

1946

MINUTES

of the

Thirty-Eighth Annual Session

of the

Rockfish Association

of

Original Free Will Baptists

MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES

Rev. M. L. Baxley	-----	Red Springs, N. C.
Rev. Steve English	-----	Mill Rural Station, Rockingham, N. C.
Rev. J. H. Galloway	-----	Lumberton, N. C.
Rev. L. C. Coats	-----	Cheraw, S. C.
Rev. A. J. Pearson	-----	St. Pauls, N. C.
Rev. G. W. Heustas	-----	Patrick, S. C.
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Proceedings

The Thirty-Eighth Annual Session of the Rockfish Association of Original Free Will Baptists convened with the Mount Moriah Church at Hamlet, Richmond County, N. C., on October 10th and 11th at 10:00 A. M.

Opened with song by congregation, "Kneel at the Cross." Prayer by Bro. R. E. Johnson.

In absence of Secretary, the first order of business was to appoint a secretary.

It was moved and carried to appoint Bro. Wm. H. Edwards to act as Secretary in this session.

ENROLLMENT OF MINISTERS PRESENT

Rev. L. R. Coats, Cheraw, S. C.; Rev. M. L. Baxley, Red Springs, N. C.; Rev. C. W. Bennett, St. Pauls, N. C.; Rev. J. H. Galloway, Lumberton, N. C.; Rev. Steve English, Mills Rural Station, Rockingham, N. C.

Ministers from other Conferences or Associations visiting us were: Rev. W. H. Lancaster, Smithfield, N. C., of the Cape Fear Conference; Rev. Ralph R. Talton (Licentiate), Smithfield, N. C., of the Cape Fear Conference.

CHURCHES AND DELEGATES

Mount Moriah—Bro. W. M. Seals and Sister Foley of Hamlet, N. C.

St. John—Bro. J. R. Boan and Bro. J. W. McLain, of Patrick, S. C.

Sandy Grove—Bro. R. E. Johnson and Bro. Wm. H. Edwards, of St. Pauls, N. C.

Hickory Grove—Bro. Charley Brown, Raeford, N. C., and Sister Ava Janē Lee, Route 3, Fayetteville, N. C.

Red Springs—Bro. Rudolph Baxley and Bro. Earle Edwards, of Red Springs, N. C.

Piney Plains—By Letter.

TEMPORARY COMMITTEES

Sabbath School—Rev. L. R. Coats, Bro. J. W. McLain.

Orphanage—Rev. C. W. Bennett, Bro. J. W. Lee.

Education—Bro. J. R. Boan, Rev. J. H. Galloway.

Home Missions—Bro. Gilbert McLain, Bro. Fulton McLain.

Devotional—Bro. H. P. Hodges, Bro. R. E. Johnson.

It was moved and carried that the Red Springs Free Will Baptist Church be admitted to the Rockfish Association.

The Devotional Committee appointed Rev. W. H. Lancaster to bring us our morning sermon at 11:00 A. M.

A recess of five minutes was given at 10:55 A. M. to 11:00 A. M.

Song: "Just Over in the Glory Land."

Prayer by Rev. Ralph Talton.

Sermon by Rev. W. H. Lancaster of the Cape Fear Conference. Text of sermon: Exodus, 3rd chapter; Subject: "God's Call to Man."

Bro. Lancaster's sermon was closely adapted to our trend of times. He warned us to turn aside from worldly ways and listen to God's calling.

The congregation was made welcome to partake of the dinner to be given by the ladies of Mount Moriah Church at 12:00 Noon.

Adjourned for Noon.

Dismissed by Rev. L. C. Coats.

AFTERNOON—FIRST DAY

Open at 1:30 P. M. Song by congregation: "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand."

Devotional by Bro. Ralph R. Talton. Read a few verses from the 23rd Psalm. Bro. Talton made a very interesting talk.

Prayer by Bro. J. H. Galloway.

Discussed the possibility of granting Bro. W. D. Taylor a letter of dismission from the Rockfish Association.

It was moved and carried that we grant Bro. Taylor a letter of dismission under honorable conditions.

It was regretted that Rev. A. J. Pearson, our oldest minister, could not sit with us in our godly deliberations because he was unable to get off from his work, his job comes under the heading of the Civil Service Commission.

The absence of Rev. G. W. Huestas was undetermined.

Rev. M. L. Baxley made a report of his trip to the Cape Fear Association.

It was moved and carried that we send delegates to the Cape Fear Conference which convenes at the Robert's Grove Church on October 31st, through November 1st.

