

***Minutes of the Ninth Annual
Session of the***

***Lotts Creek Primitive
Baptist Association***

CONVENED WITH THE CHURCH AT
Bethel, Liberty County, Georgia
October 24th, 25th, and 26th, 1913

MINUTES.

Minutes of the Ninth Annual Session of the Lotts Creek Primitive Baptist Association, Convened With Bethel Church, Liberty County, Ga., 24th 25th and 26th days of October, 1913.

1. The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. Z. H. Bennett, of the Pilgrim's Rest Association (Fla.), from Second Epistle of John, 1st chapter and 1st verse.

2. After 15 minutes intermission the Association was called to order by Eld. A. R. Strickland. Singing was followed with prayer by Eld. T. J. Heard, of the Echeconnee Association.

3. Appointed Eld. A. R. Strickland Moderator and E. B. Hughes, Clerk.

4. Read letters and recorded the names of messengers.

5. Called for petitionary letters,—none.

6. Appointed Committees as follows:

To arrange preaching during this meeting,—M. J. Green, F. C. Dyess and J. A. Lacitor. To arrange general meetings,—J. R. Calaway, F. M. Donaldson and M. E. Cannon. To receive contributions,—H. B. Wilkerson, Virgil Spivey and E. J. Burnsed. To write Corresponding Letter,—H. B. Wilkerson and J. R. Calaway.

7. Called for correspondence. Then came Elders R. D. Donnehoo and H. W. Smith, from the Prince Williams Association; S. C., Elders Lee Hanks and S. Manderson, of the Upper Canoochee Association, and Elders J. A. Taylor, of the Ebenezer Association, who were received, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

8. Called for visiting bretheren. Came Elder T. J. Heard, of the Echeconnee Association, Elder Z. H. Bennett, of the Pilgrim's Rest Association, Fla., and Brother Alonzo Brannen, of the Alapaha Association.

9. The Committee to Arrange Preaching reported as follows: Saturday morning, Elder J. A. Taylor, followed by Elder R. D. Donnehoo. P. M., Elder S. M. Anderson. Sunday morning, Elder T. J. Heard, followed by Elder Lee Hanks and closed by the Moderator.

10. Committee to arrange general meetings report as follows: Emman's, March; Lower Mill Creek, Nov., 1913. Columba, August; Anderson's, May. All to commence on Friday before the 5th Sunday in their respective months.

11. Saturday morning, 8 o'clock.—Met pursuant to

adjournment. Singing, followed with prayer by Elder Lee Hanks.

12. Called the Roll.

13. Appointed M. E. Cannon Correspondent to Ebenezer Association and D. L. Calaway to Upper Canoochee. J. L. Sutton, E. J. Burnsed, W. H. Lanier and J. M. Lanier, to Prince William's Association, and Elders H. B. Wilkerson, A. R. Strickland, J. A. Lacitor and Simon Barr to Flint River Association.

14. Committee to receive contributions report: For Minutes, \$29.25. for other purposes, \$85.20.

15. Corresponding Letter read and received.

16. The next session of this body will convene with the Church at Bethlehem, Bulloch County, Ga., on Friday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1914, three miles West of Statesboro.

17. Agreed to have 1,500 copies of these Minutes printed, the Clerk to have them printed and distribute the same.

18. Resolved: That we tender one page of our Minutes to the memory of our deceased Brothers, Elders M. M. Mattox and J. H. Smith.

19. We tender our thanks to the Brothers, Sisters and Friends, for their hospitality during this meeting.

20. Motion for adjournment. Minutes read and received and the body adjourned Sunday morning according to previous arrangements. The brethren preached to a large and orderly congregation.

Elder A. R. STRICKLAND, Moderator.
E. B. HUGHES, Clerk.

CORRESPONDING LETTER.

