

MINUTES

OF THE

TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Mount Pisgah Baptist Association,

HELD WITH THE

DECATUR BAPTIST CHURCH,

ON THE

19th, 20th AND 21st DAYS OF SEPTEMBER, A. D. 1863.

MERIDIAN:

PRINTED AT THE CLARION BOOK AND JOB PRINTING OFFICE.

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MINUTES.

DECATUR CHURCH, NEWTON CO. MISS., Sept. 10, 1863.

The Mt. Pisgah Baptist Association convened this day in her twenty-seventh annual meeting, pursuant to adjournment.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder A. Clarke, from Coll. iii, 3: Theme—"Final punishment of the Saints."

After an intermission of half an hour the delegates met, by permission, in the Methodist house of worship and were called to order by Elder N. L. Clarke, the Moderator. Prayer by Elder L. P. Murrell.

Elders J. L. Matthews and J. A. Hitt, were requested to preach at the Baptist Church.

Bros. F. M. Poole, A. C. Gunn and S. King, were appointed to read letters.

Bros. J. W. Murray, T. J. Denson and J. Pierce, were appointed a committee on Finance.

Elder A. Clarke was appointed assistant Clerk.

Letters were read from thirty (30) churches, delegates names enrolled, and statistics minuted.

New Prospect Church, Scott county; Ebenezer, Neshoba; New Prospect, Newton; Bluff Spring, Neshoba; Herbert, do.; Center Hill, do.; and Homewood, Scott county, were not represented. (See table of Churches.)

The Association proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted in the re-election of former officers: Elder N. L. Clarke, Moderator; W. R. Butler, Clerk; and Ish'l. Bailliff, Treasurer. Before taking his seat the Moderator made appropriate remarks, announced the body organized and ready for business.

On motion, visiting brethren were invited to seats.

The rules of decorum were read.

An opportunity was given for the admission of new Churches into the fellowship of this body: Whereupon, Siloam Church, Newton county, presented a petitionary letter by the hands of her delegate, Bro. S. Haily, and being found orthodox, was duly received. Also, a petitionary letter

was received from Liberty Church, and she was admitted as a member of this Association.

On motion, called for correspondence from other bodies.

Received from Salem Association a letter and bundle of Minutes, by her messenger, Elder I. Anderson, asking correspondence.

Resolved, That we correspond with said body. Also, letter and minutes from Ebenezer Association by Bro. Anderson, with the same request.

Agreed to reciprocate correspondence with her, also.

Proceeded to appoint the various Committees.

1. A Committee to arrange preaching during this session, composed of brethren W. L. McIntosh, H. Dunn, J. M. Trussell and Ish'l. Bailiff.

2. Committee to write letters: Brethren S. King, F. M. Poole and A. C. Gunn.

3. Committee on ~~Church~~ Brethren L. P. Murrell, Ch'n, W. L. McIntosh, E. G. Haralson, Y. J. ~~Ab~~son and E. W. Robuck.

4. Committee on state of Religion: Brethren J. Williams, Ch'n., V. Sissin, B. E. Windam, D. Fore. On motion the Moderator was added.

5. Committee on Nominations: Brethren A. Clark, Ch'n., J. L. Graham, A. Grissett, H. Cooper and M. Wilder.

6. Committee on Missions: Brethren W. R. Butler, Ch'n., S. King, M. H. Whatley, W. M. Flanagan and J. A. Hitt.

7. Resolved, That we have a committee on the subject of Sabbath Schools:

Brethren S. King, L. P. Murrell and F. M. Poole, were appointed on said committee.

On motion it was Resolved, That a public collection be taken up at the close of the 11 o'clock service on Lord's day, for Domestic Missions, and for the spiritual benefit of our Soldiers.

Committee on preaching reported that Elder Murrell was appointed to preach at the Baptist Church, at 11 o'clock, A. M. on Lord's day, Brother Anderson in the evening. Brother Butler at the Methodist church at 11 o'clock, and brother King in the evening.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., Monday. Prayer by the Moderator.

LORD'S DAY.

The brethren appointed to preach to-day discharged the duties assigned them faithfully; and from the order observed and the attention given, there is reason to hope that much good will result from this days service. Collections were taken up for the above named objects. (See Financial Report.)

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MONDAY, 9 o'clock, A. M.

Association met according to adjournment. Prayer by Brother Clarke. The roll was called and brethren D. S. Smith, H. Baily and E. G. Ferguson were marked absent.

Brethren D. Dove, A. Gri-sett and J. Williams were appointed to preach to-day, in the order of their names.

Reports of committees were called for.

