
MINUTES

*Of the Proceedings of the Third Annual Session of the
North St. John's River Baptist Association, held with
the Shiloh Baptist Church, Clay County, Fla., Octo-
ber 18, 19 and 20, 1879.*

E. B. TIMMONS..... MODERATOR.
JAS. M. FRASER..... CLERK.
J. WEATHERSBEE..... TREASURER.

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MINUTES.

FIRST DAY.

The North St. Johns River Baptist Association met with the Shiloh Baptist church, Clay county, Florida, October 18th, 1879. 11 o'clock A. M. introductory sermon by Elder B. W. Bocks.

After refreshments the delegates were called together by the former Moderator. Read letters and enrolled delegates as follows:

Beulah—J. Wingate.

Clear Water—M. L. Dias, T. N. Baxly.

Decoy—J. P. Ravers, J. M. Fraser.

Enon—E. D. Walker.

Gadara—A. Gigger, H. Minton.

Hickory Grove—J. Brooker, R. B. Sullivan.

Osceola—J. J. Booth, Geo. Antly.

Penial—J. W. Thomas, B. W. Becks.

Paran—E. B. Timmons, S. E. Timmons.

Sardis—Geo. Motes, Jno. Motes.

Shiloh—R. S. Hogarth, L. Mires.

Went into election of officers, which resulted as follows: For Moderator, E. B. Timmons; for Clerk, J. M. Fraser. Petitionary letters were called for and received from St. Johns. No delegates.

Bethlehem delegates—H. Godwin, P. McCullar.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats with us.

Corresponding brethren invited: from New River Association—Elders Abraham Crosby, L. W. Kickliter, Wm. F. Malphurs; from Alackwa Association—Elders Paul Willis and J. B. Brantly, presented themselves and received the hand of welcome.

Appointment of committees:

On Preaching—The Deacons of the church, J. Brooker and A. Gigger.

On Religious Literature—S. E. Timmons, J. W. Thomas, E. Walker.

On Missions—B. W. Bocks, J. M. Fraser, R. S. Hogarth.

On Finance—H. Minton, G. Motes, R. B. Sullivan.
On Sabbath-schools—B. W. Becks, J. W. Thomas, D. W. Glisson.

On Requests and Queries—J. W. Thomas, J. Wingate, M. L. Dias.

On Temperance—J. Brooker, S. E. Timmons, J. M. Fraser.

Committee on Preaching reported that Elder A. Crosby preach in the afternoon at the Arbor, Elder W. F. Malphurs at night; Bro. A. Crosby preach at night at Bro. Burney's residence.

On motion, the Association adjourned until Monday at 9 o'clock A. M.

SUNDAY'S EXERCISES.

SUNDAY, 10 A. M. Prayer meeting, conducted by Bro. J. W. Thomas. 11 o'clock, a missionary sermon, by Elder E. B. Timmons. Text, Matthew, 21: 5: "Tell ye the daughters of Zion, behold thy king cometh unto thee meek." After which a missionary collection was taken up, amounting to \$7.

Bro. Paul Willis preached at 2 P. M. Bro. M. L. Dias preached at night. Bro. B. W. Becks closed.

THIRD DAY.

MONDAY MORNING, 9 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder D. W. Glisson. The Association called to order.

On motion, Bro. Elijah Wilkinson was received as a delegate from Bethesda church, their delegate being absent with the letter.

Called for reports of committees:

On Sabbath-Schools.

Your Committee on Sabbath-schools beg leave to report, as follows: From the reading of the letters from the churches we are led to believe that there is very little being done in this important branch of Christian work, and, it is the opinion of your Committee, one of the great wants is for an organized system of work. We recommend the dividing of the Association into Sunday-school districts, and the appointment of some suitable brother to labor in each district, and endeavor to stir up the churches to the importance of this great work of training our children and ourselves for the service of our Creator; and to promote this good work we would recommend the holding of a Sunday-school Convention in connection with the next meeting of the Putnam Union, to be com-

posed of one or more delegates from every church and Sunday-school in the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

B. W. BECKS, Chairman.

On Requests.

Reported, by request the next meeting of this Association will be held with the Beulah Baptist church, Putnam county, Fla.

On Religious Literature.

Your Committee beg leave to submit the following: Upon the best information we can gain we find that there is only a small per cent. of the brethren of this Association that subscribe for and read a religious paper of any kind. This we do not think is as it should be. We believe that it is a duty we owe ourselves, our families, and our God; therefore, we recommend that our Association adopt, as an organ, some sound Baptist paper, the CHRISTIAN INDEX, published at Atlanta, Ga., also the *Foreign Mission Journal*, Richmond, Va. And for Sabbath-schools, *Kind Words*, Macon, Ga. We would recommend, also, that every brother in this Association subscribe at once for some one or all of the above-named papers. And while we recommend this course we would also recommend a more constant application to the study of the Holy Bible, the great fountain of eternal life. We would also recommend that the delegates be requested to ascertain the amount of religious periodicals that are taken and read in their respective churches, and report the same at the next meeting of the Association.

