

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

MIDDLE FLORIDA BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE

PINE GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
MADISON COUNTY, FLORIDA

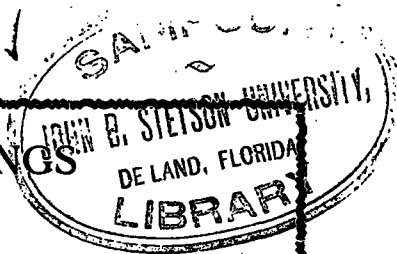
OCTOBER 14, 15, 16, 1903

OFFICERS.

MODERATOR, REV. J. T. FARNELL, - - Day, Fla.
SECRETARY, REV. H. B. GIBSON, - - Madison, Fla.
TREASURER, F. B. WILLIAMS, - - Madison, Fla.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

J. C. SCRUGGS, H. B. GIBSON, JNO. T. WOODWARD,
W. P. JOHNSON, SAMUEL ANDREWS and
F. B. WILLIAMS.



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ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Enrolling names of messengers.
3. Election of Moderator and Clerk.
4. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
5. Call for petitionary letters.
6. Call for correspondents.
7. Appoint committees.
8. Elect messengers to the Florida Baptist Convention.
9. Elect messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention.
10. Unfinished business.
11. Reports of committees.
12. Elect Executive Committee.
13. Elect Treasurer.
14. Address of agents.
15. Appoint correspondents.
16. Miscellaneous business.
17. Adjournment.

LIST OF ORDAINED MINISTERS COMPILED FROM THE CHURCH LETTERS.

I. R. Clements	Madison, Fla.
J. T. Farnell	Day, Fla.
H. B. Gibson	Madison, Fla.
R. F. Hacker	Harmony, Fla.
J. M. Hampton	Aucilla, Fla.
W. S. Kelly	Hopewell, Fla.
J. T. Montgomery	Aucilla, Fla.
J. L. Rutherford	Hopewell, Fla.
L. J. Townsend	Slayton, Fla.
Wm. M. Tamplin	Ellaville, Fla.
James E. Vann	Red Oak, Fla.
A. N. Woodard	Madison, Fla.

LICENTIATE

J. E. Craften	Biscayne, Fla.
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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

J. C. Seruggs, H. B. Gibson, J. T. Woodard, W. P. Johnson, F. B. Williams, Samuel Andrews; F. B. Williams, treasurer.

MINUTES.

PINE GROVE CHURCH OCTOBER 14TH, 1908.

The Middle Florida Baptist Association met with Pine Grove Church this day at 11 a. m.

The appointee to preach the introductory sermon being absent, by request, Rev. W. L. Mahon, agent for the Orphanage, preached the introductory sermon. Text, Ephesians, 1:10.

AFTERNOON SESSION—FIRST DAY.

The Association met at 2 p. m. The former Moderator and Clerk being present.

The roll of churches was called and letters handed in.

The Moderator appointed R. F. Hacker and the Clerk to read the letters.

The Clerk enrolled names of messengers.

Permanently organized by re-electing the former Moderator and Clerk by acclamation.

Rev. W. Lee Mahon was welcomed as a visitor, and agent for the Orphanage.

Rev. J. S. Hurst was welcomed as a visitor from the Suwanee Association.

Rev. J. W. Pierson and Bro. J. W. Green were welcomed as visitors from Hamilton Association.

Bro. J. H. Rowe was welcomed as a visitor from the Florida Association.

The Moderator appointed the following committees:

Preaching—Pastor and deacons of Pine Grove Church with J. S. Pinson.

Missions—Rev. R. F. Hacker, Bros. B. C. Webb, J. J. Whitfield.

Ministerial Education—Rev. I. R. Clements, R. F. Hacker, Bro. J. C. Scruggs.

Deceased ministers and deacons—Bros. J. C. Scruggs, J. H. Armstrong, W. M. Cornett and H. F. Rye.

Nominations—Bros. Z. T. Terry, W. P. Johnson, Joe Thomas and Samuel Andrews.

Sunday Schools—Rev. J. L. Rutherford, Bros. J. C. Scruggs and L. Seals.

