

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
SOUTH FLORIDA
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH

THE BETHEL CHURCH.

POLK COUNTY, FLORIDA,

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, OCT. 11TH AND 12TH, 1873.

S. WALDEN, Moderator, Cork, Hillsboro' Co., Fla.
J. M. HAYMAN, Clerk, Bartow, Polk Co., Fla.

PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF
THE FLORIDA BAPTIST,
LAKE CITY, FLA., 1873.

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NAMES OF ORDAINED MINISTERS ENGAGED IN
THE DISCHARGE OF THEIR DUTIES IN THE
SOUTH FLORIDA ASSOCIATION, AND THEIR POST
OFFICE ADDRESSES.

S. WALDEN, Cork, Hillsboro' Co., Fla.
L. J. SIMMONS, Cork, Hillsboro Co., Fla.
J. N. TATUM, Alafia, Hillsboro' Co., Fla.
RYAN FRIER, Cork, Hillsboro' Co., Fla.
W. F. NIGELS, Clear Water Harbor, Hillsboro' Co., Fla.
J. M. HAYMAN, Bartow, Polk Co., Fla.,
J. W. HENDRY, Pine Level, Manatee Co., Fla.
ROBT. BELL, Pine Level, Manatee Co., Fla.
C. S. REYNOLDS, Clear Water Harbor, Hillsboro Co., Fla.

MINUTES

OF

THE SOUTH FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder J. M. Hayman, from Nehemiah, 6th chapter, 3rd verse, "I am doing a great work, so that I can not come down."

After refreshments, the delegates convened in the church house; and the Association was called to order by Elder S. Walden, the former Moderator.

After singing and prayer, letters from the churches were called for and read.

A petitionary letter was presented from Oak Grove Church, in Hernando county, by their delegate, S. S. Rodgers, and on motion, the Church was received as a member of this Association, and the right hand of fellowship given to their delegate by the Moderator.

The delegates then proceeded to the election of Moderator and Clerk, which resulted in the re election of Elder Sylvester Walden, as Moderator, and J. M. Hayman, Clerk.

Visiting brethren of our faith and order were invited to seats with us; but none were present.

The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

On Preaching—T. W. Wilder, H. Mercer, W. C. Hayman, together with the delegates from this Church.

On Finance—W. F. Nigels, W. K. Franklin, and D. T. Moore.

On Publications—J. W. Hendry, Robert Bell and S. S. Rodgers.

On Letters and Queries—W. F. Nigels, J. J. Robertson and T. W. Wilder.

On Missions—J. W. Hendry, W. F. Nigels, and J. M. Hayman.

After divine worship, adjourned till nine o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

Saturday morning the Association met pursuant to adjournment. After singing and prayer, the delegates names were called, and the Decorum was read; after which correspondence from sister Associations was called for—none received.

Elder Robert Bell was appointed to write a letter of correspondence to sister Associations, to be published in this minute. Elder J. W. Hendry was appointed to write a circular letter for our next Association; and Elder W. F. Nigels was appointed to write a circular letter, to be published in this minute.

On motion, agreed to drop from our list of churches, the Peace Creek Church, Salem Church, and Midway Church, of Hernando county.

At the request of Elder J. M. Hayman, the Moderator appointed Elders Ryan, Frier, W. F. Nigels, and J. W. Hendry, a committee to investigate the proceedings of Beulah Church, in receiving Elder J. M. Hayman and his wife into its membership.

The committee on Finance handed in their report, which was read and received, and the committee discharged.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The committee on Finance respectfully report that they have received from the churches within this Association, for associational purposes, the sum of \$47.30.

WM. F. NIGELS, Chairman.

The report of the committee on publications was presented, and after being read, was received, and the committee discharged.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS.

Your committee on publications would respectfully suggest to the membership of this Association earnest and prayerful reading of the Bible, and that they subscribe for and read the FLORIDA BAPTIST; The Baptist, published by J. R. Graves; Ford's Christian Repository; Theodosia Earnest; Three Reasons why I am a Baptist; Orchard's History; Baptist Succession by Ray; Philosophy of Religion, by Buck; and Christian Paradoxes, by Crawford.

J. W. HENDRY, Chairman.

Brother T. W. Wilder was appointed Treasurer of this body, to act till our next session.