Respectfully submitted,

S. E. TIMMONS, Chairman.

On Temperance.

Your Committee beg leave to report as follows: The Scriptures enjoin temperance in all things, and, while temperance societies are not churches, every church should be a temperance society. Every church member who drinks ardent spirits as a beverage dishonors his religion, and brings reproach upon the cause of Christ; and we would recommend all our churches to exercise a prudent scriptural watch and care over all of their members, and where any of their members habitually use ardent spirits as a beverage, labor with them; and, if they will not give up the habit, expel them. Intemperance is the prolific mother of nine-tenths of all the crime and misery in our land, and should be met by the whole power of the church, and every Christian should feel bound, by his allegiance to Christ, his love of truth and justice, to use his whole influence to counteract its influence.

S. E. TIMMONS, Chairman.

On Missions.

Your Committee on Missions beg leave to report, as follows: The cause of Missions is the cause of Christ, and should engage the heart and hand of all of God's children; 'tis the cause for which Christ labored, suffered, bled and died. The Savior came into this world to set up his kingdom. After his resurrection he committed this work to His disciples with the promise, "Lo! I am with you unto the end of the world." The command is "Go into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." But how can they go, except they be sent. All cannot go; but all can bear their part in sustaining those whom God has called to go and preach the everlasting gospel. We recommend the continuation of your mission societies, or the appointment of a finance committee in each

church, each committee to be composed of two brothers and two sisters whose duty it shall be to collect funds and forward to the Missionary Board.
S. E. TIMMONS, Chairman.

Resolution by brother S. E. Timmons :

Resolved, That all the churches of this Association be requested to make a report of the various Sabbath-schools in their church letters, number of scholars, teachers, etc., books, papers, etc., to be compiled in the Minutes of the next Association.

Missionary Board.

Your Board met November, 1878, and, after due consideration of the destitution in our bounds, and the means of operation, resolved to appeal to the churches, by circular, for funds to carry on missionary operations, but the responses from the churches were so small that the Board did not feel justified in making an appointment upon the field. In March, the Board received a letter from Elder E. B. Timmons, offering his services to the Board as Missionary. The Board resolved to employ him as missionary and collecting agent for a part of his time, at a salary of one dollar per day for the time of actual service; provided he could collect it upon the field. For amount of work done, we refer your body to his report.

Brother Timmons having failed to collect the above amount, we recommend that, after the current expenses of the Association be met, if there be sufficient fund left, that the balance be made good to him.

The Osceola church, being a small, weak church, and an important port, the Board resolved to pay the traveling expenses of brother B. W. Becks, incurred in supplying this church as pastor.

We have not done as much as we desired, but the best we could with the limited means at our command; and have great reasons to rejoice at the good accomplished.

Respectfully submitted.

B. W. BECKS, Chairman,
J. W. THOMAS,
E. H. PADGATT,
J. W. WEATHERSBEE, Treas.
B. F. ROBERTS, Sec.

On Nominations.

Elder D. W. Glisson preaches the Introductory sermon, and Elder Paul Willis preaches the Missionary sermon on Sunday, at the next Association.

Missionary Report of Elder E. B. Timmons.

Number of days' service, 86; miles traveled, 632; sermons preached, 86; churches supplied, 5; preaching stations, 6; baptized, 3; received for baptism, 1; restored, 1.

COLLECTIONS UPON THE FIELD.

Bethesda Church.....	\$ 75
Decoy ".....	3 60
St. John's ".....	5 01
Hickory Grove Church.....	5 65
Gadara Church.....	10 50
Beulah Neighborhood.....	9 75
Pine Grove Settlement.....	10 90

Taylor's School-house.....	60
Minton's School-house.....	5 00
Putnam Union.....	8 65
Total.....	\$58 39
Balance due.....	\$27 61

Treasurer's Report.

To balance from last year.....	\$49 67
Decoy church.....	1 00
R. B. Sullivan.....	50
Penial Mission Society.....	5 11
Finance Committee, 1879.....	13 93
By amount for Minutes.....	18 20
" " paid B. W. Becks.....	14 00
	\$70 21—\$27 28
	27 28
Balance on hand.....	\$43 93

J. W. WEATHERSBEE, Treasurer.

On Finance.

From Bethesda church.....	1 00
Bethlehem ".....	2 81
Beulah ".....	60
Clearwater ".....	1 25
Decoy ".....	70
Enon ".....	1 30
Gadara ".....	1 00
Hickory Grove ".....	1 25
Osceola ".....	3 09
Penial ".....	8 68
Paran ".....	3 70
Sardis ".....	1 15
Shiloh ".....	40
St. John's ".....	7 00
Missionary collection.....	20 00
Paid Clerk for Minutes.....	13 93
" Board.....	