Woman's Work—Rev. I. R. Clements, A. Pierson, J. F. Stokes and J. H. Turlington.

Temperance—Revs. R. F. Hacker, A. N. Woodard and Bro. J. P. Lyons.

Periodicals—Rev. I. R. Clements, A. N. Woodard and Geo. E. Blair.

Orphanage—Bros. J. C. Scruggs, A. J. Aman and Rufus Gandy.

Finance—Bros. J. P. Hammock, W. S. Burnett and G. F. Andrews.

Called for correspondents.

Called for petitionary letters.

A motion prevailed that Mrs. Mary J. Barrs address the Association in connection with the report of the committee on Temperance.

Fixed time of meeting of the Association. Meet at 9 a. m. Adjourn at 11 a. m. Meet at 2 p. m. Adjourn at 4 p. m.

A motion prevailed that the election of delegates to the State Convention be woved and call for volunteers.

Revs. L. J. Townsend, J. F. Farnell and Bro. W. P. Johnson volunteered as delegates to the Baptist State Convention to meet at Bartow, January, 1904.

A motion prevailed that Rev. W. L. Mahon ad-

dress the Association at 10 a. m. tomorrow in the interest of the Orphanage.

A motion prevailed that Revs. W. M. Tamplin and J. L. Rutherford be received as messengers at large.

The committee on preaching announced Rev. W. M. Tamplin to preach at 8 p. m. and Rev. J. W. Pierson on temperance at 11 a. m. tomorrow.

Adjourned until tomorrow 9 a. m. Rev. W. M. Tamplin offered prayer.

NIGHT SERVICES.

Rev. W. M. Tamplin preached at 8 p. m. Text, Acts, 2:37.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION—SECOND DAY.

The Association met at 9 a. m. The Moderator read the 37th Psalm. Rev. J. S. Hurst offered prayer.

Renewed the call for and enrolled names of messengers.

Invited visiting brethren to seats with us.

Called for petitionary letters. River Side Baptist Church presented her letter by the hands of her messengers.

On motion Rev. W. M. Tamplin, Bros. H. F. Rye and J. S. Pinson were appointed a committee to examine the othodoxy of the letter.

Rev. M. A. Clonts was welcomed as a visitor and representative of the Southern Baptist.

A motion prevailed that each church of this Association be requested to send the names, deaths and dates of deaths of the members of their churches in their associational letters.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The report of the committee on petitionary letters was read and adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PETITIONARY LETTERS.

Dear Brethren: We, your committee, beg leave to report favorably.

Respectfully submitted,
W. M. TAMPLIN,
Chairman.

The right hand of fellowship was extended to the messengers by the Moderator.

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We notice but two Sunday schools in our Association. Brethren, our children are to take our place when we are gone, so we should train them so they may better fill our place spiritually and morally. We recommend therefore that our churches organize and keep up a Sunday school; early impressions are the most lasting. A Sunday school should be used as an arm of the church. May all the churches report Sunday schools at the next session of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,
J. L. RUTHERFORD,
Chairman.

After being discussed by Revs. R. F. Hacker and W. L. Mahon, the report was adopted.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We, the Executive Committee, beg leave to submit the following:

As our resources were limited, we have been unable to do but little. We employed Rev. A. N. Woodard for one-fourth of his time as a missionary to preach in the Pine Island district. He has organized a church there with eight members, and they are struggling to build a house of worship. We also employed Rev. J. T. Montgomery for one-fourth of his time as a missionary to preach at Shady Grove. He is in a fair way to secure a site for building a house, and thinks he can organize a very good church once he gets a house of worship. The field is large and the harvest is white, and we earnestly ask aid of the brethren and sisters, that the committee may push forward the great work.

Respectfully submitted,
J. C. SCRUGGS,
Chairman.

Having been spoken to by Revs. I. R. Clements and R. F. Hacker, the thanks of the Association was tendered to the Executive Committee.

The report was adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WOMAN'S WORK.

