

MINUTES
of the
Forty-sixth Annual Session
of the
**Mitchell's River
Baptist Association**

held with
Snow Hill Church
In Surry County, N. C.

**Beginning on Friday Before the
First Lord's Day in November**
— 1955 —

ELDER C. H. HAYES, Moderator
BROTHER CLAY WHITAKER, Clerk

The next session will be held with Poplar Springs Church in Surry County, N. C., beginning on Friday before the first Sunday in November, 1956.

ELDER B. H. HARRISON, Introductory Sermon
ELDER R. B. WOOD, Alternate

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CONSTITUTION

1—This association shall be known by the name of the Mitchell's River 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7—Every motion made and seconded shall come under consideration of the association, except to be withdrawn by the member who made it.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 associational 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 the association, 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 power to withdraw from 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 that 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 institutions 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 obtained 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 reprov'd 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 impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature by his own free will and 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, the Lord's Supper, and Feet Washing are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of these 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 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

Hiram Winfield Jenkins, son of Minor and Nancy Stanley Jenkins, was born October 6, 1865, died November 18, 1954, making his stay on earth 89 years 1 month and 12 days. He professed a hope in Christ 46 years ago and later joined Mount Pleasant Baptist Church. He remained a faithful servant until the end. He told his friends and loved ones he was ready to meet Jesus. He was married to Nora Adams in 1893. Unto this union was born five children, two deceased and three living: David Jenkins of Dobson, N. C., John A. Jenkins of King, N. C., and Doctor Jenkins of Dobson, N. C. He is survived by his wife, three sons, three grandchildren, one great-grandchild, and a host of relatives and friends.

Dear husband and father is gone
O, how sad; O, how sad;
Our hearts are grieved with pain
The pain of death has passed
Labor and sorrow are no more
Gone to meet Jesus and loved ones
For those who meet in Heaven
Will never part any more.

Written by a Granddaughter,
Mrs. Delma Greenwood.

MINUTES

Mitchell's River Baptist Association

1955

PROCEEDINGS

The Association met in the forty-sixth annual session at Snow Hill Church November 4, 1955, at 10:00 A. M.

Song: "O Come Angel Band"

Devotional: Elder C. H. Hayes

Prayer: Elder W. H. Peele

Song: "What A Friend We Have In Jesus"

Prayer: Elder B. H. Harrison

Introductory Sermon—Elder J. W. Bledsoe. Heb. 12:1-3

Dismissed by Prayer: Elder R. B. Wood

Adjourned 15 minutes

BUSINESS SESSION

FRIDAY

Song: "There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood"

Prayer: Bro. Alfred Wagoner

1—Letters were called for. Five were handed in and read by the Clerk. The roll of delegates was called, and absentees marked.

2—On motion we received the letters and seated the delegates.

3—On motion Elder C. H. Hayes, Moderator, and Brother Clay Whitaker, Clerk, were re-elected by acclamation.

4—On motion the reading of Constitution, Rules of Decorum and Articles of Faith were omitted.

5—On motion: We invited newly constituted, or other churches of the same faith and order, to sit with us. None came.

6—On motion we invited visiting Brethren and Sister Associations. Bro. Coy Johnson of Liberty Association and Bro. Thomas Beck of Mount Airy, came forward and were seated.

7—On motion we invited Corresponding Brethren from Sister Associations. None came.

8—On motion the Moderator was empowered to make all temporary appointments during sitting of Association.

9—On motion we invited visiting Brethren and Sisters from Sister Churches.

10—Bear Creek: Sisters Gracie Harrison and Janie Coe. Mt. Pleasant: Sister Carrie Axsom.

COMMITTEES

11—On Ministry: Brothers I. G. Wagoner, Genie Snow and Paul Childress.

12—On Resolutions: Brothers D. W. Coe, Harrison Wagoner, Warren Boyd.

13—On Sunday Schools: Brothers Roger Bledsoe, Alfred Wagoner, Edgar Norman.

14—On Finance: Brothers Leonard Roberts, Roy Poindexter, Roy White.

