

MINUTES

of the
One Hundred Fiftieth Annual Session
of the
SENER DISTRICT
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Held with
SENER CHURCH
Ashe County, North Carolina

SEPTEMBER 12, 13, and 14, 2003

The next session will convene with Sener Church on September 10, 11, 12, 2004. The church is located between Jefferson, NC and Sparta, NC. Take Highway 221 out of Jefferson, NC about eight miles, on Nathan's Creek School Road.

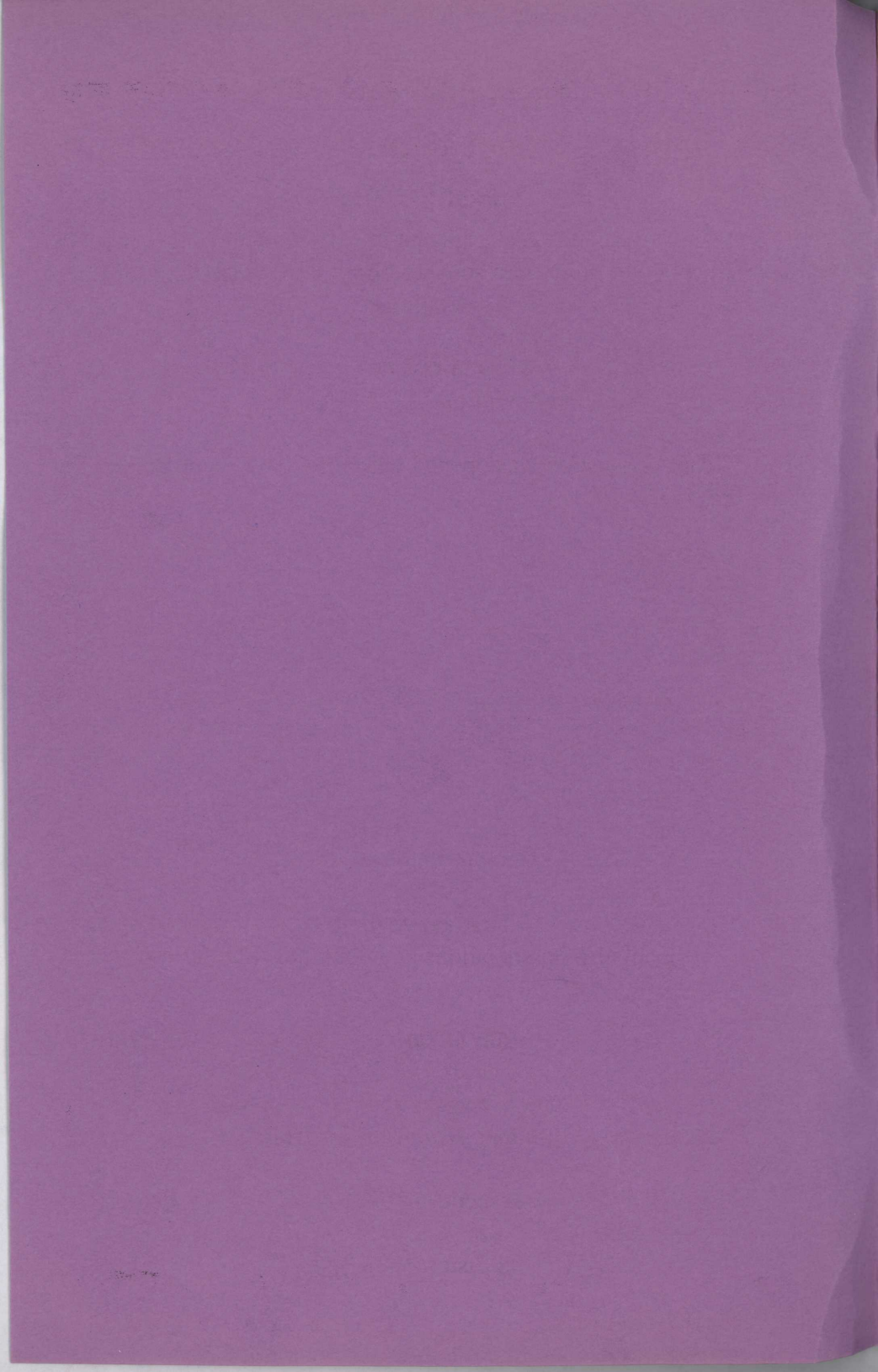
OFFICERS

ELDER JAMES MCNEILL **MODERATOR**
5868 NC Hwy. 221 N. Crumpler, NC 28617 • 336-982-3802

