

*Minutes*  
OF THE  
One Hundred Thirty-First  
Annual Session  
OF THE  
Fisher's River  
Primitive Baptist Association  
HELD WITH  
*Zion Hill Church*  
SURRY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA  
FRIDAY, SATURDAY, AND SUNDAY,  
JULY 12, 13, 14,  
[1963]

Next session convenes with Fellowship (Snake Creek) Church, located about 5 miles Southeast of Hillsville, Va. in Carroll County, Friday before the second Sunday in July, 1964.

**OFFICERS**

ELDER JAMES F. HILL - Moderator ..... King, N. C.  
CURTIS HARBOUR - Clerk ..... Rt. 2, Dobson, N. C.  
ELDER ELBERT L. HUNTER ..... Assistant Clerk  
Rt. 1, Box 465, Mt. Airy, N. C.

THE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST PUBLISHING HOUSE  
Elon College, North Carolina

## *Proceedings*

OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE FISHER'S RIVER PRIMITIVE BAPTIST  
ASSOCIATION, HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT ZION HILL  
IN SURRY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA, JULY 12, 13, 14, 1963.

Services were introduced with song and prayer by Elder Joel Simmons, moderator of Piney Grove Association.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder James F. Hill, Moderator of Fisher's River Association; text used Eph. 1:1. Followed by Elder D. E. Wood, no special text. After intermission gathered in the church house for Association work, and after song and prayer by Elder C. D. Hall, Moderator of Rearing River Association, proceeded to business as follows:

1. Called for Association letters from the different churches. The letters were read and messengers seated by move, second and vote.

2. By move, second and vote to elect the same Moderator, Clerk and Assistant Clerk.

3. Called for petitionary letters. Received a letter from Sandy Creek Church and by move, second and vote not to seat them, but appoint a committee to inquire into their standing and report back to our next association. We also received a letter from Fellowship (Snake Creek) Church. They were seated by move, second and vote, and the messengers were given the right hand of fellowship.

Report of the committee appointed at our last session to inquire into the charge laid against the Senter Association for alleged disorder by Piney Grove Association. Reported to the Association that Senter Association affiliated with the disorder of Mates Creek Association, the Mountain Association and the United Primitive Baptist Association and other factions not recognized by the Fisher's River Association contrary to the old landmarks and orderly practice.

4. On motion that we receive the report of the committee sent to investigate Senter Association believing their report to be true that we withdraw from the disorder of Senter Association. The motion was carried by move, second and vote.

5. Called for correspondence from sister associations and they came forward as follows:

(a) Roaring River: Elder C. D. Hall, Deacon Clarence Hall, Brother J. T. Choate.

(b) Saint Clair's Bottom: Deacon Delmar Heath, Brethren Vernie Heath, Andy Arrington and Q. P. Daney.

(c) Washington: Elders M. M. Edwards, Raleigh Compton, Robert Bostic and Henry Vires.

(d) Piney Grove: Elders Harry Bowman, M. H. Vaden, Edd Priddy and Deacon Roy Hall.

6. A motion that we withdraw correspondence from Mount Zion Association by the reason of unorthodox principles and practice and affiliating with United Primitive Baptist Association and the Mountain Association which we have already withdrawn from. The motion was carried by move, second and vote.

7. Called for visitors from sister associations and they came forward as follows:

(a) Roaring River: Elder Raleigh Joines and wife; Brother C. E. Hall, Sister C. D. Hall and Deacon Carl Francis.

(b) St. Clair's Bottom: Sisters C. R. Daney, Blances Nunn, Mary Jane Pucket and Ellen Ausborne.

(c) Washington: Elders Andrew McGlothon, M. C. Miller and M. K. Cook.

(d) Piney Grove: Elder Joel Simmons and wife, Deacon S. O. Shelton and wife, Deacon Moir Flippin and wife, Sister Roy Hall, Lewis Flippin and wife, Sister Dovie Ramey, Elder Bell Tucker, Deacon Robert Joyce, Elder Velt Pyrtle, J. A. Sturgil and Wife.

