Committee on State Missions submitted report, which was discussed by A. R. Hall, E. C. Brooks and others, after which report was amended and adopted.

The Committee on Ministerial Support submitted report, which was discussed by Eld. J. A. Hall, Eld. John Setser, Eld. G. W. Setser, Eld. E. F. Rice, Eld. J. L. Chastain, T. D. Pattishall, E. C. Brooks and the report was adopted.

Motion prevailed to take recess for preaching to assemble again at 2 p. m.

Preaching by Eld. J. W. West, from John 21:15. After preaching a collection was taken for Associational Missions for liquidation of debt.

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AFTERNOON SESSION

Singing. Scripture reading by the Moderator and prayer by Eld. Wm. Edwards. Song, "Take the Name of Jesus With you."

The Committee on Ministerial Education submitted report, which was discussed by Jas. H. Jones, Sister M. J. Rodgers, Eld. Wm. Edwards, E. C. Brooks, Roy Daugherty, Eld. A. N. Sanders. A collection of \$92.00 was taken in pledges for Bro. Roy Daugherty's support in Jacksonville College, and the report was adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions submitted a report, which was discussed briefly, after which the report was adopted.

A motion prevailed that this Association elect a committee of three to look after the education, support and encouragement of young ministers, and to receive and disburse funds for this purpose as directed by the donors. The committee was elected consisting of A. R. Hall, J. L. Chastain and E. C. Brooks.

The Committee on Sunday Schools submitted report, which was discussed briefly and adopted.

A motion prevailed that the Moderator appoint a Committee to draft a report on Support of Disabled Ministers.

The Committee on Orphans' Home submitted a report. On motion this report was made a special order for the session tonight.

Motion prevailed to adjourn now and resume business after the preaching service tonight.



## EVENING SESSION

Song, "Revive Us Again." Prayer by T. D. Pattishall. Song, "On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand." Preaching by Eld. E. F. Rice from Luke 15:2.

Resuming business, on motion the question set for this hour was postponed till 10:30 tomorrow. Adjourned to meet at 8 a .m. tomorrow.

## FRIDAY—MORNING SESSION

Singing. Scripture reading and prayer by Jas. H. Jones. Singing.

A motion was made to amend Article No. 2 of the Constitution by striking out the words "Wednesday before the fourth Sunday in October," and substituting "Wednesday before the second Sunday in September."

A motion was then made to amend the amendment by striking out the word "Wednesday" and substituting "Friday," and the same prevailed by more than two-thirds vote.

The Committee on Old Ministers' Support submitted report, which was adopted.

A motion prevailed that the Executive Committee of the Association that shall be appointed act as such Committee as is provided in the said report.

Petitionary letter from the church at Logan was presented and read. On motion the church was received on the face of this letter, and the hand of fellowship was extended to their messengers by the Moderator in behalf of the Association.

The Committee on Temperance submitted report, which was discussed by J. M. Beard, C. M. Rice, Eld. J. L. Chastain, E. C. Brooks, and the report was adopted.

The Committee on Associational Missions submitted report, which was discussed by E. J. Bishop.

A motion prevailed to limit speeches for the remainder of this session, opening speeches to five minutes and following speeches to three minutes. Further discussion of the subject by Eld. G. W. Setser, Eld. E. F. Rice, Eld. John Setser, E. C. Brooks, Eld. G. W. Birkes, Frank Moss, and the report was adopted.

The hour having arrived for the consideration of the report on Texarkana Orphans' Home, the matter was taken up and discussed by Sister M. J. Rodgers, E. C. Brooks, Eld. T. F. Jones (D. L. Jesse in the chair). A collection of \$52.05 in cash and pledges was taken, and report adopted.

Motion prevailed to take recess for preaching and re-assemble at 2 p. m.

Preaching by Eld. J. L. Chastain from 1 Cor. 15:14 on The Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

### AFTERNOON SESSION

After singing by the congregation, and scripture reading and prayer by T. D. Pattishall, the Association resumed business.

