

MINUTES

OF THE

NINETY-FIFTH  
ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Echeronnee Association  
of Primitive Baptists

HELD WITH

BETHLEHEM CHURCH  
MACON, GA.

SEPTEMBER 18TH, 19TH AND 20TH, 1923

OFFICERS:

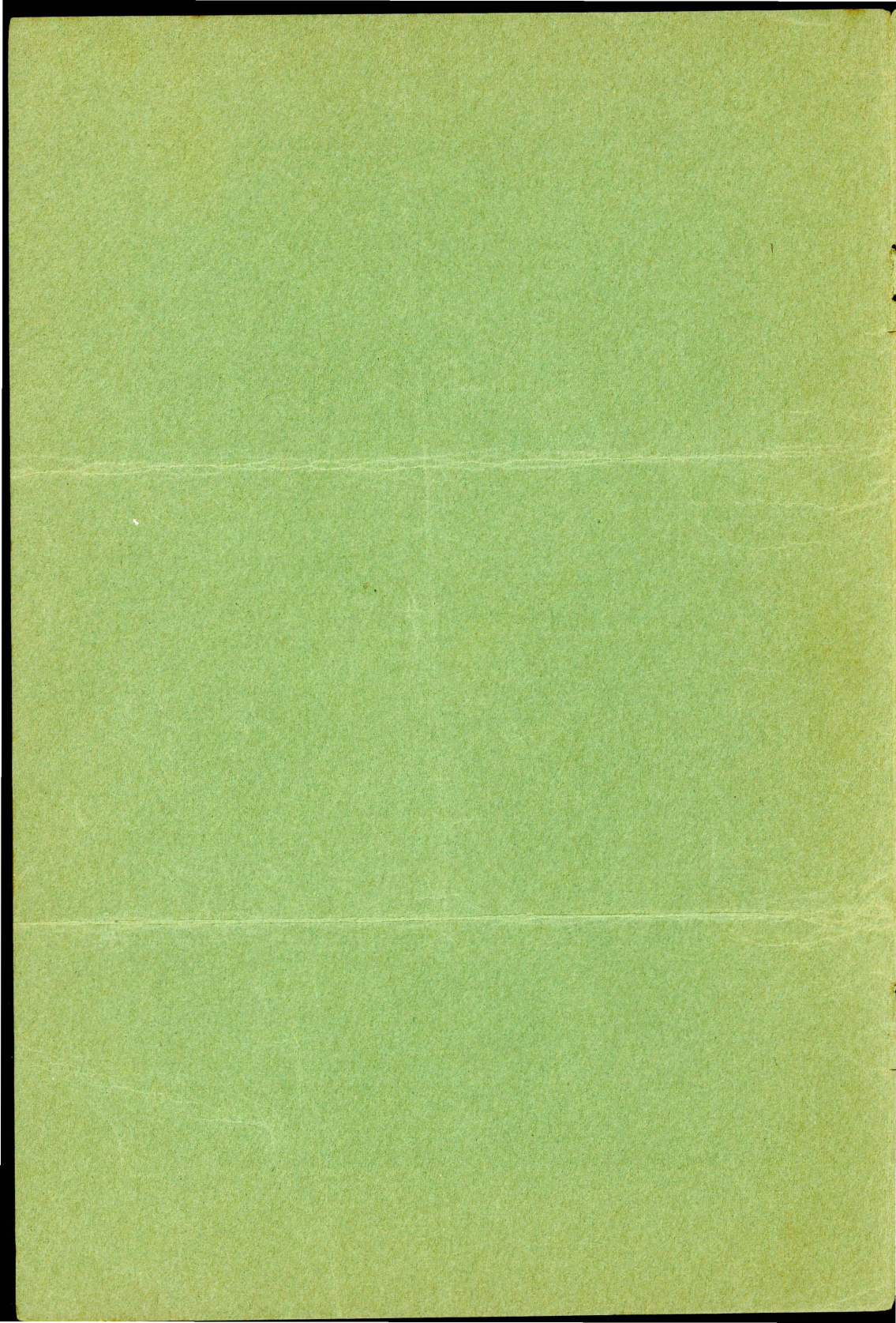
ELDER D. Y. HICKS, Moderator ..... Roberta, Ga.  
J. S. McGEE, Clerk ..... Roberta, Ga.

