

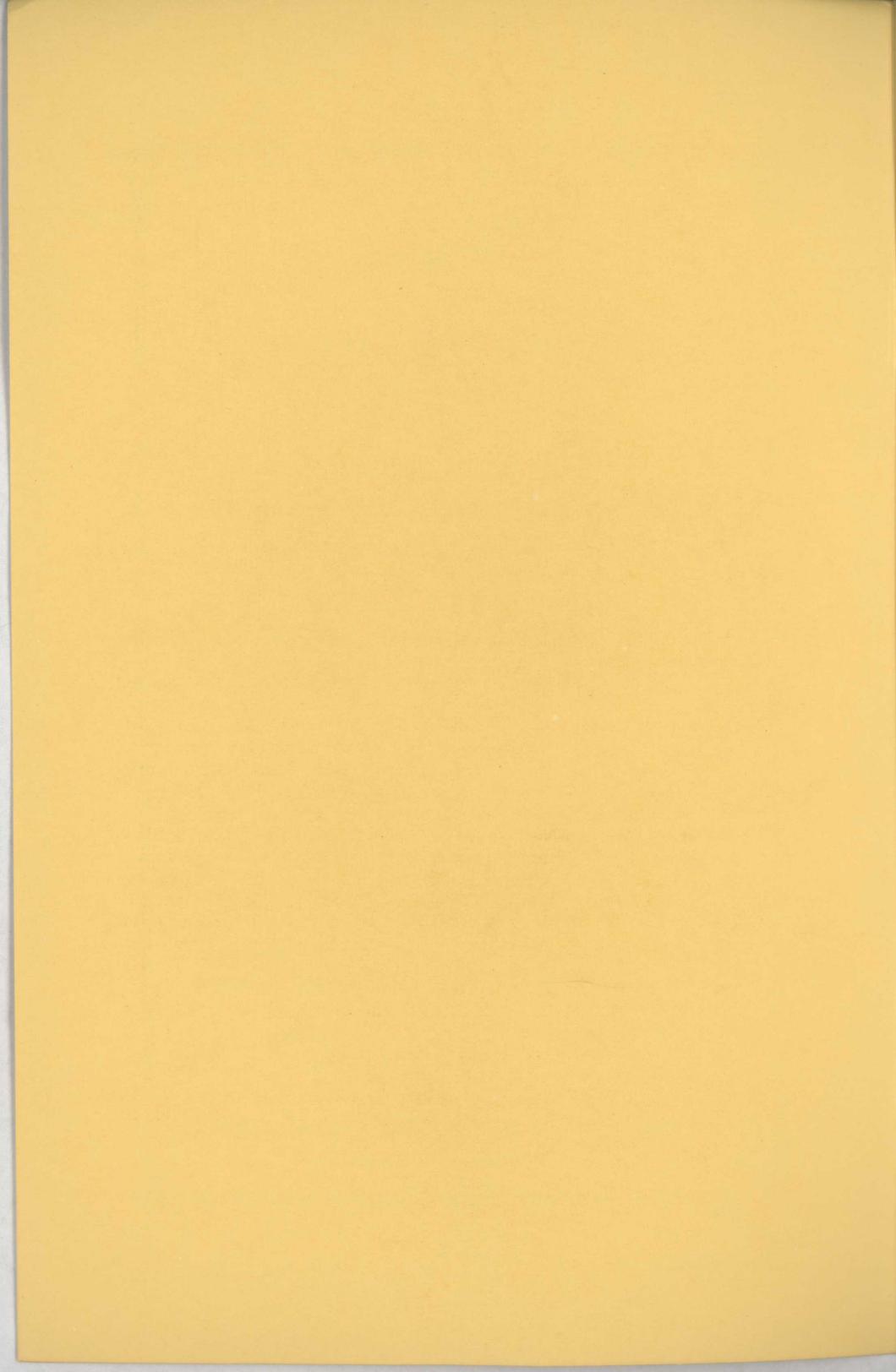
Minutes
of the
**ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY NINTH
ANNUAL SESSION**
of the
**ORIGINAL MAYO
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**
Held with
ZION HILL CHURCH
Patrick County, Vesta, Virginia
July 29, 30, 31, 1977

Next Session convenes with Sugartree Church located in Axton, Virginia near Martinsville, Virginia Friday before the ~~4th~~ Sunday in ~~July~~ 1978.

