

MINUTES

OF THE

*One Hundred Eighty-Sixth
Annual Session*

OF THE

**ORIGINAL MAYO PRIMITIVE
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

HELD WITH

Maritnsville Church

1223 Chatham Rd., Martinsville, VA

**FRIDAY, SATURDAY, and SUNDAY
MAY 18th, 19th, and 20th, 1984**

*Next session convenes with Leatherwood Church
located in Henry County, Martinsville, VA
on Friday before the third Sunday in May, 1985.*


OFFICERS

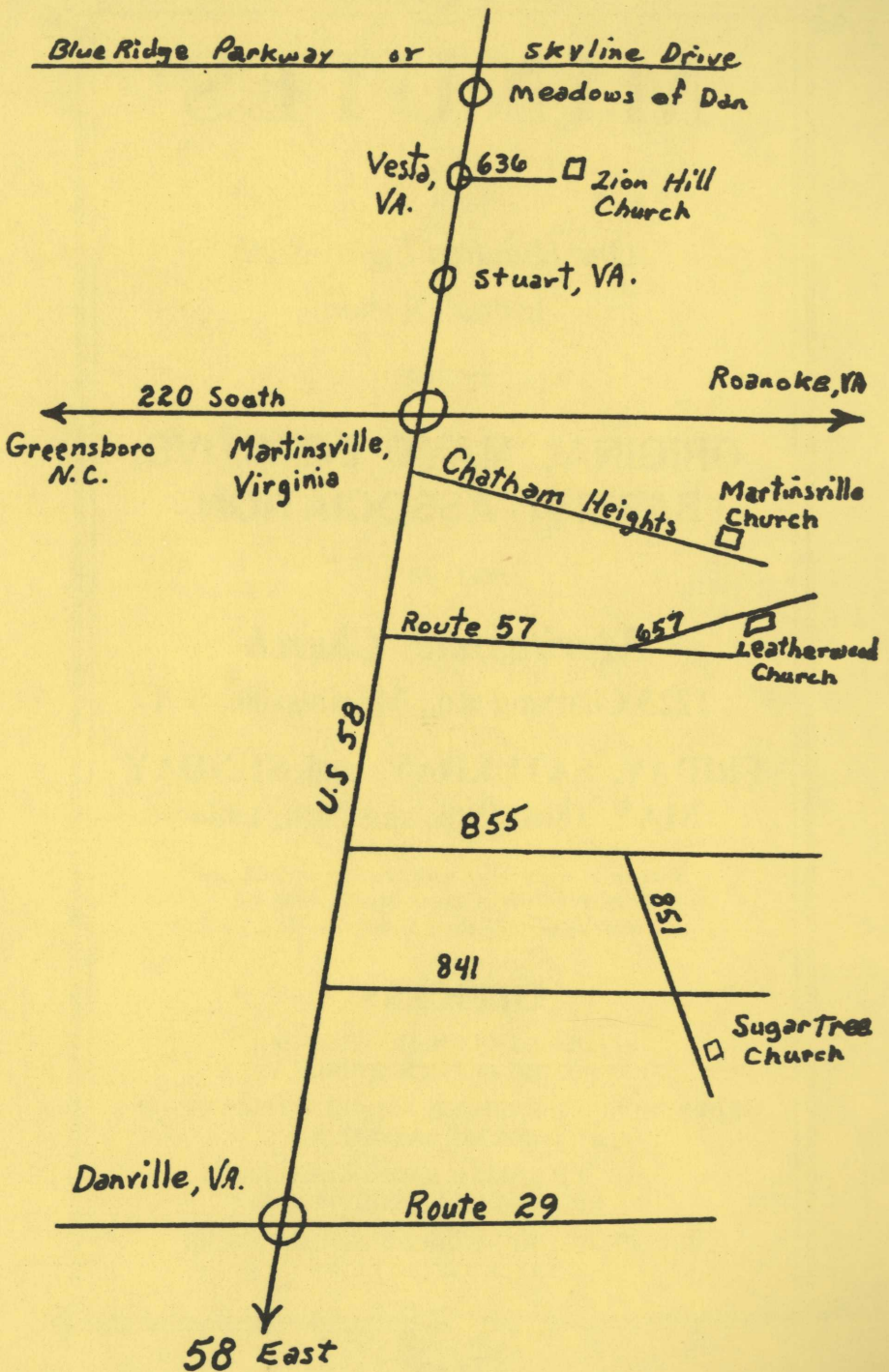
ELDER L.J. CORN, MODERATOR
P.O. BOX 100, PATRICK SPRINGS, VA.

