

Minutes

**OF THE
ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-THIRD
ANNUAL SESSION
of the
ORIGINAL MAYO
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Held With
Leatherwood Church
Henry County - Martinsville, Virginia
May 15, 16, 17, 1981**

Next Session convenes with Zion Hill Church, located 1 mile off Rt. 58 at Vesta, Virginia on Rt. 636 on Friday before the third Sunday in May, 1982.

OFFICERS

ELDER JOHN ASHBY	Moderator Rt. 5, Martinsville, Va.
ELDER ROBERT ASHBY	Assistant Moderator Rt. 5, Martinsville, Va.
BRO. WELDON WOOD	Clerk Rt. 1, Axton, Va.
ELDER THOMAS RADFORD	Assistant Moderator Bassett, Va.

Copenhaver Printing Co., Martinsville, Va.



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE ORIGINAL MAYO PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
HELD WITH LEATHERWOOD CHURCH, MARTINSVILLE,
HENRY COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

MAY 15, 16, 17, 1981

FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1981

1. The Association met with Leatherwood Church Friday, May 15th, 1981 at 11:00 a.m. After prayer was offered by Elder Charles Sandage, then sang more songs and called on Bro. Ray Wagner also to pray the opening prayer.

2. Introductory Sermon by Elder Thomas Radford, text Ecc. Chapter 11, sang and gave the invitation for reception of members and was dismissed with prayer by Elder James Pruitt, recessed approximately one hour for lunch.

Friday afternoon when singing began the congregation assembled back in the church. The moderator called the body to order and Elder Clyde Meek 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 Bro. Fred Keatts and Bro. Weldon Wood.

4. Motion was made and seconded the respective messengers be seated to represent their respective churches in any business that is brought before the body and so ordered.

5. Motion was made and seconded to elect Elder John Ashby as Moderator, Elder Robert Ashby, Assistant, also motion was made and seconded to retain the present clerk Bro. Weldon Wood and to elect Elder Thomas Radford, Assistant Clerk.

6. Called for petitionary letters (none offered).

7. Called for correspondence from sister associations. Welcomed and seated Elder James Pruitt, Bro. Ray Wagner, Elder W. S. Kelley and wife and Bro. Jerry Kelley From Little River of Georgia

7a. Visiting churches and associations:
South Ark., Elder Charles Sandage
Towaliga Association, Elder Clyde Meek

8. Read and approved corresponding letter and order it to be printed in our minutes, also appointed Bro. Frank Keatts to write the corresponding letter for 1982.

To our corresponding and visiting association churches:

Brethren and Sisters in the Lord, it is with heart felt thanks to meet with you in this capacity to worship one true and living God. If we are what we profess to be, God will humble us to conduct ourselves so that you will want to meet with us again. We trust that God will remember us in this association, and let His spirit down among each one that takes a part in this service. And when this meeting is over, we pray God's blessings will continue with us through the year, and will enable us to meet the third weekend in May at Zion Hill Primitive Baptist Church.

We would like to express our deep appreciation and thanks unto the Lord for His sweet heart felt presence all during this meeting and also for the kindness shown by friends and neighbors in the community and pray that God will bless us that we might live in such a way that the Glory of God might be manifest and that thy mantle of love might be cast over us for all our errors along the way.

A Brother in love,
Elder Robert Ashby, 1981

8. Visitors from sister churches and associations

SPOON CREEK CHURCH: Bro. Louis Sheppard, Sis. Claudia Sheppard, Sis. Elaine Goard, Sis. Madaline Shively, Sis. Carrie Jefferson, Bro. Roy Elwood Cassell, Jr., Sis. Nellie Cassell, Sis. Ernestine Maxie, Sis. Annie Sue Jefferson, Sis. Mildred Maxey, Bro. C. E. Jefferson, Bro. A. L. Westmoreland, Sis. Carrie Westmoreland, Bro. and Sis. Elijah Corn,

PUCKETT MEMORIAL CHURCH: Bro. Troy Hill, Sis. Gladys Hill, Sis. Vera Mae McGrady, Elder William M. McGrady.

MT. OLIVE CHURCH: Sis. Joyce Vass Hodges.

STAUNTON RIVER ASSOC. Elder Randall Saunders, Elder D. L. Simpson and wife

LITTLE FLOCK CHURCH: Bro. and Sis. R. Lowell Anderson.

INDIAN CREEK CHURCH: Elder Paul Williams, Elder Norvel P. Mann.

9. Moderator appointed committee on arrangements: Brethren Eugene Newman, Landon Keatts, Frank Keatts, Elder Thomas Radford to serve with Moderator and Clerk - committee appointed Elder John Ashby to preach Introductory Sermon and Elder Robert Ashby as alternate for 1982.

10. Moderator appointed Finance Committee: Brethren Fred Keatts, Weldon Wood, Noel Wilson, Elders Robert Ashby and Leonard Corn.

11. Appointed brethren to attend corresponding associations and churches: Elder Leonard J. Corn, Bro. Frank Keatts, Elder John Ashby.

