

Minutes

— of the —

Virginia Corresponding

Meeting

— held with —

NEW VALLEY CHURCH

Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday,

October 14, 15, and 16,

1953

Next session is to be held with Frying Pan Church.

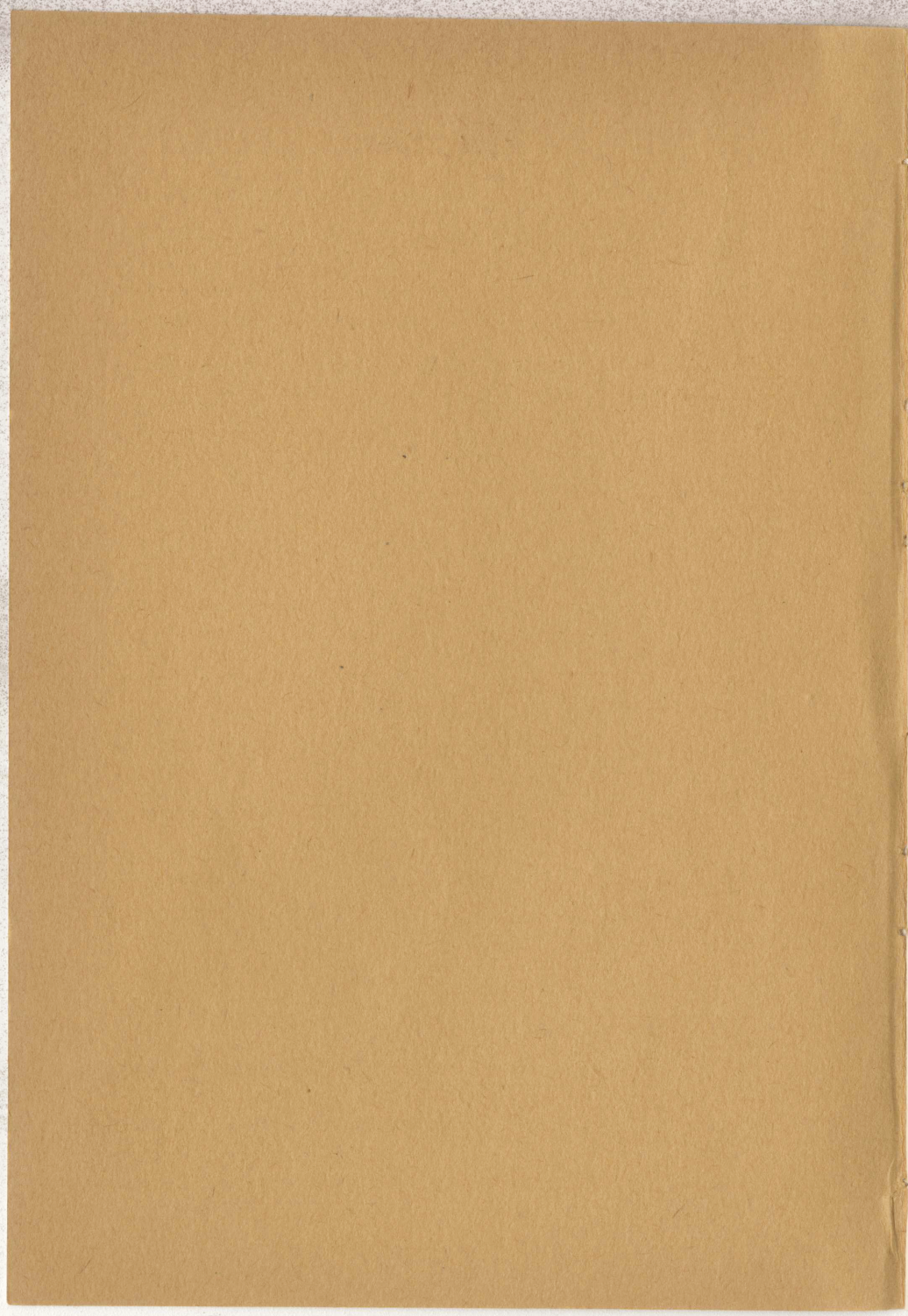
— OFFICERS —

ELDER JOHN D. WOOD - Moderator, Manassas, Virginia.

ARTHUR CARTER - Clerk 405 N. Main St. Manassas, Va.