Rev. C. W. Bennett was appointed to go as our delegate to the Cape Fear Conference.

Bro. J. R. Boan was appointed to go as our delegate to the South Carolina Association.

SUPERANNUATION

Letter read by Secretary from Bro. M. L. Johnson. The letter was in behalf of our retiring ministers.

It was moved and carried that the Rockfish Association adopt the 50c per member plan suggested by Bro. M. L. Johnson in his letter.

Bro. W. A. Jackson of the Cape Fear Conference made a fine speech telling us of the accomplishments of our Orphanage home. He urged us not to forget our Orphanage.

Our Bros. of the Cape Fear Conference expressed to us how they enjoyed being with us our first day, and regretted that they could not remain for the second day. We of the Rockfish Association were happy to have them with us and hope they will pay us many more visits. We realize the great help these Bros. can extend to us.

The Devotional Committee appointed Rev. J. H. Galloway to bring us our evening services at 7:30 P. M.

Song: "Blest Be the Tie that Binds."

It was moved and carried that we adjourn at 3:30 P. M.

Dismissed by Bro. W. H. Lancaster.

Bro. J. H. Galloway's evening sermon was taken from the 11th chapter of Luke and the 133rd Psalm.

SECOND DAY OF SESSION

Opened for business at 9:30 A. M., October 11th, 1946.

Song by congregation, "My Song of Praise." Bible Reading by Rev. C. W. Bennett, Romans 5:1-13.

Prayer by Bro. Steve English.

CALL COMMITTEES TO REPORT

Report read by Secretary.

EDUCATION

We, the Committee, realize the need of our Bible School and the advancement of Education helps our ministers to carry on the business of God, the Committee urges the churches of the Rockfish Association to support our school 100 per cent.

Your Committee:

Bro. Jesse W. Lee,
Bro. Fulton McLain,
Bro. H. P. Hodges.

ORPHANAGE

We, your Committee, urge all of our members to remember our Orphanage. The many children that they take in their charge to prepare them for their future lives costs money. The money we give to the Orphanage goes for a Godly purpose; so, let us all give every dollar we can.

Your Committee:

Rev. Steve English,
Bro. E. R. Polson,
Rev. L. C. Coats.

HOME MISSION

We, your Committee, recommend that each church in our Association, allocate a portion of the funds of their treasury for the purpose of building new churches, aiding the afflicted in our communities and sending the Gospel to foreign fields.

Your Committee:

Bro. Gilbert McLain,
Rev. C. W. Bennett,
Rev. A. J. Pearson.

SABBATH SCHOOL

We, your Committee, urge the progressiveness of our Sabbath Schools. We all need the Sabbath School, young and old. We ask all our pastors to give our Sabbath Schools their undying support.

Your Committee:

Rev. C. W. Bennett,
Bro. Jesse W. Lee.

It was moved and carried that each of the committee reports be accepted.

The Devotional Committee appointed Rev. Steve English to conduct the morning services.

Adjourned for recess 10:50 to 11:00.

Song by congregation, "Will Jesus Find Us Watching." Prayer by Bro. C. W. Bennett.

Sermon by Rev. Steve English. Gospel of Matthew, chapter 8, vs. 23rd through 28th. Subject: "The Stormy Sea." Text: "O! Ye of Little Faith." Rev. English really delivered a fine sermon.

Song: "What Would You Give in Exchange for Your Soul."

Adjourned for noon.

Dismissed by Rev. M. L. Baxley.

Open at 1:00 P. M. Song: "When I Reach that City." Devotional Reading by Rev. C. W. Bennett, read from 5th chapter of Matthew. Prayer by Bro. J. W. Lee.

Call for Church Letters.

St. John—To the Rockfish Association which convened at Mount Moriah Church at Hamlet, N. C., we send as delegates our beloved Brethren: Bro. J. W. McLain, Jr., and Bro. J. R. Boan, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your Godly deliberations. We are sending \$3.00 for Minutes. Paid Pastor \$280.61, paid evangelist \$90.00. Home Mission \$10.00. Education \$10.00. Total membership 87. State of religion: Good. Sunday School: Good. Average No. pupils 60. No. of officers 4. No. of teachers 4. Value of Church property \$2,000.00.

Ministers belonging to our church: Rev. L. C. Coats and Rev. G. W. Huestas.

Pastor: Rev. Steve English.

Clerk: Dorothy McLain.

