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— PROCEEDINGS OF —

THE FIRST SESSION

OF THE

Middle Florida Baptist Association.

HELD WITH

Macedonia Baptist Church, Madison Co., Florida,

Nov. 9th, 10th and 11th.

OFFICERS:

MODERATOR—REV. T. J. FARNELL, DAY, FLORIDA.

CLERK—REV. J. L. RUTHERFORD, MADISON, FLORIDA.

TREASURER—F. B. WILLIAMS, MADISON, FLORIDA.

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Minutes.

Friday Morning Session.

MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH, MADISON COUNTY, FLA.

The first session of the Middle Florida Association convened with the Macedonia Baptist church, November 9th, 1901.

By request of the Moderator, the Introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Stephen Crockett, of the Florida Association, from Ephesians 4: 22-24 verses inclusive.

Afternoon.

After an intermission of one hour for dinner the Association reassembled. The former Moderator, being present, read the 9th Psalm and prayer was offered by Rev. W. S. Kelly.

The former Clerk being absent, Rev. J. L. Rutherford was elected Clerk pro tem. The lists of delegates from the various churches were handed in, read by brothers D. E. Thomas and W. M. Tampling and the names of the delegates enrolled by the Clerk.

The Association proceeded to establish a permanent organization and elected the following officers by acclamation: Rev. J. T. Farnell, Moderator; Rev. J. L. Rutherford, Clerk.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us. Rev. Stephen Crockett, of the Florida Association accepted this invitation.

Called for Correspondence.

On motion, the regular order of business was suspended and petitionary letters called for.

A petitionary letter was presented by the New Hopeful Baptist church, of Madison county, Florida, and referred to a committee consisting of brother's D. E. Thomas, W. M. Tampling and W. M. Cornett.

The regular order of business being resumed, the Moderator appointed the committees:

On Reading.—W. M. Cornett, F. B. Williams, J. R. Henderson and J. P. Lyons.

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons.—W. M. Tampling, D. E. Thomas and I. N. Barr s.

It was suggested that all committees, except those on reading, on deceased Ministers and Deacons, on Nominations and on Finance, be dispensed with.

On Finance.—D. W. Townsend, Jno. S. Pinson and L. A. Seals.

On Nominations. W. M. Cornett, W. M. Tampling, J. E. Horne, and J. W. Wheeler.

Time of Meeting.

On motion, it was agreed to meet at 9 a. m., and adjourn at will.

On motion, the Association adjourned, with prayer by Rev. J. A. Gandy, to meet at 9 a. m. tomorrow.

Saturday Morning Session.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, who read the 19th Psalm, after which prayer was offered by Rev. H. B. Gibson.

The call for letters was renewed and the names of the delegates enrolled.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

The call for correspondents was renewed and Rev. J. S. Parker, of the Suwannee Association responded.

On motion, F. B. Williams and Jno. Hicks were added to the committee on Petitionary Letters.

The committee on Petitionary Letters made a favorable report.

The Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to the delegates from New Hopeful church.

Brother H B Gibson was added to the Finance committee.

A letter from the Live Oak Baptist church, was handed in and read and the names of the delegates enrolled.

The committee on Preaching reported that Rev. J S Parker would preach at 11 a. m.

On motion, the Association adjourned for preaching.

At 11 a. m. Rev J S Parker preached an able sermon from II Samuel, 18: 19.

Afternoon Session.

The Association reassembled and the Moderator read the 23rd Psalm, after which prayer was offered by Rev J L Townsend.

The call for letters was renewed and Mt Mariah Baptist church responded.

On motion, Mt Mariah church was received into the Association, the right hand of fellowship extended to the delegates, by the Moderator, and their names enrolled.

The call for correspondents was renewed and Rev W J Sullivan of the Florida Association responded.

Revs J L Rutherford and L J Townsend were appointed as delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention to meet at New Orleans.

Rev T J Farrell and brethren W M Cornett and L A Seals, were appointed correspondents to the Florida Baptist Association.

The committee on Preaching reported that the Missionary sermon would be preached by Rev J A Gandy, at 11 a. m. Sunday.

The reports of committees were called for.

The committees on Nominations made the following report:

DEAR BRETHREN;—We, your committee on Nominations, recommend that the Executive Committee be elected by ballot, and that Rev J L Rutherford preach the next introductory sermon, and recommend Rev W M Tampling as alternate. We nominate Rev J T Farnell to preach the Missionary sermon, with Rev J L Townsend as alternate.

