

MINUTES

of the
One Hundred Fifty-Fifth Annual Session
of the
SENER DISTRICT
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Held with
BEAR CREEK CHURCH
Ashe County, North Carolina

SEPTEMBER 12, 13, and 14, 2008

The next session will convene with Senter Church on Friday, September 11, 2009 and continuing on Saturday and Sunday September 12, and 13, 2009. Senter Church is a brick building located between Jefferson, NC and Sparta, NC off Hwy. 221 on Nathan's Creek Road. It is approximately eight miles from Jefferson.

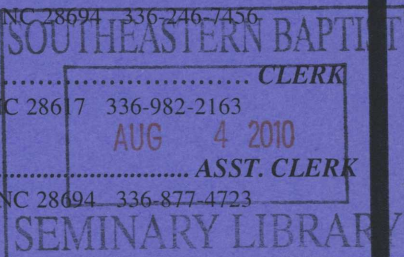
OFFICERS

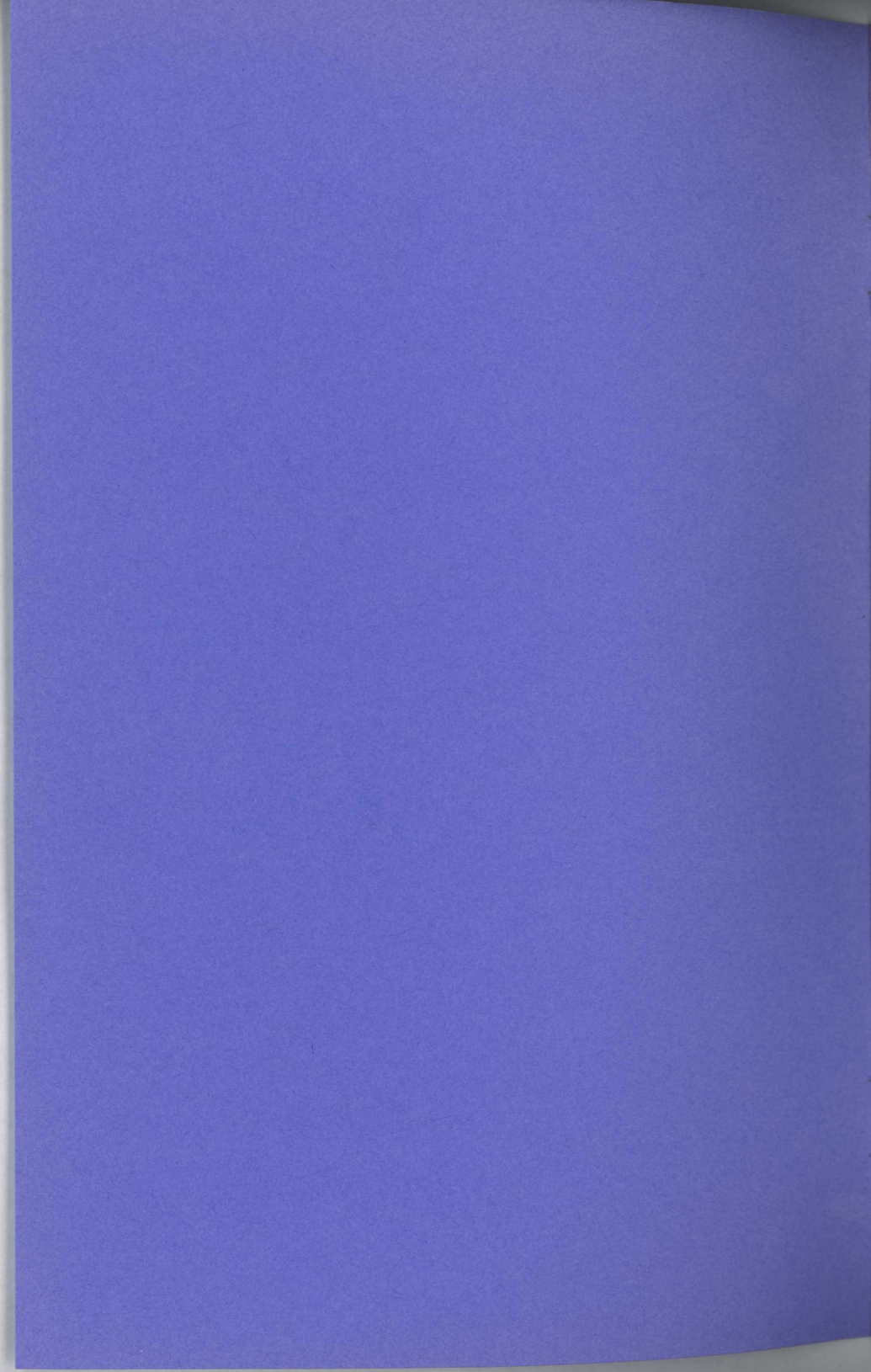
ELDER JAMES MCNEILL..... **MODERATOR**
5868 US Hwy. 221 N. Crumpler, NC 28617 336-982-3802