Hickory Grove—To the Rockfish Association which convened at Mount Moriah Church at Hamlet, N. C., we send as delegates our beloved Bro. Charlie Brown and Sister Ava Jane Lee, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your Godly deliberations. We are sending \$5.00 for Minute funds. State of religion good. Members received this year, one. Total membership 30. Condition of Sunday School good. Average No. of pupils 15. No. of officers 3. No. of teachers 4. Paid pastor \$100.00. Paid evangelist \$40.00.

Paid Orphanage \$75.00. Value of church property \$2,000.00: Ministers belonging to our church are Rev. M. L. Baxley.

Pastor: M. L. Baxley,

Clerk: Armatha Lee.

Sandy Grove—To the Rockfish Association which convened at Mount Moriah Church at Hamlet, N. C., we send as delegates our beloved Brethren, Roy Johnson, G. H. Carver and William Edwards, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your Godly deliberations. State of religion good. Members received this year 9. Baptized 5. Total membership 54. Condition of prayer meeting fair. Condition of Sunday School good. Average No. of pupils 60. No. of officers 4. No. of teachers 4. Paid pastor \$122.03. Paid evangelist \$50.00. Home Mission \$40.00. Enclosed for Minute funds, \$8.75.

Ministers belonging to our church: Rev. C. W. Bennett, Rev. A. J. Pearson, and Rev. J. H. Galloway. Valuation of church, \$2,000.00.

Pastor: M. L. Baxley,

Clerk: Mrs. Ellen Thames.

Mount Moriah—To the Rockfish Association which convened at Mount Moriah Church at Hamlet, N. C., we send as delegates our beloved Brethren: Bro. W. M. Seals and Sister W. P. Fuller whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your Godly deliberations. We send \$2.50 for Minute funds. State of religion good. Condition of Sunday School normal. Total No. of members 45. No. of members received this year 2. Paid pastor \$93.29. Paid evangelist \$89.42. Orphanage \$76.00. S. S. Collection \$66.75. Literature \$20.10. Building Funds \$48.33. Valuation of church property \$3,500.00.

Pastor: M. L. Baxley,

Clerk: Mrs. H. L. Norton.

Piney Plains: By Letter. No delegates.

To the Rockfish Association which convened at Mount Moriah Church at Hamlet, N. C., we send our letter. State of religion good. Condition of Sunday School good. Paid pastor \$83.83. Building costs \$23.50. For Minute funds \$2.00.

Pastor: A. J. Pearson,

Clerk: R. N. Gandy.

Red Springs—To the Rockfish Association which convened at Mount Moriah church at Hamlet, N. C., we send as delegates our beloved Brethren, Rudolph Baxley and Earle Edwards, whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your Godly deliberations. We send \$3.00 for Minute funds. We have no building as yet, but we are well on the way. So pray for us.

Pastor: M. L. Baxley.

It was moved and carried that the above Church Letters be received.
It was moved and carried that we order 100 Church Letter Forms.

It was moved and carried that we appoint Association Officers for the next two years.

The officers appointed were as follows:

Bro. William Edwards, Secretary, St. Pauls, N. C.

Bro. E. R. Polston, Treasurer, St. Pauls, N. C.

Bro. C. W. Bennett, Assistant Treasurer, St. Pauls, N. C.

Bro. M. L. Baxley, Moderator, Red Springs, N. C.

A collection was taken up for the Orphanage which amounted to \$5.00.

Rev. C. W. Bennett, Bro. H. P. Hodges and Bro. R. E. Johnson were appointed as Finance Committee.

It was moved and carried that the 39th Annual Session of the Rockfish Association convene with the Red Springs Free Will Baptist Church at Red Springs, N. C., on Thursday and Friday before the second Sunday in October, 1947.

The Rockfish Association wishes to express their gratitude toward Bros. Gilbert and Fulton McLain of Patrick, S. C., members of the St. John Church. We are grateful for these two young men, men of their character and caliber are what will make our Association stronger and more progressive.

It was moved and carried that we adjourn.

Rev. M. L. Baxley dismissed at 3:30 P. M.

VALUE OF CHURCHES

Mount Moriah, \$3,500.00; Hickory Grove, \$2,000.00; St. John, \$2,000.00; Sandy Grove, \$2,000.00; Piney Plains, \$1,000.00; Red Springs, recently organized.

The people at the Association wish to give thanks for the nice dinners which were served.

M. L. Baxley, Moderator,
Red Springs, N. C.

William Edwards, Secretary,
St. Pauls, N. C.

