



MINUTES
OF THE
Thirty-first Annual Session
OF THE
SOUTH FLORIDA
Baptist Association

HELD WITH

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH

Polk Co., Florida

October 6, 7, and 8

1897

OFFICERS

Moderator, W. M. McDONALD, Plant City, Florida

Secretary, A. A. LEWIS, Kathleen, Florida

Treasurer, W. S. KNIGHT, Plant City, Florida

Next session convenes with Lakeland Baptist Church, Polk County
Florida, Wednesday before the second
Sunday in October

1898

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American Baptist Publication Society

MINUTES

OF THE

Thirty-First Annual Session

OF THE

South Florida Baptist Association.

HELD WITH THE

Baptist Church at Bethel, Polk County, Florida,

October 6, 7 and 8, 1897.

OFFICERS.

W. M. McDONALD Moderator Plant City, Fla.
A. A. LEWIS Secretary Kathleen, Fla.
W. S. KNIGHT Treasurer Plant City, Fla.

OCALA, FLA.:
THE BAPTIST WITNESS.
1897.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

B. F. BLOUNT.....	Bartow
F. M. CHILDS.....	St. Petersburg
J. R. McDONALD.....	Plant City
W. S. KNIGHT.....	Plant City
J. H. THARP.....	Tampa
J. F. ROGERS.....	Mango
E. G. WILDER.....	Kathleen

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Association Called to Order by the Moderator.
3. Read Letters and Enroll Names of Messengers.
4. Election of Officers.
5. Call for Petitionary Letters.
6. Call for Correspondents.
7. Inviting Visiting Brethren to Seats.
8. Appointment of Committees.
9. Reports of Committees.
10. Appoint Correspondents.
11. Election of Messengers to State Convention.
12. Miscellaneous Business.
13. Appointing Annual Committees.
14. Adjournment.

CONSTITUTION.

1. This organization shall be known as the "South Florida Baptist Association."
2. It shall be composed of Baptist churches of the same faith and gospel order.
3. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, a Clerk and a Treasurer, who shall be elected annually by ballot by the properly authorized messengers sent up by the churches.
4. Each church shall be entitled to two messengers, and one additional messenger for every twenty-five over the first fifty.
5. This Association shall meet annually at any time and place agreed upon, by letters and messengers, in which letters should be stated the names of the messengers sent for the respective sessions and the condition of the churches.
6. This Association shall recognize the independence of the churches, and shall not in any case exercise jurisdiction over them, yet shall have power to drop from its connection any church which it may deem corrupt in faith or practice.
7. Churches may be received into this body by petition, setting forth their faith, and willingness to conform to the rules and regulations by which this Association is governed; and upon reception the Moderator shall give to the messenger the hand of fellowship.
8. Any church shall be at liberty to discontinue its connection at any time it shall deem proper, by giving notice of such intention, without breach of fellowship. But if any church shall fail to represent itself for three years in succession it shall be dropped, unless retained for the purpose of visitation by committee or otherwise.
9. This Association may correspond with sister Associations.
10. This Association may alter or amend this Constitu-

tion at any annual meeting of its members by two-thirds of the votes of the messengers present.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. The sessions of this body shall be opened and closed with prayer or praise to God, or both.
2. The Moderator shall preside over the deliberations of this Association, keep order, and explain and put questions, but shall not vote, except in case of a tie.
3. In discussing subjects before this body the speaker shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not speak more than ten minutes at a time, nor more than twice on the same subject without leave of the body; and the speaker shall carefully avoid personal reflections that are offensive.
4. It is the duty of the Clerk of this Association to keep a fair and correct record of the proceedings of this body while in session, and prepare the manuscript for the press, and have the minutes printed and otherwise put up in good style, and distribute them among the churches at the earliest day practicable, and shall keep a complete file of the minutes for the use of this Association.
5. The Treasurer of this Association shall hold the moneys sent up by the churches and from other sources, keep strict account of the same, and pay out to the order of the Association or its Executive Committee, and shall make report in writing, at each annual meeting, of all moneys received and disbursed.
6. The Constitution and Rules of Order shall be read at each annual meeting, immediately after permanent organization.
7. These Rules of Order may be altered or amended at any annual meeting by a vote of a majority.

MINUTES.