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 Floyd South from Roans Creek Church.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder Bobby Absher from Senter Church.

The Association was opened with prayer by Elder John Jackson .

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. None presented.
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 Bobby Davis and Sister Brenda Davis

Elder Curtis and Sister Wanda Hash

Brother Carl Williams

Brother Thomas Farmer Jr.

**Reorganized Silver Creek Association
of North Carolina**

Elder John R. Jackson

Fisher River Association

Elder Avery Branch

Brother Ken Taylor

St. Clair Association

Elder Eddie Lyle

Brother Billy Joe Lyle

Little Yadkin Association

Brother Gray Baker

Original Bear Creek Association

Brother Michael Lester

Brother Jonathan Lester

Elder Wayne Gibbons

INDEPENDENT CHURCHES:

Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church, Willis, VA

Elder Paul E. Williams

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

A. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:

Brother Joel McNeill

Brother Arvil Scott

Brother Don Walters

Brother Donnie Cox

B. COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS:

Brother Vernon Roten
Brother Wayne Severt
Brother Tony Jordan
Brother Paul Miller
Brother Jim Richardson
Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk

C. COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY:

Elder Bobby Absher
Brother Wayne Severt
Brother Paul Miller
Brother Don Walters
Brother Joel McNeill
Brother Jim Richardson

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2008

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

ON MOTION:

1. The roll call was omitted.
2. The Constitution and Rules of Decorum were omitted but printed in the minutes.
3. It was brought before the Association that Article 8 in the Articles of Faith needed to be reworded to read as follows:

“We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the

just and unjust, and in a general judgment and that the joys of the righteous will be eternal and the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting.”

There was no objection from the delegates to the change but according to the Constitution , number 15, twelve months notice to the churches will be given before the change is official.

4. The next Association is to be held starting at 10:00 A.M., on Friday, before the second Sunday in September 2009 at Senter Church.
5. Night meetings will be held Friday and Saturday nights at Senter Church.
6. The clerk was appointed to oversee the printing of 250 copies of the minutes and distribution of the same.
7. Minutes are to be mailed to all visitors.
8. The clerk was appointed as treasurer to hold all funds for printing and postage of minutes.
9. The obituaries are to be printed in the minutes.
10. The finance committee report is as follows:

Year 2008, Reported from Churches

Bear Creek	\$60.00
Beaver Creek.....	\$160.00
North Fork.....	\$155.00
Riverview	\$172.00
Roans Creek	\$50.00
Senter	\$310.00
Total.....	907.00

Received from donations Friday through Sunday\$206.00
 Balance in Savings.....\$548.00

Expenditures:

To the Moderator\$0.00
 To the Assistant Moderator0.00
 To the Clerk\$120.00
 To the Assistant Clerk\$0.00
 Paid to Visiting Elders\$633.00
 Designated for printing and postage of minutes.....\$480.00

10. Reading of minutes was omitted.

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

11. That the association adjourn through prayer by Elder Avery Branch.

VISITING ELDERS

Elder Curtis Hash

2495 Powerhouse Road, Independence, VA. 24348

Elder John Jackson

103 Tom Jackson Road, Boone, NC 28607

Elder Paul Williams

230 Burnette Street, Richlands, Virginia 24641

Elder Eddie G. Lyle

1521 Elliott Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694

Elder Wayne Gibbons

PO Box 15, Wallburg, NC 27373

Elder Avery Branch

202 Poplar Springs Road, Elkin, NC 28621

ORDER OF PREACHING

Friday Morning:

- Elder John Jackson (introduced with prayer)
- Elder Bobby Absher (introductory sermon)
- Elder Paul Williams (opened business with prayer)

Friday Afternoon:

- Elder Floyd South (introduced with prayer)
- Elder Curtis Hash (afternoon sermon)
- Elder James McNeill (closed with prayer)