Committee to write letters reported. Report received and adopted.— (See Appendix A.)

Committee on Queries and Requests reported. Report adopted. (See Appendix B.)

Committee on the State of Religion reported. Adopted. (See Appendix C.)

Committee on Nominations reported. Adopted. [Appendix D.]

Committee on Missions reported. Adopted. [Appendix E.]

Committee on Sabbath Schools reported. Adopted after interesting remarks from various brethren. [Appendix F.]

Committee on Finance reported. Adopted. [Appendix G.]

Proceeded to arrange correspondence with other bodies.

Elders L. P. Murrell, and N. L. Clarke, were appointed to go to the Salem Association. Brethren H. Cooper and F. M. Poole, to Bethlehem.

On motion, Resolved, That we drop correspondence with the Ebenezer and Strong River Associations for the present.

Brethren W. R. Butler and Y. J. Denson, were appointed to go to Harmony Association.

Proceeded to appoint representatives to the General Association of Regular Baptists of S. E. Mississippi, appointed brethren S. King, J. L. Gresham, M. H. Whalley, D. Fore, F. M. Poole, N. L. Clarke, I. Bulfinch, H. Cooper, W. L. McIntosh, L. P. Murrell, E. W. Roebuck, W. R. Sinclair, J. M. Trussell, Jno. Williams, T. J. Denson, W. R. Butler.

Resolved, That this body turn over to the General Association, all the funds on hand for Home Missions, to aid in furnishing the Soldiers with religious reading, and that the Treasurer be instructed to hand over the same to our representatives to that body.

Resolved, That the next meeting of this Association be held with Bethel Church, Newton county, Mississippi, three miles S. W. of Newton Station, on Saturday before the 2nd Lords day of September, A. D. 1864.

Resolved, That Elder S. King preach the next Introductory sermon, and Elder F. M. Poole be his alternate.

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to have these Minutes printed, distribute the same, reserving a sufficient number for corresponding purposes; receive thirty-five dollars for his services, and call on the Treasurer for the necessary funds.

Resolved, That the thanks of this body are due this Church and community for their kindness and liberality in supporting this Session; and also the Methodist friends for the use of their house.

Resolved, That we now suspend business and spend a time in prayer in behalf of our country. Elder King led in prayer.

Resolved, That Siloam, Salem, and High Hill churches be granted letters of dismission from this body.

Resolved, That all the Churches composing this body, be affectionately urged to meet on the 1st Lord's day in each month at 10 o'clock, A. M. to invoke the blessing of God on our country.

Whereas, We feel deeply affected with the moral and religious condition of our Soldiers, and in view of the great field of labor in the army:—Therefore,

Resolved, That we feel it to be our duty to do something in their behalf, and that all the Delegates be earnestly requested to use their influence in their respective churches and communities, to get funds to aid in supporting a missionary in the army, and that whatever amounts may be thus obtained, be sent up to the General Association, to be applied to said object, in the name of each Church thus aiding in this matter.

Whereas, We, as a nation, are engaged in a great struggle for our Independence; and in view of our dependence on the God of nations and of battles:—Therefore,

Resolved, That we humbly confess our sins, both National and personal, before the God of Heaven—that we pour out our hearts before God, in gratitude for the many victories vouchsafed to our armies; and that we earnestly pray, that Almighty God would in His great mercy and goodness, give our rulers, both civil and military, wisdom adequate to their duties, our armies health and triumph—that He would graciously preserve our sons and brothers in the day of battle—that He would drive our enemies from our land and restore to our country the blessings of peace and prosperity.

A motion for adjournment prevailed: the minutes were read and adjusted. A hymn was sung while the brethren gave each other the hand of brotherly love and fellowship. And thus closed the twenty-seventh annual meeting of the Mt. Pisgah Baptist Association—harmony and good feeling having prevailed throughout the Session.

Closing prayer by Elder Jno. Williams.

W. R. BUTLER, Clerk.

N. L. CLARKE, Moderator.

NAMES OF ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

L. P. Murrell, Conchatta; N. L. Clarke, Decatur; W. R. Butler,

Hillsboro'; A. Herington, I. Ile; B. Simyers, Union Cross, Morton Hutson, Hill

B. F. Spangleyville; W. W. Barnes, E.

Corresponding not ordered to

Your Comm we believe the stated that we with the circum expedient to re Churches, aski Church is refer

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Hillsboro; A. Winstead, Union; A. Clarke, Conehatta; D. Dove, Union; Herington, Philadelphia; J. Williams, Garlandsville; J. A. Hitt, Pineville; B. Sims, Morton; D. D. Booth, Dixon; D. Killen, Union; G. Myers, Union; W. A. Hutto, Sebastapol; F. M. Poole, Union; S. S. Cross, Morton; Shelby King, Garlandsville; D. Fore, Lake Station; W. Hutson, Hillsboro.