The South Florida Baptist Association convened with the Bethel Baptist Church, Polk County, Florida, October 6, 1897. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Elder R. Y. Walden from I. Corinthians xiii. 1.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, and, after singing and prayer, church letters were handed in and messengers' names enrolled as follows:

- Antioch—J. W. Costine, J. A. Voils.
 Bartow—J. M. Haymeñ, C. H. Nash, B. F. Blount, J. C. Blount, Sister G. C. Scanley.
 Bethel—C. F. Mallory, S. C. Sloan, J. R. Frier, E. G. Wilder, J. C. Lanier, A. A. Lewis.
 Bethany—T. W. Wilder, John Robertson.
 Clearwater—F. B. Deibler.
 Plant City—W. J. Wells, C. L. Wilder, J. W. Martin, W. S. Knight.
 Turkey Creek—R. Y. Walden, J. L. Brown, W. F. Farington, G. W. Overstreet.
 Thonotosassa—T. H. Jaudon, J. C. Rogers, C. Vickers.
 Tampa, First—J. H. Tharp, C. C. Burns, W. H. Reed, Sisters M. A. Taylor and L. B. Laurance.
 Tampa, Second—Not represented.
 Hopewell—W. M. McDonald, J. W. Johnson, J. R. McDonald, J. N. Thompson, J. B. Weeks.
 Pleasant Hill—F. M. Bryant.
 Seffner—By letter.
 Providence—S. N. Boytt, Sister S. N. Boytt.
 Keysville—J. R. Stewart, B. F. Carpenter, Wm. Pervis.

Valrice—By letter.
 Peru—W. L. Steel.
 Lakeland—O. J. Frier, J. K. Ward, S. L. A. Clonts, Sister O. J. Frier.
 Winter Haven—By letter.
 Lake Eloise—J. B. Howard.
 Mt. Olive—J. L. Bryant, I. O. Harris, Wm. Collins.
 Mt. Tabor—W. A. Rushing, W. Bennett.
 Gapway—D. C. Combe, W. J. Bryant.
 Green Pond—J. L. Knowls.
 Pine Grove—R. N. Pylant.
 Kathleen—J. W. Tucker, H. Overstreet.
 Enterprise—W. S. Clark.
 Medulla—J. L. McClelland, J. J. Taylor.
 St. Petersburg—M. A. Clants, Sister P. H. Walters.
 After messengers' names were enrolled the same officers were re-elected.

Petitionary letters being called for, one from Six-Mile Creek and one from Maple Creek were presented. Homeland and Chicora were also received by letter from the Manatee River Association. The Moderator gave the right hand of fellowship to the messengers.

The following visiting brethren were invited to seats with us: Bro. J. R. Sumner, from Pasco; J. C. Porter, editor of the Florida Baptist Witness, also representing the Stetson University. The following committees were appointed to report at this session:

On Preaching—W. L. Steel, T. W. Wilder, J. B. Weeks, and the messengers of this church.

On Letters and Documents—O. J. Frier, John Brown, F. M. Bryant.

On Finance—R. Y. Walden, T. A. Prim, John Robertson.

On Place of Holding Next Session—W. S. Knight, C. F. Mallory, C. L. Wilder.

Standing committees to report at next session:

On Deceased Ministers and Deacons—J. M. Hayman, S. C. Sloan, J. R. McDonald.

Associational Missions Executive Committee.

Temperance—J. H. Tharp, J. N. Thompson, R. T. Cadden.

Missions—O. J. Frier, J. W. Johnson, B. F. Blount.

Woman's Work—C. H. Nash, J. M. Hayman, C. C. Burns

Sunday Schools—E. G. Wilder, C. F. Mallory, S. N. Boytt.

On Religious Literature—J. W. Tucker, B. Y. Walden, R. N. Pylant.

On Ministerial Education—J. W. H. Powell, T. H. Jaudon, B. H. Guy.

Messengers to Meet With State Convention—C. L. Wilder, J. W. Johnson, J. C. Blunt, W. S. Knight, C. Vickers, J. N. Thompson, E. G. Wilder, G. A. Bryant, C. H. Nash, R. Y. Walden.

To Manatee Association—R. Y. Walden, R. N. Pylant, C. H. Nash.

To Manatee River Association—R. Y. Walden, J. W. Johnson, W. M. McDonald.

To Pasco Association—T. A. Rogers, O. J. Frier, E. G. Wilder, W. M. McDonald, H. M. Day.

To Alachua Association—M. A. Clonts, G. A. Bryant.

The following resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, We have several young ministers in our Association who are neither able to go off to school or to procure such books as are necessary to help them in the study of God's word; therefore,

Resolved, That this Association earnestly asks and insists that each pastor of this Association take up one or more collections in each of the churches this year for the purpose of procuring books for the use of these brethren, and that a committee of three experienced ministers be appointed to receive the money and make selections of books most needful for each minister.

Bros. C. H. Nash, J. M. Hayman and W. M. McDonald were appointed to purchase and distribute the books on the

adoption of the resolution. The following pledges were made for this fund:

Lakeland	\$ 5 00
Bartow	5 00
J. W. Johnson	5 00
R. Y. Walden	5 00
G. A. Bryant	5 00
B. H. Guy	5 00
W. M. McDonald	5 00
W. S. Knight	1 00
M. A. Taylor	Book
Public collection	2 36

Resolved, That we extend our heartfelt thanks to the good people of this community for the cordial hospitality we have received at their hands during the session of this body.

