

MINUTES
OF THE
117th ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
**Fishers River Primitive
Baptist Association**

HELD WITH

The Church at **ARARAT (Cedar Hill)**
Surry County, North Carolina

FRIDAY, SATURDAY and SUNDAY
JULY 8, 9 and 10, 1949



OFFICERS:

ELDER F. P. STONE Moderator
R. F. D. No. 2, Dobson, N. C.

G. J. KEY Clerk
Ararat, North Carolina

FRANK R. STONE Assistant Clerk
7-A Southway Road, Greenbelt, Md.

PROCEEDINGS

Friday, July 8th, 1949

1st. Service was opened by song and prayer by Elder D. P. Broadway and introductory sermon preached by Elder J. G. Fulk. No text used.

2nd. After the usual one hour intermission, assembled in the house and service was introduced by song and prayer by Elder C. D. Hall.

3rd. Appointed Elders Ed Douglas, J. A. Fagg, Eddie Martin to preach at the stand.

4th. Called for and received letters from the different churches constituting this association. Letters read, received and messengers seated.

5th. Elected Elder F. P. Stone, Moderator; G. J. Key, Clerk, and Frank R. Stone, Assistant Clerk to serve another year.

6th. Called for petitionary letters. There was none.

7th. Called for correspondents from Sister Associations with response as follows:

Abbotts Creek, Elder D. P. Broadway and Deacon C. B. Owens, Correspondents.

Mountain, C. L. Roberts, Correspondent; Elders H. L. Presnell and Elder Douglas, visitor.

Roaring River, Roscoe Pruitt, Troy Miller, W. C. Hall, Correspondents; Elder C. D. Hall, J. F. Coffey, visitors.

Upper Mayo, Elders J. A. Fagg, Carl T. Mabe, Jack Martin, Correspondents; Elders J. R. Beasley, Fletcher Beasley, Deacon A. A. Jessup, and others, visitors.

Senter, F. T. Miller, G. D. Roten, Correspondents; Callie Severt, Edd Severt, visitors.

New River, moved and carried that we suspend correspondence with New River Association for the time being due to a controversy among them over the Resurrection.

Indian Creek, Elder I. W. Kilby, visitor.

Correspondents and visitors from sister associations seated.

8th. Appointed the Moderator to make all appointments.

9th. Appointed committees as follows: Brethren Glenn Hunter, T. M. Simpson, committee on finance.

L. L. Love, Lester Nelson, committee to distribute corresponding minutes.

Y. W. Simmons and J. M. Hunter, together with Moderator and Messengers of this church, committee on preaching.

Elders George Denny, Geo. Berrier, Grover Flippin, to serve with Moderator and Clerk, committee on arrangements, Geo. Berrier; couldn't stay. Substituted Willie Hutchens.

10th. Agreed to meet at 9:30 tomorrow for association work and at 10 o'clock for preaching service.

11th. On motion, appointed G. J. Key, T. M. Simpson and Brady Pilson to investigate the wishes of the members of Hogans Creek church as to the disposition of the church property and if found agreeable to dispose of the house and land, leaving the cemetery and some surplus ground with it, including an approach, and retain the funds for their credit, should they decide to rebuild, for a period of five years.

12th. This minute read and approved then adjourned to meet tomorrow.

Saturday Morning, July 9th, 1949

1st. Service was introduced by song and prayer by Elder R. H. Riggan.

2nd. Called roll of messengers.

3rd. Called for correspondents and visitors from Sister Asociations who were not here yesterday. Names recorded and correspondents and visitors seated.

4th. Called for report of committee on arrangements. They recommended as follows, viz:

a. That Circular Letter by J. G. Fulk be read and attached to this minute.

b. That Elder G. L. Flippin write our next Circular Letter.

c. That we have 1200 minutes printed and distributed among our churches and correspondents.

d. That we have constitution, articles of faith and rules of decorum printed in this minute.

e. That the next session of this Association be held with the church at Liberty, 12 miles west of Pilot Mountain, N. C., just off Highway 268, near Copeland school, and to be held Friday, Saturday and second Sunday in July, 1950.