8. By move, second and vote that we seat our correspondents and visitors.

9. By move, second and vote to appoint Deacon Howard Hill, Brother L. L. Love, Elder J. A. Marion, Brother Carroll Gardner and Elder Edward Lawson as committee to inquire into the standing of Sandy Creek Church.

10. By move, second and vote that the Moderator make all temporary committee appointments and they were appointed as follows.

(a) Committee on Arrangements: Elders Jesse Collins and

J. A. Marion, Deacons Howard Hill, Glenn Hunter and Raymond Smith.

(b) Committee on Finance: Deacons Ernest Simmons, J. H. Keaton.

(c) Committee on Preaching: Deacons George White, Brady Pilson and the messengers from Zion Hill Church.

(d) Committee to appoint correspondents to sister associations: Elder Jesse Williams and Deacon W. C. Hiatt.

11. On motion that the Minute of the day be read. The minute was read by the Clerk, and received by move, second and vote.

12. On motion to adjourn to meet Saturday morning at nine-thirty for Association work, and ten o'clock for the preaching service. The services were closed by Elder M. M. Edwards from the Washington Association.

SATURDAY MORNING, July 13, 1963

The association met pursuant to adjournment of yesterday, and after song and prayer by Elder C. D. Hall, Moderator of Roaring River Association, proceeded to business as follows:

1. Called the roll of messengers, and marked those that were absent.

2. Called for correspondents and visitors that were not here on Friday and added their names to Friday's List.

3. Called for report of Committee on Arrangements and they reported as follows:

(a) We recommend the Clerk deliver the association histories to the different churches so they might sell them. Price \$2.00 per copy and return the money to the association.

(b) We recommend the Clerk and Moderator receive \$30.00 each, and Assistant Clerk receive \$20.00.

(c) We recommend that the Circular Letter written by Deacon O. W. Sisk be printed in our minute.

(d) We recommend that the Clerk have the usual amount (1,200) copies of our minute printed and distributed as usual.

(e) We recommend that the next session of the session of the association be held with the church at Fellowship (Snake Creek).

(f) We recommend that the Articles of Faith, Rules of Decorum, Constitution, and Covenant be printed in our minute.

(g) We recommend that the next Circular Letter be written by Elder J. A. Marion.

(h) We recommend a resolution of thanks to God for His wonderful blessings to usward, and to the dear brethren and sisters and kind friends for their loyal support and kindness in taking care of the Association.

4. By move, second and vote that we receive the report of the Committee on Arrangements.

5. Called for the report of the correspondents to sister associations. Report was received by move, second and vote, and excused the brethren that did not attend.

6. Called for report from committee to appoint correspondents to sister associations. They reported as follows:

(a) Roaring River: Elders Coy Hawks, Jesse Collins and Deacon Howard Hill.

(b) St. Clair's Bottom: Elders Edward Lawson, James Hill, Deacon Raymond Smith.

(c) Piney Grove: Elder D. E. Wood, Deacons Brady Pilson and E. H. Taylor.

(d) Washington: Elders H. B. Thomas, Elbert Hunter, and Deacon Curtis Harbour.

7. On motion the committee on preaching be automatically discharged when they complete their work. The motion was carried by move, second and vote.

8. Called for report of Finance Committee and they reported \$266.50 received from the churches.

9. By move, second and vote that we receive the report of the work of the committees on Arrangements, Finance, correspondents and discharge them.

10. On motion the minutes of the day be read. The minute was read and received by move, second and vote thus becoming the work of the body. Signed by Moderator and Clerk.

ELDER JAMES F. HILL, Moderator

King, North Carolina

CURTIS HARBOUR, Clerk

Rt. 2, Dobson, N. C.

ELDER ELBERT HUNTER, Ass't Clerk

Rt. 1, Box 183, Mt. Airy, N. C.

(4)

11. On motion to adjourn to meet next year with the church at Fellowship (Snake Creek).

12. Called on Elder Raleigh Compton of Washington Association to close the Association work with song and prayer.

13. Order of preaching:

Friday Morning: Elder James F. Hill, Moderator of Fisher's River Association, text Eph. 1:1. Elder D. E. Wood, no special text.

Friday Afternoon: Elder Bell Tucker of Piney Grove Association, failed to get text. Elder M. K. Cook of Washington Association, failed to get text.

