



MINUTES
OF THE
Fifth Annual Session
OF THE
MT. ZION OLD SCHOOL
OR PRIMITIVE BAPTIST
COLORED
District Association
HELD WITH
THE LITTLE ZION CHURCH
Crumpler, West Va.
AUGUST, 4, 5, 6, 1922

ELDER S. M. MUSE, Moderator,
ELDER S. P. CLAYTOR, Clerk.



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FRIDAY, AUGUST 4th, 1922.

The Association met with Little Zion Church, according to appointment, on its Fifth Annual Session. The services were opened with singing, led by Elder S. M. Muse, followed by prayer by Elder Lewis Mitchell, after which the introductory sermon was to have been conducted by El-

der J. W. Brown, but on some account he failed to arrive, then Elder F. Peatross, his alternate, preached ably from the book recorded by St. Matthew, 16:18. After the introductory the council dismissed for thirty minutes then re-convened in the house for order of business. The Association elected Elder S. M. Muse as its Moderator, and to remain the same always, and Elder S. P. Claytor as its Clerk, and to remain the same always. If absent on account of sickness or death in their families, then the Association shall choose its Moderator or Clerk temporarily. On a motion to receive correspondence from sister associations, Elder L. Mitchell, a corresponding messenger from Chestnut Knob, came forward and was welcomed by the Moderator, extending the right hand of fellowship. Also one Elder W. M. Smith, a corresponding messenger from Sandy Ridge, came forward and was received by the Moderator, extending the right hand of fellowship. Elder T. G. Mitchell, a visitor from Sandy Ridge, came forward and was received by the Moderator, extending the right hand of fellowship. On motion the Rules of Decorum be read and adopted upon the face of our minutes, it was read and adopted. On motion we hear from the several churches of this union by letters. First, on motion the Mt. Zion Church letter be read, and after reading, the same was received. Second, on motion, the Macedonia Church letter be read. After reading, the same was received. Third, on motion the Little Zion Church letter be read, after reading, the same was received. Fourth, On motion the Morning Star Church letter be read, the same was read and received. Fifth, On motion, the Mt. Pilgrim Church letter be read, and after reading, the same was received.

On motion a Presbytery be appointed at the request of the Macedonia Church to come and look into the qualifications of Brother Esau Mullens, and if found sound in the faith, set him apart to the office of Deacon. Elders T. G. Mitchell, F. Peatross and S. M. Muse were chosen as a Presbytery by the Association, to meet with the above named church, on Saturday before the 4th Sunday in October this year, 1922.

On motion that the corresponding letter be read it was read and received.

On motion that the circular letter be read, same was not read on account of the absence of the writer. The readers of these minutes will find this letter cancelled.

On motion, Elders T. G. Mitchell, L. Mitchell and W. M. Smith, with the Moderator and Clerk be assigned as a committee on the order of preaching.

On motion, Brothers Simon King, Peter Saunders and Ed Whitehead were assigned as a committee on finance.

On motion that all Elders from this District report on their visit to sister associations to which they were appointed last year, they reported no attendance.

On motion that we appoint correspondents to sister associations for the year 1923, Elder S. P. Claytor was appointed for Sandy Ridge, N. C. Second, Elder F. Peatross was appointed for Chestnut Knob. Third, Brother Simon King to Radicue. Fourth, Elder S. M. Muse to Cub Run.

On motion before our next session that Elder S. M. Muse and Elder S. P. Claytor be sent to the Vion Primitive Baptist Association in Georgia to behold the order of that district or church or churches, and make their report to this district in 1923. The committee on the order of preaching reported that Brother Simon King, Elder T. G. Mitchell, Elder F. Peatross and Elder W. M. Smith preach on Saturday. Also that Elder T. G. Mitchell, Elder W. M. Smith, Elder L. Mitchell, Elder S. P. Claytor, Elder S. M. Muse preach on Sunday and was discharged.

On motion that we adjourn until tomorrow at 9 A. M., if it be the Lord's will, same was done.

SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 5th.

The Association met according to appointment, and opened with singing, led by Brother Peter Saunders, hymn No. 195. Prayer by Elder T. G. Mitchell. On motion the

finance committee make its report, they reported received from their several churches \$23.

On motion that we hold our next annual Association with the Morning Star Primitive Baptist Church, Excelsior, West Virginia, beginning Friday before the 4th Sunday in August, 1923 and that Elder S. P. Claytor preach the introductory sermon, and S. M. Muse be his alternate.

On motion that Elder S. M. Muse write a corresponding letter to be attached to our minutes for the year 1923, and that Elder F. Peatross write a circular letter to be attached to our minutes for the year 1923.