B. E. WILSON, PRINTER

PRIMITIVE BAPTIST  
COLLECTION

Southern Baptist Historical  
Library & Archives







# MINUTES

---

## BETHLEHEM CHURCH MACON, GA.

---

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th, 1923

1st. Singing by the Congregation and prayer by Elder J. A. Monsees.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Elder B. F. House, of Opelika, Ala. Text: 1st Tim., 1st chapter, 15th verse.

2nd. Moderator called for letters from the churches of the Association, which were read by Elders J. A. Monsees, C. W. Miller and A. A. Garrett and the names of the Messengers were enrolled.

3rd. The Association was perfected by the election of Elder D. Y. Hicks, Moderator, and J. S. McGee, Clerk.

4th. The usual committees were appointed as follows:

On Preaching: Brethren John Tabor, F. W. Williams, A. S. Kersey, T. M. Nash and J. W. McGee.

To write Corresponding Letter: Elder J. A. Monsees.

On Finance and Distribution of Corresponding Minutes: Brethren T. A. Kendrick, R. E. Right and D. C. Wallace.

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons: W. R. Jones, D. F. Wells and Elder W. J. Heard.

5th. Invited visiting brethren and sisters to seats with us.

6th. After prayer by Elder J. M. Murray the Association adjourned to meet at 9:30 o'clock Wednesday morning.

---

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19th, 1923

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and was led in prayer by Elder D. Y. Hicks.

1st. Called for correspondence from sister associations and received the following:

Upatoie—Eld. J. M. Murray, F. R. Purvis and G. L. Dwight.

Harmony—L. G. Gardner, E. Phillipps, Eld. A. A. Garrett and C. D. Athan.

Marietta Old School—Elder Z. C. Hull.

Primitive Ebenezer—Elders W. W. Howell, J. A. Taylor, J.

F. Lard, Brethren E. J. Davidson, W.A. Stuckey, G.C. Young  
R. M. Lard, T. J. Lard and J. W. Braswell.

Original Upper Canoochee—Elders A. J. Banks and P. H. Byrd.

Kehukee—No Tidings.

Primitive Western—Eld. F. L. Fuller and B. M. Anderson.

Lotts Creek—Eld. H. B. Wilkinson.

2nd. Called for Petitionary Correspondence from sister associations—None received.

3rd. Upon motion the regular order of business was suspended and the following visiting brethren were received: Yellow River: Eld. T. J. Head. Oconee: Eld. J. A. Adams. Ketchikan Association of Va: Eld. C. W. Miller. Mt. Enon Association of Fla: T. J. Braswell. Flint River: Eld. A. J. McLeod. Pilgrims Rest Association of Fla: Eld. J. N. Smith.

4th. Returned correspondence to sister associations as follows:

Upatoi—To convene with Bethel Church near Butler, Ga., on Tuesday after 1st Sunday in Sept., 1924, Elders D. Y. Hicks, W. O. Meeks, Brethren R. E. Wright, D. C. Wallace, C. M. Greene, A. W. Childs, I. H. Doles, J. S. McGee, J. W. Grant, J. W. Kersey and H. J. Brown.

Harmony—To convene at Hebron Church near Andersonville, Ga., on Friday and Saturday before 2nd Sunday in Oct., 1923, Elders J. T. Reynolds, D. Y. Hicks, Brethren J. W. Grant, R. E. Wright and D. C. Wallace.

Marietta Old School—To convene at New Harmony Church on Friday before 1st Sunday in Oct., 1923, Eld. W. O. Meeks.

Primitive Ebenezer—To convene with Ramah Church near Gordon, Ga., Friday before 3rd Sunday in Oct., 1923, J. W. Grant, R. E. Wright, D. C. Wallace and F. W. Williams.

Ocmulgee—To convene with Shoal Creek Church on Friday before the 2nd Sunday in Sept., 1924, Elders J. A. Monsees, W. O. Meeks, B. F. Williamson, Brethren B. M. Moore and J. W. Grant.

Original Upper Canoochee—To convene with Mt. Zion Church Friday before 1st Sunday in Oct., 1923. Send minutes to J. B. Wilson, Clerk, Summit, Ga.

Kehukee N. C.—Elder J. A. Monsees.

Primitive Western—To convene with Emmaus Church, Troop County, on Friday before 1st Sunday in Oct., 1923, Elders W. J. Heard and B. F. Williamson.

Lotts Creek—To convene with Upper Mill Creek on Friday



before 4th Sunday in Oct., 1923, Elders W. J. Heard, J. A. Monsees, W. O. Meek and T. M. Nash.

5th. Received from the churches for associational purposes \$164.20, and for minutes \$50.00.

