

MINUTES

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

Held with
ROANS CREEK CHURCH
Ashe County, North Carolina

SEPTEMBER 7, 8, and 9, 2007

The next session will convene with Bear Creek Church on Friday, September 12, with Riverview Church on Saturday and Sunday, September 13 and 14, 2008. Bear Creek Church is located off Highway 16 in Glendale Springs. Turn on Trading Post Road for 0.1 mile. The church is a white building behind the restaurant. Directions to Riverview Church are: from the intersection of 221 and 163 near West Jefferson go south on 221 approximately 0.3 mile. Turn left on Nettle Knob Road, go 3 miles to Lower Nettle Knob Road. Travel 3.5 miles to Phillips Gap Road, turn right, the church is on the left approximately 1 mile.

OFFICERS

ELDER JAMES MCNEILL **MODERATOR**

5868 NC Hwy. 221 N. Crumpler, NC 28617 • 336-982-3802

ELDER BOBBY ABSHER **ASSISTANT MODERATOR**

183 Old Ridge Road, Crumpler, NC 28617 • 336-982-2163

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 James McNeill from Riverview Church.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder Paul Williams from Richlands Virginia.

The Association was opened with prayer by Elder Bobby Absher.

ON MOTION:

1. Letters were read and correspondents were seated.
2. The Association appointed Elder James McNeill as Moderator, Elder Bobby Absher 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

Elder Curtis and Sister Wanda Hash

Brother Jack and Louise Nichols

Reorganized Silver Creek Association of North Carolina

Elder John R. Jackson

Fisher River Association

Brother Walter Taylor

St. Clair's Bottom Association

Elder Schultz Pratt

Elder Eddie Lyle

Brother Billy Joe Lyle

Brother Don Blevins

Little Yadkin Association

Brother Gray Baker

Original Bear Creek Association

Brother Michael and Sister Susan Lester

Jonathan Lester

Elder Wayne Gibbons

INDEPENDENT CHURCHES:

Walnut Cove Primitive Baptist Church, Walnut Cove, NC

Brother Paul V. Lemons

Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church, Willis, Virginia

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
Elder Floyd South
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 Floyd South.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2007

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

ON MOTION:

1. The roll call was omitted.

2. The Constitution and Rules of Decorum were omitted but printed in the minutes.
3. The next Association is to be held starting at 10:00 A.M., on Friday, before the second Sunday in September 2008 at Bear Creek Church; Saturday and Sunday meetings will be held with Riverview Church.
4. Night meetings will be held Friday and Saturday nights at Riverview Church.
5. The clerk was appointed to oversee the printing of 300 copies of the minutes and distribution of the same.
6. Minutes are to be mailed to all visitors.
7. The clerk was appointed as treasurer to hold all funds for printing and postage of minutes.
8. The obituaries are to be printed in the minutes.
9. The finance committee report is as follows:

Year 2007, Reported from Churches

Bear Creek	\$80.00
Beaver Creek	60.00
North Fork	182.00
Riverview	218.00
Roans Creek	65.00
Senter	230.00
Total	\$825.00
Received from donations Friday through Sunday ..	\$271.00
Balance in Savings	\$492.00

Expenditures:

To the Moderator	\$0.00
To the Assistant Moderator	0.00
To the Clerk	120.00
To the Assistant Clerk	0.00
Paid to Visiting Elders	536.00
Designated for printing and postage of minutes ..	450.00

- 10. Minutes read and approved.
- 11. That the Association adjourn through prayer by Brother Wayne Gibbons.
 Elder James McNeill, Moderator
 Elder Bobby Absher, Assistant Moderator
 Elder Bobby Absher, Clerk
 Brother Don Walters, Assistant Clerk

VISITING ELDERS

- Elder Curtis Hash
2495 Powerhouse Road, Independence, VA 24348
- Elder John Jackson
103 Tom Jackson, Boone, NC 28607
- Elder Paul Williams
230 Burnette Street, Richlands, VA 24641
- Elder Eddie G. Lyle
1521 Elliott Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694
- Elder Wayne Gibbons
PO Box 15, Wallburg, NC 27373
- Elder Schultz Pratt
PO Box 843, Glade Spring, VA 24340

ORDER OF PREACHING

Friday Morning:

- Elder Curtis Hash (introduced with prayer)
- Elder Paul Williams (introductory sermon)
- Elder John Jackson (opened business with prayer)

Friday Afternoon:

- Elder Floyd South (introduced with prayer)
- Elder Curtis Hash (afternoon sermon)
- Elder Don Blevins (closed with prayer)

Friday Night:

- Elder Floyd South (introduced with prayer)
- Elder Larry Davis (sermon)
- Elder James McNeill (closed with prayer)

Saturday Morning:

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

Saturday Afternoon:

- Elder Floyd South (introduced with prayer)
- Elder Wayne Gibbons (sermon)
- Elder Schultz Pratt (sermon)
- Elder Wayne Severt (closed with prayer)

Saturday Night:

- Elder Larry Davis (introduced with prayer)
- Elder Eddie Lyle (sermon)
- Elder Bobby Absher (closed with prayer)

Sunday Morning:

- Elder Bobby Absher (introduced with prayer)
- Elder Floyd South (sermon)
- Elder James McNeill (sermon)
- Brother Wayne Severt (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 13–18, 2008.