On motion we have 300 copies of the Minutes printed and distributed among the sister churches and associations which we are in correspondence with, same carried.

On motion that the Elders which composed the Board to stand as it was appointed last year to stand.

On motion that Elder S. P. Claytor as our spiritual advisor last year, recorded upon our minutes, the same shall remain; this man to advise us in a spiritual manner to the best of his knowledge of the Scriptures, which tends to build us up, these advices being in a Scriptural manner.

On motion that both the Moderator and Clerk fee stand as it was in 1921.

On motion the Rules of Decorum be placed upon the face of our Minutes.

On motion the Church Government be placed upon our minutes. On motion that Elder S. M. Muse be our Association treasurer, and that the said treasurer shall place all money in the First National Bank of Northfork, W. Va., for the purpose of the expense of the district and the Elders appointed to look after the welfare of this district, and that the said treasurer shall make his annual report of this money, and that the sister churches place as much in each year as possible into this treasury, in order to build up the same and that each church keep a record of how much is being sent out from them.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

1 It shall be the duty of the Church to meet monthly in conference. Each male member without some lawful excuse shall be present, and in the absence of the pastor, the church shall choose a Moderator whose duty it shall be to open its doors for the reception of new members.

2 Take up reference; the oldest first in order.

3 It shall be the duty of each member to vote in all cases, and a majority shall rule except when touching on the fellowship.

4 No motion shall claim the attention of the Moderator without being seconded.

5 Every motion made and seconded shall come under the observation of the church unless it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

6 Every member who speaks in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator, and shall not be interrupted while speaking unless he departs from his subject.

7 No member shall speak more than three times on the same subject without leave from the church.

8 No member shall have the liberty of talking or whispering in time of public speaking, nor cast reflection upon the speaker, but shall adhere strictly to the subject.

9 No member shall absent himself from the conference without leave from the Moderator.

10 The Moderator shall have the same privilege of speaking as any other member provided the chair is filled, and he shall not vote unless the conference be equally divided.

11 If any member shall fail to attend three regular meetings in succession without some lawful excuse, he or she shall be under the censure of the church.

12 It shall be the duty of the members of this union

not to commune nor take the Lord's Supper with those who are not of this faith.—Luke 22-17. Who believe not in foot-washing—John 13-8. Those found not obeying these rules shall be under the censure of the church.

13 No church in this union shall receive a member from any other church in the union except on a certificate of good standing and in full fellowship with the church from which the member came, except it be impossible to obtain such; then proceed as for confession of faith.

14 No church in this union shall hear a minister after having been silenced by a legal conference whose Moderator shall be the Moderator of the Association.

15 Male members shall be the only legal debators in any conference in this union.

16. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to see that these rules are carried out.

17. Any amendment to this form of government may be made by two-thirds of the members present and voting.

RULES OF DECORUM

Rule 1 The association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

Rule 2 A moderator and clerk shall be chosen by the members present when they shall think proper.

Rule 3 Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall arise from his seat and address the moderator when he is about to make his speech.

Rule 4 The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted in his speech by any except the moderator till he is done speaking.

Rule 5 He shall strictly adhere to the subject, and in no wise reflect on the person who spoke before so as to make any remarks on his slips, failings or imperfections, but shall fairly state the case and matter as nearly as he can so as to convey his light or ideas.

Rule 6 No person shall rise and speak more than twice on one subject without liberty from the association.

Rule 7 No person shall abruptly break off, or absent himself from the association without liberty obtained from it.

Rule 8 No member of the association shall have liberty of laughing during the sitting of the same, nor whispering in time of public speech.

Rule 9 No member of the association shall address another in any other term or appellation but the title of brother.

Rule 10. The moderator shall not interrupt any member or prohibit him from speaking till he gives light on the subject, except he breaks the rules of this decorum.

Rule 11. The names of the several members of the association shall be enrolled by the clerk, and called as often as the association requires.

Rule 12 The moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as other members, provided the chair be filled, but he shall have no vote unless the association be equally divided.

Rule 13 That any member who shall willingly and knowingly break any of these rules shall be reprov'd by the association as they shall think proper.

CORRESPONDENCE

To All Sister Churches and Associations in Which we Are in Correspondence:

I take no little pleasure in addressing you with admonition which it behooves all of us to adhere to. We should, according to divine writ, live according to the commandments taught to our forefathers in the Gospel.

Brethren, let us not be slack in our duty, first to God, and then to one another. There seems to be a weakness

among the churches. This seems to come about because of the great portion of the adversary. What I mean is that the brethren in general, (not all of them) want to lord it over each other to hold the mastership, according to their sense of feeling which sense leads to shame and contempt.