Took up the question of the election of Executive Committee, resulting in the election of J. L. Chastain, T. D. Pattishall and E. C. Brooks. The first named declining positively to accept the place, a motion prevailed that the one having the next highest number of votes take the place, which was A. R. Hall.

Resolution No. 2 was presented by the Committee, and after somewhat extended discussion, same was adopted unanimously.

The Committee on Publications submitted report, which after discussion was adopted.

The Committee on Obituaries submitted report, which was adopted.

The Committee on Finance submitted report, which was briefly discussed, and after a collection of \$4.60 to augment the minute fund, the same was adopted.

The Committee on Foreign Missions submitted report, which was adopted.

The Committee on Resolutions submitted Resolution No. 3, which was unanimously adopted.

On motion and unanimous vote, Article IV of the Constitution was amended by adding to the last sentence the words "out of which fund the Clerk shall be allowed ten dollars for his services in preparing manuscripts and supervising the printing and distribution of the minutes."

A motion prevailed to adjourn to the time and place of next meeting.

ELD. T. F. JONES, Moderator.

ELD. J. L. CHASTAIN, Clerk.

### LIST OF COMMITTEES

Associational Missions—E. J. Bishop, E. C. Brooks, A. N. Sanders.

Finance—A. R. Hall, Jas. H. Jones.

Resolutions—Frank Duncan, J. M. Beard, T. D. Pattishall.

State Missions—A. R. Hall, Wm. Edwards, Oather Beard.

Temperance—J. M. Beard, J. M. Ketchum, John Gholson.

Texarkana Orphans' Home—Mrs. J. H. Barr, Mrs. R. L. Hurst, Mrs. Ray Daily, Mrs. M. J. Rodgers.

Obituaries—P. T. Keller, R. P. Balley.

Foreign Missions—Roy Daugherty, Sister N. M. Shields, J. T. Chastain.

Ministerial Education—Jas. H. Jones, R. Edwards, R. L. Hurst.

Sunday Schools—D. L. Jesse, Eld. G. W. Birkes, Eld. G. W. Setser.

Ministerial Support—Eld. J. A. Hall, I. W. Hopkins, B. P. Posey.

Publications—E. J. Bishop, A. N. Sanders, Frank Duncan.

Old Ministers' Support—A. R. Hall, Eld. W. M. Edwards.

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## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

### STATE MISSIONS

Your Committee on State Missions would report as follows: Knowing the destitution in the county is so great, we hesitate to recommend any effort for State Missions; but remembering at the same time that it is not only a privilege but an obligation and duty, for Christ said, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel," we would recommend that each pastor would work with his churches for State Missions, and each individual member make an honest effort and contribution for the mission work of the State Association.—Committee.

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### MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

Your Committee on Ministerial Support submit the following: We believe in a God-called ministry, and that those who preach the gospel should live of the gospel, as God has decreed. Knowing that the churches in the bounds of this Association are falling far short of paying their preachers, we would recommend and urge that they see to it that the ministry be better paid, so that they may give more time to the study of the word and thereby be better prepared for the dispensation of the same. It is common in our churches generally for just a few of the brethren to bear this burden. This ought not to be. All members should feel that they are under responsibility to do their part, because it is commanded that each one lay by him in store on the first day of the week as the Lord has prospered him.—Committee.

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### MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

We your Committee on Ministerial Education beg to submit the following report: As we see it, the ministry should be the most highly educated of all classes of professions. We recommend, first of all, that the minister, especially the young minister, apply himself to the study of the Bible as the foundation of his education. We also recommend a college education or training, such as Jacksonville College at Jacksonville, Tex., affords. We also recommend that the minister supply himself with good books, such as it becomes a servant of God to read. We further recommend that



the church of which the young minister is a member see to it that he is supplied with these necessary things pertaining to his education, and help him in any way that he needs help.—Committee.

