MINUTES
OF THE
ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-THIRD
ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
SENTER DISTRICT
PRIMITIVE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Held With
Senter Church
Ashe County, North Carolina
September 12, 13 and 14
1986

The next session will convene with Roans Creek Church located between Jefferson, NC and Laurel Springs, NC. Take Highway 88 East out of Jefferson, NC, about seven miles.

September 11, 12, and 13, 1987

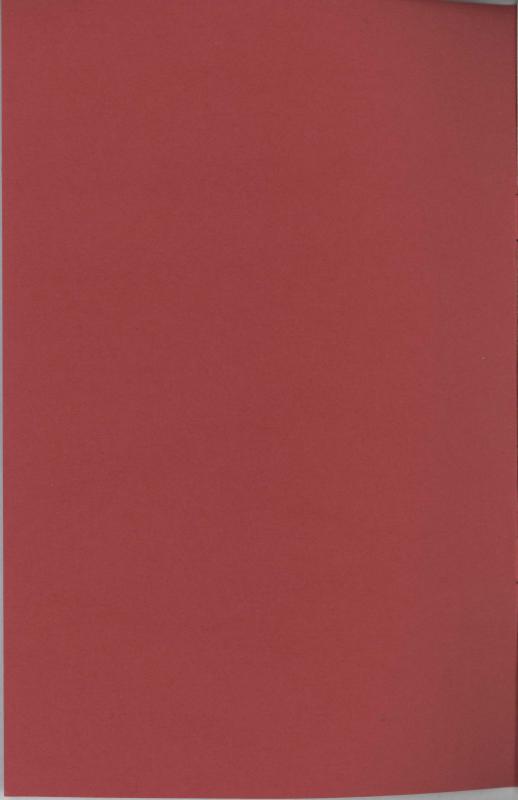


ELDER STEVE	DOUGLAS		MODERATOR
Rt. 1, Box 466,	Crumpler, NC	28617, phone:	(919) 982-2958

ELDER JAMES DEWEY McNEILL .ASSIST.MODERATOR Route 1, Crumpler, NC 28617, phone: (919) 982-3802

BROTHER BOBBY H. ABSHERCLERK
Rt. 1, Crumpler, NC 28617, phone: (919) 982-2163

BROTHER DON WALTERSASSISTANT CLERK Rt. 2, Box 129, Fleetwood, NC 28626, phone: (919) 877-4723



PROCEEDINGS

OF THE Senter District Primitive Baptist Association Held at Senter Church

Friday, September 12, 1986

The Association met pursuant to adjournment of last year and was called to order with song and prayer by Elder Norman Bowman from Mt. Lebanon Primitive Baptist Church, Woodlawn, Va.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Elder Paul Williams from Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church, Richalands, Virgínia, text: John, Chapter 11, verse 47.

The Association was opened by prayer by Elder Curtis Hash of the Mountain District Association.

ON MOTION:

- Letters from the churches were read and correspondents were seated.
- 2. The Association appointed Elder Steve Douglas as Moderator; Elder James McNeill as Assistant Moderator; Brother Bobby Absher as Clerk; and Brother Don Walters as Assistant Clerk.
 - 3. Called for petitionary letters. None were received.
- 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 Thomas Farmer, Jr.
Brother Arthur Gambill
Brother Garfield Dillard
Brother Greene Ward
Brother and Sister G. R. Douglas
Elder Curtis Has 1

SILVER CREEK ASSOCIATION of North Carolina

Elder Gene Watson Sister Barbara W. Reeves Sister Dolly Wagner Sister Doshie Whittington

UPPER CANOOCHEE ASSOCIATION of Georgia Elder George McNure

INDEPENDENT CHURCHES

Saints Delight Primitive Baptist Church of North Carolina Elder Wayne Gibbons

Indian Creek Primitive Baptist Church of West Virginia

Elder Norvel P. Mann Elder Paul E. Williams Sister Reba M. Williams Sister Madge Mann