When our Savior with his twelve disciples were beginning the great work of missions, a noble band of women ministered to them of their substance, thus making woman's work co-extensive with the gospel. (See Luke, 8:1 to 4); Paul commends Phoebe of Cenchreae as succorer of many. (Rom. 16, 1:6), and also bids the church at Rome to "greet Mary that bestowed much labor on Him." (Rom. 16:6.) And again he admonishes the churches to "help those women who labored with Him in the gospel." Not only does the helping hand of woman receive God's written sanction, but His blessings on their efforts gives us abundant proof that organized societies of devoted women to aid in the support and maintainance of the gospel work is a part of God's divine plan for carrying the gospel to every creature. We wish every church had a live working woman's mission society. Let our pastors labor to organize and thus encourage the women in their churches.

Respectfully submitted,
I. R. CLEMENTS,
Chairman.

Having been discussed by Rev. J. R. Clements and R. F. Hacker, the report was adopted.

REPORT ON ORPHANAGE.

We, your committee, beg leave to report as follows: We feel that because there is no institution of the kind in the State, and because of the peculiar need of such an institution, no part of our work demands more of our attention and self-sacrificing effort. Also we would call to the attention of the brethren, now as we are just establishing this institution, more funds are needed and greater efforts are needed than if this work was already founded. Two thousand dollars are needed for the completion of the building and grounds, and we suggest that the Middle Florida Association do a good part in the support of the Florida Baptist Orphanage.

Respectfully submitted,
J. C. SCRUGGS, Chairman.

Having been spoken to by Rev. W. L. Mahon, the report was adopted and a collection was taken up for the Orphanage amounting to \$20.06.

Adjourned till 2 p. m.

The Moderator pronounced the benediction.

Rev. J. W. Pierson being unwell, by request, Rev. M. A. Clonts preached at 11 a. m. Text: Acts, 1:8.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met at 2 p. m.

The Moderator read the 137th Psalm.

Rev. L. J. Townsend offered prayer.

Called for petitionary letters.

Pine Bluff Baptist Church presented her letter by the hand of her messenger, and was by vote received into the fellowship of the Association. The Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to the messenger.

Called for correspondents.

A motion prevailed that the next session of the Middle Florida Association meet with Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, in Taylor county, Fla.

The Treasurer's report was read and adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

F. B. Williams, treasurer, in account with the Middle Florida Baptist Association:

1902—Dr.

October 15, 1902—To balance from last year	\$ 124 06
November 28, 1902—Received from union meeting at Aucilla	7 23
December 21, 1902—Received from H. B. Gibson for associational missions	2 25
December 21, 1902—Received from H. B. Gibson for Orphanage	10 00
March 28, 1903—Received from union meeting at New Hope Church	12 25
April 25, 1903—Received from Jno. W. Day for missions	5 00
May 29, 1903—Received from Joel P. Sessions for missions	50
May 29, 1903—Received from Z. T. Terry for missions	50

161 79

May 30, 1903—Received from Norah Seals for missions	161 79
May 30, 1903—Received from Lillian Warren for missions	25
May 30, 1903—Received from union meeting at Macedonia Church	15
September 12, 1903—Received from Olive Branch Church	19 36
September 12, 1903—Received from Olive Branch Church	1 60
September 12, 1903—Received from union meeting at Olive Branch Church	22 71
September 12, 1903—Received from New Macedonia Church to be used for furnishing a tombstone to the memory of Rev. J. A. Gandy	3 00

Total amount received \$ 208 86

1902—Cr.

October 23, 1902—Paid H. B. Gibson clerk fee	\$ 12 50
January 27, 1903—Paid Rev. L. D. Geiger mission funds	24 00
February 14, 1903—Paid H. B. Gibson for minutes and postage	33 10
March 2, 1903—Paid Rev. L. D. Geiger for Orphanage	10 00
May 13, 1903—Paid Rev. A. N. Woodward, missionary	12 00
June 1, 1903—Paid Rev. L. D. Geiger Home and Foreign missions	1 65
July 14, 1903—Paid Rev. A. N. Woodard, missionary	12 00
August 13, 1903—Paid Rev. J. T. Montgomery, missionary	25 00
October 13, 1903—Paid Rev. A. N. Woodard, missionary	24 00
October 13, 1903—Paid Rev. J. T. Montgomery, missionary	5 00

91.

