

# MINUTES

OF THE  
TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
MIDDLE FLORIDA

## **Baptist Association**

HELD WITH  
ELIZABETH BAPTIST CHURCH,  
JEFFERSON COUNTY, FLORIDA  
OCTOBER 12th, 13th, 1920.

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### OFFICERS

Rev. S. B. Cole, Moderator ..... Madison, Fla.  
Theo. Leslie, Secretary ..... Madison, Fla.  
F. B. Williams, Treasurer ..... Lee, Fla.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

J. H. Hardee	W. L. Weaver
J. R. Mullis	Carl Burnett
G. F. Andrews	

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The Association adjourned, to meet with Pleasant Grove Church, LaFayette County, Tuesday after second Sunday in October, 1921.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

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Article 1. We believe in only one true, living God, and 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 in 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 estate 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 ordinances of Jesus Christ; that nothing is Baptism except immersion, and 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 joy 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 hands of the Presbytery.

## MINUTES

After devotional services, led by the Moderator, the twenty-first session of the Middle Florida Association was declared open for the transaction of business.

Rev. J. H. Poteet and Brother William Scruggs were appointed to collect and read letters.

The following messengers were enrolled:

Antioch—S. M. Morgan.  
Aucilla—G. T. Bishop  
Athena—Not represented.  
Bulah—C. B. Webb, J. F. Stokes, J. L. Stokes.  
Bethel—B. J. Head  
Brewer Lake—Fred Parker, C. Fowler, Thomas Bell, Jennie Fowler.  
Central—Joel Walker, Mrs. S. E. Devine.  
Elizabeth—Glossen Walker, E. L. Hammerick, Elsie Lewis, Lizzie Stanley.  
Greenville—G. F. Andrews, C. L. Leggette, A. Reams, J. H. Andrews.  
Hopewell—By letter.  
Harmony—Z. T. Andrews, J. A. Bailey, C. J. Reeves,  
Lamont—C. J. Reacus. —: Lamont.  
Lee—John Barker.  
Live Oak—J. S. Pinson, E. H. Smith.  
Macedonia—F. B. Williams, C. W. Burnett.  
Madison—W. B. Davis, Theo Leslie, B. F. Hamerick, W. C. Taylor.  
Midway—D. E. Thomas, Lewis Hale, A. M. Sapp, Fenton Webb.  
Mayo—By letter.  
Mosley Hall—J. R. O'Quinn.  
Mt Gilliad—J. R. Vann, A. J. Aman.  
Mt. Moriah—J. H. Williams, G. E. Barrs.  
New Hopeful—Miss Susie Humphries, Sylvester Harris.  
New Macedonia—Paul Bishop, Joe Andrews.  
New Prospect—Not represented.  
Oakland—C. J. Willson.  
Oak Grove—Robert Hollinsworth, Eustice Blair.  
Perry—W. B. Davis, J. O. Culpepper, Mrs. W. B. Davis, Mrs. J. O. Culpepper.  
Pine Grove—By letter.  
Pinetta—F. J. Blair, E. W. Kinsey.  
Pleasant Grove, LaFayette County—J. R. Brumbley,

A. D. Townsend, J. H. Smith  
Pisgah—Cuthbert Parker.  
Riverside—W. C. Winderweedle.  
San Pedro—F. E. Carrin, J. S. Parker, John Carrin.  
Sirmans—T. P. Vann, Mrs. R. C. Reams.

The hour having arrived for the introductory sermon, Rev. W. W. Willian, representing the State Board of Missions, was asked to preach.

On motion, the messengers enrolled were recognized as the working body of the association.

On motion, Rev. S. B. Cole was re-elected Moderator and Theo Leslie was re-elected clerk.

The Moderator announced the following Committee on Committees: A. M. Parker, W. M. Scruggs, A. D. Townsend.

Adjourned for dinner.

### Afternoon Session—2:00 o'Clock

After devotional services, the Association was called to order.

