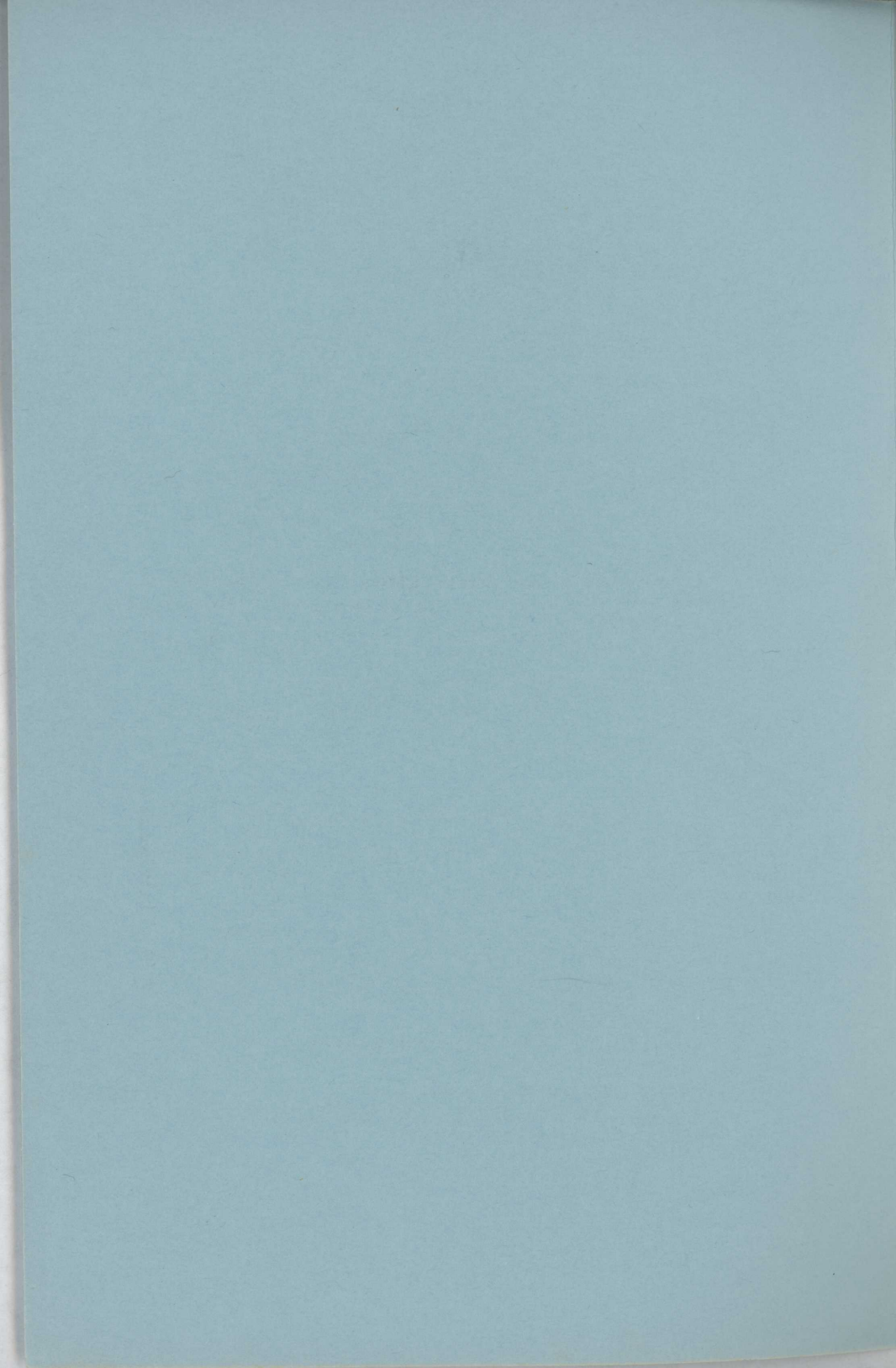


Minutes
of the
**ONE HUNDRED EIGHTIETH
ANNUAL SESSION**
of the
**ORIGINAL MAYO
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**
Held With
SUGARTREE CHURCH
Axton, Virginia
May 19, 20, 21, 1978

Next Session convenes with Axton Church, Axton, Virginia,
near Martinsville, Virginia Friday before the third Sunday
in May, 1979.