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### SUNDAY SCHOOLS

We your Committee on Sunday Schools beg leave to report: We urge and insist that each church should have and maintain a regular Sunday School for the teaching of God's word, as we are admonished in God's word to train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it. Therefore we should not neglect the duty that we owe to our children. Therefore we should not be slack in giving our prayers and support to the Sunday School. We also recommend the use of Sunday School literature published by the Baptist Sunday School Committee, Texarkana, Ark.-Tex.—Committee.

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### ORPHANS' HOME

We your Committee on Orphans' Home submit the following report, data being taken from the Minutes of the State Association; and a brief report from the Treasurer of the Texarkana Orphans' Home: We now have 40 children in the Home, all well and happy. The children are most all in school, and doing good work. One married in May of last year; one was adopted in July by her sister, Mrs. G. W. James, Rogers, Ark; one died in October. Our matron is Mrs. T. H. Carter.

Our Home consists of a two story brick building of 32 rooms, a nice auditorium, and a large concrete cellar. We have between \$200 and \$300 worth of furniture, almost new. More than ten acres of land, on which we grew good crops last year, 75 bushels corn, 600 bundles oats, 500 bundles fodder, besides potatoes and other vegetables. We have a new wagon and harness and farming implements for all our purposes. Our running expenses average about \$3,600 per year. In the last eight years we have spent in buying the old home, rebuilding after the fire, and maintaining the children in our care, between \$45,000 and \$50,000. The present indebtedness on our home is about \$2,000. Therefore we your Committee ask that all our churches take collections regularly till we pay this debt, and then continue to maintain this Home of which we are proud.—Committee.

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### OLD MINISTERS' SUPPORT

Your Committee would report as follows: Feeling that there are old ministers in the bounds of this Association that are not cared for as they should be by the churches of which they are



members, we would recommend that this Association elect a committee of three to visit the churches and try to arouse them to a sense of their duty, and to receive and disburse funds for the support of old ministers where advisable and necessary.—Committee.

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### TEMPERANCE

Your Committee beg to submit the following: In this age of the world's history, there are all kinds and forms of intemperance. But just now we are confronted with a proposition for the passage of a law which, if successful, will repeal the prohibitory laws that we have been enjoying for the past thirty years relative to the use of intoxicating drinks. Therefore we urge our Baptist brethren and all others who love peace, good government and the salvation of our boys and girls, to refrain from the use of strong drink as a beverage, and to use all honorable means to defeat Act No. 2 at the next general election on the 7th day of November, 1916.—Committee.

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### ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS

Your Committee submit the following report: Realizing that there is great destitution in the bounds of this Association, and that numerous errors and heresies are being taught, we view with regret the seeming indifference on the part of the churches regarding this great work. We recommend that a committee of three (who are interested in the mission work) be appointed to look after this work and employ a missionary for such time as they shall have money or pledges to pay for his services. We further recommend that the pastors and ministers lay greater stress on the cause of missions and urge upon the churches greater diligence in their duties to this important work. We further recommend that each church select one committeeman to co-operate with the Executive Committee, and that the committee meet at each Fifth Sunday Meeting and have a mission rally.—Committee.

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### PUBLICATIONS

We your Committee present the following report: First of all stands the Bible, the book of books, God's revealed will to man, wherein we may learn our duty to ourselves, to our fellowman and to God. We recommend the Sunday School literature published at Texarkana by the Baptist Sunday School Committee. We recommend The Baptist and The Baptist Commoner as sound Baptist papers, and such books as are published by Baptist publishing houses.—Committee.

### OBITUARIES

We your Committee submit the following report: We find by reading the letters from the churches that God in his own way has called, since the last meeting of the Benton County Association, some of our brethren and sisters from our churches to the blessed home of the soul: to-wit: Bro. E. L. Allen, of Cave Springs; Bro. L. C. Whinery, of Bethlehem; Sister Laura Dennis, of New Prospect; Sister M. E. Peppers of Maysville; Sister Blalock, of Walnut Hill; Bell McDaniel, of Lowell; A. R. Philpot, R. Edwards and Winnie Duncan, of Mason Valley; Sister Bertie Beardsley, of Springtown; and Mamie Kincheloe, of Logan.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved. May they ever feel that heaven has grown brighter to them.—Committee.

