

MINUTES

of the

ONE HUNDRED AND THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

of the

Red River Bowie Missionary Baptist Association

Held with the
FRIENDSHIP MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
AUGUST 29 & 30, 1956

OFFICERS

MODERATOR	Eld. R. T. Stevens
Avery, Texas	
CLERK	Eld. Jim Taylor
Clarksville, Texas	
TREASURER	Eld. E. L. Merrill
Dekalb, Texas	

The next session will be held with the **Westside Missionary Baptist Church, New Boston, Texas**, beginning Wednesday night before the first Sunday in September of 1957. Introductory sermon by **Eld. E. C. Moneey**. Alternate, **Eld. Alvin Blalock**.

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PROCEEDINGS

of the
One Hundred and Thirteenth Annual Session of the
Messengers of the Churches

of the
RED RIVER-BOWIE MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
Held with the
Friendship Missionary Baptist Church

ORDER OF BUSINESS

INTRODUCTORY SERMON
READING LETTERS AND ENROLLING MESSENGERS
ELECTION OF OFFICERS
APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE ON DIVINE SERVICE
MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS
SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS
ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS
OLD MINISTERS' RELIEF
DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE
ORPHANS HOME
STATE MISSIONS
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
TEMPERANCE
FOREIGN AND INTERSTATE MISSIONS
TREASURER'S REPORT
FINANCIAL REPORT
SPECIAL REPORTS
RESOLUTION OF THANKS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

At 7:30 P. M. the Moderator, Brother R. T. Stevens, started the evening service by calling Brother J. Siddens to lead the singing, with Mrs. Shipp at the piano.

The congregation was led in singing "Standing On The Promises," and "More About Jesus," which was followed by Eld. Alvin Bialock leading in prayer. The pastor of the host church, Eld. A. L. Merrill then brought a word of welcome followed by another song by the congregation, "Blessed Assurance." Eld. A. I. Bond then led in prayer.

The moderator then called upon the congregation to stand while he declared the One Hundred and Thirteenth Session of the Red River-Bowie Missionary Baptist Association open.

After another song, "Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus," the moderator recognized the preacher brethren present, then presented Eld. Melvin Finley, the Introductory Speaker of the hour. Brother Finley brought a great message from the subject "Things Most Surely Believed Among Us," using for a text Luke 1:1 & Jude 3. A Biblical message on what Missionary Baptists believe.

Twelve churches were represented in this service, six ordained and one licensed preacher.

The service was dismissed by Brother A. B. Kellum leading the closing prayer to meet at ten o'clock Thursday morning.

THURSDAY MORNING
10:00 A. M.

The meeting began with the song service led by Brother J. Siddens and Mrs. Bonnie Shipp at the piano. The first song was: "I Will Work" and the second song: "When We All Get To Hea-

ven." Opening prayer was led by Brother A. L. Patterson.

The moderator appointed Brethren Ross Mitchell, Garland Hines, and Jim Taylor for the Finance Committee.

A prayer was then led by Eld. Ed Rhodes, one of our State Missionaries.

The Moderator appointed Elders Arvis Merrill and Jim Taylor as reading clerks.

The moderator at this time asked the visitors and all preachers present to stand for introduction. Eld. E. E. Swearingen, Texarkana, Ark.-Tex., was elected to preach the eleven o'clock message.

After the reading clerks completed reading the Church Letters a motion and second was made to accept the letters as read, seat the messengers and invite the visiting brethren to sit in counsel with us. The motion carried.

The moderator appointed committees for the different reports to be readied and presented to the messengers.

After a congregational song, "Walking In Sun Light," Eld. Sam Goin led in prayer.

At this time Brother Swearingen was introduced by the moderator and the service turned over to him for the eleven o'clock message. The text was found in Matt. 2:1-13, subject: "The Concern of the Child Jesus." It was a great message from God's Word.

Eld. Arvis Merrill, host pastor invited everyone to enjoy lunch at the church ground.

Announcement was made by Brother A. L. Patterson concerning missions. Also announcement was made by Brother J. W. Griffith about subscriptions for the Baptist Monitor.

The body was then dismissed for the noon hour with Eld. V. B. Odom leading in prayer. The lunch and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Eld. E. L. Merrill led the singing of "More About Jesus," then prayer was led by Eld. J. W. Griffith.