ELDER THOMAS L. RADFORD, ASSISTANT MODERATOR
RT. 1, BOX 685, BASSETT, VA.

ELDER THOMAS L. RADFORD, CLERK
RT. 1, BOX 685, BASSETT, VA.

DEACON WELDON WOOD, ASSISTANT CLERK
RT. 1, AXTON, VA.





PROCEEDINGS

OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE ORIGINAL MAYO PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, HELD WITH MARTINSVILLE CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE, VIRGINIA

MAY 18, 19, 20, 1984

FRIDAY MAY 18, 1984

1. The Association met with Martinsville Church, Friday, May 18, 1984 at 11:00 A.M. After singing hymns of praise, prayer was offered by Elder R. W. Turner.

The introductory sermon was preached by Elder L. J. Corn. Text 1st. Cor. 1:9.

Sang a song and gave the invitation for reception of members and was dismissed with prayer.

2. After intermission for lunch of about one hour, singing began in the church and the congregation assembled for the afternoon service. The Moderator called the body to order and Elder James Pruitt was asked to offer prayer opening the business session of the associated body.
3. Moderator called for letters of the Churches composing the Association and letters were read by Deacon Weldon Wood and Elder Thomas L. Radford.
4. Motion was made that the respective Messengers be seated to represent their respective Churches in any business that is brought before the body.
5. Motion was made and seconded to elect Elder L. J. Corn as Moderator, Elder Thomas L. Radford as Assistant Moderator, Elder Thomas L. Radford as Clerk, and Deacon Weldon Wood as Assistant Clerk.
6. Call for Petitionary Letters (none offered).
7. Called for Correspondence from Sister Associations. Welcomed and seated Elder James Pruitt and Brother Ray Wagner from the Little River Association of Georgia.

7-A VISITORS FROM CHURCHES AND ASSOCIATIONS:

LITTLE RIVER ASSOCIATION OF GEORGIA: Elder James Pruitt, Brother Ray Wagner.

LITTLE RIVER ASSOCIATION OF NORTH CAROLINA: Brother Stokes Lawrence, Sister Alice Lawrence.

CAI CREEK CHURCH: Elder Bob Dickerson, Sister Marjorie Dickerson.

CHESTNUT GROVE CHURCH: Sister Iva L. Kidd.

CHURCH OF CHRIST OF COLLINSVILLE: Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Sayers, Sr.

GRACE CHURCH: Elder J.R. Rakes and wife, Elder R. W. Turner, Sister Irene Turner.

MOUNT OLIVE CHURCH: Sister Joyce Vass Hodges.

PINE GROVE CHURCH: Sister Ethel Shockley.

PUCKETT MEMORIAL CHURCH: Elder Melvin McGrady, Sis. Vera Mae McGrady.

St. CLAIR BOTTOM CHURCH: Elder Hugh Blevins, Elder Dan Blevins.

SPOON CREEK CHURCH: Elder R.L. Jefferson and wife, Sis. Madeline Shively, Bro. Lewis Shepherd, Sis. Claudia Shepherd, Bro. C.E. Jefferson and wife, Sis. Elaine K. Goard.

OTHER: Betty J. Kirby.

8. Moderator appointed Committee on Arrangements. The following were appointed to serve with the Moderator and Clerk: Elder Robert Ashby, Brother Eugene Newman, and Brother Fred Keatts.
9. Moderator appointed a Finance Committee consisting of Elder John Ashby, Brother Landon Keatts, Brother Weldon Wood, and Brother Eugene Newman.
10. Arrangement Committee appointed Elder John Ashby to write the Corresponding Letter for next year, 1985. Also called for this year's letter to be read and approved. The Corresponding Letter was read by Elder Thomas L. Radford.
11. Appointed Elder L. J. Corn, Deacon Weldon Wood, and Elder John Ashby to attend the Little River Association of Georgia.
12. Instructed clerk to have 500 Minutes printed and distributed.
13. Next Union Meeting to be held with Spoon Creek Church on the second weekend in October, 1984.
14. Moved and seconded to adjourn this Association until next year at Leatherwood Primitive Baptist Church on the third weekend of May, 1985. Closed with prayer. Recessed for 10 minutes and reassembled in the church for preaching.