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### FINANCE

Your Committee would report the following amounts received:

For Associational Missions: Of Bethlehem Church, 20c; Cherokee City, \$2; Mt. Pleasant, \$7.65; Zion, \$4.45; total, \$14.30.

For State Missions: Of New Prospect Church, \$1.56.

For Home Missions: Of Maysville Church, \$5.75.

For Foreign Missions: Of Maysville Church, \$5.70; Zion, \$3.55; total, \$9.25.

For Texarkana Orphans' Home: Of Bethlehem Church, \$3.87; Cherokee City, \$4.63; Mason Valley, 50c; New Prospect, \$3; Walnut Hill, \$1.65; Logan, \$6.50; total, \$20.15.

For Minutes: Of Bethlehem Church, \$3; Cave Springs, \$2.70; Cherokee City, \$1.10; Lowell, \$1.65; Mason Valley, 75c; Maysville, \$2.40; Mt. Pleasant, \$2; New Prospect, 60c; Pleasant Valley, \$1 Shady Grove, \$1; Springtown, \$3; Temperance Hill, \$1.50; Walnut Hill, 75c; Zion, \$3.35; Highfill, 60c; Indianola, 60c; Logan, \$1; total, \$27.00. Total for all purposes, \$78.01.—Committee.

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### FOREIGN MISSIONS

We your Committee beg leave to report as follows: The commission to go and teach all nations as found in Matt. 28:19, 20, was given to the church. This commission is world-wide and age-lasting. Since the church is the only divinely appointed body for the spread of the gospel to a lost and ruined world, and since it has pleased the Lord to save men through the foolishness of preaching, we therefore recommend that the constituent churches of the Benton County Baptist Association prove themselves missionary indeed by giving freely of their God-given means and their prayers to the support of this work.—Committee.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1**—Resolved, That this Association re-indorse Resolution No. 1 passed by this body at its last session in October, 1915. Also recommend that each of the churches composing this Association vote for or against said Resolution No. 1 and report at the next meeting of this body.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2**—Resolution of respect to our beloved brother and faithful former Moderator, Eld. J. W. West. This resolution of respect is offered that we may express to our beloved brother, in some small measure, the high esteem and love that we cherish for him for his devotion to the work of our Master among us, and for his words of wisdom and encouragement. May the Holy Spirit sustain him in his declining years, and may he be permitted, if it be God's will, to tarry with us in the Master's work.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3**—Resolved, That this Association hereby express our heartfelt thanks for the kindness and hospitality extended to us by the Maysville Church and the good people of the town and vicinity while in their midst. Also to our Moderator for the efficient and impartial manner in which he has presided over this body.—Committee.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance due missionary as reported in minutes of 1915 .....	\$84 67
Received by the Treasurer and paid on same the following: Of Pleasant Valley Church.....	\$ 50
Of State Bank of Gentry by receiver.....	4 37
Of J. L. Chastain .....	45
Received by the missionary and reported to the Treasurer: Of E. C. Brooks on pledge.....	5 00
Of A. N. Sanders on pledge .....	2 50
Of Cherokee City Church .....	5 00
Balance paid out of amount collected for that purpose .....	66 85
	\$84 67

J. L. CHASTAIN, Treasurer.

#### COLLECTIONS

The following pledges were made for Associational Missions for the purpose of liquidating the debt to the former missionary, Eld. G. W. Setser, and all have been paid except those marked "pledge": Sister M. J. Rodgers, \$5; Eld. E. F. Rice, \$5; R. Edwards, \$5; T. D. Pattishall, \$5; E. C. Brooks, \$5; Sister Netherton, \$4; Sister Belle Scott, \$3; Sister O. Jesse, \$3; Ray Daily, \$3; J. M. Ketch-