THE LOTTS CREEK PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—TO
HER SISTER ASSOCIATIONS, WITH WHOM SHE CORRESPONDS:

Dear Brethren:

We have been blessed by an All-wise God, our Heavenly Father, to hold another session of our body in peace and harmony. All of our churches report peace among themselves, with few exceptions. In some gatherings we are sorry to note that we find a continued spirit for strife and divisions. Brethren; let us consider our high calling and the solemn obligation that is upon us by our Lord Jesus Christ to strive for the things that make for peace, whereby one may edify another. Are there no peace-

makers among us? Are there none that seek for peace? Have all gone out of the way? If the differences among the Baptist family are not soon settled among us, we who know the causes of them will pass away and our children will not be able to tell why the family of God is separated. We admonish again those who have departed, to lay aside the things which divided us and return to the order of God's kingdom. Let us who think we stand fast take heed lest we fall. Considering ourselves, the spirit of forgiveness is taught in the word of God abundantly, and we should always be ready to forgive those who confess their wrongs. Brethren! let us take heed to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, that if we remember our brother hath aught against thee, when we go to the altar leave there thy gift before the altar and go thy way. First be reconciled to thy Brother and then come and offer thy gift. If this command was heeded many serious differences and divisions would be avoided. We are pained to learn that our Sister Association, Alapaha, has declared non-fellowship for a cause which we will not mention in this letter. We think this act of our esteemed brethren, with whom we once corresponded, is uncalled for and hasty. We love you, brethren, and ask you to reconsider what you have done. Brethren, let one and all look to his individual order, and if we find that we are out of the way let us, by the grace of God, get in the highway of the Lord, wherein is peace and happiness.

Our next Association will be held with Bethlehem Church, when we hope to meet in peace and love.

Note:—I visited the Alapaha Association, in session first Saturday and Sunday in November, 1913, and by explanation of our position was received as a visitor. I feel sure that all dissatisfaction is removed.

H. B. WILKERSON.

IN MEMORIAM

Elders J. H. Smith and M. M. Mattox, Faithful Primitive Baptist Ministers.

Eld. J. H. Smith died February 22nd, 1910, and was buried in Ash Branch Cemetery February 23, 1910. Age 70 years and 9 months.

Eld. M. M. Mattox died September 6, 1913, and was buried in Beards Creek Cemetery September 8th, 1913. Age 73 years and 8 months.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

J. A. BOWEN.
N. J. NESSMITH.
D. L. CALAWAY.
H. B. WILKERSON.
WM. WILLIAMS.
HOMER SANDERS.

M. L. RINER.
F M. DONALDSON.
V. B. WHITE.
A. R. STRICKLAND.
H. TEMPLE.
H. A. SILLS.
JORDAN CRIBBS.

LICENTIATES.

SIMON BARR.
A. C. McCORKEL.
W. T. ANDERSON.

PERRY BANKS.
J. E. STRICKLAND.

| CHURCHES | PASTORS | CLERKS | P. O. |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Lower Black Creek..... | F. M. Donaldson..... | E. J. Burnsed..... | Ellabelle. - Ga. |
| Ash Branch..... | V. B. White..... | A. S. Bacon..... | Pembroke, .. |
| Red Hill..... | F. M. Donaldson..... | W. C. Iler..... | .. |
| Columbia..... | J. A. Bowen..... | J. E. Strickland..... | Ellabelle, .. |
| Lower Lotts Creek..... | H. B. Wilkerson..... | H. J. Akins..... | Register..... |
| Emaus..... | H. B. Wilkerson..... | E. J. Mitchell..... | Claxton..... |
| Little Flock..... | C. B. Spiyy..... | L. E. Lynn..... | Collins..... |
| Andersons..... | A. R. Strickland..... | J. A. Sikes..... | Manassas..... |
| Bethel..... | A. R. Strickland..... | W. H. Dasher..... | Daisy..... |
| Ephesus..... | H. B. Wilkerson..... | S. C. Banks..... | Register..... |
| Inmans Creek..... | J. A. Bowen..... | I. F. Keel..... | Elza, R. 1..... |
| Beards Creek..... | A. R. Strickland..... | D. H. Purcell..... | Daisy..... |
| Lower Mill Creek..... | Homer Sanders..... | G. R. Beasley..... | Statesboro..... |
| Upper Mill Creek..... | H. Temple..... | J. N. Akins..... | .. |
| Nevils Creek..... | N. J. Nessmith..... | T. B. Hendrix..... | Blitch..... |
| DeLoach's..... | H. B. Wilkerson..... | W. H. DeLoach..... | Claxton..... |
| Bethlehem..... | F. M. Donaldson..... | S. J. Riggs..... | Statesboro..... |
| Lyons..... | | | |

