

# MINUTES

of the  
One Hundred Forty-Eighth Annual Session  
of the  
SENER DISTRICT  
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Held with  
SENER CHURCH  
Ashe County, North Carolina

SEPTEMBER 7, 8, and 9, 2001

The next session will convene with Sener Church on September 6, 7, 8, 2002. The church is located between Jefferson, NC and Sparta, NC. Take Highway 221 out of Jefferson, NC about eight miles, on Nathan's Creek School Road.

## OFFICERS

**ELDER JAMES MCNEILL** ..... **MODERATOR**

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

**ELDER FLOYD SOUTH** ..... **ASSISTANT MODERATOR**

278 South Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694 • 336-246-7456

**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 Floyd South from Senter Association.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder Howard Davis from Chilhowie Primitive Baptist Church.

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 Floyd South as Assistant Moderator, Elder Bobby Absher as Clerk, and Brother Don Walters as Assistant Clerk.
3. Called for petitionary letters.
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**

Elder Curtis Hash and Sister Wanda Hash  
Sister Dorothy Brown and Sister Glenna Brown  
Brother Jimmy Haynes  
Brother Carl Williams  
Brother Page Wagoner and Sister Hazel Wagoner  
Brother Jack Nichols and Sister Louise Nichols

**St. Clair Bottom Association of North Carolina  
and Virginia:**

Elder Eddie Lyle

**Re-Organized Silver Creek Association**

Elder John R. Jackson

***INDEPENDENT CHURCHES:***

**Afton Road Church, Danville, Va.**

Elder Dan Parker

**Mulberry Primitive Baptist Church, NC**

Elder Samuel Lee Parrish

**Walnut Cove Primitive Baptist Church, Walnut Cove,  
NC**

Brother Paul V. Lemons

Brother Marvin A. Winesett

5. The moderator is to make all temporary appointments in this session.

**A. COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:**

Brother Paul Bare

Brother Larry Davis

Brother Willard Hartzog

Elder Kenny McNeil

**B. COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS:**

Brother Clyde Johnson

Brother Paul Miller

Brother Edward Roten

Brother Ray Roten

Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk and

Assistant Clerk

**C. COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY:**

Elder Bobby Absher  
Brother Clyde Johnson  
Brother Paul Miller  
Brother Ray Roten  
Elder Floyd South

6. That the committee on arrangements meet after service for conference.
7. To adjourn the Association until 10:00 A.M. on Saturday.
8. Closed with prayer by Elder Calvin Yates.

***SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2001***

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

***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, 2002 at Senter Church.
4. Night meetings will be held Friday and Saturday nights at Senter Church.
5. The clerk was appointed to oversee the printing of 350 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 reported as follows:

### YEAR - 2001

Reported from Churches:

Beaver Creek .....	\$70.00
North Fork .....	120.00
Riverview .....	170.00
Roans Creek .....	55.00
Senter .....	335.00

Total .....\$750.00

Received from donations Friday and Saturday .....\$173.00

Balance in Savings .....\$543.00

Expenditures:

To the Moderator .....	\$20.00
To the Assistant Moderator .....	20.00
To the Clerk .....	60.00
To the Assistant Clerk .....	20.00
Paid to Visiting Elders .....	475.00
Designated for printing and postage of minutes	.403.00

10. Minutes read and approved.
11. That the Association adjourn through prayer by Elder Dan Parker.

Elder James McNeill, Moderator  
Elder Floyd South, Assistant Moderator  
Elder Bobby Absher, Clerk  
Brother Don Walters, Assistant Clerk

## VISITING ELDERS

Elder Howard M. Davis  
35330 Marble Stone Drive, Glade Spring, VA 24340  
Elder Curtis Hash  
2495 Powerhouse Road, Independence, VA 24348  
Elder John Jackson  
1103 Tom Jackson Rd., Boone, NC 28607  
Elder Eddie Lyle  
1521 Elliot Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694  
Elder Dan Parker  
3849 R&L Smith Drive, Danville, VA 24540  
Elder Samuel Parrish  
86 Sycamore Lane, Laurel Springs, NC 28644