MOTIONS CARRIED.

That Article 3 in the Constitution shall be changed so as to elect by ballot.

That Article 3 in the Rules of Order shall be changed so as to read "body" instead of "Moderator," in obtaining permission for second speech.

That the Clerk have 700 copies of the minutes printed, and be allowed \$20 for his services.

The Association then adjourned to meet with the Lakeland Baptist Church on Wednesday before the second Sunday in October, 1898.

W. M. McDONALD, Moderator.

A. A. LEWIS, Secretary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Your committee realize that there is a mighty responsibility resting on all of our churches in the matter of giving the gospel to the world, a responsibility to which our churches are not fully awake.

The home service with which so many churches stop, is after all but the discipline to better fit us to go or send the gospel abroad for the salvation of others.

We provide preaching in the home churches for many who are already gospel hardened, while the Lord has bidden us give the gospel to the multitudes who have never heard the gospel at all.

The gates of the world's great field are wide open, the Macedonian cry comes up from many quarters, the very largeness of opportunity ought to be an inspiration to all, but also how many who misscall themselves Missionary Baptists are utterly asleep on this great question, or if stirred up at all, put some pessimistic cry of criticism or discouragement. A million such Christians would not evangelize our province, and when the last glad song of triumph is sung, will find that they have no part or lot in the matter and yet the work moves forward because many are responding to the divine call. Our missionaries are being blessed wherever they labor.

Notwithstanding all of the fault-finding there has been with regard to the great expense of carrying forward our mission work, it appears from recently gathered statistics that the cost of our missions as recorded per capita for all the workers in the field was considerably less than any other of the great evangelical denominations, and the results in soul winning considerably larger.

The appointment of our various boards, which have

charge of this great work has been at our great convention meetings, and after much consultation and prayer and the men chosen have been consecrated Godly men. Let us stand by them in our prayers and with our means. If our missionaries have to be recalled for want of money let us not be responsible for such recall; and yet this matter is only a negative way of saying: "Call them home—give up the work."

Let the pastors see to it that the people over whom they are placed are fully instructed in this matter, and know assuredly that they will not be held guiltless, if they fail to declare the whole counsel of God in this matter.

C. H. NASH.

After the adoption of the report on missions the following resolutions were adopted by the Association:

First. That we all give to missions.

Second. That we all give as the Lord prospers us.

Third. That we all give cheerfully.

Contributions in pledges and cash for missions amounted to \$47.00.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We have contracted for mission work within the bounds of the Association, beginning with the present year, as follows:

J. W. Johnson in southern part.....	\$ 75 00
J. W. Tucker in western part	50 00
C. Vickers in eastern part.....	30 00
B. H. Grey at Six-Mile Creek	80 00
<hr/>	
Total	\$185 00
We have paid on said amount	\$116 26
Paid to W. W. Carlton for work done at Keysville.....	4 74
Paid for previous year's work by R. Y. Walden at Pine Grove and G. A. Bryant near Green Pond.....	9 50
<hr/>	
Total	\$149 10

B. F. BLOUNT, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

In Eph. 6:12 we are told that we (the children of God) wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers, against the ruler of the darkness of this world and spiritual wickedness in high places, and that we are to stand our ground with our armor on.

We gather from this that we as stewards of God are to be always arrayed against the powers of darkness and of the most powerful of which in our day is the traffic and use of intoxicating drinks. But are we all arrayed in this battle as we ought to be? Is it not in the power of Christian men and women if all would press the battle to the gate in our land, to put the monster in chains? God hasten the time when Christians, yes Baptist, shall vote as they pray and act it out too. Let the battle cry be, who is on the Lord's side?

We thank God for the progress made in clearing our ranks of this deadly foe to our holy religion and our humanity for the strong position taken not only by our own denomination but others, for other organized movements such as the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, the order of Good Templars, and others. There are armies getting in array for the decisive conflict. The young are being educated against it, and knowledge is power. We are also thankful that the old Christmas egg-nog that used to disgrace our Christian homes is about a thing of the past and professing Christians are seldom seen standing in the way of sinners in barrooms and blind tigers. They are fast learning that he who manufactures, sells or votes for selling, and talks for selling and patronizes places of selling are all partners in the service of Satan, and shall all be judged together.

Let us hold the ground we have gained and move on till this terrible power, woe and curse is banished from our land.

O. J. FRIER.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON WOMAN'S WORK.
The success which has attended the Baptists as a denomi-

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nation is the result of many forces, prominent among these is the work of our sisters. We feel deeply impressed that in the furtherance of the gospel in this great missionary era upon which we are just entering, the spirit of the Lord has come with consecrating power upon the Christian womanhood of our country especially that of our own Association.