Appointed Union meetings as follows, to-wit:

1st. Fifth Sunday in this associational year, at Providence Church, Manatee county.

2d. Fifth Sunday at Oak Grove, Hernando county.

3d. Fifth Sunday at Tenotasassa Church.

4th. Fifth Sunday at Mount Pleasant Church, Manatee county.

The meeting to commence on the Friday before each 5th Sabbath.

The committee on Missions made their report, which was read and received and the committee discharged.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

We, the committee on Missions, ask leave in making our report to suggest to this Association, to call for volunteer agents to solicit contributions in their respective churches and vicinities, for the purpose of more extensive operations in the destitute portions of our Association.

J. W. HENDRY, Chairman.

The report of the committee on Letters and Queries was presented, read, and adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LETTERS AND QUERIES.

The committee on Letters and Queries beg leave to report that, from the reading of the Letters sent up by the respective churches, there is nothing of importance that requires the attention of the committee or Association.

Respectfully submitted,

J. J. ROBERTSON, Chairman.

The following named brethren were duly elected by this body as an Executive Committee, to-wit: S. Walden, J. W. Hendry, T. W. Wilder, W. C. Hayman, and J. J. Robertson.

The special committee appointed to investigate the proceedings of Beulah Church, made their report, which was read and received, and the committee discharged.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE THE PROCEEDINGS OF BEULAH CHURCH.

We, the committee appointed to look into the matter of the reception of Bro. J. M. Hayman and wife, into Beulah Church, beg leave to report that, after due consideration of the case, find no illegal proceedings in the premises.

RYAN FRIER, Chairman.

The corresponding letter to sister Associations was read and received.

CORRESPONDING LETTER TO SISTER ASSOCIATIONS.

The South Florida Baptist Association, to the Alachua, Santa Fee and Wekiva Associations, sends christian greeting:

Dear Brethren—We respectfully request you to correspond with us at our next session, by letters and messengers. Our Association is young, and we would feel greatly encouraged and comforted by your prayers and counsel in our deliberations. Brethren, we pray God to bless your energies and endeavors for the advancement of the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ.—Amen.

The committee on preaching reports that Elder J. W. Hendry preach the next Introductory Sermon, and Elder Robert Bell to preach on Missions at our next meeting.

The following query was proposed to the body—to-wit: Has this Association the right to make a delegate for any Church composing its membership? To which this body answers, no.

The circular letter was then called for and read, and on motion was adopted.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

Dear Brethren in Christ: With only a moment's notice, and in the midst of Associational labors, I can say only a few words by way of a Circular Letter. There seems to be throughout the limits of this Association a feeling of depression in the hearts of many who are called to labor in the Lord's vineyard; and simply because their labors, though faithful, have not been attended with success; or rather, they do not see any visible fruits of their labors. Now, it is true, the good Lord requires of us to bear fruit, and to bear much fruit, and we have the beautiful and suggestive parable of the barren fig tree, to admonish us in regard to this very point; but surely, no pious, diligent christian, no faithful minister of Christ need despond, much less slacken his energies, because he discovers no immediate fruit as the result of his labors. Christ himself said to his disciples, "Others have labored, and ye have reaped the fruit of their labors;" indicating thereby that some (alluding to John the Baptist, and other pious men) had labored without reaping any direct fruit from their labors. Brethren, our duty in the premises is simply to persevere; we have nothing to do with the result, we must leave that in the hands of God. And even should your ministry, and your labors, brethren, extend through a whole century without a single conversion, even then there is no cause for despondency, and even then you should be faithful to your trust, and faithful to your God. Fight on, then, the good fight of faith, put on the whole armor of God, preach Christ and Him crucified, encourage the faint hearted, warn sinners, and walk in every respect worthy of the high vocation to which God has called you, and rest assured He will bless you with His continued love, and present you in yonder sure and happy world to see the fruit of your labors, and reap the reward of the finally faithful.—So mote it be. Amen.

The Association ordered that the Clerk have five hundred copies of these minutes printed, and that the Clerk shall receive \$15 for his services, and that he draw upon the Treasurer for a sufficient amount to pay for the printing of the minutes, as well as the amount due for his services at this meeting, and the balance of \$3 due him at the last session of this Association. It is also ordered that the Treasurer pay to Elder J. W. Hendry \$5 for Bro. N. Y. Jones, a former Clerk of this Association.