Respectfully submitted,

W M M CORNETT, Chairman,
W M M TAMPLING,
J E HORNE,
J W WHEELER,

Committee.

The committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons made the following report:

DEAR BRETHREN.—We, your committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons, beg leave to submit the following report:

We feel thankful, that God, our Heavenly Father, has blessed our Ministers and Deacons of our Association to the extent that none of them have been removed from our midst by the hand of death and we pray that His blessings may continue with us.

Respectfully submitted,

W M M TAMPLING, Chairman,
D E FLOMAS,
I N BARRIS,

The Finance committee made the following report.

We, your committee on Finance, beg leave to submit the following report:

For Minute Fund, \$ 9 25
For Associational Fund, 11 30
For Associational Missions, 1 50
For State Missions, 90
For Aged Ministers Relief Fund, 25

Total, \$23.20

Respectfully submitted,

D W TOWNSEND, Chairman,
J S PINSON,
L A SEALS,
H B GIBSON.

T. CASURER'S REPORT.

Daniel Farnell, in account with The Middle Florida Association.
1900. April, To amount received from Union meeting at Macedonia, \$ 3 00
April, To amount received from Union meeting at Midway, 6 10
April, To amount received from Union meeting at Live Oak, 8 40
Nov 10, To amount received from Finance committee, 23 20

Total, \$40 70
Respectfully submitted, DANIEL FARNELL

At this juncture, the Moderator received a letter, informing the Association of the illness of Rev R F Hacker. On motion, a special prayer was offered by Rev J A Gandy.

Rev Wm M Tampling and W M Cornett, D W Townsend and J E Horne were elected as members of the Executive Committee and Brother F B Williams was elected as treasurer.

While singing a hymn, a collection amounting to \$2.85, was taken up to defray the expenses of Rev J A Gandy, an aged minister, 85 years old.

There being three invitations for the next session of the Association, on motion a ballot was taken and Live Oak Baptist church was chosen as the place for holding the next session.

On motion, the time of the meeting of the Middle Florida Association was changed to Friday before the third Sunday in October.

On motion the clerk was ordered paid five dollars, (\$5.00) for his services and instructed to have the minutes printed where he could get it the cheapest.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Resolved—That this body extend thanks to the membership of the Macedonia church and community for their kind and unbounded hospitality towards us while in their midst.

On motion, the association adjourned to meet with the Live Oak Baptist church, six miles south of Macedonia, on Friday, before the third Sunday in October A D 1901.

REV J L RUTHERFORD, Clerk

REV T J FARNELL, Moderator.

Sunday Service.

Divine Service was conducted on Sunday, at 11 a m by Rev J A Gandy. He preached from Nehemiah, 2-17, after which a collection, amounting to \$3.25, was up for missions.

Report of Finance Committee:

Churches	Minute Fund	Associational Fund	Associational Missions	State Missions	Aged Minister Relief Fund	Totals
New Hopeful	1 00	2 00	1 00	85		4 85
Live Oak	1 00	1 00				2 00
Macedonia	2 00	2 45				4 45
Midway	1 00	1 00				2 00
Mt Mariah	50					95
Pleasant Grove Lafayette County	1 50		1 00			2 50
Pleasant Grove Taylor County	1 00	2 20				3 20
Hopewell	50					50
Triumph	25	50	50	25	25	1 75
New Hopewell	50	50				1 00
Pine Grove						
Totals	9 25	11 20	1 50	90	25	23 20

List of Churches and Pastors.				
Churches	County	Pastor	Post Offices	State
Brewer Lake	Lafayette	E B Mills	Levaville	Florida
Hopewell	Madison	J Townsend	Slayton	"
Live Oak	"	J L Rutherford	Madison	"
Macedonia	"	T J Farnell	Day	"
Midway	"	T J Farnell	Day	"
Mt. Mariah	"	W M Tampling	ee	"
New Hopewell	"	L J Townsend	Slayton	"
Pleasant Grove	Lafayette	S G Davenport	"	"
Pleasant Grove	Taylor	W S Kelly	Madison	"
Pine Grove	Madison	G A Clements	Hamburg	"
Triumph	Taylor	R F Hacker	Stephenville	"

N B;—Clerks of churches will please send post office of the pastors of the churches and also their own.