Committees were appointed as follows:

State Missions—W. M. Scruggs, F. J. Blair, Elzie Lewis, B. C. Webb.  
Home Missions—A. M. Parker, E. W. Kinsey, G. F. Andrews, A. Reams.  
Foreign Missions—D. F. Barry, J. H. Poteet, E. L. Hamerick, Bob Hollinsworth.  
Orphanage—G. F. Andrews, C. J. Reams, F. E. Carrin, J. A. Bailey.  
Sunday School—J. T. Prince, Miss Susie Humphrie, J. H. Smith, John Carrin.  
Periodicals—C. L. Leggette, Mrs. R. C. Reams, G. T. Bishop, S. M. Morgan.  
Ministerial Support—J. H. Poteet, Fred Parker, Thomas Bell, J. R. Vann.  
Deceased Ministers—A. N. Woodard, C. J. Willson, A. J. Reams, Paul Bishop.  
Education—S. G. Ward, E. H. Smith, Eustice Blair, B. F. Hamerick.  
Nominations—A. M. Warren, C. W. Taylor, W. C. Winderweedle, E. L. Hamerick.  
Woman's Work—Miss Susie Humphrie, Mrs. R. C.

Reams, Mrs. Lizzie Standley, Mrs. S. E. Devine.  
Finance—C. L. Leggette, F. B. Williams, F. J. Blair.  
The Moderator rread an Order of Business for the Association, which was adopted.  
The report of the Executive Committee, by motion, was postponed until Wednesday.  
The report on Periodicals was read and, after discussion, was adopted.  
Report on Sunday Schools was read and adopted.  
Report on Ministerial Support was read, discussed and adopted.  
Report on Orphanage was read and adopted.  
Pleasant Grove, LaFayette County, was selected as the next place of meeting.  
On motion, Association adjourned.  
Rev. W. C. Taylor preached at 7:30.

#### Wednesday Morning Session

After devotional services, conducted by Rev. A. N. Woodard, the Association was called to order. Reading of the Minutes was dispensed with.  
On motion, S. B. Cole was requested to prepare report on Foreign Missions, and W. M. Scruggs and Elzie Lewis on State Missions, and mail to the Clerk, to be inserted in the Minutes.  
Report of the Executive Committee was read.  
Report on Home Missions read.  
After discussion on missions, both reports were adopted.  
The missionary sermon was preached by Rev. A. M. Parker, at 11 A.M.  
Adjourned for dinner.

#### Wednesday Afternoon Session

1:30 P. M. After devotional services the Association was called to order.  
Report on Deceased Ministers read and adopted.  
Report on Education read and adopted.  
Treasurer's Report read and adopted.  
Report on Nominations read and adopted.  
Report of Finance Committee adopted.  
On motion, the following churches were dropped: New Hope, Cabbage Grove, Pleasant Hill.  
The Executive Committee was ordered to report at the next meeting of the Association on the advisability

of dropping Salem, Triumph and Pine Bluff.

Vote of thanks was extended Elizabeth Church.

On motion, the Clerk will receive \$26.00 for his services.

Minutes were read and approved.

The Association adjourned, to meet with Pleasant Grove Church, LaFayette County, Tuesday after second Sunday in October, 1921.

S. B. COLE, Moderator.  
THEO LESLIE, Clerk.

### FOREIGN MISSIONS

Your Committee on Foreign Missions reports as follows:

In God's plan for the evangelization of the world there is no division of missions. For convenience, we have divided the work into different sections. As He saw it, all the world needed was the Gospel, and His disciples were to preach it to every creature.

God thought in world terms. Jesus died to save the world. The need for the salvation is as great in one country as in another. The Chinaman, the man in Africa or India needs the Savior as much as the man in America.

No church can be true to its marching orders, or to the Head of the church, which is Christ, unless that church both preaches and practices the thing for which Christ stood.

We have the greatest opportunity now that we have ever had to preach the Gospel to all the world.

The World War has opened the doors of Europe to Baptist endeavor as they have never been opened before. Fields are white unto the harvest. Will we thrust the sickle in and reap for the Master? We have the commission, the message, the money and the men. The great question is, Will we measure up to our responsibility and our opportunity.

The Middle Florida Association has never been great in her mission endeavor. There has been a spirit of carelessness in most of the churches and of open hostility in some.

We can never be what we should be until we excel in this grace also. The pastors should preach missions until our people are informed. Prayer should be offered for our missionaries who are on the field and for others to enter the wide-open doors.

We rejoice in the work that has already been done, in the

faithful efforts that are being so abundantly blessed now, and look forward to the future with renewed hope.

Respectfully submitted,

D. F. BARRY, Chairman.

J. H. POTEET.

## HOME MISSION REPORT

The foundations of America are fundamentally religious, and the only spirit which may be trusted adequately to safeguard them is that of Christian patriotism.

Following the World War, and in the midst of reconstruction problems, thousands of our people have made a new dedication of themselves to this Christian Americanism, and in no section more than in the South, where the largest proportion of native Americans reside. They purpose to safeguard American liberties by safeguarding that faith which alone made those liberties possible, and to keep lighted in America a beacon of liberty which shall shine out across the seas to cheer and bless peoples who grope in darkness.

