

MINUTES

of the

FIFTY-THIRD
ANNUAL SESSION

of the

**Mitchell's River Union
Baptist Association**

held with

Poplar Springs Church

in Surry County

Beginning on Friday before the
first Sunday in November

1962

ELDER H. H. BLEDSOE, Moderator
ELDER R. B. WOOD, Assistant

BROTHER CLARENCE ST. JOHN, Clerk
BROTHER CLAUDE BOTTOMS, Assistant

The next session will be held with Union Chapel Church in
Wilkes County, N. C., beginning on Friday before the first
Sunday in November, 1963 at 10:00 A. M.

ELDER H. H. BLEDSOE, Introductory Sermon
ELDER B. H. HARRISON, Alternate

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CONSTITUTION

1—This association shall be known by the name of the Mitchell's River Union Baptist Association, and shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our Union and duly sent to represent the association, who, on producing letters from their respective churches their appointments, shall be entitled to their seats. Each church shall be entitled to five delegates. In their letters is to be expressed their number in full fellowship, baptized, received by letter, by application, dismissed by letter, excluded and dead since last association.

2—The number thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor shall have any ecclesiastical power over the churches, nor shall they infringe any internal right over any church in the Union.

3—The association when convened shall be governed by a regular Decorum.

4—The association shall have a Moderator and a Secretary who shall be chosen annually by a majority of the vote of the members present, a majority of the churches being represented.

5—New churches, or regular Baptist churches of Jesus Christ of our faith and order in good standing, either dismissed by letter from sister associations or by application, by sending us a letter and delegates shall be admitted to the Union.

6—Every church in the Union shall be entitled to representation in the association.

7—Every motion made and seconded shall come under consideration of the association, except to be withdrawn by the member who made it.

8—The association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with the minutes of its proceeding; the best method of accomplishing this purpose shall be at the discretion of future associations.

9—We think it necessary to have an association fund to defray the expenses of the association, and it is the duty of each church in the Union to contribute such sums as they think proper to the association, and those moneys shall be deposited in the hands of a treasurer, who shall be accountable to the association for the same; and the association shall appropriate the money thus contributed to any purpose they may think proper.

10—There shall be an associational book wherein the proceedings of the association shall be recorded by a secretary, appointed by the association, for the same, and who shall receive a reasonable compensation for the services.

11—The minutes of the association shall be read and corrected if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, before the association adjourns.

12—Amendments to this form of government may be made at any time by a majority of the association when they deem it expedient, by giving the churches twelve months notice.

13—The association shall act as an advisory council and shall endeavor to preserve a general union of the churches, also to preserve a chain of communion among the churches and give advice in matters of difficulty.

14—The association shall have the power to withdraw any church in their Union that shall violate the rules of this Constitution or deviate from the orthodox principles of the gospel.

15—The association may correspond with sister associations, and invite any brother in the ministry in good standing, or who can bring a good recommendation of this standing, who may be present at the time of sitting.

16—The association shall have power to adjourn to any future time or place as it may think proper.

17—The benevolent institution of the day shall be no bar nor test to the fellowship, but all shall be free to sustain or not sustain the same, as they may choose.

RULES OF DECORUM

1—This association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2—Only one person shall speak at the same time, who shall arise from his seat and address the Moderator when he is about to make his speech.

3—The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by anyone except the Moderator until he is done speaking.

4—He shall strictly adhere to the subject and in no wise reflect on the person who spoke before, by making remarks on slips or failings or imperfections, but shall fairly state the matter as nearly as he can, so as to convey his light of ideas.

5—No person shall abruptly break off or absent himself from the association without liberty obtained from the body for his absence.

6—No person shall speak more than three times on one subject without liberty from the association.

7—No member of the association shall have the liberty of laughing during the sitting of the same, nor whispering in time of public speech.

8—No member of the association shall address another by any other appellation than that of the Brother.

9—The Moderator shall not interrupt any member in, or prohibit him from speaking until he gives light on the subject except he violate the Rules of Decorum.

10—The names of members of the association shall be enrolled by the secretary, and called over as often as the association shall request.

11—The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges of speech as any other member, provided the chair is filled, but he shall not vote unless the association is equally divided; then he may be given the casting vote.

12—Any member who shall willfully and knowingly break any of these rules shall be reprovod by the association as shall be deemed proper.

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 the scripture of the New and Old Testaments are the 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 man's inpotency 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 Blood of Jesus Christ, and that all who are thus regenerated and born again by the Spirit of God that keep the faith shall never fall.