Saturday Morning: Elder Joel Simmons, Moderator of Piney Grove Association, failed to get text. Elder M. C. Miller of Washington Association, failed to get text. Elder Andrew McGloth of Washington Association, failed to get text. Elder Robert Bostic of Washington Association, failed to get text.

Saturday Afternoon: Elder Henry Vires of Washington Association, text John 1:1. Elder Raleigh Joines of Roaring River Association, text, "Though Israel be as the sands of the sea a remnant shall be saved." Elder Raleigh Compton of Washington Association, text Solomon 1:8. Elder Velt Pyrtle of Piney Grove Association closed with song and prayer.

Sunday Morning: Elder Walden Stockner introduced services with song and prayer. Elder Weldon Joyee of Piney Grove Association, text Heb. 10:5. Elder M. M. Edwards of Washington Association, text Romans 5:1-2. Elder Lem Wilkins of Wilson Church, no special text.

Sunday Evening: Elder M. K. Cook of Washington Association, no special text. Elder Edward Lawson, text Cor. 10:1. Elder James Hill, closing remarks and song. Dismissed with prayer by Elder E. L. Hunter.

14. Financial Report:

|   |       |          |
|---|-------|----------|
| Balance in Clerk's hands from last year | ----  | \$252.72 |
| Balance tied up in histories            | ----- | 209.00   |
| Collected from churches                 | ----- | 266.50   |
| Sold one History Book                   | ----- | 2.00     |
|   |       | \$730.22 |
| Gave our Moderator                      | ----- | \$ 30.00 |

(5)

|   |        |          |
|---|--------|----------|
| Gave our Clerk -----                          | 30.00  |          |
| Gave our Assistant Clerk -----                | 20.00  |          |
| Gave visiting Elders -----                    | 73.00  |          |
| Advance in price of printing 62 minutes ----- | 2.94   |          |
| Paid for printing and mailing minutes -----   | 100.00 |          |
| Balance tied up in histories -----            | 209.00 |          |
| Balance left in Clerk's hands -----           | 265.28 | \$730.22 |

15.

CIRCULAR LETTER

Dear Brethren and Sisters of the Fisher's River Association:

Being appointed to write the Circular Letter for this, the One Hundred and Thirty-first year, I will try to be submissive to the will of the brethren. Realizing my weakness and inability to write anything that would be of any benefit to God's dear children, unless the Great I Am guides my mind and enables me to look to the hills from whence all my help cometh. Thus, with fear and trembling, I start as an empty vessel, hoping that it will be the Lord's will to enable me to write something that will up-build and strengthen rather than tear down and destroy the fruit of the Vine. Therefore, I beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith you are called, with meekness and longsuffering, forbearing one another in love.

Let us all keep the unity of the Spirit, or endeavor to do so, in the bond of peace. There is but one body and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith and one baptism.

Let us fear God, the Father of ALL, and He is above all, and in us all, if we are what we hope to be—to everyone of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Now, my dear brethren, if we who have been brought out of nature's darkness into the marvelous light and liberty of His dear Son, and have been given a gift, be it small or large, by Jesus Himself, then, just what do we have to boast of? Why so much jealousy? Which is more cruel than the grave! Why be ye like children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the cunning craftiness of the slight of men wherby they lie in wait to deceive you? Why not be ye like men and stand up, preach the truth as it is in Christ Jesus, in love, without the fear of any man and let the chips fall where they may. There is only one way that leads to life here in a world of sin and folly. Jesus said, "I am the Way; I am the Truth"; "I am the Life and I am the Resurrection." Now, Jesus, being the way that leads to life, where do all the other ways lead to? And who are we following as our leader? The answer is none other than the devil and his way and all his way go into that broad way and to the destruction of God's people here in this time world. Now, put ye on the whole armor of God that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, for we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against powers that rule after the darkness of this world and against spiritual wickedness in high places. Therefore, take unto you the whole armor of God, that ye may be able to stand in the evil day, and having done all to stand, having on the breastplate of righteousness and your feet shod with the gospel of peace. I believe that Jesus had a people reckoned as sheep and lambs and they seemed to be hungry, and needed some spiritual food. I cannot find where He told anyone to write or record some sermon and send it to them, but I find where He said, "Go feed My sheep and lambs." I also find where He said to not

neglect assembling yourselves together as the manner of some is. Brethren and sisters, both at home and abroad, if not deceived in this poor heart of mine, I have been the recipient of a few crumbs of this manna from God's bountiful hand, by the instruments of His own choosing and not by man.

