

MINUTES
OF THE
ONE HUNDRETH AND SECOND
ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE
Fisher's River
Primitive Baptist
Association

HELD WITH
The Church at State Road
Surry County, North Carolina
FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
July 6th, 7th and 8th, 1934



OFFICERS

ELD. F. P. STONE, Moderator
R. F. D. No. 1, Francisco, North Carolina
ELD. GEO. DENNY Clerk
Pilot Mountain, North Carolina
FRANK R. STONE Assistant Clerk
Route 1, Francisco, North Carolina

PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY

1. Service was introduced by song and prayer by Elder C. L. Roberts of Mountain Association and introductory sermon preached by Elder George Denny.

2. After intermission the messengers assembled in the house and the work of the Association was opened with prayer by Elder G. W. Harris.

3. The letters from the churches were handed in, read and messengers seated, except Union and Stuarts Creek and a motion and second was made to refer their letters to the committee on arrangements and unanimously carried.

4. Deacon J. D. Key and Elder R. P. Vass was appointed to hold the election of moderator and clerks. Elder F. P. Stone was put in nomination for moderator, Elder Geo. Denny for clerk and Frank R. Stone assistant clerk. There being no others they were elected by acclamation.

5. Moved, seconded and carried that the preacher be elected by private ballot—three to be elected and the moderator to appoint more if we have time to preach them.

6. A petitionary letter was handed in by a body of nine members who had withdrawn from Franklin Church and it was referred to the committee.

7. Called for visitors; Elders G. C. and C. L. Roberts, Brother and sister Wagoner and Brother and sister Reeves reported from the mountain, Elder W. J. Brown from Mayo, Elder R. P. Vass from New River. Elder J. C. Dunbar objected to Elder Vass being received and it was referred to the committee on arrangement, and a file of minutes was received from Kehukee, Contentnea, Kettocton L. Country Line, Roaring River, Little River, Bear Creek, Senter, Staunton River, New River, Abbotts Creek, Pigg River, Salem and Kettocton.

8. Appointed moderator to make all committee appointments.

9. And he appointed Deacons, C. L. Slaughter and J. H. Hunter, a committee on finance.

10. Deacons J. H. Sheets and L. G. Tucker as a committee to distribute corresponding minutes.

11. Appointed Deacons W. A. Palmer, J. W. Pilson and S. L. Arrington to serve with the moderator and clerk as a committee on arrangements.

12. Adjourned to meet on Saturday at 9.30 o'clock and preaching to begin each day at 10 o'clock.

SATURDAY MORNING

1. Service was introduced by song and prayer by the moderator.

2. Called roll of messengers.

3. Called for the report of committee on arrangements—their report was read, approved and committee discharged.

4. Ordered obituary of Elder G. O. Key be attached to these minutes.

5. Circular letter received and ordered attached to these minutes.

6. Omitted the reading of articles of faith and rules of decorum, but ordered that they and our constitution be printed in our minutes.

7. Due to the disturbed condition existing in Union Church as to the contention of Elder J. C. Dunbar which is in direct opposition to the work of our Association and this being his home church the committee on arrangements recommended that she be not seated. Then Elder Dunbar set up a claim that the Association was out of order, because the moderator called Elder G. W. Harris, a Elder of Stuarts Creek Church to the chair Friday while he, the moderator made a little talk. There had been an objection filed against seating of Stuarts Creek Church and a motion and second made to refer her letter to the committee on arrangements but they had not been nonseated but was later referred to the committee for an investigation. (See Item 9 Saturdays proceedings) Elder Dunbar declared a nonfellowship for the above (as he claimed) disorder, and also declared himself and his followers the Fishers River Association. State Road and Laurel Springs churches withdrew with him. (But we deny the charge of any disorder or that he has any right to our name moderator.)

8. Union Church being not seated, automatically debar Elder Dunbar as a messenger from State Road Church and we also find that Item one in our constitution would prohibit a member serving a church as messenger other than his home church, which reads as follows: via, The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union and sent to represent them in the Association, who shall be members best qualified for that purpose and producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment shall be entitled to seats.