## ORDER OF PREACHING

### Friday Morning:

Elder Floyd South (introduced with prayer)  
Elder Howard Davis (introductory sermon)  
Elder Bobby Absher (opened business with prayer)

### Friday Afternoon:

Brother Jimmy Haynes (introduced with prayer)  
Elder Curtis Hash  
Elder Dan Parker  
Elder James McNeill (closed with prayer)

**Friday Night:**

Elder Bobby Absher (introduced with prayer)

Elder Dan Parker

Brother Tony Miller (closed with prayer)

**Saturday Morning:**

Elder Curtis Hash (introduced with prayer)

Elder Dan Parker

Elder Floyd South (closed with prayer)

**Saturday Afternoon:**

Elder Howard Davis (introduced with prayer)

Elder John Jackson

Elder James McNeill (closed with prayer)

**Saturday Night:**

Elder Bobby Absher (introduced with prayer)

Elder Samuel Parrish

Elder Eddie Lyle

Elder James McNeill (closed with prayer)

**Sunday Morning:**

Elder Bobby Absher (introduced with prayer)

Elder Howard Davis

Elder Floyd South

Elder C.O. Yates

Elder James McNeill

Elder Bobby Absher (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 14-19, 2002.

## **ORDAINED ELDERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES**

- |                            |   |
|----------------------------|---|
| <b>Elder Bobby Absher</b>  | 183 Old Ridge Road<br>Crumpler, NC 28617<br>Telephone: (336) 982-2163               |
| <b>Elder James McNeill</b> | 5862 U.S. 221 North<br>Crumpler, NC 28617<br>Telephone: (336) 982-3802              |
| <b>Elder Kenny McNeil</b>  | 2465 South J.E. Gentry Road<br>Laurel Springs, NC 28644                             |
| <b>Elder Floyd South</b>   | 278 South Avenue<br>West Jefferson, NC 28694<br>Telephone: (336) 246-7456           |
| <b>Elder C.O. Yates</b>    | 2415 Lower Nettle Knob Road<br>West Jefferson, NC 28694<br>Telephone (336) 877-4991 |

## **CHURCHES AND PASTORS**

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Beaver Creek</b> | Elders James McNeill and<br>Bobby Absher |
| <b>North Fork</b>   | Elder Kenny McNeil                       |
| <b>Riverview</b>    | Elders C.O. Yates and<br>James McNeill   |
| <b>Roans Creek</b>  | Elder Floyd South                        |
| <b>Senter</b>       | Elders James McNeill and<br>Bobby Absher |

**DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO CHURCHES  
AND NUMBER OF MINUTES;  
CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES**

<b>Beaver Creek: Don Walters</b>	20
775 Boggs Road, West Jefferson, NC 28694	
<b>North Fork: John McNeil</b>	20
377 Green Acres Drive, Lansing, NC 28643	
<b>Riverview: Dan Miller</b>	30
6211 Hwy. 88 W., Warrensville, NC 28693	
<b>Roans Creek: Elder Floyd South</b>	25
278 South Avenue, West Jefferson, NC 28694	
<b>Senter: Elder Bobby Absher</b>	45
183 Old Ridge Road, Crumpler, NC 28617	

**DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES  
TO SISTER ASSOCIATIONS**

<b>The American Baptist Historical Society</b> .....	2
1106 South Goodman St., Rochester, NY 14620	
<b>Bear Creek: Ken Austin</b> .....	20
3930 Old Camden Rd., Monroe, NC 28110	
<b>The Christian Baptist Library</b> .....	2
PO Box 68, Atwood, TN 38220	
<b>Ebenezer: Aubrey E. Utz</b> .....	20
Madison, VA 22727	
<b>Mountain: Roy Truitt</b> .....	20
102 Gentry Street, Galax, VA 24336	
<b>Mt. Zion Primitive Baptist Association</b> .....	20
338 Harry Height's Road, Bluefield, WV 24701	
<b>New Liberty Primitive Baptist Association:</b>	
Ronald Sargent .....	20
2302 Jefferson Ave., Point Pleasant, WV 25550	
304-675-1482	