List of Clerks, Churches and Messengers.			
Churches	Clerks	P O Address	Messengers
Brewer Lake	J W Tampling	Day Fla	N Barrs and D W Townsend
Live Oak	Chas Martin	Madison Fla	J L Rutherford
Macedonia	W B Rye	" "	J R Henderson, Wm Corbett B Williams and J P Lyons
Midway	D C Thomas	Lee "	W M Tampling D E Thomas Jno Hicks and W Wheeler
Mt. Mariah	T P Newman	Unknown	J T Phillips and Archie Hicks
New Hopewell	H B Gibson	Madison Fla	H B Gibson
Pleasant Grove	L R Bullard	Unknown	S Ezell
Pleasant Grove	G W Dico	Idgo Fla	J C Horne Samuel Sapp
Pine Grove	J L Warren	Madison Fla	L A Seals
Triumph	P J Corlin	Stephenville Fla	By Letter
Hopewell	Unknaow	Madison Fla	Not Reported

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Rev W M Tampling and Brethren W M Corbett, D W Townsend, J E Harne, and F B Williams

The next session of this association will be held with the Live Oak church, 6 miles south of Macedonia beginning Friday before the 3rd Sunday in October A D 1901. The Introductory sermon by Rev J L Rutherford with Rev Wm M Tampling as alternate.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

T J Farnell Day Fla J L Rutherford Madison Fla
 H B Gibson Madison Fla W M Tampling Lee Fla.
 W S Kelly, Madison; Fla. L J Townsend, Slayton Fla.
 R F Hacker, Stephenville Fla.

LIST OF LICENTIATES.

Joseph E Craften, Madison Ia. D E Thomas Lee Fla
 Edgar Hibbits, Tallahassee Fla.

N B—Clerks of churches are requested to insert in the church letters, the names and addresses of ordained ministers and licentiates.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1 Introductory sermon.
- 2 Names of Delegates enrolled.
- 3 Election of Moderator and Clerk.
- 4 Visiting Brethren invited to seats with us.
- 5 Call for Correspondents.
- 6 Call for petitionary letters.
- 7 Appointment of Committees.
- 8 Election of delegates to the State Convention.
- 9 Election of delegates to the Southern Baptist Convention.
- 10 Unfinished Business.
- 11 Reports of Committees.
- 12 Election of Executive Committee.
- 13 Election of Treasurer.

- 14 Address of Agents.
- 15 Appointment of Correspondents.
- 16 Miscellaneous Business.
- 17 Adjournment

CONSTITUTION OF THE MIDDLE FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Article 1 This Association shall be known by the name of The Middle Florida Baptist Association. The object of this Association shall be to conduct the work of missions, colportage, sabbath school enterprises and other work that will tend to the spread of the Gospel.

Article 2 This Association shall be composed of white members chosen by the respective churches in its union, in the proportion of two members for each church of fifty or less, and one additional delegate for every twenty five members over fifty. No church, however, shall have over four delegates.

Article 3 The letters sent by the churches at each session of the Association shall designate their respective members in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and dead since last session.

Article 4 Believing, it to be proper, on account of the diversity of opinion among men as to the import of Scripture contained in the Old and New Testaments to declare our belief and understanding thereof, we therefore append our belief in twelve Articles and present them with our minutes to the Baptist denomination.

Article 5 The Association when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum. A Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by the votes of the members present, who shall hold their offices until the next session of the body; and until their successors are elected.

The Moderator shall preside at the meetings of the Association.

The Clerk shall record the proceedings thereof and prepare them for the press.

Article 6 The Association thus organized shall have no power to lord over God's heritage nor infringe upon the eternal rights of any church.

Article 7 Newly constituted churches may be admitted to this union on application by letter and delegates; and if, upon examination found to be orthodox, shall be received, by the Association and the right hand of fellowship extended to the delegates by the Moderator.

Article 8 The Association shall furnish the minutes of their proceedings in proportion to the funds sent up for that purpose by the churches.

Article 9 The minutes of the Association shall be publicly read (and corrected if necessary) and then signed by the Moderator and Clerk before adjournment.

Article 10 Any amendment or alteration of this Constitution may be made by the votes of two-thirds of the members present at any two successive regular meetings of the Association. All other matters of fellowship shall be decided by a majority vote. In matters of fellowship the Association must be a unit.

Article 11 The Association shall have power:

First To provide for the general union of the churches.

Second To give the churches advice in matters of difficulty.

Third To inquire into the cause of any failing to be represented at the meeting of the Association.

