

MINUTES
OF THE
103rd Annual Session
OF THE
Fisher's River
Primitive Baptist
Association

HELD WITH
The Church at Pilot Mountain
Surry County, North Carolina
FRIDAY, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY
July 12th, 13th and 14th / 1935



OFFICERS

F. P. STONE Moderator
R. F. D. No. 2, Dobson, North Carolina
G. J. KEY, Clerk
Ararat, North Carolina
FRANK R. STONE, Assistant Clerk
R. F. D. No. 1, Francisco, North Carolina

NAMES AND ADDRESS OF ELDERS

F. P. Stone	R. 2, Dobson, N. C.
Jas. W. Creed	R. 1, Ararat, N. C.
Geo. Denny	Pilot Mountain, N. C.
J. W. Harris	R. 5, Mt. Airy, N. C.
J. L. Pyrtle	Mayodan, N. C.
R. H. Riggin	Dobson, N. C.
J. G. Fulks	R. 4, Mt. Airy, N. C.

LICENTIATES

J. S. Key	R. 3, Sanford, N. C.
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CHURCHES AND MODERATORS

Ararat	Eld. Geo. Denny
Boyles Chapel	Elders S. H. Reed, W. J. Brasswell
Deep Creek	Eld. S. H. Reed
Dover	
Hagans Creek	Eld. F. P. Stone
Hollingsworth Grove	Eld. G. W. Harris
Liberty	Eld. J. W. Creed
Little Vine	Elders R. H. Riggin, J. G. Fulks
Mulberry	Eld. F. P. Stone
Mitchels River	Eld. R. H. Riggin
Pilot Mountain	Eld. Geo. Denny
Rock House	Eld. W. J. Brown
Stony Creek	Eld. F. P. Stone
Stewarts Creek	Elders G. W. Harris, J. G. Fulks
Toms Creek	Elders F. P. Stone, G. W. Harris
Union	Elders J. W. Creed, F. P. Stone
Volunteer	Eld. W. J. Brown

PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY

1. Service was introduced by song and prayer by Elder George Denny.
2. Introductory sermon was preached by Elder J. A. Fagg. Text, Eze. 37:3.
3. After intermission, assembled in the house. Song and prayer by Elder Kilby from the Mountain Association.
4. The Moderator appointed Elder Watt Priddy and Elder Moxley to preach in the Auditorium.
5. Letters from the churches were handed in, read, received and messengers seated.
6. Elected F. P. Stone Moderator, G. J. Key Clerk, and Frank R. Stone Assistant Clerk by acclimation.
7. Called for correspondents and names of visitors with response as follows: Abbotts Creek Church (Independent)—J. L. Clodfelter, G. W. Yokey; Abbotts Creek (Assn.)—D. P. Broadway; Mayo—Elders J. A. Fagg, Watt Priddy, Ed Priddy, Carl Mabe, W. E. Braswell, J. R. Beasley, W. J. Brown and Brethren J. W. Morefield, R. H. Morefield and others; Mountain—Elders C. B. Kilby, J. A. Moxley, Brethern J. M. Rector and others; New River—M. W. Noonkester, C. A. Horton, R. H. White, Elder G. W. Noonkester, Elder George Williams and others; Saints Delight Church (Independent)—Brethren Lee Smith, Henry Williard, Boyles Hester, C. F. Shields and others.
8. All above visitors received and seated. Received rolls of Ministers from Upper Mayo, Bear Creek, Kehukee, Senter, Roaring River, Ketocton, New River, Mountain and Abbotts Creek.
9. Appointed the Moderator and Messengers of Pilot Mountain church a Committee on Preaching.
10. Called for Petitionary Letters.
11. Appointed Moderator to make all other committee appointments.
12. Appointed Ed Jones and Elisha Cox Committee on Finance. J. W. Creed, J. P. Seawter, Y. W. Simons, with Moderator and Clerk, Committee on Arrangements. J. O. Gibbons, L. G. Tucker, Committee to Distribute Minutes.
13. This Minute read and approved.
14. Adjourned to meet at 9:30 o'clock Saturday for business, and at 10:00 o'clock for preaching.