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, the Lord's Supper, and Feet Washing are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of the ordinances, and we believe the only true mode of Baptism is by immersion.

8—We believe in the resurrection of the dead and general judgment and that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

9—We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel, only such as are regularly called and come under the imposition of hands by the Presbytery.

OBITUARIES: None



MINUTES

Mitchell's River Union Baptist Association 1962

PROCEEDINGS

The Association met in the fifty-third annual session according to adjournment from last association at Poplar Springs Church in Surry County, November 2, 1962, at 10:00 A. M.

Song: "I Am Thine O Lord"

Prayer by Elder R. B. Wood

Introductory Sermon: Elder R. B. Wood, St. Mark 28: 16-20; St. John 13:34

Song: "Pass Me Not O Gentle Saviour"

Handshaking

We were dismissed by prayer by Bro. Gurney Coe.

Adjourned thirty minutes

BUSINESS SESSION (FRIDAY)

Song: "O How I Love Jesus"

Devotional: Elder W. H. Peele, 1st Samuel, 21st Chapter

Prayer by Bro. Roger Bledsoe

1. Letters from the respective churches was called for. Six were handed in and read by the clerk. Roll of delegates was called and absentees marked.

2. On motion letters were received and delegates seated.

3. On motion by secret ballot, Elder H. H. Bledsoe was elected Moderator, Elder R. B. Wood Assistant. Bro. Clarence St. John was elected Clerk, Bro. Claude Bottoms, Assistant.

4. On motion: Reading of Constitution, Rules of Decorum, and Articles of Faith was omitted.

5. On motion: We invited newly constituted or other churches of our faith and order to sit with us. No one came.

6. On motion: We invited Brethren and Sisters of sister associations to sit with us. No one came.

7. On motion: The Moderator was empowered to make all temporary appointments during sitting of association.

8. On motion: We invited visiting Brethren and Sisters from sister churches.

9. Welcome Valley: Vassie Wood, Mamie Dodson, Tishie St. John; Mt. Pleasant: David Jenkins, Perlie Wright, Elder J. G. Wright; Snow Hill: Bessie Snow; Poplar Springs: Connie Bledsoe; Pine Hill: Nannie Atkins; Bear Creek: Grace Harrison

COMMITTEES

1. On Arrangements: Bros. Connie Jenkins, Isaac Wagoner, Delbert Coe
 2. On Ministry: Bros. Ottis Snow, Roger Bledsoe, Gurney Coe
 3. On Resolutions: Bros. Roger Bledsoe, R. D. Dodson, Edgar Norman
 4. On Sunday School: Elders R. B. Wood, W. H. Peele, B. H. Harrison, and Bro. Martin Boyd
 5. On Temperance: Bros. Jim Atkins, Leonard Roberts, D. W. Coe, Ray Poindexter
 6. On Finance: Bros. I. G. Wagoner, Claude Bottoms, and Elder W. H. Peele
 7. On Obituaries: Elders R. B. Wood, B. H. Harrison, and Bro. Gurney Coe
- Called for Ministry reports for Friday night and Saturday morning.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Elder W. H. Peele

SATURDAY MORNING

Bro. Leonard Roberts, Elders R. B. Wood, H. H. Bledsoe.
On Motion: We adjourned until 6:30 P. M. with handshaking.
Song: "Glory to His Name"
Dismissed by Elder J. G. Wright

FRIDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICE

Songs: "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder" and "Just Over In the Glory Land"
Prayer by Bro. Johnie Jenkins
Song: "Are You Washed In the Blood"
Sermon: Elder W. H. Peele, Genesis 24: 1-19
Song: "Sweet Hour of Prayer"
Alter call was made. No one came.
Closing Friday night services "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes"
We were dismissed by Bro. Edgar Norman

SATURDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Met at 9:00 A. M.
Songs: "We'll Work till Jesus Comes", "Glory to His Name", and "Passing Away"
Prayer by Elder B. H. Harrison
Devotional: Bro. Leonard Roberts, Isaiah 57th Chapter
Prayer by Bro. Leonard Roberts
Sermon: Elder R. B. Wood, St. John 19:31-36
Sermon: Elder H. H. Bledsoe, St. Mark 28: 1-11
Song: "In the Sweet By and By"
Prayer by Bro. Delbert Wilmoth

BUSINESS SESSION (SATURDAY)

Songs: "Blessed Assurance" and "Where He Leads Me"

Prayer: Bro. Martin Boyd

1. On motion: Roll of delegates was called and absentees marked.
2. On motion: Called for Committee report on Arrangements: We your Committee on Arrangements agree that items be taken up as found in minutes.
3. On motion: We invited Brethren and Sisters to sit with us.