um, \$3; A. J. Crone, \$2; Sister Willie Barr, \$2; George Hart, \$2; Roy Daugherty, \$2; W. G. Jones, \$2; J. L. Chastain, \$2; Bro. Thrasher, \$1; Bro. Fancier, \$1; Eld. G. W. Brakes, \$1; B. P. Posey, \$1; Oather Beard, \$1; Sister Clary, \$1; Berry Holland, \$1; Jas. H. Jones, \$1; Eld. John Setser, \$1; Mrs. Geo. Hart, \$1; Mrs. A. J. Crone, \$1; Eld. T. F. Jones, \$1; L. H. Allen (pledge), \$1; Eld. A. N. Sanders, \$1; D. K. Netherton, 50c; Frank Duncan, \$1; Mrs. R. Edwards, \$1; Eld. J. W. West, \$1; Eld. W. M. Edwards, \$1; total, \$71.50.

(Of the amount paid by Eld. E. F. Rice in the above list, \$2.00 paid during the session of the Association, was lost to this fund, possibly counted in with the collection for the Texarkana Orphans' Home, but no one knows definitely what became of it.—Clerk.)

### MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

The following pledges were made for the support of Bro. Roy Daugherty as a ministerial student in Jacksonville College for the scholastic year already begun: Eld. T. F. Jones (paid), \$5; Sister M. J. Rodgers (paid), \$10; A. R. Hall (paid), \$10; Sister Netherton (paid), \$5; Sister Willie Barr, \$5; R. Edwards, \$5; Eld. W. M. Edwards (paid), \$5; E. C. Brooks (paid), \$5; Eld. A. N. Sanders, \$5; Eld. E. F. Rice, \$5; D. L. Jesse, \$5; Jas. H. Jones, \$5; W. G. Jones (paid), \$5; R. L. Hurst, \$5; Sister Belle Scott (paid), \$2; Sister O. Jesse (paid), \$3; George Hart (paid), \$2; Mrs. George Hart (paid), \$1; Sister Orpha Hart (paid), \$2; T. D. Pattishall (paid), \$2; total, \$92.00.

### ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS

The following amounts were pledged for the mission work of the Association for the coming year: Eld. T. F. Jones, \$15; P. T. Keller, \$2.50; R. Edwards, \$5; Eld. W. M. Edwards (paid), \$5; A. R. Hall, \$5; Sister M. J. Rodgers (paid), \$20; Mrs. R. Edwards, \$3; Roy Daugherty (paid), \$2.50; Eld. E. F. Rice, \$5; Oather Beard, \$2.50; Eld. J. W. West, \$2.50; Jas. H. Jones, \$2.50; W. G. Jones, \$5; T. D. Pattishall (in the name of Cave Springs Church paid), \$5; total, \$80.50.

#### By Churches, Mostly As Trial Pledges

Antioch, trial; Bethlehem, \$25; Cave Springs, \$10; Lowell, \$10; Mason Valley, \$10; Maysville, \$50; Mt. Pleasant, \$20; Shady Grove, \$5; Springtown, \$25; Walnut Hill, trial; Zion, trial; Indianola, \$5; Logan, \$10; Highfall, \$10; total by churches, \$180.00. Total by churches and individuals, \$260.50.

For Texarkana Orphans' Home: Cash collection, \$47.05; pledge by C. M. Rice, \$5; total, \$52.05.



