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**MINUTES**

OF THE

**Ninety-Seventh Annual Session**

OF THE

**Echeconnee Association  
of Primitive Baptists**

HELD WITH

**Emmaus Church  
Upson County, Ga.**

**September 22nd, 23rd and 24, 1925**

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**OFFICERS:**

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

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

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# MINUTES



## EMMAUS CHURCH Upson County, Ga.



TUESDAY, SEPT. 22nd, 1925.

1st. Singing by the congregation and prayer by Elder A. J. Banks.

The introductory Sermon was preached by Elder P. H. Byrd. Text, Gallations 4th chapter and 30th verse.

2nd. Moderator called for letters from the churches of the Association which were read by Elders W. O. Meeks, C. M. Greene and W. J. Heard 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. Ordered by the Echeconnee Association that the present formal correspondence be suspended.

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

6th. The usual committees were appointed as follows:

On Preaching: Brethren A. S. Kersey, R. L. Smith, J. H. B. Butts, D. C. Wallace and J. D. Hartman.

To write Corresponding letter: J. B. Parker.

On Finance and Distribution of Corresponding Minutes: F. W. Williams, T. M. Nash and Joe Baggarly.

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons: Elders W. J. Heard, B. F. Williamson, W. O. Meeks and Henry Swain.

7th. The Association adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning.

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WEDNESDAY SEPT. 23rd, 1925.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and was led in prayer by Elder J. M. Woodward.

## A RESOLUTION.

1st. The Echeconnee Association now in session, Whereas this body some thirty odd years ago deemed it adviseable to suspend correspondence with Pulaski Association, but have now become convinced that the act was an error. Be it resolved that this body now in session acknowledge said act to be an error and to hereby pray the forgiveness of said Pulaski Association for said act.

2nd. Whereas, this Association suspended correspondence with the Mt. Olive Association at our session in 1923. Be it resolved that this body now acknowledge said act to be an error and hereby humbly pray the forgiveness of said Mt. Olive Association for said act.

3rd. We make our confession for using ministers in our Association at Salem Church in 1924 from the Primitive Western Association who were divided at their home Association.

4th. Called for and receive from the churches for associational purposes \$103.00, and for minutes \$45.50.

5th. Appointed the Union Meeting to convene with Elizabeth in Macon, Ga., on Friday, Saturday and 5th Sunday in May 1926.

6th. Appointed the next session of this Association to convene with Providence Church in Roberta, Ga., on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after 3rd Sunday in Sept. 1926.

7th. The Clerk was ordered to have 1000 copies of the minutes printed and distributed in the usual manner.

8th. Called for the Corresponding Letter which was read and adopted.

9th. Called for and read Memorial on deceased ministers and deacons.

10th. Prayer by Elder W. J. Heard. Adjourned to 9:30 o'clock Thursday the 24th.

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THURSDAY, SEPT. 24th, 1925.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and was led in prayer by Brother J. S. McGee.

1st. The minutes were read and adopted this, September 24th, 1925.

2nd. The Association by a rising vote gave thanks to the brethren, sisters and friends of Emmaus Church for their kind hospitality in the entertainment of this association.

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

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#### IN MEMORIAM.

We, your committee appointed to gather information and report the deaths of ministers and deacons belonging to this body since the last session of the same, beg leave to chronicle the passing of our dearly beloved Elder W. Z. Gardner and deacons William Pasley and J. W. Grant. It is with sad hearts that we note the falling of the old soldiers of the Cross of Christ here and there but rejoice in the thought that our loss is their eternal gain. Your committee joins this body together with the bereaved loved ones of these deceased in mourning the great loss.

ELDER B. F. WILLIAMSON,  
“ W. O. MEEKS,  
“ W. J. HEARD,  
“ HENRY SWAIN,  
COMMITTEE.

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#### CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The Echeconnee Association in regular session, to the sister associations with whom she has been in correspondence, sendeth christian love and greetings.

Dear Brethren in the Lord: We are glad indeed to report another session of our body held in peace and love, and we rejoice in your presence with us; mingling together in the worship and service of God. We want you to know that we deeply appreciate your fellowship and brotherly visits and with all our hearts we welcome you among us. If you deem us worthy, we beg you to continue your visits among us.

You will note dear brethren, from the minutes of this session that, we have dropped the formality of associational correspondence. Our reasons for this are, first, the unnecessary time taken up in our session of going through this formality of calling for and returning correspondence. We believe that, primarily, the association was organized by our forefathers for the purpose of worshipping God and to carry on as little business as possible and consistent with maintaining the organiza-

tion. Therefore, the time should not be consumed by unnecessary and useless formality. Second, we have witnessed the sad fact that it is the medium through which many hurtful disputes and troubles among brethren have been brought to our body. Instead of confining these troubles to the church or community where they start, in honor to the law of Christ, and in accordance with His teachings; associational correspondence has been the medium through which they have spread from section to section and from state to state, causing sad divisions, and making this medium declarations of non-fellowship, without church or gospel labor to save, thereby making man made rules our law of action instead of the law of Christ.

The next session of our body will convene with the church at Providence, Roberta, Ga., where and when we hope to meet you again and as brethren to greet you in the Lord. We want to visit you and again we extend our hearty request to you to visit us. May our God smile upon and bless bleeding Zion is our prayer for Jesus sake.

J. B. PARKER.

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#### ORDER OF PREACHING.

Tuesday a. m.—Introductory - - - - - Elder P. H. Byrd  
Tuesday p. m.—Eld. A. J. Banks followed by Eld. J. M. Murray  
Wednesday a. m.—Eld. Z. C. Hull followed by Eld. Henry Swain  
“ p. m.—Eld. J. M. Woodward followed by Eld. W. T. White  
Thursday a. m.—Eld. Henry Swain followed by Eld. A. J. Banks  
Closed by Elder D. Y. Hicks

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#### MINISTERS OF THE ECHECONNIE ASSOCIATION.

Elder W. J. Heard, Macon, Ga., Route 3.  
“ J. T. Reynolds, Macon, Ga.  
“ J. A. Monsees, Macon, Ga.  
“ W. O. Meeks, Lorane, Ga., R. 1.  
“ B. F. Williamson, Lizella, Ga.  
“ D. Y. Hicks, Roberta, Ga.  
“ J. R. Hunt, Kathleen, Ga.  
“ J. H. Sanders, Macon, Ga.  
“ C. M. Greene, Macon, Ga., R. F. D.

## VISITING MINISTERS.

- Elder Henry Swain, Macon, Ga.  
“ A. J. Banks, Harrison, Ga.  
“ Z. C. Hull, Atlanta, Ga.  
“ J. M. Murray, Ellaville, Ga.  
“ P. H. Byrd, Graymont, Ga.  
“ B. F. House, Opelika, Ala.  
“ W. T. White, Musella, Ga., R. F. D.  
“ J. M. Woodward, Hawkinsville, Ga.  
“ H. A. Byington, Sparks, Ga.  
“ Morgan Williams, Chipley, Ga.
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## 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.

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#### 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.

9th. 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.

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### 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.