RESOLUTIONS

We, your Committee on Resolutions, submit the following:

Resolved: that we counsel the churches of the Mitchell's River Union Baptist Association to strictly comply with articles laid down in the Bible. We furthermore advise the churches of the Mitchell's River Union Baptist Association to take the New Testament as their discipline, practice footwashing, and the Communion of the Lord's Supper; and let every man examine himself and so eat.

We advise the churches of the Mitchell's River Union Baptist Association to be more careful in looking after the poor and unfortunate, the widows and orphans of our churches, and if they want regular meetings, they must hold up their pastor's hands, loose them and let them go, for the laborer is worthy of his meat.

We advise our churches of the Mitchell's River Union Baptist Association to elect their pastors which is orthodox in the Gospel of Christ.

We thank God for all past blessings, for all His great goodness and tender mercies, and pray for a continuance of the same. We thank the good people of this community for their kind hospitality shown us during the association, and pray God's richest blessings be thrown upon them.

Received report and discharged committee.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, submit the following reports:

We advise all our brethren and sisters to organize Sunday Schools in their respective churches and elect Christian officers and teachers to preside over their children and teach the Bible. Teach the children to sing the sweet old songs of Zion and inculcate the word of God, for in Proverbs, Chapter 22:6 it says, "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it."

We ask that all teachers when appointed be advised to win souls as well as teach.

We ask that all good people pray that God's richest blessings be thrown around our Sunday Schools, that we might be able to teach our children in the way that would be pleasing in the sight of God.

TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following:

A person may be intemperate in more than one habit. Intemperate habits are violating God's Holy Laws, and all have penalties. I Corinthians 3:16-17—"Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the spirit dwelleth in you. If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy for the temple of God is Holy." I Corinthians 6:17—"But he that is joined unto the Lord is one spirit." 18—"Flee fornication. Every sin that a man does is without the body." I Peter 2:11—"dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul." Verse 15—"For so is the will of God that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men."

REFERENCES

Luke 21:34
James 1:26

Revelation 3:12
Revelation 7:15

SUNDAY SCHOOL STATISTICAL REPORT

| CHURCHES | SUPERINTENDENTS | No. Sundays Held In Yr. | Average Attendance | Average Offering |
|---------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| Snow Hill..... | Roy White..... | 45 | 24 | \$ 4.50 |
| Welcome Valley..... | Arvil Beach..... | 50 | 28 | 13.25 |
| Bear Creek..... | J. D. Stanley..... | 50 | 35 | 13.39 |

TREASURY REPORT FOR 1962

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Brought forward from 1961 | \$ 32.79 |
| Received from the churches: | |
| Welcome Valley | 20.00 |
| Mt. Pleasant | 25.00 |
| Snow Hill | 4.50 |
| Poplar Springs | 20.00 |
| Union Chapel | 15.10 |
| Bear Creek | 25.00 |
| Total | \$142.39 |

On motion received report and discharged committee.

EXPENSES 1962

Paid for printing minutes (incl. tax \$2.55) \$ 87.55
Paid Moderator 10.00
Clerk received 10.00
Typing fee 10.00

Total \$117.55

Bal. in Treasury \$ 24.84

Baptist Hospital Offering from Welcome Valley \$41.00

Called for committee report on obituaries. We your committee request that all obituaries handed in at this association be printed; otherwise, wait until next association.

Received report and discharged committee.

The association agreed that 200 copies of the minutes be printed and the Moderator and clerk each receive \$10.00 for their services.

Called for Ministry report for Saturday night and Sunday morning.

SATURDAY NIGHT

Elders R. B. Wood and W. H. Peele

SUNDAY MORNING

Elders W. H. Peele and H. H. Bledsoe

On motion we adjourned until Saturday night 6:30.

Song: "O Come Angel Band"

We were dismissed by Bro. Warren Boyd.