Now, my good brethren and sisters, I have learned the hard way, by the things that I have suffered, by my own experience, that in my flesh dwells no good thing, not even a good thought, but I trust and hope that there is something in my very being that is of God and that enables my soul to rejoice in God, my Savior, I hope. God being a Spirit and being love, then it must be God's Spirit born in me, the hope of glory. This is the most wonderful thing that will ever take place in the heart and minds of poor sinners like I feel to be here in this life of trouble and sorrow—and not only in this life, but this hope reaches beyond the grave. Now being born of love, it behooves me and you to live our confession in a way that others may see our good works and glorify our Father in heaven to whom all honor, praise and glory belongs.

Now, Jesus laid the foundation of His laws and commands down to His disciples (followers of Him) while here on earth and said they were not grievous, and if you love Me, you will keep My commandments. When we are over-shadowed with His divine love, we will do the things that are pleasing in His sight. When not over-shadowed by this love and God's Holy Spirit, we then do the things that are not pleasing to Him and these things are what causes confusion among the churches and the members, in particular. Now, these things ought not to be (1 Cor. 12) for they cause division or "schisms" in the churches and association. Sound doctrine (God's doctrine) and practice both go together—one without the other is no good. God's works will please Him, honor Him and praise Him. All the works of man will please man and man's work always pleases the devil.

Now, a few words in regard to what I believe to be the true church of Christ, or the Church of God. We have a lot of buildings about over the land and country—some have more members enrolled than others, but all the church houses and all the members of each church do not mean the church of God. Where two or three are drawn together in Jesus' name, there you will find the true church and Jesus will be the Sovereign Head. This is a Christian Body and not just any form of religion, and it is constituted of living souls or new creatures in Christ Jesus our Lord. Man can have a religion, but man cannot be a Christian without Christ. This is the church that Christ came to redeem back to God the Father, according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, into everlasting glory by virtue of His covenant bond of electing grace and in the fullness of time He came forth as the Head of this Body. "Oh, what a precious gift and what wondrous love is this, O my soul."

My dear brethren, I hope that I have at times and places in days gone by been enabled to sit in this church and feel the presence of Jesus and His love. Brethren, I love Thy Kingdom, Lord, the House of Thine abode. I love what it takes to make peace, and I believe in the apostolic doctrine and practice. I am not ashamed to own my Lord or to defend His cause, and by the grace of God, I hope to stand for the things that are thus saith the Lord—with no fancy trimmings or sugar coating. So, help me, "Oh, Lord, for Thou has the words of eternal life." Now, may God have mercy on me a poor sinner here in a world of sorrow, trouble and temptations. Together with all confessed Old Baptists, wherever they may be, is my humble prayer, for Jesus' sake, I hope.

A poor sinner, saved by the grace of God, if saved at all.

Yours in hope of eternal life,

O. W. SISK

16.

**ORDAINED MINISTERS**

Coy Hawks, 3958 South Dale Ave., Winston-Salem, N. C.  
 Jesse Collins, Pilot Mountain, N. C.  
 J. A. Marion, Rt. 1, Ararat, N. C.  
 James F. Hill, Rt. 1, King, N. C.  
 Coy Sikes, Rt. 1, Low Gap, N. C.  
 J. L. Williams, 875 Pacific Dr., Winston-Salem, N. C.  
 Edward Lawson, Rt. 6, Mt. Airy, N. C.  
 Claude Hutchens, Rt. 1, Dobson, N. C.  
 H. B. Thomas, 125 East View St., Galax, Va.  
 D. E. Wood, Rt. 1, Low Gap, N. C.  
 J. I. Cruise, 312 Madison Dr., Mt. Airy, N. C.  
 E. L. Hunter, Rt. 1, Box 465, Mt. Airy, N. C.  
 Walden Stockner, Hillsville, Va.  
 Isaac Gibbons, Rt. 2, Pinnacle, N. C.  
 G. W. Noonkester, Ararat, Va.