Total paid out \$ 159 25

October, 1903—To balance on hand 49 61

Respectfully submitted,

W. B. WILLIAMS,
Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

We feel that we have great reasons to be thankful

to Almighty God for the glorious victories that are being won all over the State. A few years ago it was the boast of the opposers of temperance that the liquor traffic could never be put down, and even many good temperance people grew faint-hearted and were ready to give up the struggle. But now the tide has turned and all but nineteen counties of our State have voted to banish the saloon, and more will soon follow. *Glory to God!* Railroads, mills and other corporations are demanding total abstinence on the part of their employees, and the time is not far distant when only sober men can find employment. Now that God is leading His hosts on to a glorious victory, it should be the holy ambition of every Baptist to be found in the front ranks, fighting for the total annihilation of the great evil of intemperance. Our churches should not tolerate dram drinkers, or those who would sign a petition or vote a wet ticket, or in any way hold fellowship with works of darkness.

Respectfully submitted,

R. F. HACKER,

Chairman.

After being discussed by Mrs. Mary J. Barrs, R. F. Hacker and W. L. Mahon, the report was adopted.

The report of the Finance committee read and adopted.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Dear Brethren: We beg leave to submit the following:

Amount collected for the Orphanage.....	\$ 9 00
Amount collected for Minute Fund.....	12 96
Amount collected for Associational Fund.....	7 15
Amount collected for Association Mission.....	19 05
Amount collected for State Mission.....	25
Amount collected for Home Mission.....	4 60
Amount collected for Foreign Mission.....	1 00
Amount collected for Aged Ministers.....	1 25

Total.....\$ 55 26

Respectfully submitted,

J. P. HAMMOCK,

Chairman.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

We, your committee, beg leave to report as follows:

Owing to the fact that our Association has heretofore been in a state of formation with very limited means and a wide expanse of destitute territory, we have found it necessary to confine our efforts largely to Associational missions. But now we feel that as God has blessed us in the addition of quite a number of good churches so that we can take a place with our sister Associations in both numerical and financial strength, we should undertake broader fields of work.

We will however notice first our Associational missions. We begun with only six weak churches and no well defined plans and no funds, hence our first year accomplished nothing. Again, the second year, although some funds accumulated, yet we felt it to be insufficient for effective work. The next year we had a missionary in the field who did noble, efficient work. The past year we have had two missionaries in the field and they have done nobly. In looking over the past, we thank God "and take courage." But brethren there are greater possibilities lying out before us, let us grasp the opportunity. We feel that our thanks are due to our executive committee who have so wisely planned that every penny of the funds committed to their hands has gone to help the destitute places and the work carried on in such a manner as to make the work of the missionaries effective.

We recommend that the same policy be carried out in the future. We recommend that more earnest effort be put forth in behalf of State, Home and Foreign missions. Let us remember that the field is the world, and and that we are commanded "*Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.*"

Respectfully submitted,

R. F. HACKER,

Chairman.

On motion, the report on Missions, was laid over till tomorrow, 10 a. m.

The committee on Preaching announced. Rev. A. N. Woodard to preach tonight at 8 p. m., and Rev. J. W. Pierson tomorrow at 10 a. m.

The report of the committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons was read and adopted.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

Dear Moderator and Brethren: Since our last session, Rev. J. A. Gandy, of Aucilla church, has been called to his reward. He was one of our oldest and most active ministers. He loved to meet his brethren. He has joined the church of the first born. We deeply sympathize with Aucilla church in the loss of Bro. Gandy. We also sympathize with Pine Grove church in their loss of Bros. Joseph Townsend and Schley Warren, both deacons. Bro. Warren died March 15th of this year. He was a precious member of that church, and they feel and mourn his loss. He was the oldest member of his church, having filled his seat for 46 years, lived and died a consistent christian, and was ordained and held that office in his church for 38 years or more. We also sympathize with Brewer Lake church in the loss of Deacon Noah Snipes. He had been afflicted for several years, but he bore his afflictions with christian fortitude that characterizes the christian. We recommend that a page in our minutes be devoted to their memory.