15—On Temperance: Elders R. B. Wood, N. C. Axsom, and Brother David Jenkins.

16—On Arrangements: Elders W. H. Peele, B. H. Harrison, Moderator and Clerk added.

17—On Obituaries: Brothers Hazel Jenkins, Earnest Fowler, Leonard Roberts.

18—Ministry report for Friday night and Saturday morning.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Elder N. C. Axsom and Elder W. H. Peele.

SATURDAY MORNING

Brother Leonard Roberts, Elder B. H. Harrison, Elder R. B. Wood.

19—On motion we adjourned until Friday night, 6:30.

Song: "What a Friend We Have In Jesus"

Dismissed by Prayer: Elder J. W. Bledsoe

FRIDAY NIGHT

Met according to appointment at 6:30.

Songs: "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes", "Jesus Paid It All" by Snow Hill Choir.

Prayer: Rev. E. M. Eldrige

Sermon: Elder N. C. Axsom. St. John 14.

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

Songs: "Heaven Will Be Worth It All", "Some One Who Cares".

Seromn: Rev. E. M. Eldrige. Romans 12:1.

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

Song: "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms".

Seromn: Elder W. H. Peele. Jer. 32:16-17.

Songs: "Amazing Grace", "There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood".

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

We were dismissed by Elder R. B. Wood.

SATURDAY MORNING

Met according to appointment at 10:00 A. M.

Song: "Are You Washed In The Blood?"

Devotional: Brother Edgar Norman. St. John 14:1-15.

Prayer: Brother Earnest Wall.

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

Sermon: Brother Leonard Roberts. Ezekiel 33.

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

Song: "Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross."

Sermon: Elder B. H. Harrison. I Peter 4:6-17.

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

Sermon: Elder R. B. Wood. St. John 7:37-39.

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

We were dismissed by Brother Genie Snow. Adjourned 15 minutes.

BUSINESS SESSION ON SATURDAY

20—Song: "Near The Cross."

Prayer: Brother Alfred Wagoner.

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

21—On motion the roll of delegates was called and absentees marked.

22—Called for Bill of Arrangements, Committee submits the following: That items be taken up as found in minutes and dispose of same. Committee—Elders W. H. Peele, B. H. Harrison, Brother Ottis Snow, Moderator and Clerk added.

23—On motion we invited visiting Brethren and Sisters from Sister Churches. None came.

24—On motion we invited visiting Brethren from Sister Associations. No one came.

RESOLUTIONS

We your Committee on Resolutions, submit the following:

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

We advise the churches of the Mitchell's River 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 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 around them.

Remarks: Elders W. H. Peele, C. H. Hayes and others. Committee: Brothers D. W. Coe, Harrison Wagoner, Warren Boyd.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, submit the following report. 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 22:26 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.

Remarks: Brothers Edgar Norman, Leonard Roberts. Committee: Brothers Roger Bledsoe, Alfred Wagoner, Edgar Norman.

TEMPERANCE

We, the committee of Temperance submit the followin:

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 fleshy 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

Remarks: Elder W. H. Peele, Leonard Roberts. Committee: Elders R. B. Wood, N. C. Axsom, Brother David Jenkins.

TREASURY REPORT FOR 1954

Received from Churches	\$80.60
Balance in Treasury	5.00
Total	\$85.60

EXPENSES

Paid for Printing Minutes	\$65.00
Paid Moderator	10.00
Clerk Received	10.00
Writing Material	.45
Mailing Expense	.45
Total	\$85.60

FINANCE REPORT FOR 1955

Churches:	
Snow Hill	\$15.75
Poplar Springs	24.20
Bear Creek	19.70
Mount Pleasant	15.70
Union Chapel	10.70
Total	<u>\$86.05</u>

Received report and discharged committee.

The Association agreed that 200 copies of Minutes be printed and that the Moderator and Clerk each receive \$10.00 for their services.

Committee report on Obituaries recommended that all obituaries be printed. Report received and committee discharged.

Called for Ministry report for Saturday night and Sunday morning.

SATURDAY NIGHT

Elder W. H. Peele, Elder Wilson Brown, Elder R. B. Wood.