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

Copenhaver Printing Co., Martinsville, Va.



PROCEEDINGS

THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTIETH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE ORIGINAL MAYO PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION WAS HELD WITH SUGAR TREE CHURCH, PITTSYLVANIA COUNTY, VIRGINIA,

MAY 19, 20, 21, 1978

1. Services were introduced with prayer by Elder W. S. Kelley. Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder John Ashby, text: Hebrew 4:1 and Eph. 6 chapter.

2. Intermission for about an hour for lunch.

3. The congregation gathered back into the church and after song service, prayer was offered by Elder Robert Ashby. The Moderator called to order the sister churches composing the Association and ask for letters from each church. Also asked Brethren Fred Keatts and Weldon Wood to read the letters.

4. After the reading of the letters motion was made and seconded and so ordered that letters be accepted as read and to seat the messengers and record in the Statistical Table.

5. Motion was made and seconded to elect Elder L. J. Corns, Moderator and Elder Robert Ashby, Assistant Moderator.

6. Motion was made to retain our present Clerk and Assistant Clerk, seconded and so ordained.

7. Called for Petitionary letters of any church of same faith and order, desiring to be admitted to the Association — none came.

8. Called for correspondence from sister Associations:

Little River of Georgia: Elder W. S. Kelley and wife, Bro. and Sis. Jerry Kelley, Bro. and Sis. Ray Wagner, Bro. and Sis. Johnnie Cagle and children, also Bro. and Sis. Ray Wagner's daughters and son.

9. Called for visitors from visiting Associations and churches:

Little Flock Church: Bro. and Sis. Ralph Hargrave, 21509 Robertson Ave., Petersburg, Va. Sister Myrtle Dickerson, 97 Sherwood Dr., Colonial Heights, Va.

Old Mill Church: Elder and Sis. Walter Lewis.

Puckett Memorial Church: Elder and Sis. Melvin McGrady.

Zions Rest Church: Sis. Mildred Pulliam and Son.

Martin Church: Bro. Maynard and Sis. Ethel Vass.

Spoon Creek Church: Bro. Willie Maxey, Sis. Ernestine Maxey, Bro. R. C. Plaster, Sis. Elva Plaster, Bro. and Sis. Clinton Jefferson, Elder Lee and Sis. Carrie Jefferson.

South Arkansas Association: Elder Charles and Sis. Vergie Sandage - Harmony Church, Bro. Lawrence O. Clayton, Sis. Lena Clayton.
Salem Association, Arkansas: Elder Don Farris, Sis Emma Farris and daughter, Michelle, Bro. Henry Farris, Bro. Gary and Sis. Linda Lawrence.

10. Moderator appointed the following committee:
Arrangement Committee together with moderator and clerk, Brethren Fred Keatts, Noel Wilson, Elder John Ashby.

11. **Finance Committee:** Brethren Frank Keatts, Fred Keatts, Jake Divers, Landon Keatts, Weldon Wood, also motion was made and seconded and so carried that Bro. Noel Wilson write the corresponding letter.

12. Motion made and seconded so ordered for Clerk to have 500 Minutes printed and distributed and to send Minutes to Little River of Georgia Association, also to South Ark. and Salem Association of Ark.

12A. Elder Leonard Corns, Elder John and Robert Ashby agreed to visit with Little River Association of Georgia, and several have agreed Lord willing to go to Salem and South Arkansas the 2nd and 3rd week in September.

13. Arrangement Committee recommends next session of the Mayo Association be held with Axton Church, the 3rd weekend in May, 1979. Elder Leonard Corns appointed to preach the Introductory Sermon, and Elder Robert Ashby, Alternate.

ORDER OF PREACHING

Friday, May 19th:

Elder W. S. Kelley, Opening Prayer
Elder John Ashby, Introductory Sermon

Friday Afternoon:

Elder Robert Ashby, Prayer
Elder W. S. Kelley
Elder Charles Sandage, Acts 10:34-35

Friday Night:

Elder W. S. Kelley, Prayer
Elder Charles Alderton, "Return unto our First Love and the so much need for this"

Saturday Morning:

Elder Lee Jefferson, Prayer
Elder Don Farris

Saturday Morning:

Elder W. H. Lewis, Prayer

Elder Dwayne Fletcher, 1 Cor., Ch. 1, v. 30.