The letter from Pinkham Memorial was read at this time since it was not in at the time the others were read, and also the letter from Hubbard Chapel was read and adopted and the messengers seated.

At this time the body went into the election of officers. The

moderator called for nominations for moderator. Eld. R. T. Stevens and Eld. Melvin Finley were nominated. Brother Stevens was elected.

Nominations were declared in order for clerk. Eld. A. I. Bond and Eld. Jim Taylor were nominated, Brother Taylor was elected. Nominations were declared in order for treasurer. Eld. E. L. Merrill being nominated and elected.

Eld. E. C. Mooney, pastor of the Hubbard Chapel Missionary Baptist Church was introduced and seated with us since he wasn't present during the morning session.

Nominations were declared in order for someone to preach the Introductory Sermon in 1957. Eld. E. C. Mooney was elected and Alvin Blalock as alternate.

It was discussed whether the monthly Worker's Meeting would be resumed again since it had been discontinued through the summer revival meeting weeks. Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, Johnstown, Texas and Austin Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, DeKalb, Texas asked for it the next meeting time and Austin Chapel was selected by the messengers.

The moderator appointed the Divine Service Committee.

A meeting place for the 1957 session was next in order of business and Westside Missionary Baptist Church was selected.

Motion and second was made to have a report on the Young People's work in the next annual meeting of the messengers.

At this time the moderator asked for the reports of the appointed committees, and urged all who could to stay for the afternoon service.

REPORTS

of

Appointed Committees

ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS report was made and a motion and second to adopt. Eld. J. B. Watson spoke to this motion. Adopted.

OLD MINISTERS RELIEF report was given and motion and second to adopt. This was spoken to by A. I. Bond. Adopted.

DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE report read and motion and second to adopt. Spoken to by Eld. E. E. Swearingen. Adopted.

ORPHANS HOME report read and motion and second to adopt. Spoken to by Eld. A. L. Merrill and Eld. Ed Rhodes.

Adopted.

STATE MISSIONS report was made and motion and second to adopt. Adopted.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION report was given and motion and second to adopt. Spoken to by Elders J. W. Griffith, A. L. Merrill and Ed Rhodes. Brother Griffith brought a good report from the Texas Baptist Institute in Henderson, Texas, concerning the school opening and the new dormitory. An offering was taken for the Texas Baptist Institute in amount of \$26.73. The report was adopted.

TEMPERANCE report read and motion and second to adopt. Eld. A. L. Patterson spoke. Adopted.

INTERSTATE AND FOREIGN MISSIONS read and motion and second made to adopt. Spoken to by Eld. A. L. Patterson. Adopted.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT was not given as the Treasurer was not present at that time.

DIVINE SERVICE Committee reported that Eld. V. B. Odom pastor of Brooks Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, Beckville, Texas would bring the evening message.

THE FINANCIAL REPORT was read and a motion and second to adopt carried.

Discussion was brought up about what the cost of printing minutes would be and suggestion made for the messengers to go back to their respective churches and take an offering for the printing of the minutes so that the clerk would not run short.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS was made and motion and second. Brother A. L. Merrill expressed his appreciation to the visiting churches for their help in preparing the noon meal. A rising vote of appreciation was made unanimously.

Since this brought the business to a close motion and second was made to adjourn until the meeting with Westside Church in 1957. Announcement was made for everyone to meet back for the evening service even though the business had been taken care of.

Announcements were made concerning Youth Fellowship meeting and District Auxiliary meeting in October, also an announcement by Bro. Mooney about revival meeting at Hubbard Chapel.

The moderator called on Bro. V. B. Odom to word the closing prayer and dismiss the One Hundred and Thirteenth Annual

Messenger Body Association of Missionary Baptist Churches of the Red River-Bowie Association.

An inspiring and warning message was brought Thursday evening by Eld. V. B. Odom, his subject being "Pin Knifing the Word of God."

A truly great time was had by all throughout the entire session.

VISITORS IN ATTENDANCE

Eld. H. E. Rhodes, State Missionary, Pasadena, Texas, Fellowship

M. B. C.
Eld. V. B. Odom, Beckville, Texas, Brooks Chapel M. B. C.

Eld. Sam Goin, Kilgore, Texas.
Eld. James W. Griffith, Henderson, Texas.

