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MINUTES
OF THE
Nineteenth Annual Session
OF THE
Union Association
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST
CONVENING WITH
GREENWOOD CHURCH
Mitchell County, Georgia
October 18th and 19th, 1944

OFFICERS

Rev. W. L. Harrell, Moderator Omega, Ga.
Bro. J. B. Kearns, Assistant Moderator Camilla, Ga.
Rev. C. J. Harvey, Secretary and Treasurer Camilla, Ga.

Executive Committee

A. S. Paison
J. A. Brady
Walter Murphy
J. B. Kearns

Ordaining Council

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PROCEEDINGS

Members and delegates were called to order at 10:45 o'clock by Moderator W. L. Harrell. Prayer offered by B. W. Clenny. Devotional service by W. A. Schars.

On motion C. J. Harvey was elected secretary until regular election of officers. Prayer offered by Rev. W. R. Lawhorn. Song, "The Name of Jesus With You." Prayer by Moderator. Scripture lesson, 1st Peter 2:18. Text, 2d Peter 1:8. From the Scripture and text Bro. Harrell presented a great inspirational message. Announcements, followed by lunch by Roy McMurphy.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

After a beautiful spread which was served in the old fashioned way, Members called body back in the house. After singing "The Old Assurance Was Written Long Ago" prayer by Rev. M. T. Goff. Devotional by Moderator. Scripture lesson, Isaiah 12. Next called for letters. The sponsors, Rev. Neal H. Parrish and Rev. E. C. Morris to read same.

Letters read as follows:

CLEMENT'S BRIDGE—Delegates, Mrs. J. T. Jones, Mrs. P. B. Morey.

MIDWAY—Delegates, Walter Murphy, Bernard Faison.

GREENWOOD—Delegates, J. B. Kearns, Mrs. Clyde Harmon, Mrs. C. J. Harvey.

NEW HOPE—Delegates, Mrs. Emma Murphy, Mrs. Mildred Lanier, Murphy Lanier.

ST. PAUL—Delegates, Mitchell Henson, J. H. K. Jones.

SALEM—Delegates, Mrs. Julia Branch, Mrs. Maida Johnson, Mrs. Marietta Wyrick.

CANADY CHAPPEL—Delegate, G. W. Davis, Atrie L. Cone.

SPRING HILL—Delegate, Mrs. H. E. Morey, Mrs. Bob Morey.

PELHAM—Delegate, B. E. Bodiford, John H. Miller.

On motion, letters were received and delegates seated.

Next, called for corresponding messengers from sister associations; those responding as follows:

Chattahoochee—Rev. W. R. Lawhorn.

Martin—Rev. H. G. Catrett.

Little River—Rev. M. T. Goff.

The following visitors were seated:

From Little River—Bro. Ben Baker, Mrs. Thompson, Bro. J. L. Tyson.

From Georgia Union—Rev. and Mrs. Neal H. Parrish.

At this time we elected officers as follows:

W. L. Harrell, Moderator.

J. B. Kearns, Assistant Moderator.

C. J. Harvey, Secretary and Treasurer.

Call made for petitionary letters. One was received from New Bethel for dismission. Letter granted when they have apologized to Association and Executive Board. (Note by Clerk) these differences with all other disorder were adjusted at an Executive Board meeting held at New Hope Church Dec. 30th, 1944.

Next, committees were appointed:

Devotional—J. H. K. Jones, L. E. Lamb, Walter Murphy.

Literature—G. D. Roberts, J. L. Sloan, G. W. Davis.

Temperance—Mrs. C. J. Harvey, M. H. Henson, Mrs. Emma Murphy.

State of Churches—Roy McMurphy, Artie L. Cone, C. T. Rentz.

Education—Mrs. Clyde Harmon, Walter Murphy, A. L. Sellars.

Ministers and Deacons—Murphy Lanier, J. B. Kearns.

League—Mrs. Berta Jones, J. L. Sloan, R. B. Bodiford.

Resolutions—J. H. K. Jones, C. J. Harvey.

On motion, we took up miscellaneous items. First, appoint corresponding messengers. Martin, Mt. Gilead Church, 10 miles west of Bainbridge, C. J. Harvey, B. W. Clenny. Chattahoochee, Turner's Chapel, Taylor County on No. 19 out of Butler, W. L. Harrell. Midway, Live Oak, 12 miles west of Newton, Ga., A. L. Sellars, C. J. Harvey. Georgia Union, Pleasant Hill, 12 miles northeast of Cordele, Ga., C. J. Harvey, Mrs. Janie Harvey. Little River, Zion Hill, south of Millwood, Ga., A. L. Sellars, W. L. Harrell.

Next, appoint delegates to State and National Associations—J. H. K. Jones, Mrs. Clyde Harmon. On motion we pay fees and delegate's expenses. Dismissed by Rev. H. L. Catrett.