6th. Appointed the Union Meeting to convene with Mt. Calvary Church near Moran, Ga., on Friday, Saturday and 5th Sunday in August, 1924.

7th. Appointed the next meeting of the Association to convene with Salem Church on Friday, Saturday and 3rd Sunday in Sept., 1924. 4 miles north-east of Roberta, Ga.

8th. The Clerk was ordered to have 1,000 copies of the minutes printed and distributed in the usual manner.

9th. The corresponding letter was read and adopted.

10th. Ordered by the Association that Article No. 2 in our Articles of Faith remain as heretofore.

11th. Ordered by the Association that washing of the saints feet an example of Jesus Christ and that true believers are the proper subjects. We believe immersion the only mode of Baptism be incorporated in our 9th Article of Faith.

12th. The minutes were read, approved and adopted, this September 20th, 1923.

13th. The Association by a rising vote gave thanks to brethren, sisters and friends of Bethlehem Church for the loyal and hospitable entertainment of the body, also thanks to the City of Macon for the use of the building.

ELDER D. Y HICKS, Moderator, Roberta, Ga.

J. S. McGEE, Clerk, Roberta, Ga.

---

### DECEASED DEACONS

A tribute of respect to the memory of B. F. Wilder, deacon of Elisabeth Church, and J. D. Cherry, deacon of Pleasant Hill Church.

Dear brethren and sisters in the Lord:—Since the last session of our body our God whose ways are past finding out in His according to His eternal purpose has seen fit to call these precious brethren from our midst. And while we cannot always understand the leading of His hand yet we must bow in humble submission to His will knowing that He is too good to ever be unkind and while we feel deeply the loss of these noble and faithful men of God and do feel to mingle our tears with those of their families in this their great sorrow, still we feel to say to them that your and our loss is their eternal gain.

D. F. Wells, W. R. Jones and W. J. Heard, Committee.



## CORRESPONDING LETTER

The Echeconnee Primitive Baptist Association now in session with the Church at Bethlehem (Macon, Ga.) desires to express her thanks and gratitude to Almighty God for the melting story of the cross her corresponding messengers have brought, comforting our poor drooping spirits and feeding our poor hungry souls.

It is the sense of this body to lovingly and with open arms receive all her orderly and peace loving correspondents, but our body does not and cannot scripturally stand as a court of enquiry or judicature to settle mooted questions of doctrine or perplexing disciplinary questions—this being the exclusive function of the churches to which the law was delivered by our Supreme Head and Lawgiver. Our churches report peace and harmony among them, which has gladdened our weary hearts, and, if this peace is to be maintained unimpaired, we must not import the troubles of others into our body, or meddle with the matters which does not concern us.

The purpose for which this august body was organized was to meet annually to engage in the solemn and delightful service of God, and should we so far forget this solemn purpose of our sainted forefathers as to engage in the disputes about questions of discipline it would be far better to adjourn never to meet again.

Happily your messengers have brought to us no new or strange doctrine, but the glorious theme of salvation through a humble, crucified, risen and glorified Redeemer was the burden of their glorious messages, and may it ever be thus.

The next session of this body will be held, the Lord willing, with the Church at Salem, four miles east of Roberta, Ga., on the Southern Railroad, beginning on Friday before the 3rd. Sunday in September, 1924, and continueing through Saturday and Sunday following, when and where we hope to meet your messengers and correspondents again. Until then farewell.

ELDER J. A. MONSEES.

---

## ORDER OF PREACHING

Tuesday a. m.—Introductory - - - - - Elder B. F. House

Tuesday p. m. - - T. J. Head followed by Eld. C. W. Miller

Wednesday a. m.—Eld. A. J. Banks followed by Eld. W. J. Green

Wednesday p. m.—Eld. H. B. Wilkinson followed by Eld. W. W. Howell

Thursday a. m.—Eld. P. H. Byrd followed by Eld. J. M. Murray

Closed by Eld. D. Y. Hicks.

## MINISTERS OF THE ECHECONNIE ASSOCIATION

Elder W. J. Heard, Macon, Ga., Route 3.  
Elder T. G. Wright, Macon, Ga.  
Elder T. J. Reynolds, Macon, Ga.  
Elder J. A. Monsees, Macon, Ga.  
Elder W. O. Meeks, Macon, Ga., Route 2.  
Elder B. F. Williamson, Lizella, Ga.  
Elder D. Y. Hicks, Roberta, Ga.  
Elder J. R. Hunt, Kathleen, Ga.  
Elder W. Z. Gardner, Griffin, Ga., Route B.