G. C. SPINDLE - Assistant Clerk, Washington, D. C.
914 9th Street, N. E.,

THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST PUBLISHING HOUSE & LIBRARY
ELON COLLEGE, NORTH CAROLINA



Minutes

Wednesday, October 14, 1953.

(Note: All hymn numbers are from hymn and tune book.)

The Association convened at 11 o'clock a. m. Opened meeting by singing hymns 489, 68. Prayer by Elder H. M. Bennett.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder Arnold H. Bellows, from 2 Kings 4:1-7. Sang hymn 126.

The Association was organized for business by choosing Elder John D. Wood, Moderator, Arthur L. Carter, Clerk, and G. C. Spindle, Assistant Clerk.

Letters from the several churches read, and the Table was prepared from their contents. (See Statistical Table).

A resolution regarding the seating of correspondents and visitors read and adopted to become a part of our Minutes.

Appointed Brothers Hollingsworth, Spindle, and Norman a Committee to arrange the order of preaching.

Appointed Brothers Hylton and Duke a Committee to distribute Minutes of corresponding Associations.

Appointed Brothers Robey, Dade and Carter a Committee to handle the finances of the Association.

Adjourned the business of the Association until 10:30 a. m., Thursday. Continued the services as follows: Sang hymn 236. Benediction by Elder Bellows.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

After singing hymns 307 and 264, we had preaching by Elders Davis, Rife, Washington, no particular text; Elder T. R. Jefferson from Marysville, California, no particular text; Licentiate Arthur Warren, Salisbury, Maryland, no particular text; Elder J. O. Conner, Pilot, Virginia from John 3:1-8. Sang hymn 409. Benediction by Elder T. R. Jefferson.

THURSDAY, October 15, 1953.

The Association convened according to adjournment. Opened with singing hymns 596, 224. Prayer by Elder W. J. Berry.

We then received correspondence and seated Associations as follows:

Delaware River: Sister Annie Vaughn, Elders H. M. Bennett, Arnold Bellows and A. J. Slauson, Brother Warren, Sister Mildred Adkins.

Delaware: Sister Ruth Lucht, Brother Henry Townsend, Sr., Sister Boyer, Brother Warren, Elder Arnold Bellows, Deacons Handy Truitt, Quincy Gladding, Sisters Gladding and Truitt.

Salisbury: Deacon Handy Truitt, Brother Warren, Sisters Maude Truitt, Maude Laws, Mildred Adkins, Ethel Holloway, Betty Adkins, Rosa Stevens, Boyer, and Elders Bellows, Bennett, and Sister Maude Holloway.

Baltimore: No session. Deacon Gladding, Elder Bellows, Sister Gladding.

Lexington-Roxbury: Elder Bellows, Elder Slauson and Sister Bellows.

Warwick: Elder A. J. Slauson.

Maine: Sister Mabel Weeks.

Covenanted Baptist Church of Canada: Elder W. J. Berry and Sister Berry.

Associations and churches not in direct correspondence seated at this Association as follows:

Indian Creek Church (in order): W. C. Hollingsworth, Guy B. Phillips, Sisters Hollingsworth and Cox.

Smith River: Elders S. L. Moran, Odell Thompson, Deacons M. A. Thomas, C. T. Conner, Sister Thompson.

Laurel Creek Church: Brother P. S. Vest.

Upper County Line: Elder and Sister Berry, Sister Pennington, and Brother and Sister Carroll.

Gooch Memorial Church: Sister Laura Gooch.

Black Creek: Sister Cobb.

Sidling Hill Church: Deacon Oren Mellott, Sister Mellott.

Trough Creek Church: Brother Wright, Sisters Wright, and Yokum.

Pigg River: Elder J. O. Conner.

Bethel Church, Riffe, Washington: Elder and Sister Davis.

Hopewell Church, Sacramento, California: Elder T. R. Jefferson.

Appointed this Association to be held with the Frying Pan Church next year.

Appointed the Primitive Baptist Publishing House to print and distribute our Minutes. Ordered that Minutes be mailed to our direct correspondence.

Ordered that all our members, and members of Associations in direct correspondence named in these Minutes who are present at this meeting, and who may be present at Associations of our direct correspondence, be requested to serve as our messengers to same.