Elder Melvin McGrady, "Law of the Lord, keep it undefiled."

Saturday Afternoon:

Bro. Gary Lawrence, Prayer

Elder Charles Sandage, Romans, Ch. 8, v. 24.

Sunday:

Elder Melvin McGrady, Prayer

Elder Dwayne Fletcher

Elder Charles Sandage

Elder Don Farris

Elder Thomas Radford, Benediction

Finance Committee Report:

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------|
| Received from Churches | \$403.00 |
| Received from Friends | 173.00 |
| Total | 576.00 |
| Gave the Ministers | 490.00 |
| Minutes | 86.00 |
| | \$576.00 |

The Association wishes to express our thanks unto God for the wonderful way friends, brethren and everyone helped out in making this meeting so pleasant to everyone. Giving the Honor and Glory for His magnificent presence to our Heavenly Master and we want you to come to see us whenever you can.

The Clerk wishes to apologize for not recording several names, we failed to get the names by not passing out the cards to be signed and I'm afraid to say I'll do better next time.

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

VISITING MINISTERS

Elder Charles Alderton, Brightwood, Va.
Elder Lee Jefferson, Patrick Springs, Va. (703) 629-8276
Elder Melvin McGrady, Box 798, Hillsville, Va. (703) 728-3303
Elder Everett Goad, Dugspun, Va.
Elder Dwayne Fletcher, 10133 Prince Place # 202, Upper Marlboro, Md.
Elder W. S. Kelley, Rt. 1, Box 137, Canon, Georgia 30520 . . . (404) 475-5739
Elder W. H. Lewis, Rt. 1, Keeling, Va. (804) 793-9664
Elder Don Farris, Rt. 1, Box 221F, Mena, Arkansas 71953
Elder Charles Sandage, Donaldson, Arkansas

Corresponding Letter

To the Messengers, Churches and all Brethren composing the Original Mayo Association and Corresponding Associations:

Greetings,

Dear kindred in Christ, it is through the providential care of God, that He has blessed us to assemble again in this 180th Annual Session. We thank God that he has led us in the past year and blessed us to meet again in sweet peace and fellowship with one another and you our correspondence.

We bow our head and thank God for the Elders, who has come from all parts of the country, laden with good things from Heaven, we have been encouraged and lifted up above the things of this world.

Our desire is that we may always have the love and fellowship of our corresponding Brethren whom we love and esteem very highly in the Lord. Please remember us in your prayers.

Our next Association will meet with the church at Axton, Virginia, the third Friday, Saturday and Sunday in May, 1979. Come and be with us at this time. God bless you all.

N. L. Wilson

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 dismissal 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 | CLERKS AND ADDRESSES | MESSENGERS | Annual or Communion | Sunday of Meeting | Received by Baptism | Received by Letter | Restored to Fellowship | Dismissed by Letter | Excluded | Deceased | Total Membership | Contributions |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|------------------|---------------|
| Sugartree | Frank Keatts Axton, Va. 24054 | Bros. Frank & Fred Keatts, H.C. Brumfield, Sis. Mary Lou Keatts. | July | 3 | | | | | | | 17 | \$100. |
| Axton | Weldon Wood Axton, Va. 24054 | Bros. Jim Bray, Weldon Wood, Sis. Kathy Keatts, Eld. Robert Ashby | Aug. | 2 | | | | | | | 6 | \$50. |
| Zion Hill | Violet Newman Vesta, Va. | Bro. Eugene Newman, Sis. Velva Clifton, Violet Newman, Eld. Robert Ashby | Sept | 4 | | | | | | | 5 | \$35. |
| Martinsville | Jake Divens | Bro. Noel Wilson, J. Ininalm, Jake Divens, John Shumate | June | 4 | | | | | | | 29 | \$118. |
| Leatherwood | Elder John Ashby Rt. 1, Martinsville Va. | Bros. Landon Keatts, Eugene Minter, Boyd Ashby, Eld. John Ashby | Sept | 1 | | | | | | | 17 | \$100. |
| | | | TOTAL | | | | | | | | 74 | \$403. |