**ROLL OF MESSENGERS**

ANTIOCH—E. Austin, I. W. Hopkin, Sister M. J. Rodgers.  
BETHLEHEM—Eld. T. F. Jones, Jas. H. Jones, P. T. Keller.  
CAVE SPRINGS—T. D. Pattishall.  
CHEROKEE CITY—By letter only.  
HIGHFILL—Sister N. M. Shields.  
INDIANOLA—Eld. G. W. Setser, Frank Duncan.  
LOGAN—James Story, A. C. Palmer.  
LOWELL—J. M. Beard, E. J. Bishop, Mrs. J. H. Barr.  
MASON VALLEY—J. M. Ketchum, R. P. Bailey, J. L. Gholson.  
MAYSVILLE—E. C. Brooks, Eld. A. N. Sanders, D. L. Jesse.  
MT. ENTERPRISE—Not represented.  
NEW PROSPECT—By letter only.  
PEA RIDGE—Eld. J. A. Hall, A. R. Hall.  
PLEASANT GROVE—Ray Daily, Mrs. Ray Daily.  
PLEASANT HILL (Carroll County)—Not represented.  
PLEASANT VALLEY—By letter only.  
SHADY GROVE—J. T. Chastain.  
SPRINGTOWN—Eld. J. L. Chastain, R. L. Hurst, Sister Le-  
vada Hurst.  
TEMPERANCE HILL—Kit Phillips.  
WALNUT HILL—Eld. G. W. Birkes, B. P. Posey.  
ZION—Oather Beard.

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**VISITORS ENROLLED**

Eld. J. W. West, Gravette, Ark.; Eld. E. F. Rice, Springdale,  
Ark.; Bro. Frank Moss, Oklahoma.

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**ORDAINED MINISTERS, WITH POST OFFICE ADDRESS AND  
CHURCHES OF WHICH THEY ARE MEMBERS**

Adams, E. J., Rogers, Ark., Pea Ridge.  
Birkes, G. W., Garfield, Ark., Walnut Hill.  
Brandon, F. M., Gravette, Ark., Bethlehem.  
Chastain, J. L., Gentry, Ark., Springtown.  
Edwards, W. M., Gravette, Ark., Mt. Pleasant.  
Hall, J. A., Pea Ridge, Ark., Pea Ridge.  
Johnson, L. L., Lowell, Ark., Lowell.  
Jones, S. H., Gravette, Ark., Bethlehem.  
Jones, T. F., Decatur, Ark., Bethlehem.  
Lane, H. T., Garfield, Ark., New Prospect.  
Pruitt, T. B., Pea Ridge, Ark., Pea Ridge.  
Reynolds, E. J., Gentry, Ark., Shady Grove.  
Sanders, A. N., Maysville, Ark., Maysville.  
Setser, G. W. Southwest City, Mo., Indianola.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

I. We believe that the Holy Bible was divinely inspired, and 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.

II. We believe that there is one, and only one, true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, whose name is Jehovah, 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 Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.

III. 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 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.

IV. 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; thus having arisen from the dead, he is now enthroned in Heaven: and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection, he is in every way qualified to be a suitable, compassionate and all-sufficient Savior.

V. 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 on principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed, not in consideration of any work 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 with God, and secures every other blessing needed for time and eternity.

VI. We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free for 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.

VII. 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 effected 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.

VIII. We believe that repentance and faith are sacred duties and also inseparable graces wrought in our souls by the regenerating Spirit of God; whereby, being deeply convicted 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 Savior.

IX. 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 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 effect 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.

X. We believe that sanctification is the process by which, according to the will of God, we are made partakers of holiness; that it is a progressive work; that it is begun in regeneration, and that it is carried on in the heart of believers by the presence and power of the Holy Spirit, the Sealer and Comforter, in the continued use of the appointed means, especially the Word of God, self examination, self denial, watchfulness and prayer.

XI. We believe that such only are real believers as endure unto the end, that their persevering attachment to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial professors; that a special providence watches over their welfare, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.

XII. 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 arise entirely from their love of sin, to deliver them from which, and to restore them through a Mediator to an 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.

XIII. We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized 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, rights and privileges invested in them by His word; that its only spiritual officers are bishops, or pastors, and deacons, whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Epistles of Timothy and Titus.

XIV. We believe that Christian baptism is the immersion in water of a believer, unto 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 prerequisite to the privileges of church relations, and to the Lord's Supper, in which the members of the church, by the sacred use of bread and wine, are to commemorate the dying love of Christ, preceded always by solemn self examination.

XV. 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 recreation, by the devout observance of all the means of grace, both private and public, and by preparation for the rest that remaineth for the people of God.