<b>North Carolina Collection: The Library</b> .....	2
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27514	
<b>The Primitive Baptist Library: Elon College</b> .....	2
4023 North, NC 87 Elon College, NC 27244	
<b>Silver Creek: Elder Gene Watson</b> .....	21
145 Friendly Park, Lenoir, NC 28645	
<b>St. Clair's Bottom Association: Blaine Owens</b> .....	21
103 Jefferson Drive, Bristol, VA 24201	
<b>Wake Forest University: The Z. Smith Reynolds Library</b> .....	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:

- Beaver Creek:** 4th Sunday in May
- Senter:** 2nd Sunday in June
- Riverview:** 3rd Sunday in June
- North Fork:** 2nd 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

**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** — Each Sunday, 10:30 A.M. Take Hwy. 88 West from Warrensville. 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** — First and fourth Sundays, 10:30 A.M. 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 Sunday night, 6:30 PM; Saturday night preceding the Second Sunday (During Daylight Savings Time all night services begin at 7:00 PM). Senter Church is a brick building located between Jefferson, NC and Sparta, NC off of Hwy. 221 on Nathan's Creek School Road. It is approximately eight miles from Jefferson.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Roans Creek — Second Sunday morning 11:00 AM, and fourth Sunday 2:00 PM A brick building located six and a half miles from West Jefferson, NC. Take Hwy 221 south about one mile to Hwy. 163 turn right Phillips Gap Road on the left side of the highway.

Senter Church — First Sunday 10:30 A.M. Take Hwy. 88 West from Jefferson approximately 14.5 miles turn right on Senter Church Road. Turn right on Senter Church Road approximately 1/2 mile to Church is at the intersection of Senter Church Road and Nathan's Creek Road.

# OBITUARIES

## 1. Flora Roark

## 2. Fannie Sanders McMillan

## 3. Ina Jean Fender Walters

## Flora Roark

Flora Roark was born on June 22, 1910 and died May 17, 2001.

Sister Roark joined Senter Primitive Baptist Church in April, 1950. She remained a member there until her death. Sister Roark attended church as long as health permitted.

## Fannie Sanders McMillan



Sister McMillan was born December 19, 1911 and died June 3, 2001.

Sister McMillan was born and raised in Ashe County. She married Loyd McMillan who preceded her in death. She is survived by two daughters, Glenna Sheets and Gaynell Hendrix. In later years Sister McMillan moved to Wilkes County to be with her daughters.

Sister McMillan joined Senter Primitive Baptist Church in October, 1948.

The funeral of Sister McMillan was held at Boone Family Funeral Home on June 6, 2001. Services were conducted by Elder Floyd South and Rev. Tim Shaw. Interment was in Senter Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery to await the glorious resurrection.

## Ina Jean Fender Walters



Ina Jean Fender Walters was born October 31, 1911, to the union of John and Laura Dixon Fender. She united in marriage to Jim Walters. To this union were born five children. Sister Ina was preceded in death by her husband and one daughter. She is survived by one son, John E. Walters; three daughters, Jean Weaver, Betty Carlton, and Glenna McNeill; eight grandchildren and six great grandchildren. She was a devoted wife, mother, neighbor and church member.

Sister Ina united with the Senter Primitive Baptist Church on June 12, 1949, where she remained faithful until her death on Monday, October 9, 2000. Sister Ina was faithful to her home church and visited sister churches when she had the opportunity. Sister Ina took care of her part of the communion just as long as she was able. A visitor in the church was always welcome in her home.

Sister Ina was loved by all who knew her. She is missed by all. But surely our loss is her eternal gain.