Respectfully submitted,
J. C. SCRUGGS,
Chairman.

The report of the committee on Nominations was read and adopted.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Dear Brethren: We beg leave to submit and recommend the following executive committee:

J. C. Scruggs, H. B. Gibson, R. J. Carroll, J. T. Woodward, W. P. Johnson, F. P. Williams and Samuel Andrews. F. B. Williams, treasurer.

Rev. I. R. Clements was chosen to preach the introductory sermon. Alternate, W. M. Taplin. Rev. R. F. Hacker to preach the missionary sermon. Alternate, J. T. Farnell.

Respectfully submitted,
Z. T. TERRY,
Chairman.

Adjourn till tomorrow, 9 a. m. The Moderator pronounced the benediction.

NIGHT SERVICES.

Rev. A. N. Woodard preached at 8 p. m. Text: Hebrews, 2:1.

MORNING SESSION—THIRD DAY.

The Association met at 9 a. m.

The Moderator read the 13th chapter of first Corinthian. Rev. I. R. Clements offered prayer.

On motion, the calling for and enrolling names of messengers, and also for petitionary letters, be postponed till some future time.

A motion prevailed, that the clerk insert an article in the Rules of Decorum, that no member of the Association shall absent himself from the Association, unless excused by the Moderator.

A motion prevailed, that all ordained ministers of the gospel in the Association who are in good standing and are pastors or missionaries, shall be recognized as messengers to the Association.

The report on mission which was laid over from yesterday was taken up and discussed by Rev. R. F. Hacker, I. R. Clements, W. L. Mahon and M. A. Clonts.

The report was adopted.

The missionary's report was read and adopted.

MISSIONARY'S REPORT.

Dear Brethren: Your missionary beg leave to submit the following as his report from April till the 3rd of October.

Sermons preached, 24; Sabbath school address, 1; Religious exercises, 25; Members received by baptism, 5; Members received by letter, 2; Restored, 1; Churches organized, 1—name, Pine Bluff; Number of prayer meetings, 6; Number of, not including Sundays, 16; Miles traveled, 350. Brethren, the field is large and they are asking still for the gospel to be continued with them, and may the good Lord impress you to continue the good work is my prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
A. N. WOODWARD,
Missionary.

A motion prevailed, that our executive committee confer with the State Board of Mission with a view of co-operation.

A motion that the clerk draw on the treasurer for funds to furnish the churches with Associational letters was adopted.

A motion prevailed, that the meeting of the Middle Florida Baptist Association be changed from Wednesday before the third Sunday to Wednesday before the fourth Sunday in October of each year.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

This is an age of thought, developed brain, an age that will not be satisfied with theory or theology that is not backed by profound reason. The church goes of today demand that God shall have the best house in the town or community, that the pulpit shall be filled with the best men, and that they shall bring out the best from God's store-house of truth and clothe those thoughts in the purest and most chaste language. To do this demands education and study with an extended acquaintance of both divine and human nature. While many in our ministry have not the opportunity of higher education, yet this is no excuse for ignorance, as God has met the demands of the times by making this an age of cheap books, and every one may have the best authors in his home at a small expense.

The young minister has got before him an age of higher development and he must prepare to meet the future demands for an educated ministry, and he must educate himself or his usefulness will be very limited indeed.

We are blessed with noble institutions of learning that offer to the young minister glorious opportunities, among the many we especially recommend the John B. Stetson University and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Respectfully submitted,
I. R. CLEMENTS,
Chairman.

Having been spoken to by Rev. I. R. Clements, the report was adopted.

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

We can not over estimate the importance of circulating sound Baptist literature among our people. The enemies of the cross are flooding the country with pernicious books, tracts and leaflets, teaching the doctrine the commandments of men, and the only way to counteract this evil damning influence is to fill the homes of our people with pure and wholesome Baptist books and periodicals.

Your committee takes pleasure in recommending the Florida Baptist Witness, published at Ocala, Fla., and also the Southern Baptist, published at Gainesville, Fla. They contain all information about our State mission work and keep us in touch with our brethren and sisters in all parts of the vineyard. They ably defend the Baptist faith. We also recommend the Homefield and Foreign Mission Journal, the periodicals of the Sunday School Board at Nashville, Tenn., and those published by the American Publication Society at Philadelphia, Pa. They all aid in studying and teaching the Scriptures.