17.

**LICENTIATES**

Garnet Easter, Rt. 5, Mt. Airy, N. C.  
 Willie Branch, Rt. 1, Elkin, N. C.  
 W. C. Collins, Rt. 1, Mt. Airy, N. C.  
 W. E. Thomas, Galax, Va.  
 R. L. Bond, Barren Springs, Va.  
 Coy Stewart, 705 Cole St., Thomasville, N. C.

**CHURCHES AND THEIR PASTORS**

Ararat (C. H.): Elder James F. Hill  
 Boyles Chapel—Elder J. F. Hill  
 Chestnut Grove—Elder H. B. Thomas, J. I. Cruise  
 Deep Creek—Jesse Collins  
 Liberty: Elder H. B. Thomas  
 Little Vine—Elders Coy Sikes, Edward Lawson  
 Mitchell's River—Elders D. E. Wood, Coy Sikes  
 Mountain View: Elders G. W. Noonkester, E. L. Hunter  
 Mulberry: Elders W. C. Hawks, J. L. Williams  
 Pilot Mountain—Elder Jesse Collins, Edward Lawson  
 Pleasant Grove—Elder C. D. Hall  
 Rock House: Elder Fletcher Beasley  
 Sandy Ridge: Elders Coy Sikes, J. I. Cruise  
 Stoney Creek—Elders E. L. Hunter, G. W. Noonkester  
 Tom's Creek: Elder R. L. Rodgers  
 Union: Elders R. L. Rodgers and E. L. Hunter  
 Volunteer: Elder Sam Adkins  
 Fellowship (S. C.)—Elder Walden Stockner  
 Zion Hill—Elders D. E. Wood, H. B. Thomas  
 Hogan's Creek—Elder Jesse Collins.

**DISTRIBUTION OF MINUTES**

Ararat (C. H.)—J. E. Simmons, Rt. 1, Pilot Mountain, N. C. .... 35  
 Boyles Chapel—E. H. Taylor, Rt. 2, Germantown, N. C. .... 60  
 Chestnut Grove—G. P. Lyons, 903 Banner St. Mt. Airy, N. C. ... 80  
 Deep Creek—Mrs. Eunice Key, Siloam, N. C. .... 40  
 Fellowship (Snake Creek)—Virgie Stockner, Hillsville, Va. .... 30  
 Hogan's Creek: Carlton Fulk, Rt. 1, Siloam, N. C. .... 25  
 Liberty: Curtis Harbour, Rt. 2, Dobson, N. C. .... 30  
 Little Vine—Geo. White, Rt. 1, Elkin, N. C. .... 100  
 Mitchel's River—Mrs. Elizabeth Southard, Rt. 1, Dobson, N. C. . 30  
 Mountain View: NannieBell Eaton, Ararat, Virginia ..... 35

Mulberry—Elbert Slawter, State Road, N. C. .... 30  
 Pilot Mountain—Walter P. Griffin, Box 177, Pilot Mtn., N. C. .... 30  
 Pleasant Grove—H. E. Johnson, Box 65, East Bend, N. C. .... 35  
 Rock House: W. R. Coins, Westfield, N. C. .... 50  
 Sandy Ridge—Emaline Hawks, Rt. 5, Mt. Airy, N. C. .... 55  
 Stoney Creek—J. M. Hunter, Rt. 1, Box 455, Mt. Airy, N. C. .... 70  
 Tom's Creek: L. L. Love, Rt. 2, Pilot Mountain, N. C. .... 85  
 Union—Carroll F. Gardner, Box 267, Dobson, N. C. .... 85  
 Volunteer: O. W. Sisk, King, N. C. .... 75  
 Zion Hill—Vestal Jones, Rt. 5, Box 218, Mt. Airy, N. C. .... 35

**ASSOCIATION MAILING LIST**

Roaring River: John D. Hall, 278 South St., Elkin, N. C. .... 15  
 St. Clair's Bottom: Quentin P. Dancy, Chilhowie, Va. .... 15  
 Washington: Elder L. S. Street, Grundy, Va. .... 30  
 Piney Grove: S. O. Shelton, Francisco, N. C. .... 25  
 Curtis Harbor, Association Clerk ..... 85  
 1200

**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 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 Testaments 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 none come to Christ only those whom he loved with an everlasting love, and due time calls to everlasting glory.