3rd *May*

ELDER JOHN ASHBY..... Moderator
ELDER LEONARD J. CORNS Assistant Moderator
WELDON WOOD Clerk
FRED KEATTS Assistant Clerk

Copenhaver Printing Co., Martinsville, Va.



PROCEEDINGS

The one hundred seventy-ninth annual session of The Original Mayo Primitive Baptist Association was held with Zion Hill Church, Patrick County, Vesta, Virginia, July 29-30-31, 1977. Services were introduced with prayer by Elder William Clifton.

1. Introductory Sermon delivered by Elder Robert Ashby - Genesis, 15th Chapter and followed by Elder L. J. Corns.

2. Intermission for an hour for lunch and fellowship.

3. The the congregation gathered back in the building and after song service, the Moderator called to order the sister churches of the Association and ask Elder L. J. Corns to offer opening prayer. The Moderator, Robert C. Ashby called for the letters of the sister churches in the Association and appointed Elder L. J. Corns and Elder John Ashby to read them.

4. Motion was made and seconded to accept them as read and to seat the delegates and be recorded in the Statistical Table.

5. A motion was made to elect Elder John Ashby as Moderator with Elder L. J. Corns as Assistant.

6. A motion was made to retain our present clerk, Brother Weldon Wood and Brother Fred Keatts, Assistant Clerk.

7. Called for Petitionary letters of any churches of same faith and order desiring to be admitted to the Association.

8. Called for correspondence from our Sister Association and received as follows:

Little River of Georgia - Elder W. S. Kelley and Sister Velma Kelley, Rt. 1, Box 137, Canon, Ga. 30520. Sister Brenda Barnett, 1051 Frazier St., Apt. N6, Roswell, Ga. 30075. Brother C. A. and Sister Euna DeLong, Rt. 2, Canton, Ga. 30114.

9. Called for visitors from visiting Associations and Churches:

Ebenezer Association-Northern Va. - Elder Dwayne Fletcher, 10133 Prince Place, #202 Upper Marlboro, Maryland 20870. Elder Raymond Pressley, P. O. Box 54, Brightwood, Virginia 22715. Brother Aubrey Utz, Rt. 5, Box 9, Madison, Va. Brother Granville Utz, Oak Park, Va. Sister Alicia F. Lewis, Rt. 1, Box 95, Winchester, Va. Sister Susan Lynn Vass, Delbarton, W. Va.

Ketocton Association - Sister Elizabeth S. Fletcher, 530 Wentworth Drive, Winchester, Va. Brother W. C. Maddox, Sr., 615 Frazier Road, Warrenton, Va. 22186. Brother Arthur and Sister Edith Odell, 3935 Fairview Drive, Fairfax, Va.

Mount Zion Association, Alabama - Elder J. L. Hopper, Rt. 1, Box 235, Eva, Ala. 35621.

Little Yadkings River Association - Elder Alvin and Sister Frances Hill, Rt. 4, Box 293B, King, N. C. Brother Samuel Hill, Rt. 4, King, N. C. Brother Walter Mabe, Rt. 3, King, N. C. 27021.

Fellowship Church - Sister Hattie Branscome, Laurel Fork, Va. Sister Kathryn H. Sutphin, Laurel Fork, Va. Brother Guy H. and Sister Vivian Cassell, Hillsville, Va. Brother Lemuel and Sister Reta Vass, Hillsville, Va. Brother Dale Cassell, Hillsville, Va.

Little Flock Church - Brother and Sister Ralph Hargrave, 21509 Robertson Ave., Petersburg, Va. Sister Myrtle Dickerson, 97 Sherwood Drive, Colonial Heights, Va., 23834.

Spoon Creek Church - Brother R. C. Plaster, 200 W. Paul St., Collinsville, Va. Sister Ethel Woodall, Stuart, Va. Elder Lee and Sister Carrie Jefferson, Patrick Springs, Va. Sister Virgie L. Souther. Brother and Sister Shepherd, King, N. C. Brother C. E. Jefferson, Patrick Springs, Va.

Puckett Memorial Church - Brother R. H. and Sister Maggie Nester, Dugspur, Va. Brother Leonard and Sister Ivie Vass, Hillsville, Va. Brother Orbey and Sister Wavy Montgomery, Rt. 2, Hillsville, Va. Brother Troy and Sister Gladys Hill, Rt. 3, Hillsville, Va. Sister Irene H. Sumner, Hillsville, Va. Elder William Melvin McGrady and Sister Vera Vera Mae McGrady.