---

## LICENTIATE

C. M. Green, Macon, Ga., R. F. D.

---

## VISITING MINISTERS

Elder H. B. Wilkinson, Claston, Ga.  
Elder C. W. Miller, Washington, D. C.  
Elder T. J. Head, Atlanta, Ga.  
Elder A. J. Banks, Augusta, Ga.  
Elder J. M. Adams, Monroe, Ga.  
Elder J. A. Taylor, Danville, Ga.  
Elder J. M. Murray, Ellaville, Ga.  
Elder A. J. McLeod, Pelham, Ga.  
Elder P. H. Byrd, Graymont, Ga.  
Elder B. F. House, Opelika, Ala.  
Elder A. A. Garrett, Arlington, Ga.  
Elder J. F. Lard.  
Elder W. W. Howell, Danville, Ga.  
Elder J. B. Luke, Nashville, Ga.  
Elder J. M. Woodward, Hawkinsville, Ga.  
Elder R. G. Lewis, Thomasville, Ga.  
Elder F. L. Fuller, Hogansville, Ga.  
Elder W. J. Green, Bradley, Ga.  
Elder J. H. Chance, Danville, Ga.  
Elder J. N. Smith, Haines City, Fla.

---

## DECORUM

1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the churches in our union and duly sent to represent them in the Association, who shall be members whom they judge best qualified for that purpose, producing letters from their churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.



2. In the letters from the churches shall be expressed their members in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, on confession of faith, dismissed, excommunicated and died since last Association.

3. The members thus chosen and convened shall be denominated the ECHECONNEE ASSOCIATION, providing for themselves a Moderator and a Clerk, who shall serve them during the session; using the pastor of the church where they assemble or choosing one from the body as they please.

4. As one of the cardinal tenets of faith of the Primitive Baptists in that the Old and New Testaments are our only rule of faith and practice, and as the Bible recognizes no other religious disciplinary power but the Church, where God, in His wisdom, mercy, and in honor of His Son, placed it.

5. If new churches desire to be admitted into the union, they may petition by letter and delegates, and if found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association and manifested by the Moderator giving the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

6. The names of the members of the Association shall be enrolled by the Clerk, and called over as often as the Association may require.

7. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a true record of the proceedings of the Association.

8. The minutes of the Association shall be read and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association adjourns.

9. Amendments to this form of government may be made at any time by a majority of the union, when they deem it necessary.

10. To correspond with sister Associations of the same faith and order.

11. The Association shall have power to adjourn themselves to any future time or place they may think most convenient to the churches in the union.

12. It is also agreed that nothing shall be so construed in the above as to interfere with the fellowship and communion of the churches or brethren of this union, or with those with whom we may correspond, directly or indirectly; and nothing shall be presented to this body, as a query, or question bearing on the same, but shall be considered by the churches, as we believe is directed by the Holy Scriptures.

---

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1st. We believe in one true and living God, and that there are three persons in the God-head—the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.



2nd. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3rd. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election.

4th. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

5th. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature, by his own free will and ability.

6th. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

7th. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

8th. We believe that saints shall persevere in grace, and never finally fall away.

We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances and washing of the saint's feet an example of Jesus Christ and that true believers are the proper subjects. We believe immersion the only mode of Baptism.

10th. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment.

11th. We believe that the punishment of the wicked will be eternal, and the joys of the righteous will be everlasting.

12th. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as are regularly called and come under the imposition of the hands of the presbytery.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. The Introductory Sermon will be delivered.
2. Call for and read letters from the churches and enroll the names of messengers.
3. Choose a Moderator and Clerk.
4. Appoint committees as follows:—On Preaching. To write Corresponding Letter. On Contributions and to distribute Corresponding Minutes. On Deceased Ministers and Deacons.
5. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
6. Call for Correspondence from sister Associations.
7. Call for petitionary churches.

#### SECOND DAY

1. Call the Roll and read Decorum.
2. Call for further Correspondence from Sister Associations.
3. Renew the invitation to visiting brethren to seats with us.
4. Return correspondence to Sister Associations.
5. Receive contributions and distribute Corresponding Minutes
6. Appoint Union Meetings.
7. Appoint the next session of this body.
8. Agree on the number of minutes to have printed.
9. Call for Corresponding Letter.
10. Read minutes and adjourn.



## STATISTICAL TABLE

[illegible]