9. Elder J. C. Dunbar not being a member of Stuarts Creek Church we cannot hold them responsible for his opposition towards the Association. It was moved, seconded and unanimously carried that her messengers be seated.

10. There was a motion and second made to seat Elder R. P. Vass as a visitor from New River and was unanimously carried.

11. In answer to the petitionary letter received, we recommend that all members who are loyal to the Fishers River Association and have withdrawn from the disorder of their

churches or turned out because of difference of opinion and can show that they were formerly in good standing, may be received into fellowship by other churches and recognized by our Association.

12. The committee on arrangements sent in this query. Should a member who is ordained a deacon by his church move his membership to another church, would he become a deacon of that church without action of the body. We say that in our opinion he would not until voted in by that body.

13. Elder W. J. Brown, J. G. Fulk and Elder R. P. Vass was elected to preach Saturday A. M. Sunday: C. L. Roberts, G. W. Harris, B. P. Broadway, F. P. Stone.

14. Appointed Elder Geo. Denny to write our next circular letter.

15. Agreed that the next session of this Association be held with the church in the town of Pilot Mountain, N. C., Friday, Saturday and Second Sunday in July, 1935.

16. Ordered that the clerk have 1000 of these minutes printed and distributed as usual.

17. Agreed that we give our clerk and moderator the usual fee.

18. Called for report of finance committee and they reported:

Received from churches, brethren and friends	\$59.00
Paid for printing minutes and postage	\$30.00
Gave Clerk	\$15.00
Gave Moderator	10.00
Balance in Clerk's hands	\$4.00
Report received and committee discharged.	

19. Voted a resolution of thanks to the brethren, sisters and friends for caring for this association so nicely and the large audience for the good order.

20. These minutes was read and approved.

21. Then adjourned to meet at time and place appointed.

ELD. F. P. STONE, Moderator, R. 2, Dobson, N. C.

ELD. GEO. DENNY, Clerk, Pilot Mountain, N. C.

FRANK R. STONE, Ast. Clerk, R. 1, Francisco, N. C.

ORDER OF PREACHING

FRIDAY	Eld. Geo. Denny. Text, Matthew 5:17.
SATURDAY	W. J. Brown. Text, Isah 26:1. J. G. Fulk. Text, Heb. 4:12. R. P. Vass. Text, Eph. 1:1-5. S. G. Roberts. No special text.
SUNDAY	C. L. Roberts. Text, 1st. Cor. 2:2. G. W. Harris. Text, John 21:18. B. P. Broadway. Text, Heb. 13:1. F. P. Stone. No special text.

CIRCULAR LETTER

Being appointed to write a circular letter to be attached to the minutes of our next Association I will now try to comply with the request. I know no subject more appropriate than the language of the savior saying this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness and then shall the end come. We feel that the gospel is a sweet message from heaven and is always preached in a spirit of love and is never lost or wasted like material things but portrays richly the beauties of a Christian life. When the gospel is preached believers in Jesus Christ are edified and God is praised.

There has been much said about the gospel. However, we are taught in Revelations that the angel flying in the midst of heaven with the everlasting gospel to preach to them that are on the earth was saying, "Fear God and give glory to Him and worship Him that made heaven and earth and the sea and the fountains of waters", so it's conclusive that the gospel is that witness that stands out over and above all things earthly and testifies concerning the Kingdom of God.

It was God's purpose that this gospel should be preached and believers are listening for it until the savior comes in the clouds to take those that remain on the earth.

This July 2nd. 1934.

ELD. GEO. DENNY.

OBITUARY OF ELD. G. O. KEY

Eld. Key was born May 14th, 1854 and departed this life November 22, 1933. He joined the church at Union about the date of 1885 and was baptized by Eld. D. S. Webb. He was soon liberated to speak in public and his gift soon made room for him at home and abroad, calling for his acclamation at an early period of life. Churches prospered under his care and he labored extensively the remainder of his life.

The church at Pilot Mt. was constituted in the date of 1896. Eld Key moved there and being much interested in the progress of the church he gave liberally of his means and labor in selecting a will lot and erecting the building. He was married to Eliza Jones Oct. 3rd., 1877. To this union were born ten children—six preceded him to the great beyond. He was very industrious and blessed with a good home and provided well for those about him. In his death we feel that the community has lost one of its best citizens, the family a good husband and father, the church a good pastor and able defender of the grand cause for which he labored.