SATURDAY'S PROCEEDINGS

1. The Association was opened by song and prayer by Elder James W. Creed.
2. Called roll of messengers.
3. The recommendations of the committees were read and accepted.
4. Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum and The Constitution were read and ordered attached to these Minutes.
5. Circular letter read and ordered attached to these Minutes.
6. Appointed Elder F. P. Stone to write our next Circular Letter.
7. Ordered amendment to 3rd item in Minutes of special session of February 21, 1934, to read as follows:
Amending 3rd item in Minutes of special session of February 21, 1934, to read, That we amend item six, Friday's proceedings in our 1933 Minutes as follows: That we extend on invitation to the Brethren of the sister associations with whom we formerly corresponded to visit us and preach with us, but will not recognize **disorderly** factions who have withdrawn from their respective associations.
9. Visitors from Upper Mayo, Mountain, New River and Abbotts Creek Associations asked for renewal of correspondence, and complying with their request, appointed correspondents as follows: Mayo—F. P. Stone, J. W. Creed, Joel S. Key, Frank R. Stone, Robert W. Mosley, J. W. Harris; Abbotts Creek—G. T. Jones, F. P. Stone, Frank R. Stone, Joel S. Key, G. J. Key; Mountain—R. H. Riggan, P. H. Snow, G. T. Jones, J. W. Creed, F. P. Stone, G. J. Key; New River—G. W. Harris, R. W. Mosley, George Denny, L. D. Denny.
10. Agreed that the next session of this Association be held with the church at Stewarts Creek, Friday, Saturday and second Sunday in July, 1936. (One mile west of Mt. Airy, N. C.).
11. Ordered 1000 Minutes printed and distributed as usual.
12. Gave Clerk \$15.00 and Moderator \$10.00.
13. Called for report of Finance Committee. They reported receipts \$52.45. Balance in Clerk's hands, \$4.00. Report received and all committees discharged.
14. Voted a resolution of thanks to the brethren, sisters and friends for caring for this Association.

15. These Minutes read and approved.
16. Adjourned, to meet at time and place appointed.

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

PREACHING SERVICE

Friday

J. A. Fagg. Text. Ex. 37-3.
Watt Priddy. Clerk failed to get text.
J. A. Moxley. Clerk failed to get text.
W. E. Braswell. No text used.

Saturday (At Church)

D. P. Broadway. No text used.
J. G. Fulks. No text used.
Carl Mabe. Text, First Cor. 1-22.
(At Auditorium)
Geo. Williams. Clerk failed to get text.
G. W. Noonkester. Clerk failed to get text.
C. B. Kilby. Clerk failed to get text.

Sunday (At Church)

Price Vass. Text used, Ephe. 2-8.
D. P. Broadway. Text, Second Cor. 5-1.
F. P. Stone. No text used.
(At Auditorium)
G. W. Noonkester. Clerk failed to get text.
J. W. Creed. Clerk failed to get text.
J. A. Fagg. Clerk failed to get text.

CIRCULAR LETTER

Being appointed to write a Circular Letter to be attached to the Minutes of our next Association, I now attempt to comply with the request.

I will refer to the language of the Saviour, saying, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth where moth and rust doth corrupt and where thieves break through and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in Heaven where moth and rust doth not corrupt and where thieves do not break through and steal." Believers in His name have experienced this sacred truth often and over again, and where one sorrow is removed so often another takes its place. We feel that this expression covers the ground of the Christian experience and is not confined alone to material things.

We have here no continuing City but seek one to come whose maker and builder is God. We are hoping and trusting that one day we shall see Him as He is and be like Him and be satisfied in the paradise of God.

We feel that it is good for us to meet with one another in peace and love here in the world and to help bear each others burdens, watching over each other for good and not for evil, and as the writer has often expressed, it does not make us forget our sorrows only momentary, but soothes and places us in a frame of mind which makes us able to bear our troubles.

So we are admonished not to neglect the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is, but to congregate and engage in the worship of the Lord

This July 7, 1935.

ELDER GEO. DENNY

REFERENCE

With reference to the disturbance in Fish River Association, we feel that we owe it to ourselves as well as others to publish some of the facts.

It has been our policy in the years gone by to turn neither to right or left in the matter of doctrine that has been agitated by some individuals to the distress of many and possibly to the edification of a few. Having had in our midst ministers who were strong on predestination but was not destroying by its usage to extremes, these we loved and held in highest esteem; and we believe that these brethren who have withdrawn from Fish River Association would today be with us in love, peace and harmony had not others who were willing to destroy used their selfish influence to force upon us this disturbance. For one instance, ministers who had never seen fit to visit us before, came to our Association two years ago and were recognized and granted liberty of speech and promptly informed us that they would not preach with a certain other brethren whom we loved and who had been visiting us many years and preaching in our churches and Associations, and had served some of our churches as pastor, and at that time other ministers of his Association were serving four of our churches, and they were in peace at home and with us.

The disturbance was not of our choice or making,

but was thrust upon us. Our attitude was not, and is not now, hostile toward any Association that was or is being conducted in order; and while we do not agree with some on the extremes as to predestination, we never made it a test of fellowship, but seated and preached visiting Elders who were strong predestinians.

What we have done is on an open book and to those who desire further information out of sincerity and honesty of purpose and love and fellowship one with another as their guide, we invite you to investigate us, unprejudiced.