They feel that when the Saviour said: "Go ye into the world and teach all nations," they were included. Many of our greatest forces once lay dormant, but when these forces were brought out and put into operation or use they have demonstrated to the world their mighty power. So it is with our women, their work for the Master has been hindered, their powers been as it were lying dormant, but these powers are now bubbling up here and there, and wherever she has been given a place to work, she has achieved success.

The brethren of our Association, as well as others, are beginning to be aroused to the fact that the sisters have some part to perform in the evangelization of the world.

We note with pleasure the steady and rapid growth of woman's work in the bounds of our Association statistics. They have organized three new societies and raised \$165.40. Besides they have prepared and sent boxes of clothing to the poor missionaries, thus assisting them in their labors of love.

We would recommend that the pastors of the several churches assist and encourage the women in their noble work and we would further recommend that each church will if possible have a Ladies' Missionary Society.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. TUCKER, Chairman.

TO THE FEMALE MEMBERSHIP SOUTH FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—DEAR SISTERS IN THE LORD:

I appeal to each one of you personally in the name of the blessed Son of God, whose we are if we are Christians, to consider what the religion of the Lord Jesus Christ has done for you individually. Has it not gladdened your heart

in the consciousness of sins forgiven? Did you not then feel stronger for the duties of life? Do you not realize that religion has made your husband a better man, your children better children, and you realize in your own soul that you are a better wife and mother? As it has done all that I have named and more for you and yours it will do the same for others everywhere, and oh, how much they need it!

Now, as it is God's remedy for fallen humanity and has committed the work of disseminating the gospel, to human agencies, impressing each one as to their duty, and commanding us to go into all the world, with the soul-saving message of the gospel; how can you be indifferent about it while opportunities and necessities are so abundant at home and abroad?

Many do not feel interested on this subject for the reason that they do not know much about the necessities of others, and consequently "are at ease in Zion," Amos, vi. 1.

I am glad to inform you that the information you need is at hand in abundance, in the Home Field and Foreign Mission Journal, which costs but little. Get up a club of ten in your church and organize yourselves into Mission Bands, and meet often in your band meetings; pray for the missionaries and their families, and if you cannot give money each band could send a box of clothing, cloths and canned fruits, meats, etc., to the frontier missionary. Organize by all means, for in "union there is strength."

The last conventional year our sisters have done nobly, in contributing to the different departments of work two thousand one hundred and seventy-three dollars and forty cents (\$2,173.40).

Organize children's bands, and train them to give as "it is more blessed to give than to receive."

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. HAYMAN.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION

We believe God calls his ministers by the Holy Spirit,

and no degree of education without this call will authorize or qualify a man to preach the gospel.

Preaching is not exhorting. It is teaching, and our ministry above all other men should be prepared for their high calling by careful study of God's word.

We have a great institution of learning in our Stetson University at DeLand, in our own beloved State. Its President, Dr. J. F. Forbes, D. D., is a born teacher, a devoted Christian gentleman and scholar.

We believe in our wisdom it is not safe, and it is not the best policy to employ any one to teach in our Baptist schools, but sound Baptists.

In these last days perilous times have come, and many leading men in our denomination occupying positions of influence are departing from the faith, and surrendering the cherished land marks of our forefathers.

Dr. Whitsett, President of our Theological Seminary, at Louisville, Ky., affirms that Baptists cannot claim their origin prior to the year 1610-11; that immersion was invented by one Edward Barber in the year 1641, and all Baptist churches practiced sprinkling and pouring as the mode of baptism up to 1641. His writing has placed him out of line and harmony with Baptists, and we believe his course deserves the scorn and contempt of all true Baptists. A large majority of the churches of this Association greatly desire the trustees of said seminary to vote for the retirement and removal of Dr. Whitsett from the presidency of said seminary and from the chair of church history. Your committee would recommend the churches of this Association not to allow any agent to collect for, neither encourage any contributions to said seminary, so long as Dr. Whitsett is retained as its President. Your committee would advise all our young ministers, who desire a theological course to shun the said seminary as they would deadly poison so long as Dr. Whitsett is retained by its trustees. We further recommend the churches of this Association that they do not call as pastors, any students

from this seminary without first examining them thoroughly on Whitsettism.

Let us not condemn our theological seminary founded amid prayers and sacrifices and the labors of Boyce, Brandus, Manly and Williams, the truest of the true among our great theologians and preachers.

When its officers shall have removed from its head Dr. Whitsett, whom we denounce as a traitor to the Baptist denomination, then let us give it our hearty support.

R. Y. WALDEN, Chairman,
J. W. JOHNSON.

A division of the vote was called for by Elder C. H. Nash on the adoption of the report on Ministerial Education.