This July 1, 1934.

Eld. Geo. Denny

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article I. We believe in one only true and living God, who rules all things after his own will, and that he, who created all things, is infinite in power, wisdom, knowledge and 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 that there are three that bear witness on earth—the water, the spirit and the blood, and that these three agree in one.

Article II. 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 that they contain all things necessary to be known for the salvation of men and women.

Article III. 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.

Article IV. 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, all who are finally saved, to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that fadeth not away, reserved in Heaven for all true saints; and that none come to Christ only those whom he loved with an everlasting love and in due time calls to everlasting Glory.

Article V. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Article VI. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by his own free will and ability.

Article VII. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

Article VIII. We believe that God's elect will be called, converted regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

Article IX. We believe the saints shall preserve in grace and never finally fall away.

Article X. We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects of the ordinances, and that the true mode of baptism is by immersion.

Article XI. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a

general judgment.

Article XII. We believe the punishment of the wicked will be eternal and the joys of the righteous everlasting.

Article XIII. 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.

CONSTITUTION

I. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union and sent to represent them in the Association, who shall be members best qualified for that purpose; and producing letters from their respective churches certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats; but no church shall have more than three representatives in the Association.

II. In the letters from the different churches shall be expressed their; number in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, dismissed by letter, excommunicated and dead since the last Association. These facts are to be expressed only in the letters to the fall Association.

III. The members thus chosen and received shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor shall they use any ecclesiastical power over the churches, nor shall they infringe on any of the internal rights of the churches in the union.

IV. The Association, when convened, shall be governed and ruled by a regular and proper decorum.

V. The Association shall have a moderator and clerk, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

VI. New churches may be admitted into this Association, who shall petition by letter and messengers; and upon examination, if found orthodox and orderly shall be received by the Association, and manifested by the moderator giving the messengers the right hand of fellowship.

VII. Every church in the union shall be entitled to representation in the Association.

VIII. Every query presented, by any member in the Association, shall be received and answered according to the scriptures.

IX. Every motion made and seconded shall be considered by the Association, except it be withdrawn by he who made it

X. There shall be an Association book kept, wherein the proceedings of the Association shall be recorded by the clerk appointed by the Association.

XI. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if need be, and signed by the moderator and clerk before the Association rises.

XII. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made at any time when the Association may think proper.

XIII. We hold no fellowship with any secret order.

XIV. The Association shall have power (1) to provide for the general union of the churches; (2) To preserve inviolable a chain of communion among the churches; (3) To give the churches all necessary advice in matters of difficulty; (4) To inquire into the cause why the churches fail at any time to represent themselves in the Association; (5) To appoint any member or members, by and with his or their consent, to transact any business which it sees necessary; (6) To withdraw from any church in this union which shall violate the rules of this Association, or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion; (7) To admit any of our distant brethren into the Association, as assistants, who may be present at the time of its sitting if it shall think necessary; (8) To adjourn themselves to any future time or place which they may think convenient to the churches in this union.

RULES OF DECORUM

I. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

II. The moderator and clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

III. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall arise from his seat and address the moderator.

IV. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by any, except the moderator, till he is done speaking.

V. He shall strictly adhere to the subject, and in no wise reflect on the person who spoke before, so as to make remarks on his slips, failings or imperfections, but shall fairly state the case and matter, as near as he can, so as to convey his idea.

VI. No person shall abruptly break off, or absent himself from the Association without leave from it.

VII. No person shall rise and speak more than three times on one subject, without liberty obtained from the Association.

VIII. No member of the Association shall have the liberty of laughing during the sitting of the same, nor of whispering in time of a public speech.

IX. No member of the Association shall address another in any other appellation other than that of Brother.

X. The moderator shall not interrupt any member in his speech nor prohibit him from speaking till he gives his light on the subject except he break the rules of this decorum.

XI. The names of the several members of the Association shall be enrolled by the clerk and called over as the Association thinks proper.