Respectfully submitted,

I. R. CLEMENTS,
Chairman.

After being discussed by Revs. R. F. Hacker and I. R. Clements, the report was adopted.

Bro. J. M. Paterson was welcomed as a visitor from Mercer Association, (Ga.)

Adjourned till 2 p. m.

The Moderator pronounced the benediction.

Owing to the continued feebleness of Rev. J. W. Pierson, by request, Rev. A. J. Reamy preached at 11 a. m., from the parable of the 5-talents in the 25th chapter of Matthew.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association met at 3 p. m. The Moderator read the 7th chapter of 2nd Corinthians. Rev. J. W. Pierson offered prayer.

Rev. A. J. Reamy was welcomed as a visitor from the Florida Association.

The following resolution of thanks was offered by Bro. H. B. Gibson:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be, and are hereby extended to the brethren and sisters of Pine Grove church and the friends of the community for their open-handed hospitality and the brotherly way in which they entertained the Association.

A motion prevailed that the Clerk be paid \$15.00 for his services.

The following resolution was offered:

Resolved, That this Association urge that an election be held in Madison county, Fla., in the near future to determine whether the sale of intoxicating liquors shall be allowed in the county.

After being discussed by Rev. A. J. Reamy, the resolution was adopted.

A motion prevailed to return to the call for correspondents.

Rev. R. F. Hacker volunteered to correspond with the Suwanee Association.

Rev. I. R. Clements, Bros. J. F. Stoke and A. Cornett volunteered to correspond with the Florida Association.

A motion prevailed to adjourn.

During the singing of the hymn "Blest be the tie that Binds," the parting hand was extended, and the Middle Florida Baptist Association adjourned to meet with Pleasant Grove church, Taylor county, on Wednesday before the fourth Sunday in October, 1904.

Rev. A. J. Reamy offered prayer.

Rev. H. B. Gibson pronounced the benediction.

REV. J. T. FARNELL,
Moderator.

REV. H. B. GIBSON,
Clerk.



IN MEMORY OF

REV. J. A. GANDY

and

DEACONS SCHLEY WARREN, JOSEPH TOWNSEND

and

NOAH SNIPES.

Now with the Saints of God in Heaven.



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REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

CHURCHES.	For Ministers.	Associational Fund.	Associational Missions.	State Missions.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Orphanage.	Aged Ministers Relief Fund.	Total.
Aucilla.....	\$ 1 00				\$1 00			\$ 50	\$ 5 00
Brewer Lake.....	1 00					50			5 25
Beulah.....	60	90				1 00			1 50
Hopewell.....									
Macedonia.....	60	25	50					25	1 60
Live Oak.....	1 70		2 25						3 95
Midway.....	1 00		1 15						2 15
Mt. Moriah.....	25	25	75						
Mt. Gilead.....	50		1 00					50	2 00
New Hopeful.....	1 00	1 50			1 55				4 05
New Macedonia.....	50	50			55				1 55
Olive Branch.....	50	50					2 00		6 05
Oakland.....	40		2 75	25					3 80
Pleasant Grove.....	75	50	2 15						3 40
Pleasant Grove.....	75		1 00						1 75
Pleasant Hill.....									
Pine Grove.....	50		1 60				1 00		3 10
Pine Bluff.....	50								50
River Side.....	60	1 00			1 00				2 60
San Pedro.....									
Triumph.....	50	50	1 00				2 00		4 00
	\$12 71	\$8 90	\$19 80	25	\$4 60	\$1 00	\$7 00	\$ 1 25	\$54 21

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

CHURCHES.	Superintend'ts	Teachers.	Pupils.	Volumes in Library.	Expenses.
Aucilla.....					
Brewer Lake.....					
Beulah.....					
Hopewell.....					
Live Oak.....					
Macedonia.....	1	4	53		\$ 3 93
Midway.....					
Mt. Moriah.....					
Mt. Gilead.....					
New Hopeful.....					
New Macedonia.....					
Olive Branch.....					
Oakland.....	1	4	25	Baptist	
Pleasant Grove.....					
Pleasant Grove.....					
Pleasant Hill.....					
Pine Grove.....					
Pine Bluff.....					
River Side.....					
San Pedro.....					
Triumph.....					
	2	8	78		\$ 3 93

Note.—Churches are requested to report S. S. and expenses.—CLERK.