Abbott's Creek Primitive Baptist Church of North Carolina Brother Scott Bullard

Afton Road Primitive Baptist Church of Virginia Brother and Sister John Lawrence

Mt. Lebanon Primitive Baptist Church of Virginia Elder and Sister Norman Bowman Sister Maylease Mabe

Chilhowie Primitive Baptist Church of Virginia Brother Glenn Blevins

Community Primitive Baptist Church of Virginia Sister Virginia Hylton

- 5. The moderator is to make all temporary appointments in this session.
 - A. Committee on Finance:
 Deacon Paul Bare
 Brother Norman Brown
 Brother Larry Davis
 - B. Committee on Arrangements:
 Elder Jack McGinnis
 Elder Floyd South
 Elder C. O. Yates
 Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk
 - C. Committee on Ministry:
 Brother Don Walters
 Elder James McNeill
 Elder Floyd South
 Delegates from Senter Church.
- 6. That the committee on arrangements meet after service for conference.
- 7. To adjourn the Association business until 10:00 A.M. on Saturday.

Saturday, September 12, 1986

The Association met as scheduled and was called to order with song and prayer by Elder Floyd South of Beaver Creek Church, Senter Association.

ON MOTION:

- 1. The roll call was omitted.
- 2. The reading of the Constitution and Rules of Decorum were omitted, but they are to be printed in the minutes.
- 3. The committee on arrangements recommended that we continue seating all orderly, peace-loving Primitive Baptists as visitors.
- 4. The committee on arrangements moved that the Association was in error in bringing action against Meadow Fork Church since it is an independent church. Last year's motion was dismissed.
- 5. The committee on arrangements moved that the host church is to select elders to preach introductory sermon.
- 6. The next association is to be held starting at 10:00 a.m., on Friday, before the second Sunday in September, 1987, at Roans Creek Church.
- 7. Night meetings will be held Friday and Saturday nights, September 11, and 12, 1987, with Roans Creek Church.
- 8. The clerk was appointed to oversee the printing of 350 copies of the minutes and distribution of same.
 - 9. Minutes are to be mailed to all visitors.

- 10. The Clerk was appointed as treasurer to hold the funds for printing and postage of minutes.
- 11. The finance committee is to handle the balance of the funds and distribution of the same to visiting elders.
 - 12. The obitwaries are to be printed in the minutes.
 - 13. The finance committee reported as follows:

YEAR - 1986

Received From Churches:	
Beaver Creek	\$75.00
Big Helton	
Horse Creek	30.00
North Fork	115.00
Riverview	125.00
Roans Creek	89.00
Senter	110.00
TOTAL RECEIVED FROM CHURCHES	\$630.00
Traceury Poperts	
Treasury Report: Balance from Last Year(Correction)	¢450 67
Paid out for Printing and Postage	\$452.07
of minutes last year	225 04
Treasurer returned from last year	
Received from donations Saturday and Sunday	
TOTAL RECEIVED	
	1,100.00
Expenditures:	
To the Moderator	
To the Assistant Moderator	
To the Clerk	60.00
To the Assistant Clerk	10.00
Put in Treasury for Printing & Postage	
of Minutes	350.00
Miscellaneous (Paid to Senter Church)	50.00
To visiting Elders	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,100.00
BALANCE	452.67

14. Minutes read and approved.

15. That the Association adjourn through song and prayer by Elder C. O. Yates of the Senter Association, North Carolina.

Elder Steve Douglas, Moderator Elder James McNeill, Assistant Moderator Brother Bobby H. Absher, Clerk Brother Don Walter, Assistant Clerk

ORDER OF PREACHING

FRIDAY MORNING:

Elder Norman Bowman (introduced)
Elder Paul Williams, (introductory sermon - John,
Chapter 11, verse 47.)
Elder Curtis Hash, (opened business session with
prayer)

FRIDAY AFTERNOON:

Elder Floyd South, (introduced)
Elder Jack McGinnis, (St. Luke, Chapter 10, verse 35)
Elder Curtis Hash, (Psalm, Chapter 50, verse 9)
Elder C. O. Yates, (closed with prayer)