5th. The work of the committee on arrangements approved and they were discharged.

6th. Called for report of committee on finance. They reported received from churches \$226.95 and were discharged.

7th. On motion agreed to give the Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk \$25.00 each.

8th. Called for report of correspondents who took appointments to visit sister associations. Their reports heard and they were discharged.

9th. Appointed correspondents to visit sister associations as follows, viz:

Abbotts Creek—Elders J. G. Fulk, F. P. Stone, Deacons Willie Hutchens and G. J. Key.

Mountain—Elders J. G. Fulk, R. H. Riggan, J. M. Edwards and Deacon S. J. Badgett.

Upper Mayo—Elder J. M. Edwards, Deacons J. E. Simmens,

Willie Hutson, W. R. Coins and Bro. Frank R. Stone.

Roaring River—Elders F. P. Stone, G. L. Flippin, J. M. Edwards and Deacon J. D. White.

Senter—Elders J. G. Fulk, R. H. Riggan, F. P. Stone.

10th. Passed resolution of thanks to Brethren, Sisters and Friends for caring for this association.

11th. This minute read and approved.

12th. Closed the work of the association by song and prayer by Elder I. W. Kilby.

F. P. STONE, Moderator
G. J. KEY, Clerk

Order of Preaching

FRIDAY MORNING

Elder J. G. Fulk—No text used.

FRIDAY EVENING

Elder Edd Douglas—Text: The Spirit of God Is Upon Me.

Elder J. A. Fagg—Text: John 12th Chapt. 38 V.

Elder Eddie Martin. 2nd Timothy 1st:9.

SATURDAY MORNING

Elder Coy Roberts—Text: Proverbs 9th Chapt. 1st V.

Elder Millard Vaden—Text: Eph. 5th Chapt. 14th V.

Elder H. L. Presnell—Text: Deut. 32nd Chapt. 9-10 V.

Elder Sam Atkins—No text used.

SATURDAY EVENING

Elder W. J. Brown—Text: Song of Solomon, 2nd Chapt. 14th V.

Elder C. D. Hall—Clerk failed to get text.

Elder D. P. Broadway—1st. Cor. 1st Chapt. 30th V.

SUNDAY MORNING

Elder G. D. Roten—Text: Matt. 11-28.

Elder Jack Martin—No text used.

Elder Blain Kilby—Clerk failed to get text.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Elder Fletcher Beasley—Clerk failed to get text.

Elder George Denny—Text: In those days came John the Baptist, etc.

Elder F. P. Stone—No text used.

Circular Letter

July 7th, 1949

Dear Brethren: Being appointed to write this Circular Letter, I will try in my weak way. I will take for my subject

"Saved By Grace." I know there is nothing in my flesh to recommend me to God's favor, but there is enough sin in me to condemn the world without end. Sin is mine, Grace is God's. He has not saved me if indeed He has, because of anything in me. His law demands obedience to Him that I should love Him and no other before Him, yet once I was without hope and without God in the world, I join with the Apostle in preaching, in my flesh dwells no good thing but dark as the picture has been I am daily hoping that I shall some time see God, and be forever with Him. Faith pleads that Christ has died and died for me, a poor lost sinner. The righteousness of God by Faith supplies me along the way, for when I am weak then am I made strong. An unseen power I trust leads me along. I believe that Jesus lives and pleads for me.

I love the language of the Apostle when He said, who love me and gave himself for me, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to His purpose and grace which was given us in Him before the world began. May we say with the poet, "Hide me when the storm is raging, o'er life's troubled sea, like a dove on oceans billows, Oh let me fly to Thee. Glorious Grace, glorious hope in Jesus never dies. I hope to say some day by the grace of God I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith. I have finished my course with joy. May God continue His grace, and keep the old Fishers River Association in peace and love is my prayer, for Jesus' sake. In hope of eternal life,

J. GRAY FULK, Rt. 4, Mt. Airy, N. C.

Articles of Faith

Article I. Of God and the Holy Trinity.