STATISTICS.

CHURCHES	PASTOR.	POSTOFFICE.	Increase.			Decrease.			Total.
			Received by Baptism	Received by Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.	Excluded.	Dead.	
1. Aucilla.....	J. T. Euan.....	Live Oak, Fla.	2	2	4	4	4	3	17
2. Brewer Lake.....	J. T. Farnell.....	Day, Fla.		1	1	3	1	1	50
3. Beulah.....	J. L. Rutherford.....	Hopewell, Fla.	9	1	2				24
4. Hopewell.....	W. S. Kelly.....	Hopewell, Fla.	1	2	1	4	2		36
5. Live Oak.....	I. R. Clements.....	Madison, Fla.	22	1	14	22	4	1	162
6. Macedonia.....	W. S. Kelly.....	Hopewell, Fla.	1	1	1	6	2	1	75
7. Midway.....	J. T. Farnell.....	Day, Fla.	1	2	3				5
8. Mt. Mariah.....	James E. Vann.....	Red Oak, Fla.	6	5	3	1			54
9. Mt. Glead.....	A. N. Woodard.....	Madison, Fla.	2	3	2		1		44
10. New Hopeful.....	R. F. Hacker.....	Harmony, Fla.	1	2	1	3	12		64
11. New Macedonia.....	R. F. Hacker.....	Harmony, Fla.		3	1		1		32
12. Olive Branch.....	James E. Vann.....	Red Oak, Fla.	1					2	36
13. Oakland.....	G. N. Trawick.....	Mayo, Fla.		3		28	7		44
14. Pleasant Grove—Lafayette county.....	W. M. Tamplin.....	Ellaville, Fla.	1	2	4				68
15. Pleasant Grove—Taylor county.....									
16. Pleasant Hill.....	I. R. Clements.....	Madison, Fla.	1		1	2	6	4	36
17. Pine Grove.....			2						8
18. Pine Bluff.....	W. M. Tamplin.....	Ellaville, Fla.		10		3			24
19. River Side.....									
20. San Pedro.....							1		15
21. Triumph.....									
Total.....			55	44	29	77	40	13	4794

Note.—Churches marked * were received with Petitionary Letters.—CLERK.

CURRENT EXPENSES AND AMOUNTS FORWARDED DURING THE YEAR.

CHURCHES.	For Current Expenses and Pastors Salary.	For Repairs on Building.	For State Missions.	For Home Missions.	For Foreign Missions.	For Associational Missions.	For Orphanage.	For Relief of Aged Ministers.	For Other Purposes.	Total.	Value of Church Property.	When Organized.
Aucilla.....	\$ 80 00	\$ 10 00		\$ 5 00	\$ 5 00	\$ 10 85	\$ 5 00			\$ 115 35	\$ 350 00	
Brewer Lake.....						12 00				12 00	200 00	
Beulah.....												
Hopewell.....												
Live Oak.....												
Macedonia.....	53 55	14 00		2 50		9 82				84 87	500 00	
Midway.....	10 50									10 50	250 00	
Mt. Moriah.....											350 00	Sept. 15, 1900.
Mt. Gilead.....												
New Hopeful.....	41 10	79 25	\$ 1 80			4 91			1 50		350 00	Sept. 15, 1900.
New Macedonia.....	27 80									128 56	200 00	
Olive Branch.....	60 00									27 30	300 00	
Oakland.....										60 00		
Pleasant Grove.....												
Pleasant Grove.....												
Pleasant Hill.....												
Pine Grove.....												
Pine Bluff.....												
River Side—per month.....	2 00											July 25, 1900.
San Pedro.....												
Triumph.....						5 00					450 00	
	\$ 274 45	\$ 108 25	\$ 1 80	\$ 7 50	\$ 5 00	\$ 42 08	\$ 5 00		\$ 1 50	\$ 438 58	\$ 2950 00	

Note.—Churches are requested to send up to the Association the amount of funds sent up during the year; also Pastors salary and dates of organization.