ELDER FLOYD SOUTH **ASSISTANT MODERATOR**
278 South Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694 • 336-246-7456

ELDER BOBBY ABSHER **CLERK**
183 Old Ridge Road, Crumpler, NC 28617 • 336-982-2163

BROTHER DON WALTERS **ASST. CLERK**
775 Boggs Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694 • 336-877-4723



Proceedings of the Senter District Primitive Baptist Association

The Association met pursuant to adjournment of last year and was called to order with song and prayer by Elder John Jackson from the Silver Creek Association.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder Paul Williams from Richlands Virginia.

The Association was opened with prayer by Elder Bobby Absher.

ON MOTION:

1. Letters were read and correspondents were seated.
2. The Association appointed Elder James McNeill as Moderator, Elder Floyd South as Assistant Moderator, Elder Bobby Absher as Clerk, and Brother Don Walters as Assistant Clerk.
3. Called for petitionary letters.
4. Called for transient and visiting brethren and sisters from sister associations and churches. The following were seated and given the right hand of fellowship.

Mountain Association of North Carolina and Virginia

Elder Curtis Hash

Brother Jack Nichols and Sister Louise Nichols

Brother Roy Truitt and Sister Shirley Truitt

St. Clair Bottom Association of North Carolina and Virginia

Elder Eddie Lyle and Sister Virgie Lyle

Reorganized Silver Creek Association of North Carolina

Elder John R. Jackson

Elder Gene Watson and Sister Pansy Watson

Fishers River Association of North Carolina

Elder Joey Jenkins

INDEPENDENT CHURCHES:

Walnut Cove Primitive Baptist Church, Walnut Cove, NC

Brother Paul V. Lemons

Indian Creek Church, Willis, Virginia

Elder Paul E. Williams

Mt. Lebanon Church, Woodland, Virginia

Elder Edward Bowman

Community Church, Stuart, Virginia

Elder Donnie Conner

Afton Road Church, Danville, Virginia

Elder Dan Parker

5. The moderator is to make all temporary appointments in this session.

A. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

Brother Paul Bare

Brother Arvil Scott

Brother Don Walters

Brother Donnie Cox

B. COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS:

Brother Richard Bare

Brother Donnie Cox

Brother Clyde Johnson
Brother Paul Miller
Brother Jim Richardson
Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk

C. COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY:

Elder Bobby Absher
Brother Clyde Johnson
Brother Paul Miller
Brother Paul Bare
Elder Floyd South
Brother Don Walters

6. That the committee on arrangements meet after service for conference.
7. To adjourn the Association until 10:00 A.M. on Saturday.
8. Closed with prayer by Elder Bobby Absher.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2003

The Association met as scheduled and was called to order with song and prayer by Elder James McNeill.

ON MOTION:

1. The roll call was omitted.
2. The Constitution and Rules of Decorum were omitted but printed in the minutes.
3. The next Association is to be held starting at 10:00 A.M., on Friday, before the second Sunday in September, 2004 at Senter Church.
4. Night meetings will be held Friday and Saturday nights at Senter Church.