Sometimes the lack of sound judgment leads its victim to utter darkness. If we lack wisdom, let us ask of God who giveth to all men liberally and upbraideth not, and it shall be given him. Epistle of James 1:5.

I admonish you, Brethren, to walk in the light that you stumbleth not; (light here is true religion). If any man walk in darkness he stumbleth because there is no light in him. (Darkness here means sin). The so-called Christian churches could not commit no greater act than to walk therein. The Book of Matthew says let your light so shine before men that they may see your good work and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

One of the greatest things amongst the human family, especially the churches to whom I direct my discourse, is peace. If we have that dwelling within our midst there would be more union and less slaying of each other with the sword. Even the instruments that the demons handle to try to put to death the righteous acts of the children of God, but in all this the righteous are made to stand for they know that their Redeemer liveth. Job 19:25, and will sustain those that fear Him. All this God will do when our oppressors shall go down to the pit to rise no more. Nor shall man be able to awake them out of their sleep. They shall see utter darkness and feel the terror of the wrath that shall come upon them; then they shall reap what they have sown.

Now let us consider, just the things we mete to each other shall be measured back to us again. If any man says he loves God whom he hath not seen, and hates his brother whom he hath seen, he is a liar and we know no liar hath eternal life abiden in him.

So Brethren, I must close this correspondence by saying, may the God of heaven and earth guide you all into

light and truth for the truth alone can make us free, for man is no more than the flower and grass of the fields, for the flower fadeth, the grass withereth away but the word of our God shall stand forever.

Yours in Gospel bonds,

ELDER S. P. CLAYTOR.

NOTICE

Notice to all churches in this district. Please have your work, if there is any, all fixed and ready to be recorded on the Minutes. This saves time. To get it in these Minutes you must take this advice.

ELD. S. P. CLAYTOR, Clerk.

On motion the Clerk read these Minutes, and after reading, the same were received and adopted. On motion, we adjourned until August, 1923.

Preaching Saturday, August 5, 1922.

- 1 Bro. Simon King—Luke 14, 17-18.
- 2 Elder T. G. Mitchell—Luke 13:2.
- 3 Elder F. Peatross—St. John 1:1.
- 4 Elder W. M. Smith—Isaiah 35:9.

Preaching Sunday, August 6:

- 1 Bro. R. Ruffens—Matt. 16:26.
- 2 Elder W. M. Smith—Isaiah 6, 3:1.
- 3 Eld. L. Mitchell—St. John 1:1.
- 4 Eld. T. G. Mitchell—Luke 10:45.
- 5 Eld. S. P. Claytor—Rev. 7:16.
- 6 Eld. S. M. Muse—Matt. 2:6.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Finance Committee was as follows:

Receipts

Received from the churches -----	\$23.00
Received from friends -----	78.33
Total -----	<u>\$101.33</u>

Expenditures

Paid for printing -----	\$20.00
Paid Clerk's fee -----	10.00
Paid Moderator -----	7.00
Contribution to Elders -----	<u> </u>

We thank God and the people in general for their kind behavior in taking care of this noble meeting which shall go down on record in the minds of each one of us, is our prayer. Thank you one and all.

ELDER S. M. MUSE, *Moderator.*

ELDER S. P. CLAYTOR, *Clerk.*

ELDERS AND THEIR ADDRESS

- Elder S. M. Muse, Northfork, West Va.
- Elder S. P. Claytor, Fayetteville, W. Va.
- Elder S. L. Burnett, Dunloop, West Va.
- Elder J. W. Brown, 1197 E. Mt. Vernon Avenue,
Columbus, Ohio.
- Elder F. Peatross, Eckman, W. Va.
- Elder T. G. Mitchell, Gary, W. Va.

CLERKS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

- Rosa Coffee, Crumpler, W. Va.
- Ella Calloway, Fayetteville, W. Va.
- Linus King, Yukon, West Va.
- Katie Roberson, Northfork, W. Va.
- Lillie Scels, Gary, West Va.

STATISTICAL TABLE

Churches	Names of Messengers	Rec'd by Experience	Rec'd by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Restored	Excluded	Deceased	No. Fellowship	Meeting Day	Contribution	
Mt. Zion	Ed. Whitehead	0	0	0	0	1	1	26	2	\$8.00	
Little Zion	Oliver Carter	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	5.00	
Morning Star	Simon King	3	0	0	0	0	0	8	3	2.00	
Mt. Pilgrim	Eulas Carwell	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	3	2.00	
Macedonia	Eld. S. P. Claytor	2	1	0	1	0	1	21	4	5.00	
		Total							62		\$23.00