ROLL OF CHURCHES, PASTORS, CLERKS AND POST OFFICES.

CHURCHES.	COUNTY.	PASTOR.	CLERK.	POSTOFFICE.	MESSENGERS.
1. Aucilla.....	Jefferson.....	J. T. Euan.....	G. T. Bishop.....	Aucilla, Fla.....	J. C. Scruggs, R. Gandy.....
2. Brewer Lake.....	Lafayette.....	J. T. Farnell.....	A. D. Townsend.....	Day, Fla.....	J. J. Whitfield, Alonzo Pierson..
3. Beulah.....	Madison.....	J. L. Ruthertford.....	J. F. Hewitt.....	Lee, Fla.....	B. C. Webb, J. F. Stokes.....
4. Hopewell.....	Madison.....	I. R. Clements.....	E. F. Kelly.....	Hopewell, Fla.....	
5. Live Oak.....	Madison.....	W. S. Kelly.....	L. E. Lyons.....	Madison, Fla.....	J. P. Lyons, J. S. Piers'n, A. N. Wo'da'd
6. Macedonia.....	Madison.....	I. R. Clements.....	W. B. Rye.....	Madison, Fla.....	Wm. Carnett, H. F. Rye, Z. T. Terry
7. Midway.....	Madison.....	W. S. Kelly.....	T. J. Diren.....	Lee, Fla.....	Joe Thomas, J. H. Turlington...
8. Mt. Moriah.....	Madison.....	J. T. Farnell.....		Chaney, Fla.....	A. A. Conner.....
9. Mt. Gilead.....	Taylor.....	J. E. Vann.....	W. E. Vann.....	Iddo, Fla.....	A. J. Aman.....
10. New Hopeful.....	Madison.....	A. N. Woodard.....	H. B. Gibson.....	Madison, Fla.....	H. B. Gibson, W. S. Burnett.....
11. New Macedonia.....	Madison.....	R. F. Hacker.....	T. M. Barclay.....	Greenville, Fla.....	Samuel Andrews.....
12. Olive Branch.....	Jefferson.....	R. F. Hacker.....	W. H. Walker.....	Lamont, Fla.....	J. H. Armstrong, G. F. Andrews
13. Oakland.....	Taylor.....	J. E. Vann.....	W. W. Whidden.....	Waylene, Fla.....	W. P. Johnson.....
14. Pleasant Grove.....	Lafayette.....	G. N. Trawick.....	J. P. Hammock.....	Day, Fla.....	J. P. Hammock, L. J. Townsend
15. Pleasant Grove.....	Taylor.....	W. S. Kelly.....	J. A. Tedder.....	Iddo, Fla.....	J. A. W. Grantham, G. W. Dice..
16. Pleasant Hill.....	Taylor.....				
17. Pine Grove.....	Madison.....	I. R. Clements.....	F. J. Blair.....	Hanson, Fla.....	George E. Blair.....
18. *Pine Bluff.....	Madison.....		F. W. Fuquay.....	Greenville, Fla.....	Jack Fuquay.....
19. *River Side.....	Lafayette.....	Wm. M. Tamplin.....	L. R. Bullard.....	Mayo, Fla.....	J. F. Leggett, Manning Webb.....
20. San Pedro.....	Taylor.....		W. H. Denmark.....	Perry, Fla.....	
21. Triumph.....	Taylor.....		P. J. Carrier.....	Stephensville, Fla.....	R. F. Hacker.....

Churches marked thus * were received by Petitionary Letters.—CLERK.

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 (as 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 is 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 to 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 distinct 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 statements or 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 by some other member.

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

22. All messengers are requested to remain during the whole session of the Association and no member shall absent himself without excused by the Moderator.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

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

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 6. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are the only ordinances of Jesus Christ; that nothing is baptism except immersion; that believers are the 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 are regularly called, and have come under the imposition of the hands of the presbytery.