SUNDAY MORNING

Elder B. H. Harrison, Elder C. H. Hayes.

On motion Poplar Springs will have next Association.

Introductory Sermon by Elder B. H. Harrison. Elder R. B. Wood alternate.

Song: "Rock of Ages."

Dismissed by Prayer: Brother Roger Bledsoe.

Closing the Forty-sixth Annual Session of the Mitchell's River Baptist Association.

Elder C. H. Hayes, Moderator

Signed

Clay Whitaker, Clerk

SATURDAY NIGHT

Met according to appointment at 6:30 P. M.

Songs: "Farther Along," "Are You Washed In the Blood," and others by mixed choir from all Churches.

Prayer: Rev. E. M. Eldrige.

Songs: "We'll Be Happy," "This World Is Not My Home," "Just Rehearsing" by the Bledsoe Trio; "I'm Going To Make Heaven My Home" by Herman Bledsoe.

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

Sermon: Elder W. H. Peele, Joshua 7:14,

Song: "Where Could I Go But To the Lord" by Wall Sisters Trio.

Sermon: Elder Wilson Brown. Luke 15:11.

Prayer: Rev. E. M. Eldrige.

Sermon: Rev. E. M. Eldrige. St. John 3.

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

Sermon: Elder R. B. Wood. I Thess. 14:28.

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

Testimonies: Brother Leonard Roberts, Elder J. W. Bledsoe.

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

Song: "There Is A Fountain Filled With Blood."

Old Time Handshaking and Praising God.

We were dismissed by Elder B. H. Harrison.

SUNDAY MORNING

Met according to appointment at 10 A. M.

Songs: "I'll Be Satisfied," "Take The Name Of Jesus With You," and others, by Mixed Choir.

Songs: "I Need No Mansion Here Below," "We'll Work 'Till Jesus Comes," by the Wall Sisters.

Prayer: Elder H. H. Bledsoe.

Song: "We Shall Meet," by Mt. Pleasant Duet.

Devotional: Elder W. H. Peele. Psalm 61.

Prayer: Elder N. C. Axsom.

Song: "Amazing Grace."

Sermon: Elder B. H. Harrison. Gal. 5:16.

Remarks: Elder C. H. Hayes.

Sermon: Elder C. H. Hayes.

Songs: "Gathering Home," "I Feel Like Traveling On," with old-time handshaking and praising God.

We were dismissed by Elder C. H. Hayes.

ROLL OF DELEGATES

Snow Hill: Brothers Leonard Roberts, Roy White, Earnest Fowler, Ottis Snow, W. H. Harrison, Levi Hodge, Elder R. B. Wood.

Bear Creek: Elders C. H. Hayes, B. H. Harrison, Brothers Edgar Norman, Delbert Wilmoth, Foy Hanes, Walter Hanes, William Hanes.

Mount Pleasant: Elder N. C. Axsom, Brothers David Jenkins, Hazel Jenkins, Grady Bledsoe, Paul Childress.

Union Chapel: I. G. Wagoner, B. H. Wagoner, C. C. Wagoner, Alfred Wagoner.

Poplar Springs: Elder W. H. Peele, Brothers Earnest Wall, Roy Poindexter, Roger Bledsoe, Warren Boyd, Claud Bottoms, Genie Snow.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF LIBERATED MINISTERS

Brother G. H. Childress	Rusk, N. C.
Brother Leonard Roberts	Dobson, N. C.
Brother Alfred Wagoner	McGrady, N. C.

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Elder H. H. Bledsoe	Ararat, N. C.
Elder J. W. Bledsoe	King, N. C.
Elder N. C. Axsom	Dobson, N. C.
Elder B. H. Harrison	Dobson, N. C.
Elder R. B. Wood	Jonesville, N. C.
Elder W. H. Peele	Siloam, N. C.
Elder C. H. Hayes	Elkin, N. C.
Elder Franklin Royal	Whitehead, N. C.
Elder Wilson Brown	McGrady, N. C.

COMMUNION DATES

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



Rev J. W. Bledsae
Died Feb 26 1956

Rev J W Bledsae