We believe in only the one 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 that this God has revealed Himself in His word under the character of Father, and that these three are one; and that there are three that bear witness in earth—the water, the spirit and the blood, and that these three agree in one.

Article II. Of 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 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 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) of whom God did foreknow He did also predestinate to conform 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 incorruptable 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 subject 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.

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, until 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, falling 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 members 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 members of the Association shall address another in any 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 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 reprovén by the Association as it may think proper.

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 all 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.

Financial Report

Received from churches	\$226.95
Bal. in Clerk's hands from last year	101.05
TOTAL	\$328.00
Gave Moderator	\$25.00
Gave Clerk	25.00
Gave Assistant Clerk	25.00
Gave Visiting Elders	87.00
Paid for Printing Minutes	58.00
Balance in Clerk's Hands	108.00
	\$328.00

Ordained Ministers

George Berrier	Route 5, Mt. Airy, N. C.
J. W. Creed	Route 1, Ararat, N. C.
J. R. Cruise	Hillsville, Va.
George Denny	Rt., Pinnacle, N. C.
J. M. Edwards	Route 1, Dobson, N. C.
J. G. Fulk	Route 4, Mt. Airy, N. C.
G. L. Flippin	Route 1, Mt. Airy, N. C.
Coy Hawks	Winston-Salem, N. C.
James Hill	Route 1, King, N. C.
R. H. Riggan	Route 1, Dobson, N. C.
F. P. Stone	Route 2, Dobson, N. C.
Nelson Stewart	Thomasville, N. C.
D. E. Wood	Route 3, Mt. Airy, N. C.

Licentiates

Jesse Collins	Pilot Mountain, N. C.
Jasper Easter	Mt. Airy, N. C.
J. S. Key	Carthage, N. C.
H. B. Thomas	Galax, Va.

Churches and Their Pastors

Ararat (Cedar Hill)	George Denny, Carl T. Mabe
Boyles' Chapel	James F. Hill
Chestnut Grove	J. R. Cruise, P. P. Crawford
Deep Creek	Jack Martin
Little Vine	R. H. Riggan, G. L. Flippin, J. M. Edwards
Liberty	L. J. Martin, J. W. Creed, R. H. Riggan
Mulberry	F. P. Stone, Matt Edwards
Mitchell's River	R. H. Riggan, D. E. Wood, Nelson Stuart
Pilot Mountain	George Denny, Fletcher Beasley
Pleasant Grove	C. D. Hall
Rock House	M. H. Vaden, W. J. Brown, Fletcher Beasley
Stony Creek	F. P. Stone, J. G. Fulk
Stewart's Creek	J. G. Fulk, J. R. Cruise, G. L. Flippin
Sandy Ridge	J. R. Cruise
Volunteer	W. J. Brown
Tom's Creek	R. L. Rogers, F. P. Stone
Union	F. P. Stone, J. W. Creed, J. G. Fulk
Zion Hill	G. L. Flippin, D. F. Wood

Distribution of Minutes To Churches

Ararat (Cedar Hill): J. E. Simmons, Rt. 1, Pilot Mtn., N. C.	55
Boyles' Chapel: E. H. Taylor, Rt. 1, Germanton, N. C.	65
Chestnut Grove: W. J. Daniel, Lambsburg, Va.	85
Deep Creek: J.H.Spencer, Rt. 1, East Bend, N. C.	30
Hogans Creek: Katie Eads, Rt. 1, Siloam, N. C.	15
Little Vine: S. R. Gillispie, Dobson, N. C.	90
Liberty: Brady Pilson, Rt. 2, Dobson, N. C.	25
Mulberry: O. B. Key, Rt., Elkin, N. C.	30
Mitchell's River: Fannie Southard, Rt. 1, Dobson, N. C.	35
Pilot Mountain: J. H. Sheets, Pilot Mountain, N. C.	45
Pleasant Grove: H. E. Johnson, East Bend, N. C.	40
Rock House: W. R. Coins, Westfield, N. C.	55
Stony Creek: E. F. Simmons, Rt. 1, Mt. Airy, N. C.	60
Stewart's Creek: R. W. Mosley, Rt., 1, Mt. Airy, N. C.	85
Sandy Ridge: A. M. Hawks, Rt. 5, Mt. Airy, N. C.	70
Tom's Creek: L. L. Love, Rt. 2, Pilot Mountain, N. C.	100
Union: G. J. Key, Ararat, N. C.	100
Volunteer: R. L. Nelson, Pilot Mountain, N. C.	80
Zion Hill: W. E. Thomas, Galax, Va.	40
TOTAL	1,105