XII. The moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as other members, provided the chair be filled.

XIII. Any member who shall willfully and knowingly break any of these rules shall be reproved by the Association as it may think proper.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ELDERS

F. P. Stone R. 2, Dobson, N. C.
 Jas. W. Creed R. 1, Ararat, N. C.
 Geo. Denny Pilot Mountain, N. C.
 G. W. Harris R. 5, Mt. Airy, N. C.
 J. L. Pyrtle Mayodan, N. C.

LICENTIATES

J. D. Key Cleveland Ave., Winston-Salem, N. C.
 J. S. Key R. 3, Sanford, N. C.
 J. G. Fulk R. 4, Mt. Airy, N. C.

CHURCHES AND MODERATORS

Ararat (Cedar Hill) Eld. Geo. Denny
 Boyles Chapel Eld. S. H. Reed
 Deep Creek Eld. S. H. Reed
 Dover
 Hagans Creek Eld. F. P. Stone
 Hollingsworth Grove Eld. G. W. Harris
 Liberty Eld. Jas. W. Creed
 Little Vine Eld. J. R. Beasley
 Mulberry Eld. F. P. Stone
 Mitchells River Eld. G. C. Roberts
 Pilot Mountain Eld. Geo. Denny
 Rock House Eld. W. J. Brown
 Stony Creek Elders F. P. Stone, Jas. W. Creed
 Stewarts Creek Eld. G. W. Harris
 Toms Creek Elders F. P. Stone, G. W. Harris
 Union Eld. Jas. W. Creed
 Volunteer Eld. W. J. Brown

Distribution of Minutes to Sister Associations

Association	Clerk	Post Office	No. Min.
T. R. Freeman	Steeds, N. C.	12 Abbotts Creek
Black Creek	Eld. E. L. Cobb	Wilson, N. C.	24
Bear Creek	J. W. Jones	Peachland, N. C.	18
Contentnea	Eld. J. E. Newborn	R. 4 Snow Hill, N. C.	24
Kehukee	Eld. B. S. Cowin	Williamston, N. C.	30
Ketocton	Eld. C. W. Miller	Box 86, Rosslyn, Va.	20
Lower Country Line	J. H. Gooch	Stem, N. C.	18
Little River	Eld. L. H. Stephens	Willow Springs, N. C.	25
Mountain	J. M. Rector	Baywood, Va.	18
New River	Eld. J. M. Dickerson	Floyd, Va.	30
Pig River	Eld. E. L. Blankenship	Boone Mill, Va.	25
Roaring River	J. A. Miller	Laurel Springs, N. C.	10
Salem	J. H. McKaughan	Kernersville, N. C.	12
Mayo	S. G. Dobyms	Stuart, Va.	16
Upper Country Line	J. W. Gilliam	Altamahaw, N. C.	18
White Oak	L. E. Bryant	Pink Hill, N. C.	16
Staunton River	Eld. W. R. Dodd	Dry Fork, Va.	16
Senter	F. T. Miller	Wagoner, N. C.	14

346

Distribution of Minutes to the Churches

Church	Clerk	Post Office	No. Min.
Ararat	C. W. Key	R. 3 Pinnacle, N. C.	40
Boyles Chapel	W. A. Palmer	R. 1 King, N. C.	35
Deep Creek	J. D. Spencer	R. 1 East Bend, N. C.	30
Hagans Creek	Katie Eads	Siloam, N. C.	18
Liberty	R. S. Poindexter	R. 2 Dobson, N. C.	20
Little Vine	Hester Mitchell	Dobson, N. C.	25
Mulberry	J. M. Eldridge	Elkin, N. C.	25
Pilot Mt.	J. H. Sheets	Pilot Mountain, N. C.	35
Rock House	C. L. Slaughter	Pinnacle, N. C.	40
Stony Creek	E. F. Simmons	R. 1 Mt. Airy, N. C.	35
Stewarts Creek	R. W. Mosley	R. 3 Mt. Airy, N. C.	40
Toms Creek	Frank R. Stone	R. 1 Francisco, N. C.	80
Union	G. J. Key	Ararat, N. C.	90
Volunteer	L. G. Tucker	King, N. C.	35

548

MINUTES

Special Session Of Fishers River Primitive Baptist Association

We, the Fishers River Primitive Baptist Association convened with the church at Pilot Mountain in Special Session on Feb. 21st., 1934 and transacted business as follows, viz:

First: Introduced by song and prayer by Elder George Denny.