Closing the business session of the 53rd annual session of the Mitchell's River Union Baptist Association

Elder H. H. Bledsoe, Moderator
Clarence St. John, Clerk

SATURDAY NIGHT WORSHIP SERVICES

Song: "Near the Cross"

Remarks: Moderator

Song: "No Not One"

Prayer: Elder H. H. Bledsoe

Sermon: Elder R. B. Wood, I Peter 4:11-14

Song: "Just Over in the Glory Land"

Sermon: Elder W. H. Peele, Revelation 21: 1-5, St. Luke 10: 25

Song: "Softly and Tenderly"

Remarks: Moderator

Song: "O How I Love Jesus"

Dismissed by Bro. Milton Jenkins

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Met in worship service at 10:00 o'clock

Songs: "Only Trust Him", "O Happy Day", "Revive Us Again"

Prayer by Bro. Johnie Nelson

Sermon: Elder W. H. Peele, II Timothy 4: 1-9

Song: Elder H. H. Bledsoe, "I've Been Drinking from that Fountain"

Sermon: Elder H. H. Bledsoe, St. Luke 19: 16-25

Songs: "There Is a Fountain", "We'll Work till Jesus Comes"

Elder Porter Childress

Sister Wood

Elder Vurgal Jenkins

Bro. Leonard Roberts

Elder W. H. Peele

We were dismissed by Elder Vurgal Jenkins.

Closing the 53rd Annual Session of the Mitchell's River Union Baptist Association.

ROLL OF DELEGATES

Mt. Pleasant delegates: Bro. Milton Jenkins, Gurney Coe, Connie Jenkins, Hazel Jenkins, Elder H. H. Bledsoe; Alternates: Bro. Johnie Jenkins, Elder Neal Axsom.

Snow Hill delegates: Bros. W. H. Harrison, Ottis Snow, Ernest Fowler, Roy White, Leonard Roberts

Bear Creek delegates: Elder B. H. Harrison, Bros. Martin Boyd, Delbert Coe, J. D. Stanley, Bill Stanley; Alternates: Delbert Wilmoth, J. W. Key, Edgar Norman

Union Chapel delegates: Bros. I. G. Wagoner, Johnie Nelson, William Cleary, Elders V. L. Jenkins, Allen Wagoner

Welcome Valley delegates: Bros. Arvil Beech, Clarence St. John, R. D. Dodson, Vernel Nance, Elder R. B. Wood; Alternates: Bros. Charlie Freeman, Billy St. John

Poplar Springs delegates: Elder W. H. Peele, Bros. Roger Bledsoe, Jim Atkins, Roy Poindexter, Claude Bottoms

COMMUNION DATES

Poplar Springs 1st Sunday Night in August
Mount Pleasant 2nd Sunday in August
Welcome Valley 2nd Sunday Night in August
Snow Hill 3rd Sunday Night in August
Union Chapel 3rd Sunday in August
Bear Creek 4th Sunday in August

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF LIBERATED MINISTERS

Bro. Arvil Beach Elkin, N. C.
Bro. Leonard Roberts Dobson, N. C.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Elder B. H. Harrison Dobson, N. C.
Elder W. H. Peele Siloam, N. C.
Elder H. H. Bledsoe Siloam, N. C.
Elder Wilson Brown McGrady, N. C.
Elder Porter Childress Jonesville, N. C.
Elder R. B. Wood Jonesville, N. C.
Elder Gene Snow Pinnacle, N. C.
Elder Neal Axsom Dobson, N. C.
Elder Harley Sizemore Siloam, N. C.
Elder Joe Wright Elkin, N. C.



STATISTICAL TABLE

| CHURCHES | | Meeting Time | | | | | | | | | | | Contributions |
|----------------------|-----|--------------|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|-----------------|
| Mount Pleasant | 2nd | 8 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 113 | \$ 25.00 |
| Welcome Valley | 2nd | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 28 | 20.00 |
| Poplar Springs | 1st | 0 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 73 | 20.00 |
| Snow Hill | 3rd | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 30 | 4.50 |
| Bear Creek | 4th | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 63 | 25.00 |
| Union Chapel | 3rd | 5 | 7 | 13 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 90 | 15.10 |
| TOTAL | | | | | | | | | | | | | \$109.60 |

CHURCH DIRECTORY

| Churches | Pastors | Address | Clerks | Address |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Mount Pleasant | H. H. Bledsoe | Siloam, N. C. | Milton Jenkins | Dobson, N. C. |
| Snow Hill | Joe G. Wright | Elkin, N. C. | Otis Snow | Dobson, N. C. |
| Welcome Valley ... | R. B. Wood | Jonesville, N. C. | Clarence St. John ... | Jonesville, N. C. |
| Bear Creek | B. H. Harrison ... H. H. Bledsoe ... | Dobson, N. C. Siloam, N. C. | J. W. Key | Dobson, N. C. |
| Union Chapel | W. H. Peele | Siloam, N. C. | I. G. Wagoner | McGrady, N. C. |
| Poplar Springs | H. H. Bledsoe ... W. H. Peele | Siloam, N. C. Siloam, N. C. | Warren Boyd | Siloam, N. C. |

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