Christian Americanism is the work of Home Missions, which, by bringing men to Christ, creates that righteousness that exalteth a nation. Our Baptist Home Mission Board is the outstanding agency of Southern Baptists for making America Christian. It has a great record of successful service, but is now entering on a time of even larger opportunity and need.

In 1919 the missionaries of our Board baptized one convert for every three received into our churches. Regularly they baptize from twenty to twenty-five per cent as many converts as the entire number who enter our churches. For fifteen years, its evangelists have averaged 450 baptisms per year per worker, a record far outstripping that of any other similar agency. Its system of mountain schools is larger than any other, and is the acknowledged standard in adaptability. Its enlistment work is rapidly bringing a more adequate standard and effectiveness in hundreds of churches. The Church Extension work has grown from infancy to lusty strength in a period of only a few years.

Recently the Board has also far surpassed its own fine record. Within the last seven years of its history of seventy-five years its missionaries have baptized 94.5 per cent as many converts as were baptized in the first sixty-eight years.

In soul-winning and nation-serving; in teaching the truth of Christ and conserving it; in building Christians up and maturing for the state the type of character that makes our Republic great, and in the end must save it from disintegration, our Board

has been wonderfully used of God.

Every loyal Baptist will rejoice in the admirable efforts of our Board to meet the crucial needs of these days by enlarging its work. At its Annual Meeting in Atlanta, in June, after long and painstaking efforts to reduce the appropriations as far as possible, the brethren of the Board found that \$2,876,000 was necessary for the work of the present year. Even with this appropriation, it had to decline many worthy appeals to enter wide open doors.

We commend our Board for its faith and vision in grappling the stupendous tasks that now confront us and in believing that our people will respond to such leadership. We recommend that constant prayers be made for the Board, for its missionaries and for its work, and that we give it large and sustained support through our gifts to the 75 Million Campaign.

We commend to our people the admirable Mission Study Books of the Board, through which a true view is presented of the large problems we confront, and recommend that pastors, superintendents, Mission Society leaders and others write often for the large and splendid assortment of free tracts about its work and the needs, which our Board gladly furnishes on request.

The executive officer of the Board is Dr. B. D. Gray, Corresponding Secretary, Healey Building, Atlanta, Ga., For tracts, books, information, etc., address Publicity Department, Baptist Home Mission Board, Healey Building, Atlanta, Ga.

Respectfully submitted,

A. M. PARKER.

A. REAMS.

E. W. KINSEY.

## REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS

The work of our State Mission Board is one of great importance and requires men led by God's hand and power to do the work they have caused to be accomplished.

There have been men sent to tell of God's love and redeeming power to almost every nook and corner of our state in the past year.

We recommend:

1. That our Association strive to secure a man for full time to the work of State Missions.
2. To give to the utmost and to pray for God's blessing on the leaders of the State Mission Board.
3. That speedy steps be taken to open the closed doors of every Baptist Church in our Association.

Our task requires that "We watch and pray until He comes to gather His jewels."

"Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, juit you like men, be strong."

Respectfully submitted,  
W. M. SCRUGGS, Chairman.  
F. J. BLAIR.  
ELZIE LEWIS.

### REPORT ON EDUCATION

Your Committee on Education reports as follows:

As a denomination we believe in education. We feel that the peculiar doctrines which we present thrive better where there is an educated people.

Ignorance never has been good for the Baptist. We believe in and preach that every one should read the Bible for himself; should decide all matters of the soul for himself. That each one is competent to settle all religious questions.

These questions cannot be settled aright unless there is a trained mind. For this cause we have always taken the lead in educational matters.

Our schools, colleges and universities are second to none and should have the undivided and loyal support of all our Baptists. The 75 Million Campaign has brought us to the place where we can emphasize the importance of education, and, in a large measure, meet the needs of our schools.

The Education Board, located at Birmingham, Ala., is a step in the right direction. This Board will have general supervision of all our denominational schools; be a clearing house on educational matters, and gradually build up an educational literature. Stetson University, which has recently come under the control of the Baptists of Florida, should have our loyal support, both with our finances and also our patronage. We have a school at DeLand which is thoroughly equipped to meet the needs of the day, and a faculty both competent and efficient.