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	15
775 Boggs Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694	
Bear Creek: Margaret Jarvis	10
315 Jarvis Road, Ennice, NC 28623	
North Fork: Mary Bare	15
521 Oak Knob Trail, West Jefferson, NC 28694	
Riverview: Paul Miller	25
1897 Conley Cheek Rd., Fleetwood, NC 28626	
Roans Creek: Elder Floyd South	20
278 South Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694	
Senter: Vernon Roten	40
184 Big Flatts Mortz Road, Fleetwood, NC 28626	

**DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES
TO SISTER ASSOCIATIONS**

The American Baptist Historical Society	2
1106 South Goodman St., Rochester, NY 14620	
Bear Creek: Tim Herrin	20
3219 Baucom Manor Rd., Monroe, NC 28110	
The Christian Baptist Library	2
PO Box 68, Atwood, TN 38220	
Ebenezer: Wayne F. Baldwin	20
PO Box 572, Culpeper, VA 22701	
Mountain: Roy Truitt	20
102 Gentry Street, Galax, VA 24336	
Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Association:	
Randolph Miller	20
Rt. 1, Box 58, Union, WV 24983	
New Liberty Primitive Baptist Association:	
Ronald Sargent	20
2302 Jefferson Ave., Point Pleasant, WV 25550	
304-675-1482	

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	21
2132 Blue Ridge Circle, Lenoir, NC 28645	
St. Clair's Bottom Association: Blaine Owens	21
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 — Meetings are on the First and Third Sundays at 2:00 PM. Take Hwy. 88 West from Warrentonville. Approximately 1 1/2 miles turn right on Staggs Creek Road. Continue on Staggs Creek Road approximately 1 mile. Church is at the intersection of Staggs Creek Road and Glenn Miller Road.

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. A brick church building located between Jefferson, NC and Laurel Springs, NC. Take Hwy. 88 out of Jefferson, NC about seven miles. The church is on the left side of the road.

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 of Hwy. 221 on Nathan's Creek Road. It is approximately eight miles from Jefferson.

DOTTIE SHEETS WYATT



August 30, 1901 – April 10, 2006

Sister Wyatt was born in Wilkes County August 30, 1901 to Jess and Jane Owens Sheets. In 1919 she was married to James Wyatt of Ashe County. To this union was born nine children. Ms. Wyatt was preceded in death by her husband and two sons, Hobert and Cad Wyatt. Her seven surviving children are Bernard and Roy Wyatt of Jefferson; J.B. and Carl Wyatt of Maryland; Cleo Bare of Wilkes County; Shirley Gentry and Fannie Taylor of Jefferson.

Sister Wyatt united with Roans Creek Primitive Baptist Church in 1929 and was a faithful member as long as she was able to attend.

Sister Wyatt passed away April 10, 2006 at her daughter's home in Jefferson. Funeral services were held Wednesday April 12th at Badgers Funeral Home. Elder Floyd South officiated. Burial followed in Roans Creek Cemetery.

She was a loving mother and her family will miss her very much.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Bear Creek -- First Sunday 2:00 PM. The church is a white building located off Highway 16 in Granite 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.

STATISTICAL TABLE

2007

Church Organized		CHURCHES	MESSENGERS	Communion Month	Sundays of Meetings	Ordained Elders	Liberated	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Restored to Fel.	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	Total Membership	Contribution
		Bear Creek	Sister Margaret Jarvis, Sister Ruth Severt, Bro. Wayne Severt	May	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	\$80.00
1785		Beaver Creek	Elder Larry Davis, Bro. Tony Jordan, Bro. Don Walters, Bro. Robert Koonitz, Alt.	May	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	\$60.00
1785		North Fork	Bro. Arvill Scott, Bro. Grover Burchette, Sister Mary Bare	July	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	\$182.00
1898		Riverview	Bro. Paul Miller, Bro. Joel McNeill, Bro. Donnie Cox, Bro. Ray Bentley, Alt.	June	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	21	218.00
1869		Roans Creek	Bro. Richard Bare, Elder Floyd South, Sister Lea Ella South, Sister Virgie Bare, Alt.	July	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	14	65.00
1829		Senter	Bro. Jim Richardson, Bro. Ray Roten, Bro. Vernon Roten, Bro. Tony Miller, Alt.	June	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	35	230.00
			TOTAL.....												825.00