The vote was taken as follows:

For Adoption—E. G. Wilder, C. Mallory, J. C. Lanier, W. J. Bryant, R. N. Pylant, T. W. Wilder, John Robertson, C. L. Wilder, J. L. Brown, W. P. Knight, R. Y. Walden, G. W. Overstreet, C. Vickers, J. H. Tharp, W. H. Reed, J. W. Johnson, J. B. Weeks, F. M. Bryant, J. R. McDonald, J. N. Thompson, B. H. Guy, A. A. Lewis, S. N. Boytt, Sister S. N. Boytt, J. L. McClelland.

Against Adoption—J. M. Hayman, C. H. Nash, Sister G. C. Scanlan, Sister O. J. Frier, Sister L. B. Laurance, Sister M. A. Taylor, Sister P. H. Walters, M. A. Clouts, H. M. Day, O. J. Frier, J. R. Frier, J. W. Tucker, W. J. Wells.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your committee reports the death of Deacon Hardy Collins of Bethany Church, C. A. Arnold of St. Petersburg Church, P. G. Wall, First Baptist Church of Tampa, and A. Newbern of Medulla Church, and we suggest that a page of our minutes be suitably inscribed to their memory.

Also, that this body truly sympathize with our dear brother, Elder T. H. Jaudon, in the death of his wife.

Respectfully submitted,
J. M. HAYMAN, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

We are rejoiced to see an increase in baptisms during last year among the churches of over fifty per cent. and the seeming good spiritual condition of the churches.

We are pained to report however a falling off in amounts raised or reported raised for missions from last report, and three churches report no mission money raised during the year at all.

We also regret to see quite a number of churches away behind in supporting their pastor. We would recommend to them a prayerful study of the 9th chapter of 1st Corinthians. If Paul the apostle was here to-day would he not say: "For this cause many are weak and sickly among you and many sleep."

Brethren, while God is blessing us by saving souls ought we not to increase in consecration to Him?

O. J. FRIER, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee notes with pride a decided increase, both in interest and number, along the line of Sunday school work. However, there are some churches that have failed to report Sunday schools. Your committee would earnestly urge upon pastors of such churches the importance that will result in the organization of a Sunday school in those churches where there is none, and to parents, guardians and those to whom children are intrusted. We would say teach the children the Sunday school lessons and when the time comes say: "Come let's go to Sunday school," instead of saying (as it is often said) "Children go to Sunday school," and to those who are earnestly engaged in this noble work we would say press on the good work, framing the minds and characters of the young for a noble work in the Master's cause.

J. N. THOMPSON,
J. W. JOHNSON,
Committee.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

In these times when the making of many books there's no end, and when papers are published without number and the greater part of them are doubtful if not known to be totally bad; therefore, it becomes our duty to give our influence to promote the spread of wholesome religious literature. We have much (books and papers) we can heartily recommend to all.

First. Our own paper, the Florida Baptist Witness, which giveth forth the truth in no uncertain sound.

Second. For foreign missions read Foreign Journal.

Third. For home mission news read the Home Field. Then to one in Sunday school, the convention series, Teacher, Quarterlies, Helps. Also for young people they furnish Kind Words, Gems, etc.

Nor would we omit to mention the ample and abundant publications of the American Baptist Publication Society, good and cheap. This point we would like to emphasize, that in having and reading sound denominational literature, books and papers.

R. W. NORWOOD,
W. S. KNIGHT,
Committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

1896—		
Oct. 7.	Balance in treasury	\$ 6 27
Oct. 9.	Received at Association.....	48 93
Oct. 9.	For Witness distributing fund.	7 06
Nov. 29.	At union Pleasant Hill.....	25 42
Nov. 29.	Witness distributing fund.....	13 00
1897—		
Jan. 1.	At Kathleen.....	40 00
Apr. 28.	Mt. Olive for missions.....	4 00
May 30.	Union at Providence.....	55 66
May 30.	For sufferers in India.....	4 10
Aug. 28.	Union Plant City.....	58 27
Aug. 28.	Church building fund.....	10 22
	Total	\$273 42

Amounts paid out from Oct. 11, 1896, to Aug. 29, 1897.

To A. A. Lewis, Clerk's fee and printing minutes	\$ 42 60
" W. N. Chaudoin	32 07
" C. Vickers, for mission work	26 50
" J. W. Johnson for mission work	47 26
" G. A. Bryant " " "	9 50
" R. Y. Walden " " "	18 60
" B. H. Guy " " "	17 50
" J. W. Tucker " " "	25 00
" W. W. Carlton for " "	4 74
" Church building	10 22
" Witness distributing fund	27 02
" Armenian work	10 50

Total \$271 51

1897—
Oct. 6. Balance in treasury \$ 1 91
W. S. KNIGHT, Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

We find the amount sent up from the churches for all purposes \$47.62.

R. Y. WALDEN, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON SESSION.

We find applications from Lakeland, Hopewell, and Clearwater, for the next session of the Association. We recommend Lakeland as the place for the next meeting.