FRIDAY NIGHT:

Elder James McNeill (introduced) Elder George McNure, (Hebrews, Chapter 10, verse 23) Elder Steve Douglas, (closed with prayer)

SATURDAY MORNING:

Elder George McNure, (introduced)
Elder Norman Bowman, (Romans, Chapter 8, verse 1)
Elder Gene Watson, (Matthew, Chapter 5, verse 9)

SATURDAY AFTERNOON:

Elder Norvel Mann, (Romans, Chapter 5, verse 12) Elder Wayne Gibbons, (Galatians, Chapter 1, verse 8) Elder James McNeill, (closed with prayer)

SATURDAY NIGHT:

Elder James McNeill, (introduced)

Elder Wayne Gibbons, (Hebrews, Chapter 11, verse 21)

Elder George McNure, (Ephesians, Chapter 6, verse 14)

Elder Steve Douglas, (closed with prayer)

SUNDAY MORNING:

Elder Norman Bowman, (introduced)

Elder Jack McGinnis, (John, Chapter 8, verse 1)

Elder George McNure, (Philippians, Chapter 3, verse 10)

Elder Steve Douglas

Elder C. O. Yates, (closed with prayer)

ANNUAL MEETING:

The Senter Primitive Baptist Church will hold a week's meeting starting on Sunday night after the second Saturday meeting in April, running through Friday night.

THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST LIBRARY

The Primitive Baptist Library is located near the town of Elon College, NC, on Highway 87, 10 miles north of Burlington. The present library building was erected in 1950 and is of brick-faced, fireproof construction. Elder W. J. Berry founded the library and spent many years collecting many books and periodicals of interest to Primitive Baptists. There are many rare volumes by the Pruitan authors of the 18th and 19th centuries, and many books and publications by the Strict Baptist of England; as well as various books and publications by the Primitive Baptists including associational minutes. The materials are available for research to all Primitive Baptists, regardless of factions. Visitors are welcome at all times.

Since the death of Elder Berry, many have asked about the future of the library. The library operates under a board of trustees who will continue to keep the library open and available for all who may be interested. The Board of Trustees is now seeking to replace the roof on the library building, and any contributions to aid in this project will be greatly appreciated. Communications should be made to Mrs. Mabel Berry, Sec.-Treasurer, Rt. 2, Box 422, Elon College, NC 27244.

OBITUARIES



BERTIE LEE BARE

Brother Bertie Lee Bare of Route 1, Jefferson, NC, passed away Sunday, July 20, 1986, at Ashe Memorial Hospital. He was born September 11, 1909, in Ashe County to Felix and Lola Taylor Bare.

Mr. Bare is survived by his wife, Ella Mae Bare; one daughter, Anne Marie Caraway; and two grandchildren, Kimberly and Bo. Also surviving are three sisters, Dora Bare of Sparta, Mazie Sturgill of Piney Creek; and Audrey Ming of Sparr, Florida; two brothers, Willie of Jefferson and Brantley of Crumpler.

Military services were held Wednesday, July 23, 1986, at 11:00 A.M., at Senter Primitive Baptist Church where he was a member and a deacon. Elder Steve Douglas, Elder James McNeill, and Elder Floyd South officiated with burial following in the church cemetery.

Brother and Sister Bare united with Senter Primitivej Church on May 13, 1951; they were baptized the same day. In August, 1956, he was ordained deacn at Senter Church.

Brother Bare was an active deacon and a faithful member who alway gave his full support to his church and to sister churches.

LESLEY VANCE JOHNSON

Brother Lesley Vance Johnson was born to W. A. and Biner Johnson on August 12, 1903. He departed this life July 17, 1986, making his stay on earth 82 years. He married Maggie Weaver who survives, along with three children; a son, Roger, of Landis, NC; two daughters, Ann J. Goodman, West Jefferson, NC; Eileen Honeycutt, Landis, NC; two brothers, Claude Johnson, Newark, N.J., and Gaither Johnson, West Jefferson, NC; two sisters, Gladys Roland, and Nina Weaver, Warrensville, Fourteen grandchildren and several greatgrandchildren also survive.