LICENTIATES AND THEIR POST OFFICES.

B. F. Spangler, Battlefield; J. Scarborough, Battlefield; J. Bell, Chuncyville; W. M. Flanagan, Garlandsville; Jno. Thornton, Raleigh; G. W. Barnes, Pineville, J. R. Fletcher, Pineville.

REPORTS.

APPENDIX A.

Corresponding letters were given to our messengers to other bodies, and not ordered to be printed.

APPENDIX B.

Your Committee on Queries and Requests, beg leave to report, That, we believe the Query sent up from High Hill Church, to be so indefinitely stated that we are unprepared to give advice. And not being acquainted with the circumstances under which the exclusion was done, we think it expedient to refer the matter. We recommend that the requests of the Churches, asking letters of dismission, be granted: the request of Bethel Church is referred. Respectfully submitted,

L. P. MURRELL, Chairman.

APPENDIX C.

Your Committee on the state of Religion report: That, after hearing the letters read from the various Churches, find nothing of special import except that they are at peace and generally enjoying a tolerably lively state of prosperity. Many of the Churches have had considerable revivals and although the accession has not been as large as usual, yet there has been considerable numbers added. And by the blessing of God they have been enabled to rejoice at the work of Grace and manifestation of the presence of God's Spirit among them. Submitted,

JNO. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

APPENDIX D.

We, your Committee on Nominations, report, that we have nominated Elder S. King to preach the next Introductory Sermon, and Elder F. M. Poole his alternate.

APPENDIX E.

Your Committee on Missions report: That we have a vast field in which

to operate in the cause of Missions. South East Mississippi is comparatively destitute of Gospel preaching, and we believe that much good might be done in that quarter if this body would send a Herald of the Cross to that people. Many wives and children are left without a husband and father and are without any one to prompt them to that Being who is a friend to the widow and a parent to the child.

In the many there are claims that should call forth the serious and prayerful attention of this body. Our sons and brothers who are exposed to the many temptations of a camp life, also death, either by disease or from the missiles of the enemy, call upon us loudly to furnish them with Religious reading matter. Should we not, while they are a wall for our temporal defense, exert ourselves as the instruments in the hands of God to build a wall around them for their spiritual defense? We are sorry to see the Churches manifest so much indifference on the subject.

Judging from the contributions sent up, we must conclude that the spirit of Missions is cooling. The body has done nothing in the way of Missionary labor during the past year. Brethren, this ought not to be so. And your Committee recommend that the Pastors of the Churches of this body strive to stimulate the Churches on this subject by impressing the claims of Missions upon them. "The Lord loveth the cheerful giver."

Submitted,

W. R. BUTLER, Chairman.

APPENDIX F.

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools submit the following report:

We deplore the cold indifference and neglect of the Churches on this great subject. It cannot be denied that it is the duty of parents to train up their children in the fear of the Lord. And we believe that Sabbath Schools, when properly carried on, will tend greatly to accomplish this end. Owing to the peculiar condition of the country, we believe that the Churches are under greater obligations to establish and sustain Sunday Schools than at any previous time. Many children, being deprived of a father's care, are guilty of spending the Lord's day in the pursuit of sinful pleasures. We believe that while the fathers of these children are defending us against our enemy, that it is our solemn duty to exert ourselves to defend them against the many evils with which they are surrounded.

Submitted,

SHELBY KING, Chairman.

APPENDIX G.

Your Committee on Finance make the following report:

They have examined the Treasurer's Report and find a balance in his hands as per report for Associational purposes amounting to.....\$ 1 90
 Received from Churches for Associational purposes.....310 95
 Public collection on Lord's day for Dom. Missions.....56 35
 Sent up by Churches for Domestic Missions.....125 09
 Public collection on Lord's day for spiritual benefit of soldiers...123 50
 Total.....\$622 70

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. MURRAY, Chairman.

CHURCHES.

Hillsboro.....
Union.....
New Prospect.....
Ebenezer.....
Sardis.....
Enon.....
Sulphur Springs.....
Pleasant Hill.....
Zion.....
Tallahatta.....
Bouiah.....
Deatur.....
Poplar Springs.....
Pine Ridge.....
Bethel.....
Tallahala.....
Garlandsville.....
Good Hope.....
Mt. Pisgah.....
Randall Hill.....
Leaf River.....
Lins Creek.....
Mt. Carmel.....
Salem.....
Hephziba.....
High Hill.....
County Line.....
Morton.....
Siloam.....
Pinckney.....
Shiloh.....
Fellowship.....
New Prospect.....
Bluff Springs.....
Herbert.....
Centra Hill.....
Homewood.....
[New Churches.]
Siloam.....
Liberty.....