V—We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

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

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

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

IX—We believe the saints persevere in grace and never finally fall away.

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 ordinances, and that the true mode of baptism is by immersion.

XI—We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and a general judgment.

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

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

1. The association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. The moderator and clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.
3. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall arise from his seat and address the moderator.
4. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by any, except the moderator, till he is done speaking.
5. 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 nearly as he can, so as to convey his ideas.
6. No person shall abruptly break off, or absent himself from the association, without leave obtained from it.
7. No person shall rise and speak more than three times on one subject, without liberty obtained from the association.
8. No member of the association shall have liberty of laughing during the sitting of the same, nor of whispering in time of a public speech.
9. No member of the association shall address another in any other appellation than that of brother.
10. 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 breaks the rules of this decorum.
11. The names of the several members of the association shall be enrolled by the clerk, and called over as often as the association thinks proper.
12. The moderator shall be entitled to the same privileges of speech as other members, provided the chair be filled.
13. Any member who shall wilfully and knowingly break any of these rules shall be reproved by the association as it may think proper.

#### CONSTITUTION

1. 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.
2. In the letters from the different churches shall be expressed their number in full fellowship, those baptised, received by letter, dismissed by letter, excommunicated and dead since the last association.
3. 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 churches in the union.

4. The association, when convened, shall be governed and ruled by a regular and proper decorum.

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

6. 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.

7. Every church in the union shall be entitled to representation in the association.

8. Every query presented by any member in the association, shall be received and answered according to the Scriptures.

9. Every motion made and seconded shall be considered by the association, except it be withdrawn by him who made it.

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

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

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

13. We hold no fellowship with any secret order.

14. 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 enquire 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 and convenient to the churches in this union.

#### COVENANT

We do now in the presence of Almighty God, and in the faith of the gospel, and by the help of divine grace, unreservedly and unitedly give up ourselves to God the Father, and His Son Jesus Christ, and to the Holy Ghost, to be for Him and no other; freely submitting ourselves to him, to be at his disposal for his glory, taking him as our true guide and only portion, promising by the help of divine grace to watch against sin, temptation, and corruption; and to hold a continual warfare with the same, looking to Christ who is the author and finisher of our faith, and the only hope and surety of his people. Under his covenant of grace, we do now freely and joyfully give ourselves to one another by the will of God, freely covenanting and engaging to and with each other to bear one another's burdens in the gospel, and so fulfill the law of Christ unto obedience, promising to watch over one another in love and to hold communion together in the ordinances of the gospel, submitting ourselves in this, which we trust is a part of his mystical body, according as we shall be directed by his Spirit in his word; and by the help of divine grace to still pray for more light from the Lord, believing that he will further and more gloriously open to us his word and the mysteries of his kingdom,—and to our Lord Jesus Christ, and our only Savior, to whom be glory forever and forever. Amen.