5. The clerk was appointed to oversee the printing of 350 copies of the minutes and distribution of the same.
6. Minutes are to be mailed to all visitors.
7. The clerk was appointed as treasurer to hold all funds for printing and postage of minutes.
8. The obituaries are to be printed in the minutes.
9. The finance committee reported as follows:

YEAR - 2003

Reported from Churches:

Beaver Creek	\$80.00
North Fork	180.00
Riverview	172.00
Roans Creek	50.00
Senter	490.00

Total \$972.00

Received from donations Friday through Sunday .. \$407.00
 Balance in Savings \$543.00

Expenditures:

To the Moderator	\$20.00
To the Assistant Moderator	20.00
To the Clerk	60.00
To the Assistant Clerk	20.00
Paid to Visiting Elders	850.00
Designated for printing and postage of minutes ..	409.00

10. Minutes read and approved.
11. That the Association adjourn through prayer by Brother Bobby Absher.

Elder James McNeill, Moderator
Elder Floyd South, Assistant Moderator
Elder Bobby Absher, Clerk
Brother Don Walters, Assistant Clerk

VISITING ELDERS

Elder Edward Bowman
5771 Joy Branch Road, Woodland, VA 24381

Elder Donnie Connors
100 Allis Circle, Fieldale, VA 24089

Elder Curtis Hash
2495 Powerhouse Road, Independence, VA 24348

Elder John Jackson
103 Tom Jackson, Boone, NC 28607

Elder Joey Jenkins
626 West Mt. Hermon Church Rd., Elkin, NC 28621

Elder Dan Parker
3849 R & L Smith Drive, Danville, VA 24540

Elder Gene Watson
530 Legion Rd., Lenoir, NC 28645

Elder Paul Williams
230 Burnette Street, Richlands, VA 24641

ORDER OF PREACHING

Friday Morning:

Elder Floyd South (introduced with prayer)
Elder Paul Williams (introductory sermon)
Elder Curtis Hash (opened business with prayer)

Friday Afternoon:

Elder Curtis Hash (introduced with prayer)
Elder Joey Jenkins (afternoon sermon-first)
Elder Edward Bowman (afternoon sermon--second)
Elder Dan Parker (closed with prayer)

Friday Night:

Lic. Larry Davis (introduced with prayer)
Elder Dan Parker (sermon)
Elder Bobby Absher (closed with prayer)

Saturday Morning:

Elder James McNeill (introduced with prayer)
Elder Dan Parker (sermon)
Elder Donnie Conners (sermon)
Bro. Dwight Kerr (closed with prayer)

Saturday Afternoon:

Elder Floyd South (introduced with prayer)
Elder Donnie Conners (sermon)
Lic. Larry Davis (closed with prayer)

Saturday Night:

Elder John Jackson (introduced with prayer)
Elder Eddie Lyle (sermon)
Elder Curtis Hash (closed with prayer)

Sunday Morning:

Elder C.O. Yates (introduced with prayer)
Elder Bobby Absher (sermon)
Elder James McNeill (sermon)
Lic. Larry Davis (closed with prayer)

ANNUAL MEETING

The Senter Primitive Baptist Church will hold a week's meeting starting the second Sunday night of April and running through Friday night—April 11–16, 2004.

ORDAINED ELDERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Elder Bobby Absher	183 Old Ridge Road Crumpler, NC 28617 Telephone: (336) 982-2163
Lic. Larry Davis	244 W.A. Reed Rd. Laurel Springs, NC 28644
Elder Eddie Lyle	1521 Elliot Road West Jefferson, NC 28694
Elder James McNeill	5862 U.S. 221 North Crumpler, NC 28617 Telephone: (336) 982-3802
Elder Floyd South	278 South Avenue West Jefferson, NC 28694 Telephone: (336) 246-7456
Elder C.O. Yates	2415 Lower Nettle Knob Road West Jefferson, NC 28694 Telephone (336) 877-4991

CHURCHES AND PASTORS

Beaver Creek	Elders James McNeill and Bobby Absher
North Fork	Vacant
Riverview	Elders C.O. Yates and James McNeill
Roans Creek	Elders Floyd South and Eddie Lyle
Senter	Elders James McNeill and Bobby Absher

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO CHURCHES AND NUMBER OF MINUTES; CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Beaver Creek: Don Walters	20
775 Boggs Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694	
North Fork: Sharon Kellam	20
PO Box 252, Warrensville, NC 28693	
Riverview: Dan Miller	30
153 Big Piney Creek Rd., Lansing, NC 28643	
Roans Creek: Elder Floyd South	25
278 South Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694	
Senter: Elder Bobby Absher	45
183 Old Ridge Road, Crumpler, NC 28617	