Brother Johnson professed a hope and joined North Fork Church many years ago. He will be missed by the church and his many relatives and friends.

ORDAINED ELDERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Elder G. D. Roten, Lake Ashe Road, Fleetwood, NC 28626 phone: (919) 877-4834

Elder C. O. Yates, Route 2, Fleetwood, NC 28626

Elder Jack McGinnis, Rt. 1, Box 212, North Wilkesboro, N.C. 28659 phone: (919) 670-3774

Elder Floyd South, Route 2, West Jefferson, NC 28694

phone: (919) 246-7456

Elder Steve Douglas, Route 1, Box 466, Crumpler, NC 28617 phone: (919) 982-3802

CHURCHES AND PASTORS

BEAVER CREEK - Elder Floyd South and Elder Steve Douglas **BIG HELTON - Elder Steve Douglas** HORSE CREEK - Elder Steve Douglas NORTH FORK - Elder Steve Douglas RIVERVIEW - Elders Jack McGinnis, C. O. Yates, James McNeill

ROANS CREEK - Elder Floyd South SENTER - Elder Steve Douglas: Elder Dewey Roten, Associate Pastor

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO CHURCHES

Churches and Number of Minutes Clerk and Their Addresses

BEAVER CREEK: Don Walters, Route Fleetwood, NC 28626			
BIG HELTON: Grover Burchette, Rt. 1 Warrensville, NC 28693	1,	Box	358,
HORSE CREEK: Grover Burchette, Rt. Warrensville, NC 28693	1,	Box	358,
NORTH FORK: Grover Burchette, Rt. Warrensville, NC 28693	1,	Box	358,
RIVERVIEW: C. O. Yates, Rt. 2, Box 215, Fl 28626	eet	wood	I, NC
ROANS CREEK: G. L. Mash, Route 1, Box 5 NC 28640			
SENTER: Bobby Absher, Route 1, Box 120 NC 28617			

DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES TO SISTER ASSOCIATIONS

Ebenezer: Aubrey E. Ulz, Madison, Va. 2272720
Mountain: Roy Truitt, 102 Gentry Street,
Galax, VA 2433320
Bear Creek: William J. Sparks, 3540 Beroth Circle,
Pfafftown, NC 27040
Silver Creek: Elder Gene Watson, 145 Friendly Park,
Lenoir, NC 2864520
North Carolina Collection: The Library, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27514
The Primitive Baptist Library: Rt. 2, Elon College, NC 27244
The American Baptist Historical Society: 1106 South
Goodman St., Rochester, NY 14620 2
Wake Forest University: The Z. Smith Reynolds Library,
Box 7777, Reynolds Sta., Winston-Salem, NC 27109 2
The Christian Baptist Library: P.O. Box 68, Atwood,
Tennessee2

COMMUNION MEETINGS

We wish to extend to all our churches and to the peaceloving Baptists of our faith and order an invitation to commune with us at the following churches and dates:

Beaver Creek-4th Saturday and Sunday in May Senter-2nd Saturday and Sunday in June Riverview-3rd Saturday and Sunday in June Horse Creek-4th Saturday and Sunday in June North Fork-1st Saturday and Sunday in July Big Helton-3rd Saturday and Sunday in July Roans Creek-4th Saturday and 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 imperfection, 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 Associations 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 give his light on the subject except he break the Rules of this 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 reproved by the Association as they shall think proper.