FRIDAY MORNING

Prayer by Elder R. W. Turner
Introductory Sermon by Elder L. J. Corn..... I Cor. 1:9
Dismissed with Prayer

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Prayer by Elder Thomas L. Radford
Elder R. W. Turner..... Romans 10
Elder James Pruitt..... Acts 2
Dismissed with Prayer

SATURDAY MORNING

Prayer by Brother Ray Wagner
Elder James Pruitt
Elder Bob Dickerson..... Mat. 11:7
Elder Melvin McGrady..... John 6:26-27
Dismissed with Prayer by Elder Robert Ashby

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Prayer Elder L. J. Corn
Elder Hugh Blevins
Elder Dan Blevins..... I Peter 1:18
Elder J. R. Rakes..... Mat. 18:3-4
Dimissed with Prayer by Brother N. L. Wilson

SUNDAY MORNING

Prayer by Elder R. L. Jefferson
Elder Bob Dickerson..... I Pet. 2:4-9
Elder J. R. Rakes..... Rom. 1:14-16
Elder James Pruitt..... II Cor. 5
Dimissed with Prayer by Elder Robert Ashby

VISITING ELDERS

BLEVINS, DANIEL C. Rt. 1, Box 56, Chilhowie, VA 24319
 BLEVINS, HUGH Rt. 2, Box 169, Chilhowie, VA 24319
 DICKERSON, BOB 912-242-8742 P. O. Box 2262, Valdosta, GA 31601
 JEFFERSON, R. L. 703-629-8276 Patrick Springs, VA 24133
 McGRADY, MELVIN 703-728-3303 P. O. Box 798, Hillsville, VA 24343
 PRUITT, JAMES 404-475-4332 80 Canton St., Alpharetta, GA 30201
 RAKES, J. R. 703-694-3918 P. O. Box 3, Patrick Springs, VA 24133
 TURNER, R. W. 703-647-7039 232 E. View Dr., Collinsville, VA 24078

**HOME MINISTERS
 ELDERS**

ASHBY, JOHN J. 703-632-2704 Rt. 5, Martinsville, Va. 24112
 ASHBY, ROBERT C. 703-638-4529 Rt. 5, Martinsville, Va. 24112
 CORN, LEONARD J. 703-694-3810 P.O. Box 100, Patrick Springs, Va. 24133
 RADFORD, THOMAS L. 703-673-1018 Rt. 1, Box 685, Bassett, Va. 24055

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Balance from 1983 | \$ 26.26 |
| Contributions from Churches | 951.00 |
| Contributions from Visiting Brother | 100.00 |
| Contributions from Friends | 204.00 |
| TOTAL | \$1,281.26 |

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Disbursements: | |
| Printing of Minutes | \$ 208.20 |
| Visiting Ministers | 790.00 |
| Home Ministers | 150.00 |
| Record Book | 10.66 |
| Mailing supplies, postage, etc. (Approximately) | 25.00 |
| TOTAL | \$1,183.86 |

Ending Balance 597.40

CORRESPONDING LETTER

The Original Mayo Primitive Baptist Association of Virginia, meeting in our one hundred eighty-sixth year with Martinsville Church, 1223 Chatham Heights.

To our corresponding and visiting associations and churches of our faith and order.

Brothers and Sisters in the Lord, we are so thankful that our God has granted us another Association. We are also thankful that you, our visitors, have humbled yourselves and come to be with us in 1984. You will never know how much you mean to us. Often our eyes are dimmed with tears when we see you coming in and also when you go away. If only you knew how much we need you. Your wonderful preaching has lifted us oh so high that we could say with David when he said, "Let us go up to the house of the Lord."

Will you please visit us again at our Association in 1985 and also at any other time you can.

May the Lord of all grace be with you and yours until we meet again.