A Committee of all ministers and deacons of our correspondence in attendance was appointed to examine our corresponding Circular Letter and report their findings on day in course.

Adjourned until 10:30 a. m., Friday.

Continued services as follows: Sang hymn 229. Preaching by Elder S. L. Moran, no special text. Sang hymn 28. Benediction by Elder John D. Wood.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Sang hymn 591. Preaching by Elder Odell Thompson. Preaching by Elder A. J. Slauson, after singing hymn 173, from Eph. 2: 1-10. Sang hymn 111. Benediction by Elder Bennett.
FRIDAY, October 16, 1953.

The Association convened according to adjournment. Opened meeting with singing hymns 608, 386, 178. Prayer by Elder Odell Thompson.

The Committee appointed to distribute Minutes reported same had been taken care of.

Appointed Deacon G. C. Spindle to write Corresponding Circular Letter for next session.

Appointed Elder John D. Wood to prepare a Resolution of Respect to Elder Landon Harris from this Association to become a part of our Minutes. Same to be mailed to Sister Harris, Old Faith Contender, and Signs of the Times.

Appointed Deacon Arthur L. Carter to serve a two-year term on the Old School Baptist Home Fund.

Adopted report of Committee's recommendation of acceptance of Corresponding Circular Letter as read, and same to be made a part of our Minutes. Minutes of this session read and adopted as read. Moved and carried to adjourn session until another year. Continued services as follows: Sang hymn 169. Preaching by Elder H. M. Bennett from Deut. 18: 13. Preaching by Elder W. J. Berry. Closing remarks from several Elders and deacons.

The following contributions were received for printing Minutes of this meeting: \$10.00 each from Mt. Zion, Frying Pan, and New Valley. For expenses of visiting ministers: \$25.00 each from Mt. Zion, Frying Pan, and New Valley Churches.

Since conditions were such among the brethren that we were unable to receive and seat some of our former correspondents and visitors at our last session; and since conditions remain the same this year, we feel it right that we make the following statement:

It is recognized that there is confusion and disorder in the Salem Association of North Carolina, and since some of our former correspondents and visitors have taken sides in their division, which has caused greater confusion; and we deem it good order not to promote either side, but leave it for them to settle themselves, therefore we went on record at our last session as follows:

“That this Association seat all correspondents and visiting brethren who have not directly affiliated with, or have taken sides in the Salem disorder.”

It is the mind of this Association to reiterate our stand, and we therefore, seat all correspondents and visiting brethren who are not affiliating with the disorder either directly or indirectly. This includes any who may have formerly been involved, but who have now declared against any affiliation.

**RESOLUTION OF RESPECT FOR
ELDER LANDON A. HARRIS**

WHEREAS, it was pleasing to our gracious Father to remove from the scenes of this life, since our last session, our highly esteemed and greatly beloved brother and faithful laborer in the vineyard, Elder Landon A. Harris, and

WHEREAS, Brother Harris came among us for many years laden with the gospel of peace, preaching to our comfort and edification, and to the praise and honor of our God, and

WHEREAS, his genteel and kindly manner endeared him to all who knew him, and he was always welcomed into our homes and the churches of this Association, and,

WHEREAS, Brother Harris' godly walk and conversation, and his earnest contending for the faith once delivered to the saints, is greatly missed by us since his passing; and since we shall no longer have the benefit of his presence amongst us,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that we bow in humble submission to our Father's will, and give Him thanks for such a gift unto His church; and for the gentlemanly qualities with which our brother was endowed, and which he exercised in his dealings with all men; and be it further

RESOLVED, that we express our deepest and heartfelt sympathy to Sister Harris and family, and to our brethren whom Brother Harris served at pastor; and that this Resolution be spread on our Minutes, and a copy sent to Sister Harris and that it be published in the Signs of the Times and the Old Faith Contender.

Done by the order of the Virginia Corresponding Meeting while in session with the New Valley Church Loudon County, Virginia, October 16, 1953

ELDER JOHN D. WOOD, Moderator,
ARTHUR L. CARTER, Clerk,
GROVER C. SPINDLE, Ass't. Clerk.

CORRESPONDING CIRULAR LETTER

The Virginia Corresponding Meeting in session with the New Valley Church on October 14, 15, and 16, 1953, sends Christian greetings to Associations and churches with whom we correspond, and to all of our faith and order.