Second: Called the roll of churches and messengers were seated as follows, viz:

Ararat: L. D. Denny, C. W. Key, P. L. Ashburn.

Boyles Chapel: W. A. Palmer, J. P. Slawter, W. S. Denny.

Deep Creek:

Hogan's Creek: Joe Key, (Proxy).

Hollingsworth Grove:

Laurel Springs: C. T. Hall, U. S. Southern.

Liberty: J. W. Pilson, C. H. Parker.

Mulberry: J. C. Dunbar, (Proxy).

Mitchel's River: P. H. Snow.

Pilot Mtn.: J. W. Simmons, J. H. Sheets.

Rock House: E. E. Cox, J. E. Tilley, C. L. Slawter.

State Road: W. T. Nixon, J. H. Stonestreet, R. G. Royal.

Stony Creek: E. T. Simmons, J. T. Joyce, J. M. Hunter.

Stewart's Creek: G. W. Harris, R. W. Mosley, J. E. Jones.

Tom's Creek: A. Q. Hunter, J. E. Hunter, Y. W. Simmons.

Union: J. C. Dunbar, G. J. Key, S. J. Badgett.

Volunteer: L. G. Tucker, J. F. Sirk, J. F. Bowman.

Third: Reasons for calling this Special Session was outlined by the Moderator.

Fourth: Moved and carried that a committee of five deacons be appointed to serve with the Moderator and Clerk to draw an answer to charges made by Elder S. T. Atkinson and complete item six in our last Minute. Hear the plea of members of Little Vine Church and other matters that may come before them and that the Moderator make the appointments, and the following brethren were appointed, viz: W. A. Palmer, L. D. Denny, D. P. Pilson, C. T. Hall, J. E. Jones.

Fifth: Called for report of committee, their report read as follow, viz:

1st: We denounce the association letter written by Elder S. T. Atkinson and published in their Minute of Oct. 20th, 21st and 22nd, 1933 to be untrue in part and misleading as a whole as to references made to the work of our association, wherein he charges that we preached Elder J. A. Fagg over the protest of Elder R. S. Smith and himself, the fact being that Elder S. T. Atkinson refused to preach with Elder Fagg and said Elder Smith also refused to preach with him, but Elder Smith did not speak. We deny that his refusal to preach with Elder Fagg was in the form of a protest, but was handed to us as a flat refusal, and in such a way as to throw the association in confusion, and did not put the association under obligation to take action on his refusal. We refer to item nine of Friday's proceeding of Fishers River Association of 1912 repealing the action of 1904 giving all Elders of the association seats in the association, and add that Elder S. T. Atkinson was not a messenger, but was granted speech and was heard more often than any member of the association.

2nd.: We deny the faction that withdrew from us the right to use the name Fishers River Primitive Baptist Association.

3rd.: That we amend item six, Friday's proceedings in our 1933 Minute as follows: That we extend an invitation to the brethren of the Sister Association with whom we formerly corresponded to visit us and preach with us, but we will not recognize factions that have withdrawn from their association.

4th.: Correct error made by printer in our 1933 Minutes Circular letter. 6th line to read reject instead of respect.

5th.: That we formally withdraw from Fishers River, Fishers Gap, Franklin and Little Vine Churches, due to their having lined up with and becoming part of an independent association.

6th.: That we accept the petitionary letter from Little Vine signed by thirty-three members and receive them as a member of our association and recognize them as Little Vine Church.

Sixth: The recommendations of the committee were adopted with only one person (J. C. Dunbar) dissenting.

Seventh: Read the petitionary letter from Little Vine.

Eighth: Moved and carried that we have printed 250 copies of this work and one copy mailed to each minister of the associations with whom we have formerly been in correspondence and ask them to have read at their conference meetings.

Ninth: Dismissed in order.

F. P. Stone, Moderator,
G. J. Key, Clerk.