W. S. KNIGHT,
C. F. MALLORY,
C. L. WILDER.

Sacred to the Memory

—OF—

DEACONS

P. G. Wall,
C. A. Arnold,
A. Newborn,
Hardy Collins.

"O thou that hearest prayer,
Unto thee shall all flesh come."

STATISTICS OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

CHURCHES.	When Organized.	Number Last Year.	INCREASE.			DECREASE.			Present Membership.
			By Baptism.	By Letter.	By Restoration.	By Letter.	By Exclusion.	By Death.	
Antioch	1874	15				2			13
Bartow	1875	212	21	14		25	8	3	206
Bethel	1863	102	22	7		10	8	1	117
Willow Oak	1886	100							
Medulla	1888	43	8			5	1	2	43
Peace Creek	1888	32							24
Winter Haven	1885	24				1		1	22
Lake Eloise	1892	16	1	1		5			12
Lakeland	1884		14	16	1	8		1	82
Mt. Olive	1882	67	6	3			1	1	74
Mt. Tabor	1889	32	11	11	2	3			54
Gapway	1875		4	3	2	2	4	1	50
Green Pond	1894					1			27
Pine Grove	1890	26		3		5			29
Kathleen	1895	17	3	3					28
Enterprise	1896		2			2	3		20
Homeland	1893	22				5	3		14
Chicora	1889	51	8	1		1		1	59
Bethany	1890	106	13	17	3	2		3	136
Plant City		124	2	4		16		1	118
Turkey Creek	1878	110	7	2	3	1	3	2	115
Thonotosassa	1854		10	3		8		2	92
Tampa, First	1859	228	10	24		4		1	257
Tampa, Second	1891								
Hopewell	1874		7	4		1	2	2	127
Pleasant Hill	1891	19	1	1	1				22
Seffner		35				3			32
Keysville	1888		6	3		4			31
St. Petersburg	1893	37	2	15	4	3		2	53
Valrico	1893	39	3	3					43
Peru	1893								
Providence	1877		45	3	4	12	7		112
Maple Creek	1897	9							
Six-Mile Creek	1897	29							
Clearwater	1866		2	6	9	1		1	44
			218	164	30	147	31	25	162062

STATISTICS OF THE SOUTH FLORIDA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—CONTINUED.

PASTORS.	CLERKS AND POSTOFFICES.	Number of Churches.	Value of Meeting Houses.	Number of Parsonages.	Value of Parsonages and Other Property.
C. Vickers	J. W. Costine, Raymond	1	\$ 150		
C. H. Nash	Walter Blount, Bartow	1		1	\$ 4000
W. M. McDonald	A. A. Lewis, Kathleen	1	1000		1000
J. W. Johnson	D. K. Turner, Lakeland	1	300		300
J. H. Pinkston	J. D. Goddard, Bartow				
O. J. Frier	D. M. Peterson, Winter Haven	1	1000		1000
O. J. Frier	N. J. Walton, Eloise	1	120		120
O. J. Frier	L. M. Ballard, Lakeland	1	300		300
T. Alderman	Joe L. Bryant, Raymond	1	200		200
R. Y. Walden	J. H. Rushing, Kathleen	1	200		200
C. Vickers	S. W. McLelland, Lakeland				
G. A. Bryant	J. L. Knowis, Green Pond				
R. Y. Walden	F. M. Wade, Fort Meade	1	500		500
A. A. Keith	W. L. Hancock, Kathleen				
C. Vickers	John Clark, Eloise				
J. W. H. Powell	W. P. Sherretz, Homeland				
J. W. H. Powell	J. W. Gill, Chicora				
W. M. McDonald	Leroy Branch, Plant City	1	800		
W. E. Bogart	W. S. Knight, Plant City	1	2000		
T. H. Jaudon	J. E. Hooker, Turkey Creek	1	1100		
T. H. Jaudon	B. C. West, Antioch		950		
W. H. Osborne	C. H. Pimm, Tampa	1	16500		23500
W. M. McDonald	J. H. Hull, Plant City	1	300		300
J. W. Johnson	F. M. Bryant, Pelote	1	300		300
O. J. Frier	F. W. Little, Brandon	1	400		
W. W. Carlton	B. F. Carpenter, Keysville	1	500		500
M. A. Clonts, Jr.	Paul E. Woodward, St. Petersburg		500		500
T. H. Jaudon	Solon Mansell, Sydney				
J. W. Johnson					
R. Y. Walden	S. N. Boytt, Riverview	1	500		200
C. Vickers	G. W. Heath, Peck				
B. H. Guy			500		500
J. W. Tucker	F. Deibler, Belleair				

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OCTOBER, 1896, TO
OCTOBER, 1897, AND SUNDAY-SCHOOL
STATISTICS.