Dear kindred in Christ:—We indeed feel our unworthiness and inability to address you in this, our Corresponding Circular Letter, yet do we realize if it be the Lord's will that He is able to cause even those things which are counted as nothing to praise His holy name. Oftimes in our feelings we lose sight of the goodness and mercy of our God, and given to trust in the things that seem right to us, but thanks be to Him we are brought to the bar of justice and given to know that the end of these things is death. And out of these crosses come that deep searching of heart and mind as concerning our case. What evidences do we have that it was us for whom the Savior died? Indeed we would all like to know the answer to this question, but so ordained that His His people in this life should live by hope, and hope that is seen, is not hope.

But dear brethren, a good hope is as sure as the earth is below our feet, for it so pleased the Father to give us a witness to our hope as found in the Holy Scriptures. Do we not find when led by the Holy Spirit to read and understand the scriptures that within our hearts there is an Amen and Amen, and as the importance of reading and searching the scriptures seems to be bearing on our mind, we would like to call attention to the scripture speaking of the brethren of Berea, found in Acts 17:11. "These were more noble than those in Thessalonica in that they received the Word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily, whether those things were so."

We would in deed entreat our brethren everywhere in this day to search the scriptures for guidance in the way of all truth, and receive not those things which do not have a "thus saith the Lord." For a great confusion is upon the face of the earth even to the scattering of the Lord's people. For they have hewed them out cisterns and turned away from the well

of living water. But God says in His holy Word that He is a God of peace, and not of confusion, therefore, they do testify of the things of peace. And also He says that the scriptures are of no private interpretation, but have not many in this day and days before, put private interpretation upon them to suit their own carnal purposes, thereby leading many into the way of strife, confusion and even bitterness? These things ought not to be, brethren, for if not deceived, we are all called with the same holy calling.

But thanks be unto our God who today, as was the case in Elijah's day, has not forsaken all who desire the Word in all its purity, but has raised up holy gifts who search the scriptures daily for the wonderful truths they proclaim and are not afraid to boldly and fearlessly declare them. While we realize that many times these things are not pleasing to our carnality, but if they are of the truth, then there is no lie in them at all. What the Lord has said, He has said and these things shall stand to the end of time. Therefore, these will be accounted more noble today just the same as they were in the day of the writing of the Acts.

Now dear brethren, may we be given to strive for the things of peace and unity, and to strengthen the things which remain as that day of all days draweth nigh, when He shall come as a thief in the night. To His holy name be all the praise, honor and glory, for Christ's sake. Amen.

NAMES OF MINSTERS PRESENT

Elder S. L. Moran, Pilot, Va.

Elder A. J. Slauson, Kingston, N. Y.

Elder A. H. Bellows, West Hurley, N. Y.

Elder H. M. Bennett, Mardela Springs, Md.

Elder J. O. Conner, Check, Va.

Elder B. O. Thompson, Copper Hill, Va.

Elder W. J. Berry, Elon College, N. C.

Elder D. C. Davis, Riffe, Wash.

Elder T. R. Jefferson, Marysville, Calif.

Elder John D. Wood, Manassas, Va.

Licentiate Arthur Warren, Berlin, Md.

S T A T I S T I C A L T A B L E

CHURCHES AND PASTORS	CLERKS AND ADDRESS	MESSENGERS	
Mt. Zion	Mrs. David Farnie, Leesburg, Va.	Eld. J. D. Wood, Dea. C. W. Norman, Bro. Hylton, Sisters Wood, Hylton, Norman, Friess, Austin.	Sun. of Meeting Rec'd by baptism Rec'd by Letter Restored Dis'd by Letter Excluded Deceased Membership
New Valley	Miss Martha Howser, Purcelville, Va.	Deac. C. R. Hollingsworth, L. D. Duke, Bro. Dade, Sister Ball, Chiswell, Howser, McIntosh, White, Dade, Craig, and Roddick	4 .. 1 .. 2 3 1
Frying Pan	G. C. Spindle, 914 9th St. N. E. Wash. D. C. ...	Deac. G. C. Spindle, I. T. Long, A. L. Carter, Bro. Robey, Sis. Robey, Gheen, Thomas, Fertney, Alston ...	2 .. 1 12 13 12