Eld. A. L. Patterson, Texarkana, Ark.-Tex.
Eld. E. E. Swearingen, Texarkana, Ark.-Tex.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Associational Missions

We your committee on Associational Missions make the following report:

Whereas, we have not had a missionary on the field the past number of years we would recommend that one be put on the field and that our churches support the same.

J. B. Watson
J. B. Pearce
Bill Lee

Old Minister's Relief

We your committee on Old Minister's Relief recommend that if we have any old ministers or their widows that demand our support that each church be prompt in supporting them.

Eld. A. I. Bond
Robert H. Tull

Denominational Literature

We your committee on Denominational Sunday School Literature hereby recommend that our churches use the literature published by the Baptist Sunday School Committee of the American Baptist Association with offices in Texarkana, Ark.-Tex., be-

Aiken Grove	3	2	91	1127.32	89.10	68.65	22.00	68.65	4.36	67.36	141.66	262.87	133.40	130.09	36.38	16.07	2.90	4.70	68.65	25.92	2085.82	
Austin Chapel	21	7	228	3120.00	270.00	54.47	40.42	40.42	24.96	141.85	2071.84	133.40	29.00	282.34	186.22	55.00	17.50	3.50	68.65	276.16	6355.02	
Avery	18	1	196	2269.32	306.00	32.00	73.44	73.44	51.00	210.21	1006.62	1006.62	3.77	454.46	88.74	31.00	10.00	5.00	105.25	156.02	4556.70	
Concord	4		42	238.35							248.47	248.47	3.77	29.20	29.06			5.25			548.35	
Friendship	19	5	133	2292.49	125.00	71.36	30.00	30.00	41.36	142.72	1240.02	59.80	59.80	150.08	74.80	74.79	2.75	5.00	17.37	152.35	4432.79	
First Johnstown	12	13	126	1050.00	166.37	76.77	81.59	81.59		158.36	1037.04	25.00	190.24	190.24	59.21			5.00		2786.32	2786.32	
Fordson	6	11	91	608.21	180.00	8.14	22.10	22.10	8.14	38.38	62.69	27.80	88.05	88.05	22.82	12.00	1.00	5.00	62.11	1051.45	1821.32	
Forewell	7	16	75	910.68	165.50					18.15	563.73	50.95	55.53	49.44	92.18			4.00		1821.32	3016.40	
Hubbard Chapel	6	9	148	1060.00	20.00					52.00	1682.78	1682.78	50.95	49.44	92.18			3.00				
Maple Creek	3	6	85	676.00		10.00				10.00	404.95	404.95	15.76	42.30	46.87			5.00			466.56	
Mt. Pleasant	2	5	68	348.00	50.00					18.97	82.89	39.44	15.76	10.00	18.80			4.00			549.05	
New Haven	2	4	70	130.00	166.20					48.00	82.89	39.44	15.76	10.00	18.80			5.00			1196.32	
New Hope	13	3	176	940.00	226.29	82.50	55.00	55.00	27.50	27.00	90.40	180.41	39.44	124.40	73.92		7.95	5.00	121.25	1856.87	1856.87	
New Hope	4	3	64	540.00	60.00	11.60				11.84	34.70	180.41	39.44	75.50	41.55			5.00		787.24	787.24	
Pinkham Memorial	4	5	26	323.80	46.43					58.21	558.51	558.51	50.95	68.57	33.12			5.00	11.88	1150.44	1150.44	
Post Oak	1	8	67	1116.50	111.00					26.69	133.30	133.30	50.95	7.50				9.38		1404.37	1404.37	
West Side	3	5	112	1894.23	215.00	107.34				83.30	190.64	190.64	50.95	392.55	63.36	27.96		10.00		666.92	4190.69	
	147	116	1790	18644.90	2196.89	522.83	139.80	504.10	240.62	450.04	1406.87	1453.24	10800.75	565.33	2148.70	968.98	216.82	47.10	76.03	203.15	1460.73	38255.71

Additions
Losses

Total
Membership

Pastor's
Salary

Evangelistic

Interstate
Missions

Associational
Missions

State
Missions

Foreign
Missions

Orphans
Home

All Phases
Missions

Building
& Repairs

General
Benevolence

Incidental
Expenses

Sunday School
Literature

B. T. C.
Literature

Womens Aux.
Literature

Minutes &
Clerk Hire

Radio
Program

Christian
Education

Raised for
Churches by
Womens Aux.