THURSDAY MORNING

Body called to order by Moderator. After song, "Won't It Be Wonderful There," prayer by Rev. E. C. Morris. Scripture lesson, 103rd Psalm. Motion carried we have 400 minutes printed and those minutes to contain transactions of this body and articles of faith. On motion we have 200 letter forms printed. On motion we pay corresponding messenger's expense. On motion next session convene with New Hope Church, 8 miles south of Moultrie, Ga., on Thomasville road. On motion we adopt certificate of ordination offered by C. J. Harvey. At this time delegates and letters were received as follows:

Liberty—Delegates, John N. Sumner, Seaborn Vinson.

Thomasville—Delegates, R. A. Yates, Leonard Brinson.

On motion we hear reports of various committees. See reports. Adjourned for preaching after a wonderful feast, spiritually speaking. Dismissed for lunch by Bro. Catrett.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

After lunch, moderator called body to order. Prayer by Bro. J. L. Tyson. By motion we extended to church and community our heartfelt thanks for their hospitality shown us while in their midst.

On motion we return to our churches and take an offering to supplement funds sent to this session as we do not have sufficient funds to pay for minutes and other expenses of our association.

Report of Sunday School and League Convention read and accepted. See reports.

On motion we pay secretary \$10.00 for his services. On motion we give secretary authority to have printed in these Minutes, Executive Committee's Report for last year. On motion we give Moderator \$5.00 for his services. On motion we give secretary authority to correct any mistakes or errors. Business being completed we adjourned. Dismissed by C. J. Harvey.

W. L. HARRELL, Moderator

C. J. HARVEY, Secretary and Treasurer

REPORT OF FREE WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE WORK

We your committee find only two churches with leagues. Therefore, we recommend that each church organize a league, as we find that those churches sponsoring the league work are moving on with the work in a greater way than those that do not have leagues.

J. L. SLOAN, Chairman

REPORT OF RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

Seeing the urgent need of our ministers being united in doctrine and purpose, Be It Therefore Resolved, that this committee do hereby earnestly request that our ministers organize a ministers conference so as to be able to discuss and agree on the various phases of our work and the problems of the churches and ministry.

Be it further resolved, that each church adhere strictly to our decorum in their operation trying to settle their differences or problems themselves as much as possible rather than carrying them to the association.

J. H. K. JONES, Chairman

REPORT OF TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We your committee, prayerfully urge all of our people to practice temperance in all things. Intemperance causes lots of heartaches. Let's be careful and not indulge in strong drink. God's people must be temperate in all things.

M. H. HENSON, Chairman

REPORT ON STATE OF CHURCHES

We your committee find New Bethel, Liberty and Thomasville Churches out of order. We recommend or ask the Executive Committee to investigate the condition at Liberty and Thomasville.

ROY McMURPHY, Chairman

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LITERATURE

We your committee recommend and urge that each church use its own literature. We further urge that our pastors endeavor to get each member of his church to subscribe to the Baptist, and explain the educational features of the paper.

G. D. ROBERTS, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PREACHING

We recommend that Rev. E. C. Morris preach tonight and Rev. H. L. Catrett preach tomorrow at the noon hour.

J. H. K. JONES, Chairman.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOL WORK

We find only seven churches with Sunday Schools. We prayerfully plead with each church that they organize a school at once as this is the teaching force of the church and gives our children a knowledge of the Bible—remembering that our children of today will be our church of tomorrow.

MRS. JULIA BRANCH, Chairman

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Solomon said, Bring up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it, makes it vital that we are careful how to teach and what we teach our children. It is our duty to teach and train them in a way that will lead them to a knowledge of Christ and His plan of Salvation, also a working knowledge of the operation of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the human family.

MRS. J. F. HARMON, Chairman

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

We have been called on to investigate three cases of disorder during the past year. Two of these cases were referred back to the local church for adjustment. In the other case we find New Bethel Church out of order on three counts.

J. B. KEARNS, Chairman

SUNDAY SCHOOL AND LEAGUE CONVENTION REPORT

Last convention held with Midway Church October 15, 1944. We have eight (8) Sunday Schools and three (3) Leagues in our convention, with only four (4) Schools and two (2) Leagues reporting. The fee from each School and League is \$2.50. We send as delegates Bro. Bernard Faison from Sunday School Department, and Mrs. Clyde Harmon from League Department. We send as fee \$2.50. Convention meets with Clements Bridge Church for next session, April the 15th, 1945.