Community Church - Sister Elizabeth Scott

Martin Church - Elder Everett Goad, Dugspur, Va. Brother Maynard and Sister Ethel Vass, Hillsville, Va. Brother Tommy Edmonds, Rt. 1, Dugspur, Va.

Cedar Grove Church - Brother Ivan and Sister Iva Corns, Mayodan, N. C. Sister Edna Corns, Mayodan, N. C.

Mount Olive Church - Elder William and Sister Ruth Clifton, Rt. 7, Box 140, Roanoke, Va. 24018.

10. The moderator appointed the following committees:

Preaching or Arrangement Committee together with Moderator and Clerk - Brethren Frank Keatts, Eugene Newman and Noel Wilson.

Finance Committee - Brethren Fred Keatts, Landon Keatts, Boyd Ashby and Elder Robert Ashby.

11. A motion was made and carried for Elder L. J. Corns to write corresponding letter.

12. A motion was made for the clerk to get together obituaries for deceased members and to have 500 minutes printed, distributed and mailed.

13. The Arrangements Committee recommends the next session of the Mayo Association be held with Sugartree Church beginning Friday at 10:30 before the 3rd Sunday, May, 1978.

A. That the Introductory Sermon be preached by Elder John Ashby with Elder L. J. Corns, Alternate.

B. Recommends Clerk have 500 minutes printed and that we print Articles of Faith, Constitution and Rules of Decorum in the minutes.

C. Recommends that the Ministers and Deacons of all the Churches meet and study the Articles of Faith and Constitutional Rules of Decorum to see if they need to be amended for the benefit of the present time.

D. Recommends that the Finance Committee set aside \$20.00 for the Moderator and Clerk.

Finance Committee Reports:

Contributions from Churches	\$322.00
Contributions from Friends	177.00
	\$499.00

Expenses:

Gave to Ministers	\$399.00
Printing Minutes	100.00
	\$499.00

14. We would like to take this means to express our sincere gratitude of thanks to God for this meeting and to the Community and many friends who helped in this wonderful meeting and want you to come and visit with us when you can.

15. A motion was made, seconded and so ordered that we adjourn this business session until May, Friday before the 3rd Sunday, 1978. Dismissed with prayer by Elder Everett Goad.

Corresponding Letter - *To our corresponding and visiting Associations and also Churches of the same faith and order who have come to meet with us in this the one hundred and seventy ninth session of the Original Mayo Association of Primitive Baptist. "Greetings", through the kindness and mercy of God, we have been blessed to meet together again in sweet peace and fellowship with our Lord, you, and one another. We are thankful to our Heavenly Father for you who have come to visit and meet with us. You can never know how much we love to see you coming and how much we need you and your fellowship. The wait for the time to greet you all again with love and Christian fellowship seems so long. We hope and pray for a continuation of your fellowship and love to us and pray you will remember us when the hills and valleys separate us. When this meeting is over, may God guide and keep us all in His love by His power. We have been so encouraged and lifted up by the able preaching by your Ministers which shall long be remembered by all of us. Will you come again to meet with us? Our next Association will meet with the Old Sugartree Church in May, 1978, Friday, Saturday, and third Sunday. Come and be with us. May God bless you. Pray for us.*

Leonard J. Corns

Union Meeting at Spoon Creek Church 5th Saturday and Sunday, April 1978.

OBITUARIES

In loving memory of our mother, Lizzie Roach, a member of Axton Primitive Baptist Church who passed away July 11, 1976 to her eternal home.

*Our hearts still fill with sadness
Our eyes shed many a tear
Only God knows how much we miss her
At the end of one year.
God gives us strength to carry
The sorrow that we bear
We find sustaining comfort knowing
Our mama is in His care.
Faithful to her church, a member for 45 years,
A precious mother, our loss is Heavens gain.*

*Sadly Missed by
Her Children*

A tribute to a Dear Friend at Axton Church, Mr. Rusell Davis. Although he never united with the church, was a devoted and faithful contributor to the church both by attendance and deeds. He expressed his love for the church many times and shortly before his passing expressed his regret in not uniting.

Mrs. Mattie Minter, born December 23, 1886, died April 11, 1977, member for 52 years, died at 81 years of age.