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Resolved, That the sister Associations named in our Corresponding Letter be requested to recognize any brother from any of the churches composin this Association who may be present at their sessions, as correspondin messengers from us when they present themselves in good standing in the churches.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of this body be and they ar hereby authorized and requested to use the best means in their power t keep a Missionary in the field.

The Treasurer's report was read and received.

J. M. HAYMAN, Treasurer, reports as follows, to-wit:

DR.	
To amount received from Executive Committee.....	\$36.9
CR.	
By amount paid for printing minutes.....	25.0
" " retained as Clerk's fees.....	11.9
Total.....	\$36.9

Resolved, That this Association return their sincere and unfeigned thank to the brethren and sisters, as also to the friends of this vicinity for thei kind hospitality to us during our stay among them.

Resolved, By this body in regular session. that upon reconsideration of it action in regard to the case of L. W. Simmons, at its last annual session, 1 appearing that no official request had been made to tender its advice an counsel in the premises.

Resolved, That therefore, to conciliate all parties concerned, we expunge from our last year's minutes the resolutions relating thereto.

Resolved, That this resolution be embodied in our minutes.

Adjourned to meet with Shiloh Church, Cork vicinity, Hillsborough county, 25 miles northeast of Tampa, on Friday before the third Lord's day, in October, A. D., 1874.

J. M. HAYMAN, Clerk.

S. WALDEN, Moderator

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES FOR 1873.

Churches.	Counties.	Pastors.	Delegates.	Total.	Dis'd by Letter.	Dead.	Expelled.	Restored.	Rec'd by Letter.	Baptized.	Contributions.	Sabbaths for preaching
Alafah	Hillsboro	S Walden	Not represented	18	1				1		\$4.00	1st
Bentley	Polk	S Walden	W. H. Miller, J. M. Hayman	6	1				1		2.00	2nd
Benevolence	Manatee	E. Chalmers	J. J. Robt., H. M. Frer	21	1				2		2.00	2nd
Bethel	Polk	L. J. Simmons	Not represented	1					1		2.25	4th
Bethel	Hillsboro	C. S. Reynolds	W. F. Nields	47	2				2		12.00	2&4
Midway Fellowship	Hillsboro	J. W. Hendry	Robt. Bell, W. C. Hayman	14	1				1		8.00	3rd
Midway	Manatee	J. W. Hendry	Not represented	26	2				2		4.00	4th
Midway	do	J. W. Hendry	J. W. Hendry, R. Roberts	54	17				17		5.00	3rd
New Hope	do	J. W. Hendry	Not represented	17	2				2		2.00	3rd
New Zion	Herrando	S. Walden	S. S. Rodgers	20	1				1		5.00	3rd
Oak Grove	Hillsboro	J. N. Tatum	Not represented	49	8				8		5.00	3rd
Time Pleasant	do	S. Walden	S. Walden, T. W. Wilder	10	4				4		5.00	3rd
Shiloh	do	S. Walden	W. K. Franklin, D. S. Moore	10	4				4		5.00	3rd
Tombasa	do	S. Walden	By letter.	1					1			
Tampa	do	W. F. Nields		1					1			
Total				187	31				31			

NOTE.—Received of J. M. Hayman \$45 for printing these Minutes.—H. B. McCA

THE
FLORIDA BAPTIST

Eld. H. B. McCallum, Editor.

CORRESPONDING EDITORS:

Eld. J. H. TOMKIES, Gainesville, Fla.

Eld. T. E. LANGLEY, Orange Hill, Fla.

Prof. J. G. McCALL, Quitman, Ga.

THE FLORIDA BAPTIST,

A Religious, Agricultural and Family Journal,

Is an Organ of the

BAPTIST DENOMINATION

For the State of

Florida, South Georgia and Southeastern Alabama.

It is the only religious paper published in Florida, and has the largest circulation of any paper published South of Savannah, and its circulation is constantly increasing.

Published EVERY THURSDAY at Lake City, Fla.

Subscription:

ONE YEAR	\$2.00
SIX MONTHS	1.00

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