We give our loyal support to the common schools of our state, and commend them for the work done. Realizing that there is a need for higher education that is permeated with religion, we recommend that our young people attend our own schools and colleges wherever practicable, and that they seek training that shall fit them for church work as well as for the common avocations of life.

Respectfully submitted,  
S. G. WARD.  
EUSTACE S. BLAIR.

### REPORT ON PERIODICALS

"Reading makes a full man." We as Baptists need to keep abreast of the times, in order that we may be prepared to meet the issues of the present day. To do this means reading The Florida Baptist Witness, other Baptist papers, and especially the Bible. We should thoroughly familiarize ourselves with the contents of the Bible.

More of our Sunday School teachers and pastors should take the course of study recommended by our Sunday School Board.

The literature gotten out by our own people is safe and sound and should find its way into every Baptist home.

Respectfully submitted,  
C. L. LEGGETT.

### REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MIDDLE FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION BEGINNING OCTOBER 29, 1920

The Executive Committee approved payment of \$50.00 supplementing pastor's salary at New Hope Church, in Jefferson County, Florida.

Application from Rev. J. G. Connell was received, for aid from Ministerial Fund, and was approved for \$100 per year, on February 27, 1920.

Application from Pinneta Church for \$250 to help on their building, was approved at the same meeting.

April 28, 1920, at another meeting, at Sirmans, Florida, the Committee recommended that it send Brother Parker to the encampment to be held at DeLand, Florida, as a delegate, and also pay the railroad fare of Brother Barry to DeLand.

Respectfully submitted,  
J. VICKERS, Chairman.

### REPORT ON NOMINATIONS

Your Committee on Nominations reports as follows:

1. For members of the Executive Committee—J. R. Mullis, W. L. Weaver, G. F. Andrews, J. E. Hardee, Carl Burnett
2. For member of State Board of Missions—S. B. Cole
3. For Treasuer—B. F. Williams.
4. Delegates to State Convention—J. H. Poteet, G. F. Andrews, J. R. Mullis, J. E. Hardee, S. B. Cole, A. M. Parker, W. L. Weaver, S. G. Ward, A. M. Warren, R. R. Ware, A. N. Woodard.

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5. Delegate to Southern Baptist Convention--S. B. Cole. Alternate, J. H. Poteet.
6. To preach the Introductory Sermon—J. T. Farnell.
7. To preach the Missionary Sermon—W. C. Taylor.

Respectfully submitted,  
 A. M. WARREN.  
 W. C. WINDEWEEDLE.  
 E. L. HAMERICK.  
 Committee.

### REPORT ON DECEASED PREACHERS

We, your Committee, feel thankful to the Lord that none of our ministers has been called upon to lay down his mantle, and that each of them has been spared to labor in His vineyard another year. And may the good Lord spare them to live many more years, to extend His Kingdom to earth's remotest bounds.

Respectfully submitted,  
 A. N. WOODARD, Chairman.  
 C. J. Wilson.

### REPORT ON MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

Your committee understands "Ministerial Support" to mean the financial support of Gospel missionaries, evangelists, ex-ministers (such as the old, infirm and disabled ministers) and present pastors of our churches. We understand that the purpose of this report is to encourage the churches of this Association to provide adequate financial support for their pastors.

It is hard to understand how Missionary Baptists can proclaim to the world that they accept the New Testament as a rule of faith practice, and condemn all other religious bodies for not doing the same, and at the same time refuse to make scriptural and adequate support possible for their pastors. Listen to what the Scriptures have to say on this subject. The first Board of Deacons were appointed so that the preachers might give themselves to "prayer and to the ministry of the Word," Acts 6:4. "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the Gospel should live of the Gospel," 1 Cor. 9:14. Then in Gal. 6:6, "Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things." And many other Scriptures that we have not the space to quote.

Brethren, it is a shame to the Baptist name and to the cause of Christ for the members of our churches to live so luxuriously and sumptuously every day, and your pastors limited to such

niggardly pittance that they just barely eke out an existence.

Your Committee beg leave to recommend to the churches of this Association that each church make full and adequate provision for the support of your pastors, or destroy your Articles of Faith and no longer profess that the New Testament is your rule of faith and practice.

Respectfully submitted,  
 J. H. POTEET.

### REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS

Since the Baptists have declared to the world that the Bible is "the word of God" and that the New Testament is the only rule of practice for a "New Testament Church," it would seem that it would be unnecessary to urge that a Baptist church conduct and maintain a Sunday School. But when we turn to the minutes of our Association and notice that only eleven churches out of forty-one reported a Sunday School last year, we see the need of preaching the gospel of Sunday Schools to our churches, yet.