\$33 93—\$33 93

H. S. MINTON, Chairman.

Missionary Board elected as follows: J. W. Thomas, B. W. Becks, J. W. Weathersbee, E. H. Padgatt and H. L. Thomas.

On motion, the Finance Committee are hereby ordered to pay over \$20.00 to the Clerk, for Minutes for 1879.

On motion, all unfinished business is hereby turned over to the Executive Board.

Correspondents to sister Associations: Brothers D. W. Glisson, J. Brooker, B. W. Becks and A. Gigger.

Correspondents to the New River Association: Brothers M. Seigler, B. W. Becks, and M. L. Dias to the Alackwa Association.

Elder B. W. Becks delegate to the Baptist State Convention.

Resolution by brother Thomas :

Resolved, That we return our thanks to this church and community for their kindness and hospitable entertainment during this meeting.

Brother Kickliter preached Monday, at 11 o'clock A. M.

After singing, and prayer by brother J. W. Thomas, the Association adjourned, to meet with the Beulah Baptist church, Putnam county, Fla., Saturday before the third Sabbath in October, 1880.

J. M. FRASER, Clerk. E. B. TIMMONS, Moderator.

MINISTERS AND THEIR POST-OFFICES.

B. W. Becks.....	Palatka, Fla.	M. N. Strickland....	Putnam Hall.
J. W. Thomas.....	" "	M. L. Dias.....	Orange Springs.
J. J. Cannon.....	" "	C. A. Kager.....	Mt. Royal.
W. H. Denmark.....	" "	D. W. Glisson.....	Green Cove Springs
E. B. Timmons....	Putnam Hall.	Paul Willis.....	Palatka.

LICENTIATES.

R. S. Hagarth. Green Cove Springs. | E. F. Durrance... Federal Point.

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Association called to order.
3. Read letters and enroll Delegates.
4. Petitionary letters called for.
5. Election of officers.
6. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
7. Call for letters of correspondence.
8. Appointment of Committees.
9. Circular letter called for.
10. Reports of Standing and other Committees.
11. Miscellaneous Business.
12. Adjournment.

STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES FOR THE YEAR 1879.

CHURCHES.	POST-OFFICE.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	DELEGATES.	Baptized.	Rec'd by Letter.	Dis'm'd by Letter.	Restored.	Excluded.	Dead.	Total.
1. Bethesda.....	Palatka	C. A. Kager.....	Wm. Fowler.....	E. Wilkinson.....	20	5	16	1	1	1	30
2. Beulah.....	Mount Royal	D. W. Glisson.....	H. Godwin.....	J. Wingate.....	12	1	11	1	1	1	19
3. Bethlehem.....	Federal Point.	M. L. Dias.....	A. W. Dias.....	M. L. Dias, F. N. Baxley	19	2	17	1	1	1	22
4. Clear Water.....	Orange Springs.	E. B. Timmons.....	J. M. Fraser.....	J. P. Rivers, J. M. Fraser	22	2	20	1	1	1	26
5. Decoy.....	Green Cove Springs.	W. H. Denmark.....	E. Walker.....	E. Walker, H. Minnison.	23	1	22	1	1	1	26
6. Enon.....	Palatka	W. H. Denmark.....	L. D. Wall.....	A. Elgger, H. Minnison.	29	1	28	1	1	1	32
7. Gadara.....	Wilderness	E. B. Timmons.....	W. H. Brookler.....	J. Brookler, B. B. Suttlen.	16	2	14	1	1	1	20
8. Hickory Grove.....	Green Cove Springs.	E. B. Timmons.....	W. Ashton.....	Brookler, B. B. Suttlen.	15	1	14	1	1	1	18
9. Osceola.....	Palatka	B. W. Becks.....	G. T. Lawther.....	B. W. Becks, C. W. Thomas	8	1	7	1	1	1	11
10. Penial.....	Picolatta	G. W. Hall.....	G. T. Lawther.....	B. W. Becks, C. W. Thomas	1	1	2	1	1	1	5
11. Paran.....	Putnam Hall	M. N. Stricklin.....	C. M. Jordon.....	E. B. Timmons, S. E. Timmons	1	1	2	1	1	1	5
12. Sardis.....	Palatka	G. W. Kickliter.....	C. M. Jordon.....	G. Motes, J. Motes	1	1	2	1	1	1	5
13. Shiloh.....	Green Cove Springs.	L. M. Jordon.....	C. M. Jordon.....	B. S. Hagarth, L. Myers	4	1	3	1	1	1	7
14. St. Johns.....	Federal Point	E. B. Timmons.....	A. E. Driggers.....	B. S. Hagarth, L. Myers	1	1	2	1	1	1	5

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be known as the North St. John's River Missionary Baptist Association.