Ruby Minter Davis, born October 23, 1898, died May 25, 1977, member for 53 years, died at age 79 years.

Clarise M. Lawson, born November 2, 1907, died August 10, 1976, 68 years old, member at Martinsville for 15 years.

ORDER OF PREACHING

Friday Afternoon:

Elder J. I. Hopper - (Lamentations, 4th chapter)

Elder Alvin Hill (no special text)

Saturday Morning:

Prayer by Elder L. J. Corns

Elder Raymond Pressley (Isaiah, 5th chapter & St. Matthew, 21st chapter)

Elder Dwayne Fletcher (Titus, 2nd chapter, 1-15 verse)

Saturday Afternoon:

Prayer by Elder Robert Ashby
Elder James Pruitt (St. Luke, 5th chapter, verse 31)
Elder W. S. Kelley (St. John)

Sunday Morning:

Prayer by Elder Melvin McGrady
Elder James Pruitt (no special text)
Elder Raymond Pressley (Revelations, 3rd chapter)
Elder W. S. Kelley (Hebrews, 12th chapter, verse 1 and 2)
Elder Thomas Radford dismissed with prayer

VISITING MINISTERS

Elder Lee Jefferson, Patrick Springs, Va. (703) 629-8276
Elder Melvin McGrady, Box 798, Hillsville, Va. 24343 (703) 728-3303
Elder Ervett Goad, Dogspur, Va.
Elder J. L. Hopper, Rt. 1, Box 235, Era, Ala. 35621 (205) 796-2336
Elder Dwayne Fletcher, 10133 Prince Place #202, Upper Marlboro, Md.
Elder James Pruitt, 2650 Belhany Road, Alpharetta, Ga.
Elder W. S. Kelly, Rt. 1, Box 137, Canon, Ga. 30520
Elder Raymond Pressley, P. O. Box 54, Brightwood, Va. 22715
Elder William Clifton, Rt. 7, Box 140, Roanoke, Va. 24018
Elder Alvin Hill, Rt. 4, Box 292-B, King, N. C.

HOME MINISTERS

Elder Robert C. Ashby, Rt. 5, Martinsville, Va. (703) 638-4529
Elder John J. Ashby, Rt. 5, Martinsville, Va. (703) 632-2704
Elder Leonard J. Corns, Patrick Springs, Va., Rt. 777 (703) 694-3810
Elder Thomas Radford, Box 6217, Bassett, Va. (703) 673-1018

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.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

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

1. Of God and the Holy Family...We believe in one only 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. Of the Holy Scriptures...We believe that the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament are the written word of God. And are a sufficient rule of faith and practice; that they are given by inspiration of God, and are profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, and for instruction in righteousness; and they contain all things necessary to be known for the salvation of men.

3. Of the atonement...We believe that Christ died and made a complete atonement for all who ever did, does now or ever will believe on His name; and that all who are finally saved were given to Christ in covenant of the Father before the world was, that they should show forth His praise.

4. Of Foreknowledge, Election, and Predestination...We believe that all whom God did foreknow He did also predestinate to be conformed to the image of His Son, that God elected, according to His foreknowledge through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for all saints, and that none came to Christ, only those whom He loved with an everlasting love and in due time to everlasting glory.

5. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

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

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

8. We believe that God's elect will be called, converted, regenerated, and sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

9. We believe the saints shall be preserved in grace and never finally fall away.

10. 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.

11. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.

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

13. 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.

14. 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.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	NAMES OF CHURCH MESSENGERS											
		Annual or Communion	Sunday of Meeting	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Restored to Fellowship	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	Contributions	
Zion Hill	Bro. Eugene Newman, Elder John Ashby, Sis. Violet Newman, Sis. Velva Clifton, Alternate	Sept.	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	5	\$ 25.00
		July	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	\$ 65.00
Martinsville	Brethren Frank and Fred Keatts, H. C. Broomfield, Sis. Mary Keatts, Alternate Brethren Noel Wilson, Jake Divers, Elder L. J. Corns, Sis. Vera Ashby, Alternate	June	4	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	29	\$ 82.00
		Sept.	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	\$100.00
Leatherwood	Brethren Landon Keatts, Eugene Minter, Boyd Ashby, Sis. Peggy Barnes, Alternate Brother Weldon Wood, Elder Robert Ashby, Sister Josie Bullington	Aug.	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5	\$ 50.00
		TOTAL	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	73	\$322.00