CHURCH STATISTICS

| CHURCHES | COUNTIES | NAMES OF MESSENGERS | Additions | | | | Subtractions | | | Total Mem- bership | Sunday Meetings | Money for Ministers | For Other Purposes |
|-------------------|----------|---------------------------------|------------|-----------|------------------------|-------------|------------------------|----------|----------|-----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | By Baptism | By Letter | Confession of Faith | Restoration | Dismissed By Letter | Excluded | Deceased | | | | |
| Ash Branch | Bulloch | L. M. Lanier, E. W. Parrish | 12 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 85 | 2 | \$2 50 | \$ 9 20 |
| Red Hill | " | W. C. Iler, C. C. DeLoach | 6 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 64 | 1 | 1 50 | 5 50 |
| Lower Lotts Creek | " | Donaldson, H. J. Akins | 6 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 125 | 4 | 3 00 | 13 18 |
| Ephesus | " | S. C. Banks, Simon Barr | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 23 | 3 | 1 50 | 1 60 |
| Lower Mill Creek | " | G. R. Beasley, J. A. Lacitor | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 33 | 1 | 1 50 | 5 10 |
| Upper Mill Creek | " | M. E. Cannon, N. J. NeSmith | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 39 | 1 | 2 00 | 5 15 |
| DeLoach's | " | M. J. Green, J. M. Easterling | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 75 | 2 | 2 50 | 8 80 |
| Bethlehem | " | S. J. Riggs, J. I. Brannen | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 54 | 3 | 2 00 | 5 90 |
| Lower Black Creek | Bryan | Wm. Burnsed, E. J. Burnsed | 2 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 49 | 4 | 1 00 | |
| Columbia | " | Newton Wise, Morgan Banks | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 3 | 1 00 | 4 00 |
| Emaus | Bulloch | H. B. Wilkerson, E. J. Mitchell | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 19 | 1 | 75 | 2 85 |
| Beards Creek | Tattn'll | F. C. Dyess, D. H. Purcell | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 24 | 4 | 75 | 3 50 |
| Anderson | " | J. R. Calaway, D. L. Calaway | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 104 | 3 | 3 00 | 5 00 |
| Little Flock | " | J. G. F. Lynn, L. E. Lynn | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 47 | 3 | 1 50 | 4 25 |
| Inmans Creek | Toombs | F. M. Durden, J. L. Sutton | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 2 | 1 00 | 5 00 |
| Bethel | Liberty | A. R. Strickland, V. Y. Spivy | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 50 | 2 | 1 25 | 5 00 |
| Nevils Creek | Bulloch | T. B. Hendrix, W. J. Blackburn | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 20 | 3 | 1 00 | 1 00 |
| Lyons | Toombs | | | | | | | | | | | 1 00 | |

Preamble.

The organization of this association is the result of an effort on the part of the DeLoach church and other peace loving Primitive Baptists to unite all the Primitive Baptist churches in Bulloch and Bryan counties, state of Georgia.