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 member 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 the last Association.
- 3. 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 infringe any internal right over any church in the union.
- 4. The Association shall be governed and ruled by a regular decorum.
- 5. The Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.
- 6. 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.
- 7. Every church in the union shall be entitled to representation in the Association.
- 8. 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.
- Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

- 10. 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.
- 11. 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.
- 12. 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.
- 13. The minutes of the Association shall be read, corrected, if need be, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association rises.
- 14. Amendments to their plan or form of government may be made at any time by a majority of the Association, when they may deem it necessary, by giving the churches twelve months' notice.
- 15. 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.
- 16. To inquire into the cause, if any church fails to represent themselves at any time in the Association.
- 17. To appropriate those monies contributed by the churches to any purpose they may think proper.
- 18. 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 only 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 work 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 sancitifed 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 a.m., and fourth Sunday, 2 p.m. A brick church building located about three miles from West Jefferson, NC. Take Hwy. 221 about one mile toward Boone, NC. Turn left on Hwy. 163 about two miles. The church is on the left side of the highway.

BIG HELTON—Sunday, 2:00 p.m., following the third Saturday. A white wood church building about one mile west of Sturgill, NC. Take Hwy. 194 from Lansing, NC, to Sturgill, NC. Turn left. The church is about one mile on the left side of the road.

HORSE CREEK-Sunday (only), 11 a.m., following the fourth Saturday. A white, wood frame building about four miles northwest of Lansing, NC. Take Hwy. 194 from West Jefferson, NC, to Lansing, NC. From Lansing, go 1353 around one mile; turn left on 1324; follow 1324 to Joe Hampton Road; follow to end of pavement; turn left to church.

NORTH FORK-Sunday (only), 2 p.m., following the first. Saturday. A white asbestos shingle church building located about three miles west of Warrensville, NC. Located between Warrensville NC, and Trade, TN. Take Hwy. 88 out of Warrensville, NC. About one mile, you will come to the North Fork of New River. Take first right-hand road. The church is about two miles on the right side of the road.

RIVERVIEW - The first and third Sunday morning, 11:00 a.m., following the third Saturday. A brick church building located about eight miles from West Jefferson, NC. Take Hwy. 221 about one mile and a half toward Boone, NC. Turn left on state road No. 1147. Go about six miles. The church is on the left side of the road.

ROANS CREEK-Fourth Saturday, 2:00 p.m., and Sunday, 11:00 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-Second Saturday, 11 a.m., and Sunday, 2 p.m. A brick church building located between Jefferson, NC, and Sparta, NC. Take Hwy. 221 out of Jefferson, NC, about eight miles near Nathan's Creek School.

STATISTICAL TABLE

	1829	1869	1898	1785	1840	1840	1785	CHURCH ORGANIZED
	SENTER	ROANS CREEK	RIVERVIEW	NORTH FORK	HORSE CREEK	BIG HELTON	BEAVER CREEK	CHURCHES
TOTALS	Brother Paul Bare, Brother Bobby Absher, Brother Norman Brown, Brother Garvey Davis, Alt.	Brother Guy Reeves, Brother Richard Bare Brother Millard Bare, Brother G. L. Mash, Alt.	Brother C. O. Yates, Brother Jack McGinnis, Brother James McNeill, Brother Paul Miller, Alt.	Brother Grover Burchette	Brother Calvin Barker	Brother Grover Burchette	Brother Larry Davis, Brother Floyd South, Brother Don Walters, Brother Robert Koontz, Alt.	MESSENGERS
	June	July	June	JULY	June	July	May	COMMUNION MONTH
	2	4	ω μ	-	4	ω	4 2	SUNDAYS OF MEETINGS
6	-	0	4	0	0	0	1	ORDAINED ELDERS
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	LIBERATED
-	0	0	0	-	0	0	0	RECEIVED BY BAPTISM
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	RECEIVED BY LETTER
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	RESTORED TO FEL.
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	DISMISSED BY LETTER
2	-	-	0	0	0	0	0	EXCLUDED
ω	-	0	0	-	0	0	-	DECEASED
172	57	36	27	16	رن ن	14	17	TOTAL MEMBERSHIP
\$630.00	110.00	89.00	125.00	115.00	30.00	86.00	\$ 75.00	CONTRIBUTION

See Directory For Time of Meetings

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