CHURCHES.	Church Expenses.	Sunday School Expenses.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	State Missions.	Ministerial Education.	Associational Fund.	Printing Fund.	Miscellaneous.
Antioch	\$ 18 75								
Bartow	848 60			26 79	35 53	24 50		3 00	6 86
Bethel	125 25	13 65	18 08	11 00			31 70	3 00	
Willow Oak									
Medulla	50 00		10 00					60	10 00
Peace Creek									
Winter Haven	53 51	10 00	5 00	5 00	6 78			1 10	
Lake Eloise	18 17	12 00						1 10	
Lakeland	400 00	47 92		14 25	19 71			2 00	12 40
Mt. Olive	34 43	3 43		4 00				1 72	6 08
Mt. Taber	48 25	6 60						5 58	
Gapway	20 81	1 61	1 05						
Green Pond								1 00	
Pine Grove	48 70				8 80			50	
Kathleen	56 00	4 00	1 25	3 27				1 00	38 30
Enterprise	14 00	1 38	2 00						3 40
Homeland	57 70		3 76					50	
Chicora	70 70			2 41			2 50	1 00	1 50
Bethany	61 77	3 50		6 00	13 50			1 50	10 00
Clearwater	125 00	12 00	2 50				2 00	1 00	3 25
Plant City	861 10	21 50		6 85	7 90			2 40	23 00
Turkey Creek	42 55	13 55			12 09			2 05	
Thonotosassa	55 20				6 21		2 55		20 33
Tampa, First	1691 50	85 00	32 09			35 00			905 05
Tampa, Second									
Hopewell	128 25	6 65		10 00	17 34	5 00		2 00	39 00
Pleasant Hill	40 00	2 00			6 35				66
Seffner	105 91	9 66	25 25						30
Keyssville									1 90
St. Petersburg	78 11	18 19		4 75				50	
Valrico	28 35				11 10			1 90	92
Peru								55	8 65
Providence	94 75	6 59					2 00		
Maple Creek					3 01		1 02		
Six-Mile Creek	40 00	2 65			4 10				
Total	\$5506 16	\$144 29	\$100 98	\$94 32	\$147 42	\$64 50	\$50 57	\$29 88	\$1089 72

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM OCTOBER, 1896, TO
OCTOBER, 1897, AND SUNDAY-SCHOOL
STATISTICS—CONTINUED.

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS AND POSTOFFICES.	Schools.	Teachers and Officers.	Pupils Enrolled.	Volumes in Library.	Contributed For Missions.
B. B. Tatum, Bartow	1	13	88		\$ 3 86
E. F. Mallory, Kathleen	3	12	100		
H. J. Goddard, Bartow	1	4	31		
E. Winston, Winter Haven	1	5	26		
John Howard, Eloise	1	7	40	10	
A. E. Sloan, Lakeland	1	7	84	20	8 55
G. W. Fussell, Raymond	1	5	32		
W. A. Rushing, Kathleen	1	4	30		
D. C. Combee, Lakeland	1	5	24		
W. L. Hancock, Kathleen	1	3	20		
J. A. Whidden, Eloise	1	5	30		
Wm. Falkner, Plant City	1	5	25	60	
F. B. Deibler, Belleair	1	7	30	12	2 91
R. W. Norwood, Plant City	1	11	85		
J. L. Brown, Plant City	1	3	48		
Frank Bentley, Tampa	1	10	125		
Not represented					
J. B. McDonald, Plant City	1	6	50		
S. T. Boytt, Pelote	1	5	18		
Not given in letter					6 63
F. M. Chiles, St. Petersburg	1	6	35		
S. N. Boytt, Riverview	1	4	25		
Not given in letter	1	4	50		
Total	28	121	986		\$21 95

MINUTES

OF THE

Woman's Missionary Union of South Florida Baptist Association.

The fourth session of the Woman's Mission Union of South Florida Association convened with Bethel Baptist church on Thursday, October 7th, 1897.

The meeting was opened by singing, scripture reading and prayer.

A letter of greeting from our secretary, Miss J. L. Spalding, was read and appreciated.

Letters and reports by delegates of local societies show that good work has been done. The necessity of mission literature was urged upon the union in order to advance the work.

Address and manuscript by Rev. J. M. Hayman was voted by union, and accepted by the Association to be printed in the minutes.

Prayer for success of our mission work by Brother Hayman.

Letter read from Rev. S. L. Ginsbury.

Collection \$5.25 for Campos Church, Brazil.

On motion, Mrs. T. W. Wilder and Mrs. E. G. Wilder were re-elected Vice-Presidents for next Associational year.

Delegates were appointed to meet with the Woman's Mission Union at the State Convention to be held January 10, with Tampa Church.

After prayer by Mrs. T. W. Wilder, the Union adjourned.

A second session was held on the 8th at 10 o'clock A. M. We feel that our sisters were much benefited by the Bible reading and talks given by Miss Mary Taylor and Miss Lydia Laurance.

A special talk was made by Miss Taylor before our

Union and by request repeated before the Associational body in regard to the Cuban work in Tampa.