Written in Love
N. L. Wilson

OBITUARIES

Sister Anna Belle Pruitt Martin, 86, of Route 2, Ruffin, NC died in March, 1984. Born in Rockingham County, she was a member of Martinsville, Primitive Baptist Church. She is survived by two sons, Jack Martin, Sparta, NC and Charles Martin, Henderson, NC; two sisters, Nettie P. Richmond, Ruffin, NC and Mary P. Motsinger, Martinsville, VA; and one brother, C. A. Pruitt, Ruffin NC. Seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren also survive. A funeral was conducted at Joyce Chapel, Stoneville, NC.

Elijah Corn, 83, of 688 Ferry Road died Friday, August 5, 1983 in Danville Memorial Hospital. Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Elva Virginia Lawrence Corn, of the home; two sons, Elder L. J. Corn of Patrick Springs and Elijah Lawrence Corn of Danville; two daughters, Mrs. Doris Joyce of High Point, NC and Mrs. Jane Ferris of Danville; one brother, Limuel Corn of High Point; one sister, Mrs. Lula Fulp of Walnut Cove; 11 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren. The funeral was held on Sunday, August 7, 1983 at Old Pleasant Grove Primitive Baptist Church in Patrick County. Elders Milton Gunter and Thomas Radford officiated. Burial was in the church cementary.

John E. Spencer, 88 of 119 Maple Street, Martinsville, died Saturday, August 27, 1983. He is survived by his wife, Sister Vera Ashby Spencer; two sons, William C. (Bill) Spencer and Charles Wayne Spencer; four step sons, Cecil W. Ashby, Buford R. Ashby, Bobby Gene Ashby, and Charles E. Ashby; two step daughters, Mrs. Lois Johnson and Mrs. Betty Draper; one brother, Claude J. Spencer; two grand children, 22 step grandchildren, and 10 step great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted at Martinsville Primitive Baptist Church on Tuesday, August 30, 1983 by Elder Leonard Corn and Elder Bennie Clifton. Interment was in the Spencer-Shough Family Cemetery.

MINISTERS
 Elders
 M. J. Wilson

OBITUARIES
 CORN, LEONARD
 ...

Sister Vera Ashby Spencer, 88 of 119 Maple Street, Martinsville, died Saturday, August 27, 1983. She is survived by her husband, John E. Spencer; two sons, William C. (Bill) Spencer and Charles Wayne Spencer; four step sons, Cecil W. Ashby, Buford R. Ashby, Bobby Gene Ashby, and Charles E. Ashby; two step daughters, Mrs. Lois Johnson and Mrs. Betty Draper; one brother, Claude J. Spencer; two grand children, 22 step grandchildren, and 10 step great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted at Martinsville Primitive Baptist Church on Tuesday, August 30, 1983 by Elder Leonard Corn and Elder Bennie Clifton. Interment was in the Spencer-Shough Family Cemetery.

DEATHS

John E. Spencer, 88 of 119 Maple Street, Martinsville, died Saturday, August 27, 1983. He is survived by his wife, Sister Vera Ashby Spencer; two sons, William C. (Bill) Spencer and Charles Wayne Spencer; four step sons, Cecil W. Ashby, Buford R. Ashby, Bobby Gene Ashby, and Charles E. Ashby; two step daughters, Mrs. Lois Johnson and Mrs. Betty Draper; one brother, Claude J. Spencer; two grand children, 22 step grandchildren, and 10 step great-grandchildren. Funeral services were conducted at Martinsville Primitive Baptist Church on Tuesday, August 30, 1983 by Elder Leonard Corn and Elder Bennie Clifton. Interment was in the Spencer-Shough Family Cemetery.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

The following Articles of Faith were read and adopted without a dissenting voice:

1. We believe in only one true and living God, who rules all things after the counsel of His own will; and that He who created all things is infinite in power, wisdom, knowledge, goodness; eternal, immortal, invisible and unchangeable; and this God has revealed Himself in His word, under the character of Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and that these three are one; and there are three that bear witness in earth: The water, the Spirit and the blood, and these agree in one.
2. We believe that the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament as contained in the King James Version are the written word of God and are a sufficient rule of faith and practice and that they are given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect throughly furnished unto all good works.
3. We believe that Adam fell from the good and moral state in which he was made, and that he involved himself and all his natural offsprings in a state of death, by transgression which is the original sin, and that it is utterly out of the power of man to recover himself from this fallen state by his own free will and ability.
4. We believe in the everlasting love of God to His people, which was chosen in Christ, before the foundation of the world, whom He predestinated to the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself and that Christ died and made a complete atonement for all which were given to Him by the Father, and that the choice or election was particular and eternal, unconditional on the part or will of man.
5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only and by the imputed righteousness of Christ.
6. We believe that God's elect will be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit.
7. We believe the saints shall be preserved in grace and never finally fall away.
8. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects of these ordinances, and that baptism is by immersion.
9. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, a general judgement, and that punishment of the wicked will be eternal, and the joys of the righteous everlasting.
10. We believe that no minister has the right to administer the ordinances only such as are regularly called and have come under the imposition of the hands of the presbytery.
11. We believe in predestination, as taught in the Scriptures and preached by the Apostle Paul and condemn the doctrine of the absolute predestination of all things.

CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our district duly sent in their associated capacity whom they judge best qualified; and by producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointments, shall be entitled to seats. In letters from the different churches shall be expressed their number in fellowship, those received by experience and by letters and restored; those dismissed by letters, excluded and dead since the last report.

2. The number thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage.

3. The Association when convened shall be governed by a proper and regular Decorum.

4. The Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen at each session of the Association by the suffrage of the members present. Moderator can only succeed himself one time.

5. New churches may be admitted into the union upon examination, if found orthodox, and orderly by the Moderator, giving the members the right hand of fellowship.

6. Every church in the union shall be entitled to representation in the association not exceeding three.

7. Queries presented by a church or the Committee of Arrangements may be disposed of as the Association may think proper.

8. That the Association have a fund for defraying the expenses thereof and that the churches shall send by their messengers such sums of money as they may think proper for this purpose, which when received and paid out under the direction of the Association.

9. The Minutes shall be read and corrected if necessary and approved by the Association and signed by the Moderator and Clerk dismission and recorded by the Clerk in a suitable book for that purpose.

10. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

11. The Association shall have power:

1. To provide for the general union of the churches.

2. To preserve inviolate a chain of communion among the churches.

3. To give the churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty.

4. To inquire the cause why such churches as fail to represent themselves in the Association.

5. To appoint any member or members by his or their consent to transact any business which may be assigned to them.

6. To withdraw from any church violating the rules of the Association or from the orthodox principles of religion.

7. To admit any of the distant brethren in the ministry to seats if they think proper.

8. To appoint the time and place for the next Association, and adjourn.

9. There shall be a Committee on Arrangements consisting of the Moderator and Clerk and three other members chosen as the Association may deem best.

STATISTICAL TABLE

| CHURCHES AND PASTORS | CLERKS AND ADDRESSES | MESSENGERS | Annual or Communion | Sunday of Meeting | Received by Baptism | Received by Letter | Restored to Fellowship | Dismissed by Letter | Excluded | Deceased | Total Membership | Contributions |
|---------------------------------|---|---|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|------------------|---------------|
| Leatherwood Elder John Ashby | Sis. Peggy Barnes Route 5 Martinsville, Va. | Elder John Ashby, Elder Robert Ashby, Bro. Landon Keatts, Sis. Sis. Linda Secrest, Alt. | 10 | 1/4 | | | | 3 | 1 | 1 | 14 | \$250.00 |
| Martinsville Elder L.J. Corn | Bro. Jake Divers Route 5 Bassett, Va. | Deacon N.L. Wilson, Bro. W.D. Ingram, Deacon Weldon Wood, Elder L.J. Corn, Elder T.L. Radford, Alt. | 6 | 2/4 | | | | | | | 27 | \$401.00 |
| Sugartree Elder Robert Ashby | Sis. Mary Lou Keatts Route 1 Axton, VA. | Bro. Fred Keatts, Bro. H.C. Brumfield, Sis. Mary Lou Keatts, Sis. Linda Turner, Alt. | 7 | 3/2 | | | 2 | | 2 | 1 | 15 | \$250.00 |
| Zion Hill Elder Robert Ashby | Sis. Betty Ruth Goard | Elder Robert Ashby, Bro. Eugene Newman Sis. Betty Ruth Goard Sis. Velva C. Clifton, Alt. | 9 | 4 | | | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 5 | \$50.00 |
| Totals | | | | | | | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 61 | \$951.00 |