Financial Report

Balance in Treasury from last session.....	\$10.81
Fees this session.....	12.50
	\$23.31
Drawn out for literature for service men.....	\$10.00
New Balance	\$13.31
Offering for literature for service men.....	\$16.00
	\$26.00

C. J. FAISON, Moderator

MRS. J. B. RICE, Secretary and Treasurer

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is but one living, true and eternal God, the Father of whom are all things from everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in His attributes.—I Cor. 8:6; Isa. 40:28.
2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, the only begotten Son of God, born of Virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into this world, because of the great love wherewith He loved the world; and Christ as freely gave Himself a ransom for all, tasting death for every man; who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into Heaven, from whence we look for Him the second time in the clouds of Heaven at the last day to judge both quick and dead.—I Tim. 2:5; Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16; Rev. 1:7 Acts 24:15; I John 2:2.
3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father through His dear Son, unto the world, who quickened and draweth sinners home to God.—St. John 16:7-8; Acts 2:4; Eph. in Christ, for the benefit of all mankind, who repent and believe the Gospel.—Luke 14:16-20; Matt. 28:19-20; Luke 13:3-5; Acts 3:19, 2:11; Eph. 4:4-6.
4. We believe in the beginning God made man upright, and placed him in a state of glory without the least mixture of misery,

from which he voluntarily by transgression, fell, and by that means brought on himself a miserable and mortal subject to death.—Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of truth, that they might be saved; for which end Christ hath commande the Gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature.—Mark 16:15; Luke 24:47; John 3:15-17; 1 Tim. 2:4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of a Christ who died for him, but as the Scripture has said, for denying the Lord that brought them; because they believed not in the name of the only begotten Son of God. Unbelief, therefore being the cause why the just and righteous God of Heaven will condemn the children of men; it follows against all argument that all men at one time or other, are found in such capacity as that through the grace of God they may be eternally saved.—Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Heb. 3:10; 1 John 5:1-10.

7. We believe the whole Scriptures are infallibly true, and that they are the only rules of faith and practice.—II Tim. 3:16-17.

8. We believe in the doctrine of General Provision made of God—Mark 1:15.

9. We believe that sinners are drawn to God, the Father, by the Holy Ghost, through Christ His Son, and that the Holy Ghost offers His divine aid to all the human family; so as they all might be happy, would they give place to His divine teachings; whereas, such who do not receive the divine impressions of His Holy Spirit, shall at a future day, own their condemnation, just and and charge themselves with their own damnation for wilfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace.—Matt. 11:27; St. John 6:45-65; Ps. 1:1; Tit. 2:11-12; Jer. 22:29.

10. We believe that men, not considered simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation, considered such who turn the grace of God into lasciviousness, denying the only Lord God and our Lord Jesus Christ who brought them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction; but we observe that they, and such the Apostle saith because they receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved therefore the indignation and wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doeth evil, living and dying therein; for there is no respect of persons with God.—Jude 1:4; 2 Peter 2:1; 2 Thes. 2:11-12; Rom. 2:9-11.

11. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons, are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam, and not that any of them dying in that state, shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, for

"of such is the Kingdom of God."—1 Cor. 15:22; Matt. 18:2-5; Mark 9:36-37; Matt. 19:14.

12. We believe that good works are the fruits of a saving faith, and that in the use of the means of grace, and not out of the use of those means, eternal life is promised to men.—Rev. 22:14-15; Isa. 1:19-20; Matt. 7-8; Jer. 6:16; Luke 13:34-35.

13. We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scripture for justification before God through his own works, power or ability, which he has in and of himself, only as he by grace is made able to come to God through Jesus Christ; believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God.—Rom. 4:24; Acts 8:20-21.

14. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God, so that God knoweth whatsoever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions; yet not as having decreed any person to everlasting life, out of respect or mere choice further than He hath appointed the godly unto life, and the ungodly, who die in sin, unto death.—Heb. 4:13; Prov. 8:22-31; Matt. 25:31-46.

15. We believe, as touching Gospel ordinances, in believers' baptism, laying on of hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing the saint's feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, prayer, singing praise to God, and the public ministry of the World, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament.—Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; Luke 22:19-20; John 13:5-17; Jas. 5:14.

16. We believe the Gospel mode of baptism is by immersion, and that believers are the only subjects for baptism.—Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:9-10; Acts 2:38-39; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.

17. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day.—John 5:28-29; 2 Cor. 5:10.

18. We believe the happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torment of the wicked are endless.—Matt. 25:46.

MINISTERIAL ROLL

C. T. Rentz	.....	Moultrie, Ga.
W. F. Clark	.....	Thomasville, Ga.
A. L. Sellars	.....	Camilla, Ga.
W. A. Sellars	.....	Camilla, Ga.
C. J. Harvey	.....	Camilla, Ga.
W. L. Harrell	.....	Omega, Ga.
W. L. Barrow	.....	Monticello, Fla.
J. L. Sloan	.....	Moultrie, Ga.
W. G. Boyd	.....	Moultrie, Ga.