Distribution of Minutes to Sister Associations

Abbott's Creek: T. R. Freeman, Steeds, N. C.	15
Mountain: Arthur Gambill, Sparta, N. C.	20
Roaring River: Eld. A. T. Whittington, N. Wilkesboro, N. C.	10
Senter: W. W. Miller, Clifton, N. C.	15
Saint Claire's Bottom: Eld. C. N. Tilson, Chilhowie, Va.	10
Upper Mayo: J. W. Moorefield, 613 W. 28th St., Winston.-Salem, N. C.	25

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	NAMES OF MESSENGERS	Last Assn. held	Com. month	Sunday of meeting	Ordained Min.	Licentiates	Rec'd. by Exp.	Rec'd. by letter	Restored	Dis. by letter	Excluded	Deceased	No. in Fellowship	Contribution
Ararat (Cedar Hill)	Eld. Geo. Denny, Walter Rogers, Dea. J. E. Simmons.	1929	May	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	30	12.00
Boyles Chapel	James Hill, E. H. Taylor, C. C. Boyles, A. Moorefield	1947	May	1	1	1	0	0	0	3	0	1	45	13.00
Chestnut Grove ..	Eld. Geo. Berrier, Tyler B. Thomas, Jasper Easter ..	1946	Aug.	4	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	26	6.00
Deep Creek	M. M. Flynn, J. H. Spencer, G. K. Murphy	1943	Aug.	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	11	4.50
Hogans Creek		1933											4	
Little Vine	S. R. Gillispie, J. D. White, M. S. Freeman	1940	Sept.	2	1	0	11	3	1	0	0	1	72	29.00
Liberty	Willie Hutchens, Brady Pilson, Sister Stacy Pilson ..	1928	Sept.	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	13	3.50
Mulberry	Sis. Lucy Key, Betty Revis	1938	Aug.	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	17	11.00
Mitchells River ..	R. H. Riggan, G. W. Creed	1937	July	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	21	
Pilot Mtn.	J. H. Sheets, W. C. Venable, S. J. Frye	1935	Aug.	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	4	21	10.60
Pleasant Grove ..	H. E. Johnson, A. A. Johnson	1941	June	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	25	10.00
Rock House	W. R. Coins, C. L. Slawter, Sis. R. Coins	1942	Sept.	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	39	7.00
Stony Creek	E. F. Simmons, J. M. Hunter	1931	July	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	46	11.00
Stewart's Creek ..	Eld. J. G. Fulk, R. W. Mosley, J. E. Jones	1936	Sept.	1	3	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	66	22.00
Sandy Ridge	P. L. Hawks, J. B. Easter	1948	Aug.	3	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	51	8.00
Tom's Creek	Glenn Hunter, Y. W. Simmons, L. L. Love	1944	June	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	75	18.00
Union	T. M. Simpson, S. J. Badgett, G. J. Key	1939	May	4	1	0	4	0	0	0	2	2	74	20.85
Volunteer	R. L. Nelson, Raymond Smith, W. L. Fulk	1930	June	4	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	2	63	20.00
Zion Hill	Arthur Combs, W. P. Johnson, W. E. Thomas	1945	July	3	1	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	26	12.50

4
465
260
725

725