2. This Association shall be composed of delegates elected by the several churches connected with this Association. Each church shall be entitled to two delegates, and one additional delegate for every twenty-five members in excess of fifty, and such delegate shall be received by this Association.

3. This Association shall at the annual meeting, elect from their members by ballot, a Moderator and Clerk, who shall serve for one year.

4. The object of this Association shall be, first, to promote unity and brotherly love among the several churches. Second, to promote Gospel discipline. Third, to encourage Home and Foreign Missions. Fourth, to encourage the universal spread of the Gospel and practical religion throughout our bounds and elsewhere. Fifth, This Association shall have a fund for the promotion of her objects raised by voluntary contribution, which shall be appropriated by the Missionary Board, unless otherwise disposed of by the Association.

5. A Missionary Board composed of five members who shall be members of this Association, or churches belonging thereto, shall be elected by ballot at each annual meeting of the Association to serve for one year, unless otherwise provided for, the said Board shall have full charge of all moneys and reports belonging to the Association. They shall elect their own Chairman and Clerk also, a Treasurer, who shall be *ex-officio* Treasurer of the Association, all of whom shall be members of said Board. The Missionary Board shall at all times be amenable to the Association, and shall make a full report at each annual meeting of the Association, of their acts and doings the preceding year.

6. This Association shall invite correspondents and visiting brethren to seats when in session, who shall be entitled to all privileges except voting.

7. The Association may withdraw from any church that may be in disorder, when the same cannot be restored.

8. The annual meeting of the Association shall begin on Saturday before the third Sabbath in October, and by appointment, there shall be an Introductory sermon preached the first day, and a Missionary sermon preached on Sabbath at 11 o'clock, A. M., and a collection taken up for missionary purposes.

9. This Constitution may be amended only by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present at any annual annual meeting, provided the amendments be reduced to writing.

Unanimously adopted.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. At the first meeting of each annual session of the Association, the Moderator of the previous session shall call the delegates to order, and after singing and prayer, he shall declare the Association ready for business. The first business in order after the delegates have enrolled their names, shall be the election of a Moderator and Clerk, and in case of the absence of the Moderator, the delegates present shall elect a Moderator *pro tem*, who shall proceed as aforesaid.

2. Each meeting of the Association shall be opened and closed with singing and prayer.

3. The Moderator shall preserve order, and decide all questions in debate subject to an appeal to the body, and when speaking on any subject shall call some member to the chair, and in case of a tie, give the casting vote.

4. The chairman of all committees shall be appointed by the Moderator, and each committee shall be filled by nomination made by the chairman subject to the vote of the body.

5. The Clerk shall keep a complete record of the proceedings of each meeting, and in the absence of the Moderator, shall call the Association to order and preside until a Moderator *pro tem* is elected.

6. No business shall be transacted without a quorum, which shall consist of a majority of the registered members.

7. All members wishing to speak, shall rise and respectfully address the Moderator, and confine himself strictly to the subject, and not speak more than twice upon the same subject without asking leave of the chair, and no unkind allusions shall be made while speaking.

8. No motion shall be debated until seconded or voted upon, until stated by the Moderator or read by the Clerk.

9. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received except to adjourn, lay on the table, to postpone, amend indefinitely, amend, refer to a committee, or otherwise, or call for the previous question.

10. Any member voting in the majority, may move a reconsideration at any time during the session.

11. The rules of decorum may be amended at any annual session of the Association, by a majority vote of the members present.

12. Rules not specifically provided for shall be governed by parliamentary usage.

Unanimously adopted.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

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

2. We believe that the Old and the New Testament Scriptures are the work of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in election according to the foreknowledge of God, through sanctification of the spirit and belief of the truth.

4. We believe in the total depravity of the human heart, and that the natural state of man is such that he cannot prepare himself for divine favor without the assisting grace of God, enabling him to act according to the good pleasure of his divine will.

5. We believe in justification by faith which gives peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

6. We believe the Gospel of Christ is the means of divine appointment to bring sinners to repentance and faith in Jesus Christ, and, therefore, should be preached to all people that the purpose of God according to election, might stand.

7. We believe that all those who are regenerated by the spirit of God, are made heirs of God, and joint heirs with our Lord Jesus Christ, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto eternal salvation, and that not one of them will be lost.

8. We believe that baptism is the immersion of the whole body in water, and the only proper subjects are described in article seventh.

9. We believe that the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Lord Jesus Christ, to be commemorated by his followers, and that none but baptized believers have a Scriptural right to partake thereof.

10. We believe in a general resurrection of the righteous and wicked, and that the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into life eternal.

11. We believe that infants and idiots are saved through the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Read and adopted.

B. W. BECKS, Chairman.