

**MINUTES**  
*Of The*  
**One Hundred Thirty-Eighth**  
*Annual Session*  
*Of The*  
**SENER DISTRICT**  
**PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Held With  
**SENER CHURCH**  
Ashe County, North Carolina

**SEPTEMBER 6, 7, 8, 1991**

The next session will convene with Sener Church, located between Jefferson, NC and Sparta, NC. Take Highway 221 out of Jefferson, NC about eight miles; near Nathan's Creek School.

**SEPTEMBER 11, 12, 13, 1992**

**OFFICERS**

**ELDER JAMES McNEILL.....MODERATOR**

Route 1, Crumpler, NC 28617, Phone: (919) 982-3802

**ELDER FLOYD SOUTH.....ASST. MODERATOR**

Route 2, West Jefferson, NC 28694, Phone (919) 246-7456

**BROTHER BOBBY H. ABSHER.....CLERK**

Route 1, Crumpler, NC 28617, Phone (919) 982-2163

**BROTHER DON WALTERS.....ASST. CLERK**

Route 2, Box 129, Fleetwood, NC 28626, Phone (919) 877-4723



# PROCEEDINGS OF THE SENER DISTRICT PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The Association met pursuant to adjournment of last year and was called to order with song and prayer by Elder Thomas Mann, Mt. Oliver Primitive Baptist Church, Roanoke, Virginia.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder Cecil Darity, of the Echeconnee Association, Macon, Georgia.

The Association was opened with prayer by Elder Eugene Bennett, No Creek Church, Mocksville, NC.

## ON MOTION:

1. Letters from the churches were read and correspondents were seated.

2. The Association appointed Elder James McNeill as Moderator; Elder Floyd South as Assistant Moderator; Brother Bobby Absher as Clerk; and Brother Don Walters as Assistant Clerk.

3. Called for petitionary letters.

Elder Eddie Lyle addressed the Association on behalf of Pond Mountain Church. He made acknowledgement of past errors, and asked that Pond Mountain Church be granted fellowship with the Senter Association. A letter was presented and read from Helton Church stating that Pond Mountain and Helton had resolved their differences.

It was moved and seconded that Pond Mountain Church be granted full fellowship with the Senter Association. There were no objections. Therefore, Pond Mountain Church was granted full fellowship with the Senter Association.

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:***

Brother Raymond and Sister Nonnie Nichols  
Brother Thomas and Sister Margaret Hayden  
Brother John Hayden

Brother Page and Sister Hazel Wagoner  
Brother Thomas Farmer, Jr.  
Sister Lucy A. Choate  
Brother Greene Ward  
Brother James and Sister Rose Mabe  
Brother Carl Williams and Sister Louise Williams  
Sister Doris Richardson  
Sister Glenna Brown  
Sister Dorothy Brown  
Brother Norman and Sister Zola Brown

***St. Clair Bottom Association of NC and Virginia:***

Sister Ethel Lyle  
Sister Beulah Lyle  
Elder Eddie Lyle  
Brother and Sister Vernon Lyle

***Little Yadkin River Association of North Carolina:***

Elder Vance Jones  
Sister Hulda Jones

***Upper Canoochee Association of Georgia:***

Elder Denver Hollingsworth

***Silver Creek Association of North Carolina:***

Elder Jack McGinnis

***Echeconnee Association of Georgia:***

Elder Cecil E. Darity

**INDEPENDENT CHURCHES:**

***North View Primitive Baptist Church, Danbury, NC:***

Brother Milton and Sister Betty Gunter

***No Creek Primitive Baptist Church, Mocksville, NC:***

Elder Eugene Bennett

***Afton Road Primitive Baptist Church, Danville, Virginia:***

Elder Dan Parker

***Mt. Olive Primitive Baptist Church, Roanoke, Virginia:***

Elder Thomas B. Mann  
Sister Joyce Hodges

**Meadow Fork Primitive Baptist Church, Laurel Springs,  
NC:** Elder Samuel Whittington

**Ephesus Primitive Baptist Church, Georgia:**  
Brother Keith Hollingsworth

**Salisbury Primitive Baptist Church, Salisbury, NC:**  
Elder Wayne Gibbons  
Brother Reid Blevins

**Indian Creek Church, Indian Valley, Virginia:**  
Brother Lewis and Sister Treva Henley  
Brother Estel and Sister Clydie Henley

**Pleasant Hill Primitive Baptist Church, Statesville, NC:**  
Brother Mack and Sister Debbie Church  
Brother Ray and Sister Ruth Barnette

**Mt. Carmel Primitive Baptist Church, Bel Air, Maryland:**  
Brother James A. Dixon

**Chilhowie Primitive Baptist Church, Chilhowie, Virginia:**  
Brother Howard and Sister Sibyl Davis

**Fellowship Primitive Baptist Church, Hillsville, Virginia:**  
Sister Ossie E. Horton

**Pine Grove Primitive Baptist Church, Hillsville, Virginia:**  
Brother Waltrude and Sister Emma Slusher

**Stoney Creek Primitive Baptist Church, Pilot Mountain,  
NC:** Sister Allie O'Neal

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

A. **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:**

Brother George Severt  
Deacon Willard Hartzog  
Deacon Garvie Davis

B. **COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS:**

Brother Clyde Johnson  
Brother Elmer Ham  
Deacon Don Walters  
Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk

**C. COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY:**

Deacon Bobby Absher  
Deacon Paul Miller  
Deacon Don Walters  
Deacon Larry Davis  
Elder Steve Douglas

6. That the committee on arrangements meet after service for conference.

7. To adjourn the Association business until 10:00 A.M. on Saturday.

8. Closed with prayer by Elder Dan Parker.

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 1991**

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

**ON MOTION:**

1. The roll call was omitted.
2. The Constitution and Rules of Decorum were omitted but printed in the minutes.
3. The committee on arrangements moved that the host church is to select elder to preach the introductory sermon.
4. The committee on arrangements moved that the pastor of the host church shall act as moderator until a moderator can be elected.
5. The next Association is to be held starting at 10:00 A.M. on Friday before the second Sunday in September, 1992 at Senter Church.
6. Night meetings will be held Friday and Saturday nights, September 11 and 12, 1992, with Senter Church.
7. The clerk was appointed to oversee the printing of 350 copies of the minutes and distribution of the same.
8. Minutes are to be mailed to all visitors.
9. The clerk was appointed as treasurer to hold all funds for printing and postage of minutes.

10. The finance committee is to handle the balance of the funds and distribution of the same to visiting elders.

11. The obituaries are to be printed in the minutes.

12. The finance committee reported as follows:

**YEAR - 1991**

Received from Churches:

|                                     |                 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| BEAVER CREEK.....                   | \$105.00        |
| BIG HELTON.....                     | 70.00           |
| HORSE CREEK.....                    | 10.00           |
| NORTH FORK.....                     | 145.00          |
| RIVERVIEW.....                      | 220.00          |
| ROANS CREEK.....                    | 61.00           |
| SENER.....                          | 287.00          |
| <b>Total Received from Churches</b> | <b>\$898.00</b> |

Treasury Report:

In Savings:

|   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| Balance.....  | \$603.18        |
| Paid Out for Printing and Postage of Minutes Last Year..... | 294.37          |
| Treasurer Returned from Last Year.....                      | 65.63           |
| Received from Donations Friday and Saturday.....            | 983.00          |
| <b>Total Received 1991</b>                                  | <b>1,881.00</b> |

Expenditures:

|  |         |
|--|---------|
| To the Moderator.....                                  | \$20.00 |
| To the Assistant Moderator.....                        | 20.00   |
| To the Clerk.....                                      | 60.00   |
| The the Assistant Clerk.....                           | 20.00   |
| Put in Treasury for Printing & Postage of Minutes..... | 350.00  |

Miscellaneous:

|                              |                 |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Paid to Senter Church.....   | \$50.00         |
| Paid to Visiting Elders..... | \$1,476.00      |
| <b>Balance.....</b>          | <b>\$603.18</b> |

13. Minutes read and approved.

14. That the Association adjourn through song and prayer by Elder Steve Douglas.

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

**ORDER OF PREACHING:**

***Friday Morning:***

Elder Thomas Mann (introduced with prayer)  
Elder Cecil Darity (introductory sermon)  
Elder Eugene Bennett (opened business with prayer)

***Friday Afternoon:***

Elder Vance Jones (introduced with prayer)  
Elder Milton Gunter  
Elder Thomas Mann  
Elder Eugene Bennett  
Elder James McNeill (closed with prayer)

***Friday Night:***

Elder Eddie Lyle (introduced with prayer)  
Elder Dan Parker  
Elder Denver Hollingsworth (closed with prayer)

***Saturday Morning:***

Elder Wayne Gibbons (introduced with prayer)  
Elder Denver Hollingsworth  
Elder Dan Parker  
Elder Floyd South (closed with prayer)

***Saturday Afternoon:***

Elder C.O. Yates (introduced with prayer)  
Lic. Jimmy Hanes  
Elder Wayne Gibbons  
Brother Don Walters (closed with prayer)

***Saturday Night:***

Elder Sammy Whittington (introduced with prayer)  
Elder Denver Hollingsworth  
Brother Bobby Absher (closed with prayer)



## **Sunday Morning:**

Lic. Jimmy Hanes (introduced with prayer)  
Elder Wayne Gibbons  
Elder Denver Hollingsworth  
Elder James McNeill (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 12 - 17, 1992.