12. Ordered clerk to have 500 Minutes printed and mailed or distributed.

13. The next union meeting will be Spoon Creek Church which will host the meeting on the second Saturday and Sunday in October, 1981. Also Zion Hill Church ask to entertain the next association.

14. Moved and seconded to adjourn this association until next year at Zion Hill Church. Benediction by Elder James Pruitt. Recessed for about 10 minutes and came back into the church for preaching.

ORDER OF PREACHING

Friday Morning:

Prayer by Elder Thomas Radford

Elder James Pruitt Text St. John Ch. 20

Elder Clyde Meek Text Heb. Ch.12

Bro. Fred Keatts Dismissed

Saturday Morning:

Prayer by Elder Lee Jefferson

Elder W. S. Kelley The birth of our wonderful Saviour in
lowly humility

Elder Charles Sandage Joshua Ch. 24: 15
dismissed with prayer by Elder Clyde Meek

Elder Randall Saunders was asked to offer thanks and prayer for
grace at the table for the noon meal

Saturday Afternoon:

Prayer by Elder James Pruitt

Elder Paul Williams Text from book of Heb.

Elder Norvel P. Mann Titus Ch. 2, also 2nd Peter Ch. 3: 1

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Frank Keatts

Saturday Evening:

Prayer by Bro. Jerry Kelley

Elder Clyde Meek Gen. 22

Sunday Morning:

Prayer by Elder Melvin McGrady

Elder James Pruitt Rev. 21: 9

Elder W. S. Kelley Matt. Ch. 6

Elder Charles Sandage Exodus Ch. 20

Finance Committee Reports:	
Contribution from Churches	\$1,125.00
Contributions from friends	150.00
	\$1,275.00
Disbursements:	
Printing of the Minutes	\$180.00
Postage and mailing	20.00
Visiting Ministers	935.00
Home Ministers	100.00
Clerk	25.00
	\$1,265.00
Balance in Clerk's hands	\$ 20.00

OBITUARIES

Sister Mattie Hairfield Bell born September 18, 1887, passed from this life June 7, 1980. Sister Bell moved her membership from Roanoke Church to Martinsville Church by letter in 1910, so by this record was a devoted member for over 70 years - greatly missed by the church and family.

Sister Ruby Prillaman Minter born January 23, 1897 and passed from this life June 12, 1980. A life long resident of Martinsville, Va. and a devoted member of Martinsville Primitive Baptist Church, since joining July 18, 1926. Both of the above Sisters in Christ lived a wonderful good life and their funeral was conducted by their pastor Elder Leonard J. Corn, and laid to rest awaiting the great and notable resurrection day.

Also in memory of a Brother Deacon in Spoon Creek Church, Bro. R. Cecil Plaster, born March 13, 1913. He was a faithful member at Spoon Creek Church from 2nd Sunday in April, 1961 until his passing, February 14, 1980, will be greatly missed by the church, loved ones and friends. Submitting to the will of the Lord, our loss is eternal gain for the above mentioned loved ones.

VISITING MINISTERS

Elder William M. McGrady P. O. Box 798, Hillsville, Va. 24343
Elder Clyde Meek 224 Shields Rd., Stockbridge, Ga. 30281
Elder Norvel P. Mann Rt. 1, Box 39, Lindside, W. Va. 24951
Elder Paul Williams 230 Burnett St., Richlands, Va.
Elder D. L. Simpson Gretna, Va.
Elder Randall Saunders 905 Harris St., Eden, N.C.
Elder Charles Sandage Box 104, Donaldson, Ark.
Elder W. S. Kelley Rt. 1, Box 137, Cannon, Ga. 30520
Elder Lee Jefferson Patrick Springs, Va.

Elder James Pruitt, Hopewell Rd., Alpharetta, Ga.

HOME MINISTERS

Elder Thomas Radford Bassett, Va.
Elder Leonard J. Corn Patrick Springs, Va.
Elder Robert C. Ashby Rt. 5, Martinsville, Va.
Elder John J. Ashby Rt. 5, Martinsville, Va.

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	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	Sis. Pegey Barnes Route 5 Martinsville, Va.	Elder John Ashby, Bro. Landon Keatts, Sis. Bessie Keatts, Sis. Pegey Barnes, Alt.	9	1							14	\$250.00
Martinsville	Bro. Jake Divers Route 5 Bassett, Va.	Bro. Noel Wilson, Bro. Jake Divers, Elder L. J. Corn, Sis. Vera Spencer, Alt.	6	2/ 4	1					2	30	\$220.00
Axton	Bro. Weldon Wood Route 1 Axton, Va.	Elder Robert Ashby, Sis. Josie Bullington, Bro. Weldon Wood, Bro. Jim Bray, Alt.	8	2							4	\$130.00
Sugartree	Bro. Frank Keatts Route 1 Axton, Va.	Bros. Frank and Fred Keatts, Bro. H. C. Brumfield, Bro. C. B. Keatts, Alt.	7	3							16	\$475.00
Zion Hill	Sis. Violet Newman Vesta, Va.	Bro. Eugene Newman, Elder Robert Ashby, Sis. Violet Newman, Sis. Evelena Dalton, Alt.	9	4							5	\$ 45.00
											69	\$1120.00