The Sunday School is the teaching service of the church, and should be maintained and conducted by the church, for no other institution in the world has a commission to evangelize or teach. The object of the Sunday School is to dispense Christian knowledge to the members of the church, that each member of the church may be instructed in the doctrines, duties and responsibilities of the church, so that the church as a body may perform its functions and accomplish the purposes of God in the world. No church has a scriptural right to call itself a "New Testament church" that does not conduct and maintain a teaching service for the benefit of its members, and require that each member attend that service, so far as possible.

Your committee begs leave to recommend that each church composing this Association establish at once, equip and maintain a teaching service, and teach the Bible to its members, and thus fortify our member against all the false teachings and prepared to "contend earnestly for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

Respectfully submitted,  
 J. T. PRINCE, Chairman Committee.

### REPORT ON ORPHANAGE

Your Committee on Orphanage would report as follows:  
 Our Orphanage is located at Arcadia, Florida. This is a

beautiful city in southern Florida, where the climate is good and the colds of winter do not necessitate the expenditure of large sums of money for fuel.

We own about sixty acres of land, which was donated by the City of Arcadia. We have most of this under cultivation, doing general farming, dairy work, also trucking. We have quite a nice grove of citrus fruits, which proves both a source of revenue and also enables the children to enjoy some of the things which other children have so abundantly.

Our superintendent, Rev. J. E. Trice, with his consecrated corps of assistants, takes a real interest in the children in the home, and makes every effort to train those consigned to their care into useful, consecrated citizens.

At present there are 110 children in the Home, and many more need to be taken, but the lack of room and sufficient funds make it impossible.

There is a school maintained at the Home, and this, together with the city school of Arcadia, gives each child a high school education. In addition to this, agriculture, trucking, dairying, printing, telegraphy, bookkeeping, and many other things are taught.

The girls are taught to sew and to cook, and, in fact, all the things needful for successful housekeeping.

The success of the 75 Million Campaign gives our Orphanage \$20,000 per year; but with the increased cost of everything, we are still pressed for room and means to care for the many who need to be there.

We suggest that each church, Sunday School and other auxiliary organization take a special offering for the orphans at least once each year, and that the management and the children be the special objects of your prayers.

All extra collections should be sent direct to the Orphans Home, and the 75 Million Fund will not get credit for same.

Respectfully submitted,

G. F. ANDREWS.  
C. J. REAMS.  
F. E. CARRIN.  
J. A. BAILY.  
Committee.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

F. B. Williams in account with the Middle Florida Baptist Association:  
1919.

October 15—Received at the Association.....\$152.12  
October 16—Paid Theodore Leslie, clerk fee..... \$25.00  
1920.  
January 6—Paid to the Baptist Witness for print-  
ing the Minutes of the Middle Florida Ass'n 57.50  
July 4—Paid to D. F. Barry..... 8.00  
July 4—Paid to A. M. Parker..... 8.00  
Total amount paid out..... \$98.50  
Balance on hand October 10, 1920..... \$53.62

F. B. WILLIAMS, Treasurer.

### ORDAINED MINISTERS

Bennett, T. J. .... Madison, Fla.  
Cole, S. B. .... Madison, Fla.  
Farnell, J. T. .... Day, Fla.  
Fowler, M. J. .... Day, Fla.  
Frier, M. J. .... Mayo, Fla.  
Floyd, E. O. .... Dowling Park, Fla.  
Jackson, G. C. .... Perry, Fla.  
Kelly, W. S. .... Madison, Fla.  
McLelland, C. E. .... Boyd, Fla.  
Montgomery, J. T. .... Aucilla, Fla.  
Odum, J. L. .... Perry, Fla.  
Parker, A. M. .... Perry, Fla.  
Rutherford, J. L. .... Lee, Fla.  
Poteet, J. H. .... Greenville, Fla.  
Singleterry, J. A. .... Dowling Park, Fla.  
Tampling, W. M. .... Dowling Park, Fla.  
Townsend, A. H. .... Day, Fla.  
Taylor, W. C. .... Madison, Fla.  
Vann, J. E. .... Shady Grove, Fla.  
Woodard, A. N. .... Lee, Fla.  
Warren, S. C. .... Madison, Fla.  
Ward, S. G. .... Lee, Fla.

### LICENSED MINISTERS

Dees, L. F. .... Jasper, Fla.  
West, N. W., Sr. .... Day, Fla.

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