Inasmuch as that effort failed in part, the churches now forming the Lower Canoochee, proper, refusing to unite under the circumstances, which is their privilege, to which privilege none of the churches object, for churches are free and, of right ought to be, to remain in such condition as they severally feel most acceptable with God our Savior and our Lord Jesus Christ, therefore, seeing it impossible to unite all the churches in peace in the Lower Canoochee and live together in peace in the Lower Canoochee Association we, the churches desiring union and fellowship with one another, have agreed in our several conferences to meet DeLoach church according to invitation and promise this 20th day of October, in the year of our Lord One Thunsand Nine Hundred and Five, for the formation of the Lott's Creek Primitive Baptist Association.

We are at peace with all Primitive Baptists everywhere, who are walking in the commandments of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have received authority to form this union.

We, as an association of churches, come together on the following Rules and Articles of Primitive Faith:

Rules.

1. This Association shall meet annually by the authority of the churches, to worship God.
2. This Association shall be composed of messengers from the several churches, so that each church may have two messengers, and the names of said messengers shall be inserted in the letters from the churches.
3. This Association shall be governed by its own rules, but no rule shall be binding on any church.
4. No church shall be admitted into this Association, unless found sound in faith.
5. Any church may withdraw from this Association at the discretion of the church.
6. This Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, chosen by the Messengers present.
7. This Association shall open its business by singing and prayer.

8. All business shall come into this Association by motion and second; and every motion that is seconded shall be decided, except it be withdrawn by the mover.

9. There shall be no talking in time of a public speech, nor reflection on the speaker.

10. No person shall be interrupted in the time of a public speech, unless he departed from the subject in debate; and then only by the Moderator.

11. No person shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave of the Association.

12. A majority of this Association shall govern in all cases, except the majority depart from the Rules and Articles of Faith herein expressed.

13. No person shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.

14. A majority may amend or alter these rules at any time.

15. It shall be the duty of this Association to keep the minutes of all its proceedings and have them published in pamphlet form for distribution among the churches.

Articles of Faith.

1. We believe the Old and New Testaments scriptures are the perfectly inspired word of God, and the only infallible standard of faith and practice.

2. We believe in one true and living God, and that there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

3. We believe in the fall of man and his inability to recover himself.

4. We believe Jesus Christ to be the son of God.

5. We believe in particular election, effectual calling of the elect, and final perseverance and preservation of the saints.

6. We believe nothing takes place by chance, but God's foreknowledge embraces all things.

7. We believe God predestinated some men and angels to eternal life through Jesus Christ, His Son, before the foundation of the world.

8. We believe God the Father calls, the Son redeems, and the Holy Ghost regenerates the very same person.

9. We believe the Children of God are called from death to life independently of all creature instrumentality, and are justified solely by the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ our Lord.

10. We believe man was created in the beginning, in the

image of God, very good and upright, but of his own will, without any compulsion and undeceived, he transgressed the laws of God.

11. We believe good works are such only as God has commanded in His Holy Word.

12. We believe the preaching of the Gospel is not to give life to the dead (for God alone can do that) but is to warn, teach, exhort, comfort and edify, reprove and confirm the living children of God.

13. We believe those who believe the Gospel should be baptized, that is, be immersed in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

14. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and the washing of the saints' feet an example to be engaged in by all the orderly children of God.

15. We believe that no man has the right to administer the ordinances but such as are regularly called and come under the imposition of hands by the Presbytery.

16. We believe a Primitive Baptist church is an organized body of Christ, and to maintain its identity, must stand aloof from the world and all the worldly so called churches, religious societies and institutions, such as Sunday Schools, theological seminaries, mission boards and conventions, and all oath-bound secret societies, which are plainly contrary to the example of Christ and His Apostles.

17. We believe there will be a resurrection of the bodies, both of the just and unjust, the former to life and the latter to damnation.

18. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ will come a second time in the body of this world, and after raising the dead will judge the human race in righteousness and send the wicked into everlasting punishment and will welcome the righteous to everlasting happiness in His Holy image and presence.