Fourth To withdraw all connection from any church or churches in this union that shall violate the rules of this Association, or shall deviate from the orthodox principles of the revealed Word of God.

Fifth To appropriate the money contributed and sent up to the Association as specified by the churches, and when not specified it shall be appropriated to promote the best interests of the Master's cause.

Sixth To adjourn to any future time and place they may deem most convenient to the churches in the union.

RULES OF DECORUM OF THE MIDDLE FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

1 At every meeting of the Association the Moderator shall call the body to order and cause the Clerk to read the minutes of the previous Association.

2 The Moderator shall preserve order, and shall speak on any point of order with reference to the other members; and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Association, when requested by two members.

3 The Moderator shall put all questions distinctly in this form: "As many as are in favor (or the question may be) say aye." And after the affirmative vote is taken. "As many as are of a contrary opinion say, No." If doubtful which voice is in the majority, it shall be decided by rising vote.

4 The Moderator shall appoint the committees except in cases of appointment by ballot.

5 In all cases of ballot the Moderator may vote. In all other cases he shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided, or unless his vote given to the minority will make the division equal. In that case the question shall be lost.

6 When any member is about to speak in debate he shall rise and address the Moderator.

7 If any member, while speaking or otherwise employed, transgresses the rules of decorum, the Moderator shall, or any member may, call him to order.

8 When two or more members shall rise at the same time, the Moderator shall decide who is first entitled to the floor.

9 No member shall indulge in unkind remarks in debate, nor shall any member speak more than twice on the same question without leave from the Association, nor more than once until every one desiring to speak shall have done so.

10 While any member is addressing the Association, it shall be the duty of the Moderator to suppress all private discourse that may be indulged in among the members, and require strict attention on the part of the audience.

11 When a motion is made and seconded it shall be stated by the Moderator before open for debate.

12 Every motion shall be reduced to writing if desired by any member of the Association.

13 After a motion is made and seconded it shall be deemed in possession of the Association, but may be withdrawn at any time before being discussed or amended.

14 When a question is under debate no motion shall be entertained unless to amend or refer it to a committee for the previous question, or for adjournment.

15 A motion for adjournment shall always be in order, and decided without debate.

16 A member may call for a division of a question when two or more dissenting propositions are set forth, and when the substance will admit of a division.

17 Motions and amendments may be referred to a committee at the pleasure of the Association.

18 Every resolution shall receive two readings in the Association previous to its passage. The first shall be for information; and the second when the decision of the Association is to be made.

19 The rules may be changed or amended at any full meeting of the Association.

20 The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer each day by the Moderator or some other member.

21 Aliquot parts shall be fairly stated in writing and approved by two-thirds of the members present before they shall be acted on.

Articles of Faith.

Article 1 We believe in one only true and living God, and that there are three in the God Head—The Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

Article 2 We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

Article 3 We believe the doctrine of particular and eternal election.

Article 4 We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

Article 5 We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature, by his own free will and ability.

Article 6 We believe that we are justified in the sight of God only by the imputed righteousness of Christ.

Article 7 We believe that God's elect shall be called regenerated, and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

Article 8 We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace, and never finally fall away.

Article 9 We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper are the only ordin-

ances of Jesus Christ; that nothing is baptism except immersion; that believers are only subjects of this ordinance, and that none but baptized believers are entitled to partake of the Lord's Supper.

Article 10 We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a general judgment.

Article 11 We believe the punishment of the wicked shall be everlasting and the joys of the righteous eternal.

Article 12 We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances only such as are regularly called, and have come under the imposition of the hands of the Presbytery.

Statistics of Membership.

Churches	County	B Y	B Y	R E S T O R A T I O N	E X P E R I E N C E	B Y	B Y	B Y	PRESEN T MEMBERSHIP
		B A P T I S M	L E T T E R			L E T T E R	P U L S I O N	D E A T H	
Brewer Lake	Lafayette	10	2	2					51
Live Oak	Madison	13	7	1		3			43
Macedonia	"	10	2	7			1	1	155
Midway	"	15	2	2		2			79
Mt Mariah	"	14		1		3			23
New Hopeful	"								22
Pleasant Grove	Lafayette	2	4	2			1	1	75
Pleasant Grove	Taylor	7	2	8			2	2	57
Pine Grove	Madison								48
Triumph	Taylor		2				1	1	17
Hopewell	Madison								54
Totals		61	31	22		13	13	6	629