XVI. We believe that civil government is of divine appointment, for the interest 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 the kings of the earth.

XVII. We believe that there is a radical, 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 in His sight wicked and under the curse; and this distinction holds among men both in and after death.

XVIII. 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 final 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 that this judgment will fix forever the final state of men in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.

### CONSTITUTION

Article I. This Association shall be composed of messengers who shall be members of the churches they represent (except such as may be invited to a seat by consent of the body), and shall be styled "The Benton County Baptist Association."

Art. II. This Association shall meet annually on Friday before the second Sunday in September, at the place previously appointed; and after public worship and reading of letters from the churches, a Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen from the messengers by ballot, both of whom shall hold their offices until others shall be elected.

Art. III. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to make an accurate record of the proceedings of each meeting of the Association, in a book provided for the purpose. He shall also act as Treasurer.

Art. IV. Each church may send three messengers. The messengers shall present letters certifying their appointment, and briefly expressing the state of the churches, their increase and decrease, and their aggregate number. Each church shall send with the letter money for printing the minutes, out of which fund the Clerk shall be allowed ten dollars for his services in preparing manuscripts and supervising the printing and distribution of minutes.

Art. V. Churches wishing to unite with the Association may apply by letters and messengers, and giving satisfactory information of their being sound in doctrine and correct in practice, they may be received by unanimous vote, in token of which the Moderator shall give to the messengers the right hand of fellowship in behalf of the Association. Churches may be dismissed upon application.

Art. VI. We acknowledge the independence of the particular churches, and that no authority or jurisdiction is to be exercised over them by this Association, nor will the Association decide in any controversy that may arise in any church. Nevertheless they deem it their duty to disown any church belonging to this body which may have essentially departed from the faith.

Art. VII. When a church shall neglect making any communication to the Association for three years successively, it shall be considered as having withdrawn from us, and shall be dropped from the minutes of the Association, unless at least two members request their continuance, who shall engage to enquire into their

standing and report at the next meeting of the Association.

Art. VIII. This Association shall have the right to open and hold correspondence with other Associations, as may be deemed expedient.

Art. IX. It shall be the duty of the Association, from time to time, to suggest to the several churches such measures as may be wise and proper to promote the interest of the Master's kingdom, and spread the gospel throughout the world.

Art. X. This Constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the Association, by a two-thirds vote of all members present.