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STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	POST OFFICES.	NAMES OF DELEGATES.	RECEIVED BY LETTER										PASTOR OR SUPPLY.			
				Received by Letter	Received by Letter	Received by Letter	Received by Letter	Received by Letter	Received by Letter	Received by Letter	Received by Letter	Received by Letter	Received by Letter				
Hillsboro, Union	Scott	Hillsboro	W. R. Butler	4	4												W. R. Butler, P.
New Prospect	Newton	High Hill	Y. J. Denson, H. Dunn	9	1	1											W. R. Butler, S.
Ebenezer	Neshoba	Sebastopol	Not Represented.														
Sardis	Scott	Union	A. C. Gunn	1	4												W. A. Hutto, P.
Beon	Neshoba	Damascus	Letter	5	9												D. Killen, S.
Sulphur Springs	Scott	Union	W. Brewer	6	3												W. A. Hutson, S.
Pleasant Hill	Newton	Conehatta	L. P. Murrell, J. M. Haralson, A. Clarke	13	3												L. P. Murrell, P.
Zion	Kemper	Calvert's Store	B. B. Windham, W. Moore	9	9												T. J. Hand, S.
Walshatta	Newton	Battlefield	J. M. Trussell	11	4												A. Winstead, S.
Boulah	Decatur	Decatur	A. Grissett, W. Graham	13	7												A. Grissett, P.
Decatur	Newton Station	Newton Station	N. L. Clarke, I. Baird, H. Cooper	1	1												N. L. Clarke, P.
Poplar Springs	Newton Station	Lake Station	J. Pierce	1	1												L. J. Mathews, P.
Pine Ridge	Newton Station	Newton Station	J. W. Murray, M. Wilder	1	3												L. P. Murrell, S.
Bethel	Scott	Lake Station	E. E. Haralson, D. Gilbert	4	4												John Williams, S.
Tallahala	Jasper	Garlandville	D. Fore, J. L. Gresham	4	4												D. Fore, P.
Garlandville	Newton	Buckley's Store	W. L. McIntosh, W. Flanagan, S. King	3	3												N. L. Clarke, S.
Good Hope	Jasper	Moss Hill	V. Sisson, W. R. Sinclair	1	1												N. L. Clarke, S.
Mt. Pisgah	Garlandville	Garlandville	M. H. Whatley	17	3												W. Thigpen, S.
Randall Hill	Garlandville	Garlandville	J. J. Hammons, Jas. Williams	6	6												John Williams, P.
Leaf River	Smith	Pineville	P. Palmer	2	2												John Williams, S.
Line Creek	Scott	Morton	R. Davis	1	1												W. A. Hutson, P.
Mt. Carmel	Smith	Homewood	A. G. Andersen, H. Bally	4	4												S. J. Hitt, S.
Salem	Newton	Raleigh	J. A. Hitt	4	4												J. A. Hitt, P.
Hephziba	Newton	Hickory Station	E. G. Ferguson	9	9												J. A. Hitt, S.
High Hill	Smith	Raleigh	Letter	1	1												A. Winstead, S.
County Line	Neshoba	Union	L. L. Viveret, T. Seasons	15	1												S. S. Cross, P.
Morton	Scott	Morton	D. S. Smith	1	21												J. A. Hitt, S.
Siloam	Smith	Raleigh	J. Tew	1	3												F. M. Poole, P.
Pinekey	Newton	Union	F. M. Poole, E. W. Roebuck	2	2												G. Gay, S.
Shiloh	Smith	Trenton	Paul Davis	3	3												
Fellowship	Landerdale	Stonewall	Letter	3	3												
New Prospect	Scott	Forest	Not Represented.														
Bluff Springs	Neshoba	Herbert															
Herbert	Scott	Philadelphia															
Centre Hill	Scott	Homewood															
Homewood	Newton	Evergreen	Spencer Hally														A. Grissett, S.
(New Churches)			Letter														A. Grissett, S.
Siloam																	
Liberty																	
				140						1663	570	320	95				

* The Clerk received \$10.00 from Homewood Church, since the Association, to pay for Minutes.
 † The Merton Church sent up \$137.00 to aid in supplying our soldiers with Religious Reading, made up by the Church and persons not members of that Church, a part of which being sent to the Marion Board by their agent previous to the Association, is not included in the Treasurer's Report.

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