Friday Night:

- Elder Curtis Hash (introduced with prayer)
- Elder Paul Williams (sermon)
- Brother Paul Miller (closed with prayer)

Saturday Morning:

- Elder Larry Davis (introduced with prayer)
- Elder John Jackson (sermon)
- Elder Paul Williams (sermon)
- Elder Bobby Absher (closed with prayer)

Saturday Afternoon:

- Elder John Jackson (introduced with prayer)
- Elder Wayne Gibbons (sermon)
- Elder Avery Branch (sermon)
- Elder James McNeill (closed with prayer)

Saturday Night:

- Elder James McNeill (introduced with prayer)
- Elder Eddie Lyle (sermon)
- Elder James McNeill (closed with prayer)

Sunday Morning:

- Elder Bobby Absher (introduced with prayer)
- Elder Bobby Absher (sermon)
- Elder James McNeill (sermon)
- Elder 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 12-17, 2009.

ORDAINED ELDERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Elder Bobby Absher | 183 Old Ridge Road
Crumpler, NC 28617
336-982-2163 |
| Elder Larry Davis | 244 W.A. Reed Rd.
Laurel Springs, NC 28644 |
| Elder James McNeill | 5862 US 221 North
Crumpler, NC 28617
336-982-3802 |
| Elder Floyd South | 278 South Avenue
West Jefferson, NC 28694
336-246-7456 |

CHURCHES AND PASTORS

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| Bear Creek | Elder James McNeill |
| Beaver Creek | Elders James McNeill and
Larry Davis |
| North Fork | Elders Bobby Absher and
John Jackson |
| Riverview | Elder James McNeill |
| Roans Creek | Elder Floyd South |
| Senter | Elder Bobby Absher |

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

Beaver Creek: Don Walters 775 Boggs Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694	15
Bear Creek: Margaret Jarvis 315 Jarvis Road, Ennice, NC 28623	10
North Fork: Mary Bare 521 Oak Knob Trail, West Jefferson, NC 28694	15
Riverview: Paul Miller 1897 Conley Cheek Rd., Fleetwood, NC 28626	25
Roans Creek: Elder Floyd South 278 South Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694	15
Senter: Vernon Roten 184 Big Flatts Mortz Road, Fleetwood, NC 28626	35

**DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES
TO SISTER ASSOCIATIONS**

The American Baptist Historical Society 3001 Mercer University Dr., Atlanta, GA 30341-4155	2
Bear Creek: Tim Herrin 3219 Baucom Manor Rd., Monroe, NC 28110	20
The Christian Baptist Library PO Box 68, Atwood, TN 38220	2
Ebenezer: Wayne F. Baldwin P.O. Box 572, Culpeper, Virginia 22701	20
Mountain: Roy Truitt 102 Gentry Street, Galax, VA 2433-6	20
Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Association: Randolph Miller Rt.1 Box 58, Union, West Virginia 24983	20
New Liberty Primitive Baptist Association: Ronald Sargent 2302 Jefferson Ave., Point Pleasant, WV 25550 304-675-1482	20

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: Revonda Swanson	20
2132 Blue Ridge Circle, Lenoir, NC 28645	
St. Clair's Bottom Association: Blaine Owens	20
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:

Bear Creek:	1st Sunday in May
Beaver Creek:	4th Sunday in May
Senter:	2nd Sunday in June
Riverview:	3rd Sunday in June
North Fork:	1st 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 reprovved 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

Bear Creek—First Sunday 2:00 PM, The church is a white building located off Highway 16 in Glendale Springs. Turn on Trading Post Road for 0.1 mile. The church is behind the restaurant.

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—Meeting are on the First and Third Sundays at 2:00 PM

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—Meeting the First and Fourth Sundays, 10:30 AM

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); Second Sunday Afternoon at 1:30 PM. Senter Church is a brick building located between Jefferson, NC and Sparta, NC off highway 221 on Nathan's Creek Road. It is approximately eight miles from Jefferson.

5. We believe that sinners are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

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7. We believe that sinners are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

8. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general resurrection. It is appointed unto man once to die, but after that the reward of labor shall be given, as also it is appointed unto man once to die, but after that the reward of labor shall be given.

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

Bear Creek--First Sunday 7:00 PM, The church is a white building located off Highway 16 in Glendale Springs. Turn on Trading Post Road for 0.1 mile. The church is behind the restaurant.

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.

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