# Statistical Report

CHURCH	Days of Meeting	Inc. by Baptism	By Letter	By Relation or rest	Dec. by Death	Excl. or otherwise	Pres. Membership	Ordained Ministers	Pd. To Pastor	Association Missions	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Orphans' Home	Minute Fund	Other Purposes	S.S. Officers & Tols.	Avg. Attendance	Pd. for Literature	Other Purposes
Antioch	1	..	..	..	1	6	47	..	\$72 55	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$12 00	\$ 1 00	\$77 00	..	..	\$	\$
Bethlehem	3	19	1	1	1	6	116	3	33 00	20	..	..	..	3 87	3 00	375 00	7	32	8 33	..
Cave Spgs.	1	16	..	..	1	3	91	..	96 00	..	..	..	..	..	2 70	12 10	11	75	14 00	..
Cherokee Cy.	1	..	..	1	..	5	18	..	40 75	7 00	..	..	..	4 63	1 10	..	8	32	7 56	..
Highfill	1	..	..	..	..	..	74	..	70 75	..	..	..	..	9 00	80	125 00	12	50	30 72	6 00
Indianola	2	17	3	2	..	..	25	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	60	..	..	..	..	..
Logan	2	..	..	1	1	1	47	..	66 00	..	..	..	..	6 50	1 00	..	..	..	..	..
LoweH	1	..	5	..	1	5	128	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 65	750 00	4	45	12 00	..
Mason Valley	2	..	..	..	3	3	57	..	35 00	..	..	..	..	1 00	75	9 85	..	..	..	..
Maysville	4	11	4	1	1	..	65	1	100 00	..	16 03	5 75	5 70	8 10	2 50	24 20	10	70	18 40	39 04
Mt. E'prise	..	..	..	..	..	..	61	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mt. Plst.	1	1	..	..	..	5	2101	1	83 30	7 65	8 82	..	..	12 65	2 00	10 15	6	27	4 30	..
New P'pect	3	2	..	1	1	..	45	1	4 75	..	1 56	..	..	3 00	60	..	..	..	..	..
Pea Ridge	2	4	4	..	..	..	89	3	56 00	..	..	..	..	6 00	75	10 00	6	30	8 00	1 75
Plst. Grove	1	1	..	..	..	3	70	..	74 00	..	..	..	..	..	1 00	..	..	..	..	..
Plst. Hill	..	..	..	..	..	..	23	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plst. Valley	1	8	1	..	..	1	13	45	101 30	..	..	..	..	8 18	1 00	..	8	50	15 00	..
Shady Grove	4	..	..	..	..	..	37	..	8 75	..	..	..	..	..	1 00	400 00	..	..	..	..
Springtown	2	..	1	..	1	3	93	1	54 00	5 05	..	..	..	16 20	3 00	..	8	29	13 43	7 20
Trnce. Hill	4	1	2	..	..	..	78	..	128 56	..	..	..	..	5 00	1 50	12 25	8	30	12 07	12 00
Walnut Hill	4	1	2	..	1	..	31	..	4 75	..	..	..	..	2 30	75	10 00	..	..	..	..
Zion	4	6	1	..	..	3	101	..	65 00	4 45	..	..	3 55	17 37	3 35	58 03	6	36	6 74	3 39

# Church Directory

CHURCH AND PASTOR	CLERK	SUPERINTENDENT
Antioch—John Scroggins, Decatur...	E. Austin, Gravette .....	J. J. Byers, Gravette .....
Bethlehem—E. F. Rice, Springdale...	J. B. Burgin, Gravette ....	J. W. Hurd, Cave Springs ..
Cave Springs—E. F. Rice.....	L. C. Fagala, Lowell, Route One....	H. M. Tripp, Siloam Springs
Cherokee City—G. W. Setser, S.W. Cy	Effie E. Thorn, Siloam Springs.....	Mac Givens, Highfill .....
Highfill—John Scroggins .....	Lucy Test, Highfill .....	
Indianola—A. N. Sanders, Maysville.	M. L. Setser, Maysville .....	
Logan—W. S. Luper, Fayetteville...	E. V. Howard, Gentry, Route 3.....	
Lowell— .....	E. F. Wilmuth, Lowell .....	G. W. Deason, Lowell .....
Mason Valley .....	J. M. Ketchum, Centerton .....	
Maysville—T. F. Jones, Decatur....	Mattie Haley, Maysville .....	D. L. Jesse, Maysville .....
Mt. Pleasant—T. F. Jones.....	Roy Daugherty, Gravette .....	Roy Daugherty, Gravette ...
New Prospect—G. W. Birkes, Garfield	H. C. Rogers, Garfield .....	
Pea Ridge—J. A. Hall, Pea Ridge ...	H. V. Chiles, Bentonville .....	
Pleasant Grove—L.L.Johnson, Lowell	Harvey Morgan, Rogers .....	
Pleasant Valley—M. M. Smith, Sil. Sp	Flavey De Witt, Siloam Springs.....	Irl Speakes, Siloam Springs
Shady Grove—J. A. Scroggins .....	E. W. Butler, Gentry, Route Three..	
Springtown—E. F. Rice.....	Laura Ogdon, Springtown .....	R. L. Hurst, Springtown ....
Temperance Hill—L. L. Johnson....	Kit Phillips, Bentonville .....	J. J. Glover, Bentonville ...
Walnut Hill—G. W. Birkes.....	L. C. Moon, Garfield .....	
Zion—E. F. Rice.....	Elbert Hedges, Lowell .....	Elbert Hedges, Lowell .....