## **ORDAINED ELDERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES**

Elder C.O. Yates - Route 2, Fleetwood, NC 28626  
Elder Floyd South - Route 2, West Jefferson, NC 28694  
Phone: (919) 246-7456  
Elder Steve Douglas - Route 1, Box 446, Crumpler, NC 28617  
Phone: (919) 982-2958  
Elder James D. McNeill - Route 1, Crumpler, NC 28617  
Phone: (919) 982-3802

## **CHURCHES AND PASTORS**

**BEAVER CREEK** - Elders Tim Brooks, James McNeill  
**BIG HELTON** - Elder Steve Douglas  
**HORSE CREEK** - Elder Steve Douglas  
**NORTH FORK** - Elder James McNeill  
**RIVERVIEW** - Elders C.O. Yates, James McNeill  
**ROANS CREEK** - Elder Floyd South  
**SENER** - Elder James McNeill

## **DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO CHURCHES AND NUMBER OF MINUTES CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES**

**BEAVER CREEK:** Don Walters  
Rt. 2, Box 129, Fleetwood, NC 28626.....20  
**BIG HELTON:** Grover Burchette  
Rt. 1, Box 358, Warrentsville, NC 28693.....30  
**HORSE CREEK:** Grover Burchette  
Rt. 1, Box 358, Warrentsville, NC 28693.....10

|   |    |
|---|----|
| <b>NORTH FORK:</b> Grover Burchette         |    |
| Rt. 1, Box 358, Warrensville, NC 28693..... | 20 |
| <b>RIVERVIEW:</b> C.O. Yates                |    |
| Rt. 2, Box 215, Fleetwood, NC 28626.....    | 30 |
| <b>ROANS CREEK:</b> Elder Floyd South       |    |
| Rt. 2, West Jefferson, NC 28694.....        | 35 |
| <b>SENER:</b> Bobby Absher                  |    |
| Rt. 1, Box 120, Crumpler, NC 28617.....     | 45 |

## DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO SISTER ASSOCIATIONS

|  |    |
|--|----|
| <b>EBENEZER:</b> Aubrey E. Utz                               |    |
| Madison, Virginia 22727.....                                 | 20 |
| <b>MOUNTAIN:</b> Roy Truitt                                  |    |
| 102 Gentry Street, Galax, Virginia 24333.....                | 20 |
| <b>BEAR CREEK:</b> Allen Copple                              |    |
| Route 4, Asheboro, NC 27203.....                             | 20 |
| <b>SILVER CREEK:</b> Elder Gene Watson                       |    |
| 145 Friendly Park, Lenoir, NC 28645.....                     | 20 |
| <b>NORTH CAROLINA COLLECTION:</b> The Library                |    |
| University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27514.....     | 2  |
| <b>THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST LIBRARY:</b> Elon College           |    |
| Rt. 2, Elon College, NC 27244.....                           | 2  |
| <b>THE AMERICAN BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY</b>               |    |
| 1106 South Goodman St., Rochester, NY 14620.....             | 2  |
| <b>WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY:</b> The Z. Smith Reynolds Library |    |
| Box 7777, Reynolds Station, Winston-Salem, NC 27109.....     | 2  |
| <b>THE CHRISTIAN BAPTIST LIBRARY:</b>                        |    |
| PO Box 68, Atwood, Tennessee.....                            | 2  |
| <b>MT. ZION PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION:</b>               |    |
| Rt. 1, Box 14, Bluefield, West Virginia 24701.....           | 20 |

## 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 Saturday and Sunday in May
- SENER:** 2nd Saturday and Sunday in June
- RIVERVIEW:** 3rd Saturday and Sunday in June
- HORSE CREEK:** 4th Saturday and Sunday in June
- NORTH FORK:** 1st Saturday and Sunday in July
- BIG HELTON:** 3rd Sunday in July
- ROANS CREEK:** 4th Saturday and 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 member 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 this Decorum.
11. The names of the several member of the Association shall be enrolled by the clerk and called over as often as the Associations 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.

## 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 member 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 infringe 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 Ghose 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 A.M., and fourth Sunday, 2:00 p.m. A brick church 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.

**Big Helton** - Third Sunday, 11:00 A.M., Second Sunday, 11:00 A.M. A white wood church building about one mile west of Sturgills, NC. Take Hwy. 194 from Lansing, NC, to Sturgills, NC. Turn left. The church is about one mile on the left side of the road.

**Horse Creek** - First and fourth Sundays, 11:00 A.M., following respective Saturdays. A white wood frame building about four miles northwest of Lansing, NC. Take Hwy. 194 from West Jefferson, NC, to Lansing, NC. From Lansing, go 1353 around one mile; turn left on 1324; follow 1324 to Joe Hampton Road; follow to end of pavement; turn left to church.

**North Fork** - Sunday, following first Saturday, at 2:00 P.M. A white asbestos shingle church building located about three miles west of Warrentsville, NC. Located between Warrentsville, NC and Trade Tennessee. Take Hwy. 88 out of Warrentsville, NC. About one mile you will come to the North Fork of the New River. Take first right-hand road. The church is about two miles on the right side of the road.

**Riverview** - The first and third Sundays, following respective Saturday, at 11:00 A.M. A brick church building located about eight miles from West Jefferson, NC. Take Hwy. 221 about one and a half mile toward Boone, NC. Turn left on state road No. 1147. Go about six miles. The church is on the left side of the road.

**Roans Creek** - Fourth Saturday night, 7:00 P.M., and the following Sunday, 11:00 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** - Second Saturday, 11:00 A.M., and Sunday following, 2:00 P.M. A brick church building located between Jefferson, NC and Sparta, NC. Take Hwy. 221 out of Jefferson, NC, about eight miles. Located near Nathan's Creek School.