With reference to our former Elder and brother, J. C. Dunbar, whose membership was at Union Church, must advise that he was excluded and his preaching credentials revoked by regular process at their regular meeting in August, 1934.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

Article I. Of God and the Holy Trinity.

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 that 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 in 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 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.

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 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 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.

Distribution of Minutes to Sister Associations

Association	Clerk	Post Office	No. Min.
Abbotts Creek Union	T. R. Freeman,	Steeds, N. C.	12
Black Creek	Eld. E. L. Cobb,	Wilson, N. C.	24
Bear Creek	J. W. Jones,	Peach land, N. C.	21
Contentnea	Eld. J. E. Newborn,	R. 4, Snow Hill, N. C.	24
Kehukee	Eld. B. S. Cowin,	Williamston, N. C.	34
Kotocton	Eld. C. W. Miller,	Box 86, Rosslyn, Va.	22
Lower Country Line	J. H. Gooch,	Stern, 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.	37
Pig River	Eld. E. L. Blankenship,	Boone Mill, Va.	25
Roaring River	J. A. Miller,	Laurel Springs, N. C.	14
Salem	J. H. McKaughan,	Kernersville, N. C.	12
Upper Mayo	S. G. Dobyms,	Stuart, Va.	18
Upper Country Line	J. W. Gilliam,	Altamahaw, N. C.	18
White Oak	L. E. Bryant,	Park Hill, N. C.	16
Staunton River	Eld. W. R. Dodd,	Dry Fork, Va.	16
Senter	F. T. Miller,	Wagoner, N. C.	16

370

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,	King, N. C.	40
Deep Creek	J. D. Spencer,	R. 1, East Bend, N. C.	30
Hagans Creek	Mrs. Katie Eads,	R. 1, Siloam, N. C.	20
Hollingsworth Grove	S. L. Arrington,	R. 2, Mt. Airy, N. C.	25
Liberty	R. S. Poindexter,	R. 2, Dobson, N. C.	20
Little Vine	Mrs. Hester Mitchell,	Dobson, N. C.	30
Mulberry	J. M. Eldridge,	Elkin, N. C.	21
Mitchells River	J. S. Coleman,	Dobson, N. C.	20
Pilot Mt.	J. H. Sheets,	Pilot Mountain, N. C.	40
Rock House	C. L. Slaughter,	Pinnacle, N. C.	45
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.	90
Union	G. J. Key,	Ararat, N. C.	90
Volunteer	L. G. Tucker,	R. 2, Pinnacle, N. C.	40

630

STATISTICAL TABLE

Churches	Names of Messengers	Communion Mo.	Sun. of Meeting	Ordained Min	Licentiate	Rec. by Exp.	Rec. by Letter	Restored	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Deceased	No. in Fellowship	Contribution
Ararat.....	J.E. Simmons, P.L. Ashburn, L.D. Denny.....	Aug.	2	1		4				2		42	\$3.60
Boyles Chapel.....	J.P. Slawter, W.S. Denny, W.H. Palmer.....	May	1								1	37	3.00
Deep Creek.....	J.H. Spencer, M.M. Flynn, R.L. Hall.....	Sept.	2									24	2.40
Dover.....	Not Represented.....												
Hogans Creek.....	Nannie Key, Victoria Shore, Kate Eads.....	Sept.	1										.75
Hollingsworth Grove.....	J.F. Anderson, Cephus Childress, S.L. Arrington.....	July										22	1.50
Liberty.....	J.W. Pilson.....	Aug.	1					1				18	1.00
Little Vine.....	J.D. Freeman, Emory Freeman, Fannie Freeman.....	Aug.	2								3	30	2.45
Mulberry.....	Joel S. Key.....	Aug.	1		1							25	2.65
Mitchell's River.....	P.H. Snow, R.H. Riggan, Geo. Creed.....	July	4	1								18	2.00
Pilot Mountain.....	J.H. Sheets, J.W. Simmons, Joe Flippin.....	Aug.	1						1	1		37	5.00
Rock House.....	E. E. Cox, C. L. Slawter, W. C. King.....	Aug.		1		1						42	2.00
Stoney Creek.....	E.F. Simmons, R.F. Joyce, W.C. Hiatt.....	July	3			1						33	4.50
Stewarts Creek.....	G.W. Harris, R.W. Mosley, J.E. Jones.....	Aug.	1	2									5.10
Toms Creek.....	Y.W. Simmons, L.L. Love, Edgar Hunter.....	Sept.	2	1		2			1			89	7.00
Union.....	S.J. Badgett, J.W. Creed, G.J. Key.....	July	4	1									5.50
Volunteer.....	J.F. Sisk, L.G. Tucker, Arthur Booth.....	June	4								2	28	4.00

445