We asked that a collection for this work be taken which was granted. The nice sum of \$15.25 was given the Union for Brother Cova's school.

Prayer by Mrs. P. H. Walters. Adjourned.

MRS. T. W. WILDER.

MINISTERIAL DIRECTORY.

T. Alderman	Plant City
G. A. Bryant	Kathleen
W. E. Bogart	Plant City
R. T. Caddin	Tampa
Henry Edwards	Largo
O. J. Frier	Lakeland
J. M. Hayman	Bartow
I. F. Holcomb	Bartow
J. W. Johnson	Alafia
T. H. Jaudon	Sydney
A. A. Keith	Lakeland
W. M. McDonald	Plant City
F. H. McGill	Plant City
C. H. Nash	Bartow
W. H. Osborne	Tampa
^A B. N. Pylant	Bartow
J. W. H. Powell	Abbott
A. F. Randall	Tampa
G. W. Robey	Tampa
C. S. Reynolds	Clearwater
J. C. Rogers	Plant City
J. W. Tucker	Kathleen
E. L. Todd	Plant City
C. Vickers	Plant City
R. Y. Walden	Plant City
P. H. Walters	St. Petersburg
J. H. Pinkston	Bartow
B. H. Guy	Ft. Brook
J. W. Brooker	Brandon
W. W. Carlton	Antioch

HISTORICAL PAGE.

A convention of Churches convened at Shiloh, June, 1867, adjourned to meet in associate capacity December, 1867, Samuel C. Craft, Moderator.

Bethel, December 6, 1867—S. B. Todd, Moderator; S. C. Craft, Clerk.

Peace Creek, October 2, 1868—J. M. Hayman, Moderator; S. C. Craft, Clerk.

Shiloh, October 20, 1869—S. Walden, Moderator; E. J. Hull, Clerk.

Pine Pleasant, November 14, 1870—L. J. Simmons, Moderator; N. T. Jones, Clerk.

New Hope, November 11, 1871—L. J. Simmons, Moderator; N. T. Jones, Clerk.

Mt. Pleasant, November 8, 1872—L. J. Simmons, Moderator; J. M. Hayman, Clerk.

Bethel, October 11, 1873—S. Walden, Moderator; J. M. Hayman, Clerk.

Shiloh, October 16, 1874—J. W. Hendry, Moderator; N. T. Jones, Clerk.

Oak Grove, October 16, 1875—S. Walden, Moderator; N. T. Jones, Clerk.

Thonotosassa, October 14, 1876—S. Walden, Moderator; N. T. Jones, Clerk.

Shiloh, October, 1877—R. N. Pylant, Moderator; N. T. Jones, Clerk.

Clearwater, October 19, 1878—S. Walden, Moderator; J. M. Hayman, Clerk.

Turkey Creek, October 18, 1879—S. Walden, Moderator; J. M. Hayman, Clerk.

Bethel, October 16, 1880—S. Walden, Moderator; J. M. Hayman, Clerk.

- Oak Grove, October 15, 1881—L. J. Simmons, Moderator; J. M. Hayman, Clerk.
- Thonotosassa, October 14, 1882—L. J. Simmons, Moderator; J. M. Hayman, Clerk.
- Shiloh, October 14, 1883—L. J. Simmons, Moderator; J. M. Hayman, Clerk.
- Hopewell, October 19, 1884—R. N. Pylant, Moderator; E. G. Wilder, Clerk.
- Bartow, October 14, 1885—W. W. Bostik, Moderator; E. G. Wilder, Clerk.
- Tampa, October 16, 1886—W. W. Bostik, Moderator; E. G. Wilder, Clerk.
- Plant City, October 8, 1887—W. W. Bostik, Moderator; E. G. Wilder, Clerk.
- Bethel, October 12, 1888—W. W. Bostik, Moderator; E. G. Wilder, Clerk.
- Bartow, October 10, 1889—W. W. Bostik, Moderator; E. G. Wilder, Clerk.
- Turkey Creek, October 9, 1890—T. H. Jaudon, Moderator; E. G. Wilder, Clerk.
- Tampa, October 8, 1891—T. H. Jaudon, Moderator; E. G. Wilder, Clerk.
- Lakeland, October 6, 1892—T. H. Jaudon, Moderator; E. G. Wilder, Clerk.
- Bethel, October 4, 1893—T. H. Jaudon, Moderator; A. A. Lewis, Clerk.
- Seffner, October 10, 1894—C. H. Nash, Moderator; A. A. Lewis, Clerk.
- Plant City, October 9, 1895—W. M. McDonald, Moderator; A. A. Lewis, Clerk.
- Turkey Creek, October 7, 1896—W. M. McDonald, Moderator; A. A. Lewis, Clerk.
- Bethel, October 6, 1897—W. M. McDonald, Moderator; A. A. Lewis, Clerk.

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