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO SISTER ASSOCIATIONS

The American Baptist Historical Society	2
1106 South Goodman St., Rochester, NY 14620	
Bear Creek: Ken Austin	20
3930 Old Camden Rd., Monroe, NC 28110	
The Christian Baptist Library	2
PO Box 68, Atwood, TN 38220	
Ebenezer: Aubrey E. Utz.....	20
Madison, VA 22727	
Mountain: Roy Truitt.....	20
102 Gentry Street, Galax, VA 24336	
Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Association	20
338 Harry Height's Road, Bluefield, WV 24701	
New Liberty Primitive Baptist Association:	
Ronald Sargent.....	20
2302 Jefferson Ave., Point Pleasant, WV 25550	
304-675-1482	

North Carolina Collection: The Library	2
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27514	
The Primitive Baptist Library: Elon College	2
4023 North, NC 87 Elon College, NC 27244	
Silver Creek: Elder Gene Watson	21
145 Friendly Park, Lenoir, NC 28645	
St. Clair's Bottom Association: Blaine Owens	21
103 Jefferson Drive, Bristol, VA 24201	
Wake Forest University: The Z. Smith Reynolds Library	2
Box 7777, Reynolds Station, Winston-Salem, NC 27109	

COMMUNION MEETINGS

We wish to extend to all our churches and to the peace-loving Baptists of our faith and order an invitation to commune with us at the following churches and dates:

Beaver Creek: 4th Sunday in May

Sender: 2nd Sunday in June

Riverview: 3rd Sunday in June

North Fork: 2nd Sunday in July

Roans Creek: 4th Sunday in July

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.
2. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.
3. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator when he is about to make his speech.
4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by anyone except the Moderator till he is done speaking.
5. He shall strictly adhere to the subject, and in no way reflect on the person who spoke before, so as to make remarks on his slips, failings or imperfections, but shall fairly state the matter as nearly as he can so as to convey his light or ideas.
6. No person shall abruptly break off or absent himself from the Association without liberty obtained from it.
7. No person shall rise and speak more than three times on one subject without liberty obtained from the Association.
8. No member of the Association shall have liberty of laughing during the sitting of the same, nor whispering in the time of public speech.
9. No member of the Association shall address another in any other appellation than the title of brother.
10. The Moderator shall not interrupt any member or prohibit him from speaking till he gives his light on the subject except he breaks the Rules of Decorum.
11. The names of the several members of the Association shall be enrolled by the clerk and called over as often as the Association requires.

12. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges of speech as any other member, provided the chair be filled, and he shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided.

13. That any member who shall willingly and knowingly break any of these rules shall be reprov'd by the Association as they shall think proper.

14. The pastor of the host church shall act as moderator until a moderator can be elected.

15. Delegates of the host church to select the elder to preach the introductory sermon.

CONSTITUTION

The churches from Mountain Association, Cranberry, Senter, South Fork, Silas Creek, and Big Helton and also the Three Forks Association, Beaver Creek, Bear Creek, North Fork and Horse Creek, having been dismissed from the Mountain and Three Forks Associations, at their annual meetings in A.C. 1853, to form a new Association, met by the respective delegates in a convention, with the Senter Church, October 21, 1853, formed and adopted the present Constitution of the Senter Association.

1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union and duly sent to represent them in the Association.

2. Who, in producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to their seats. Each church shall be entitled to three delegates. In their letters are to be expressed their number in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letters, excluded and dead since last Association.

3. The Association will continue seating all orderly, peace-loving Primitive Baptists as visitors.

4. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor shall they have any clerical power over the churches, nor shall they have any internal right over any church in the union.

5. The Association shall be governed and ruled by a regular decorum.

6. The Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

7. New churches or any regular Baptist Church of Jesus Christ of our faith and order, being legally dismissed by letter from any sister Association, upon application by letter and delegates, shall be admitted into our union.

8. Every church in the union shall be entitled to representation in the Association.

9. Every query, first being debated in the church and then presented to the Association, shall be read and debated and answered unless it be withdrawn by the member who presents it.

10. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

11. The Association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of the proceedings, the best method for accomplishing this purpose shall be at the discretion of the future Association.

12. We think it necessary to have an Association fund to defray the expenses of the same and it is the duty of each church in the union to contribute such sums as they think proper to the Association, and those monies shall be deposited in the hands of a treasurer who shall be accountable to the Association for the same.

13. There shall be an Association book wherein the proceedings of the Association shall be recorded by a secretary appointed by the Association, who shall receive a yearly compensation for his trouble.

14. The minutes of the Association shall be read, corrected, if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises.

15. Amendments to their plan or form of government may be made at any time by a majority of the Association, when they deem it necessary, by giving the churches twelve months notice.

16. The Association shall have power to provide for the general union of churches, to endeavor to preserve a chain of communion among the churches, to give the church the necessary advice in matters of difficulty.

17. To inquire into the cause, if any church fails to represent themselves at any time in the Association.

18. To appropriate those monies contributed by the churches to any purpose they may think proper.

19. The Association shall have power to withdraw from any church in the union which shall violate the rules of this Convention deviate from the orthodox principles of the gospel.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one true and living God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost and these three are One.

2. We believe that scriptures of the Old and New Testament as translated in the 1611 King James version of the Holy Bible is the written word of God and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of election by grace.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin and in Man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature by his own free will or ability.

5. We believe that sinners are called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit, and that All who are thus regenerated and born again by the Spirit of God shall never fall finally away.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.

7. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ and that true believers are the only subjects of those ordinances and we believe the only true mode of baptism is by immersion.

8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment and the joys of the righteous and that the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

9. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinances of the gospel except such as are regularly called, and come under the imposition of hands by the presbytery.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Beaver Creek — Second Sunday morning, 11:00 AM, and fourth Sunday, 2:00 PM A brick building located about three miles from West Jefferson, NC. Take Hwy. 221 south about one mile to Hwy. 163 about two miles. The church is on the left side of the highway.

North Fork — First and Third Sundays at 2:30 P.M. Take Hwy. 88 West from Warrensville. Approximately 1 1/2 miles turn right on Staggs Creek Road. Continue on Staggs Creek Road approximately 1 mile. Church is at the intersection of Staggs Creek Road and Glenn Miller Road.

Riverview — From the intersection of 221 and 163 near West Jefferson go south on 221 approximately .3 mile. Turn left on Nettle Knob Road, go three miles to the Lower Nettle Knob Road. Go 3.5 miles to the Phillips Gap Road, turn right about 1 mile. the brick church is on the left of the road.

Roans Creek — First and fourth Sundays, 10:30 A.M. A brick church building located between Jefferson, NC and Laurel Springs, NC. Take Hwy. 88 out of Jefferson, NC about seven miles. The church is on the left side of the road.

Senter — First and Fourth Sunday nights, 6:30 PM; Saturday night preceding the Second Sunday, 6:30 PM; (During Daylight Savings Time all services begin at 7:00 PM). Senter Church is a brick building located between Jefferson, NC and Sparta, NC off of Hwy. 221 on Nathan's Creek School Road. It is approximately eight miles from Jefferson.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

OBITUARIES

None

Riverview -- From the ~~intersection of 221 and 163~~ near West Jefferson go south on 221 approximately 3 miles. Turn left on Nettle Knob Road, go three miles to the Lower Nettle Knob Road. Go 4.5 miles on the Phillips Chapel Road. Turn right about 1 mile, the brick church is on the left of the road.

Riverside Church -- First and fourth Sundays, 10:30 A.M. A brick church building located between Jefferson, NC and Laurel Springs, NC. Take Hwy. 38 out of Jefferson, NC about seven miles. The church is on the left side of the road.

Senter -- First and Fourth Sunday nights, 6:30 PM. Sunday night preceding the Second Sunday, 6:30 PM. (During Daylight Savings Time all services begin at 7:00 PM). Senter Church is a brick building located between Jefferson, NC and Sparta, NC off of Hwy. 221 on Nether's Creek School Road. It is approximately eight miles from Jefferson.