### STATISTICAL TABLE

| CHURCHES            | Last Session of Association | NAMES OF CHURCH MESSENGERS                           | Communion Mo. |                   |                 |                |                |                   |                 |                  |                 |          |          | Tot. Membership | Contributions |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|--|---------------|-------------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|----------|----------|-----------------|---------------|
|                     |                             |  |               | Sunday of Service | Ordained Elders | Licensed Gifts | Rec'd. by Exp. | Rec'd by Relation | Rec'd by Letter | Restored to Fel. | Dis'd by Letter | Excluded | Deceased |                 |               |
| Fellowship (S.C.)   |                             | Eld. W. Stockner, Dea. McKinley, Goad, R.L. Bond     | Aug.          | 2                 | 1               | 1              | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | ...      | ...      | 22              | \$10.00       |
| Chestnut Grove ..   | 1946                        | Alex Edwards, Garnett Lyons, Issa Edwards .....      | Aug.          | 4                 | ...             | 9              | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | ...      | 2        | 60              | 9.00          |
| Boyles Chapel ....  | 1947                        | Sam Holder, Watson Mabe, E. H. Taylor .....          | May           | 1                 | 1               | 5              | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | ...      | 2        | 59              | 16.50         |
| Sandy Ridge .....   | 1948                        | Cleaver Hawks, Lester Hawks, Garnet Easter ....      | Aug.          | 3                 | ...             | 1              | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | ...      | 2        | 59              | 15.00         |
| Ararat (C. H.) .... | 1949                        | J. E. Simmons, Otis Rogers, Sherman Shelton ....     | May           | 2                 | ...             | ...            | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | ...      | ...      | 23              | 10.00         |
| Liberty .....       | 1950                        | Brady Pilson, Willie Hutchens, Eld. J. A. Marion ..  | Sept.         | 1                 | 1               | ...            | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | ...      | 1        | 23              | 12.00         |
| Volunteer .....     | 1951                        | Raymond Smith, O. W. Sisk, Isaac Gibbons .....       | June          | 4                 | 1               | 1              | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | 1               | 1        | 58       | 21.00           |               |
| Stoney Creek .....  | 1952                        | Ed Smith, Eld. E. L. Hunter, W. C. Hiatt .....       | June          | 3                 | 2               | 2              | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | 1        | 52       | 20.00           |               |
| Hogan's Creek ..... | 1953                        | Carlton Fulk, Willie McKinney, Elah Fulk .....       | Aug.          | 3                 | ...             | ...            | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | ...      | 8        | 5.00            |               |
| Pilot Mountain ..   | 1954                        | Dea. Dee Sams, Eld. Jesse Collins, Walter Griffin .. | Aug.          | 1                 | 1               | ...            | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | 3        | 22       | 10.00           |               |
| Mitchell's River .. | 1955                        | Coy Stewart, Eld. Coy Sikes, Elizabeth Southard ..   | July          | 4                 | ...             | 1              | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | ...      | 13       | 10.00           |               |
| Mulberry .....      | 1956                        | Eld. Coy Hawks, Kenneth Hawks, Elbert Slawter ..     | Aug.          | 1                 | 1               | 1              | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | ...      | 23       | 14.00           |               |
| Union .....         | 1957                        | Carl Simpson, O. B. Venable, Ray Mosley .....        | July          | 4                 | ...             | 1              | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | ...      | 63       | 16.50           |               |
| Little Vine .....   | 1958                        | Eld. J. L. Williams, Geo. White, Walter Nichols ..   | Aug.          | 2                 | 4               | 2              | 1              | ...               | ...             | ...              | 8               | 2        | 97       | 14.00           |               |
| Pleasant Grove ..   | 1959                        | Deacons H.E. Johnson, W.H. Johnson, J.W. Spencer     | June          | 3                 | ...             | ...            | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | 1               | ...      | 22       | 25.00           |               |
| Mountain View ..    |                             | Eld. Noonkester, Dea. E.E. Boyd, J.W. Vippermman     | Sept.         | 4                 | 1               | 1              | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | ...      | 35       | 7.00            |               |
| Deep Creek .....    | 1960                        | Jesse Key, Roby Murphy, Roy Poindexter .....         | June          | 2                 | ...             | ...            | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | 2        | 18       | 10.00           |               |
| Rock House .....    | 1961                        | W. R. Coins, J. H. Keaton, Luther Lawson .....       | Sept.         | 2                 | ...             | 1              | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | 1        | 36       | 9.50            |               |
| Tom's Creek .....   | 1962                        | Aubrey Love, L. L. Love, Glenn Hunter .....          | June          | 2                 | ...             | 1              | ...            | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | 2        | 60       | 20.00           |               |
| Zion Hill .....     | 1963                        | Eld. D. E. Wood, Dea. H. J. Hill, Benny Snow .....   | July          | 3                 | 2               | 1              | 1              | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | 2        | 21       | 12.00           |               |
| Totals .....        |                             |  |               | ...               | 15              | 6              | 24             | ...               | ...             | ...              | ...             | 10       | 21       | 774             | 266.50        |