Total
Paid Out

cause we believe his literature to be the best and the soundest being published any place.

Amended to include reading the Bible first then good books relating to the Bible recommended by the Baptist Book Store, Texarkana, Ark.-Tex. Also that our people read the Baptist Monitor, The Searchlight, Soul-Winner and other papers in the American Baptist Association.

E. E. Swearingen

E. L. Merrill

Bill Horton

Orphans Home

We your committee submit the following: Since the Bible teaches us to care for orphans, we recommend for your support the Texarkana Baptist Orphanage, Texarkana, Ark. and the Oklahoma Baptist Orphanage, Ada, Okla.

Respectfully Submitted, Ed Rhodes

A. L. Merrill

C. N. Parsons

Temperance

I Cor. 9:25 "Every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things."

With reference to strong drink we recommend total abstinence. We urge that the Lord's people be temperate in all that they do, remembering I Cor. 10:31, "Whether therefore, ye eat or drink or whatsoever ye do do all to the glory of God."

Submitted by your committee, A. L. Patterson

Jesse Humphrey

R. A. Ward

Foreign and Interstate Missions

We, as Missionary Baptists recognize Matt. 28:18-20 as the Great Commission given by our Lord to His churches.

Therefore we believe in missionaries going out only as they are sent by their home church (Acts 13:1-5) and as they are called of God.

We further believe in cooperative support of the missionaries; that, as the churches support the missionaries they may send the moneys directly to the missionaries on their respective fields or

through a Secretary-Treasurer of missions.

The commission commands us to go into all the world and preach the gospel. This, therefore becomes our sacred duty. We all recognize that all of us cannot, as individuals, go into all the world, therefore it becomes our responsibility under God to support the men whom God has called to do this work.

We, your committee, recommend that each church take regular offerings for foreign and interstate missions and send them to Bro. A. L. Patterson, Box 1050, Texarkana, Ark.-Tex.

Committee: E. E. Swearingen

Melvin Finley

Garland Hines

State Missions

We, your committee on State Missions make the following report: We now have two full time Missionaries on the field, Eld. A. W. Smith, Abilene, Texas, Eld. Ed Rhodes, Pasadena, Texas, and their work is being blessed greatly. There has been several new churches organized and going forward in the Lord's work by our missionaries and our work is going and being blessed as a whole.

The need of the hour is to pray the Lord to send more laborers and every church support our missionaries with our prayers and regular offerings that they may do a greater work for the Lord.

Our prayers are that our churches would take a greater interest in mission work for the field is ever growing whiter.

Submitted by your committee: Eld. Jim Taylor

V. B. Odom

Alvin Peacock

Christian Education

We, the committee on Christian education submit the following:

The term Christian education means training our people according to Christ's teachings. This training should begin in our homes, continue in the church through Sunday Schools and Training Courses.

We recommend that all teachers and officers, as well as preachers, where possible, attend our institutes of special training.

We furthermore recommend the following schools for that purpose: Texas Baptist Institute, Henderson, Texas; Oklahoma Baptist Institute, Marlow, Okla.; Missionary Baptist Seminary, Little Rock, Ark., and others of our faith.

We urge the people of our churches endeavor to make possible for these to attend such schools by their prayers and financial support.

Signed: J. W. Griffith, A. L. Merrill
Ed Rhodes

Resolution of Thanks

We your committee submit the following: We resolve that the messengers and visitors and preacher brethren extend to the Friendship Missionary Baptist Church and her pastor our sincere thanks and deep appreciation for their hospitality and kindness extended to us in this One Hundred and Thirteenth Session of the Red River-Bowie Missionary Baptist Association.

Dewie Murphy
Bryan Elliott
Sam Goin

PASTORS, CLERKS, AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

AIKIN GROVE: Pastor, Jim Taylor, Clarksville, Tex.; Clerk, Uious Humphrey, Rt. 6, Clarksville, Tex.; Supt. Hugh Pannell, Rt. 4, Clarksville, Tex.

AUSTIN CHAPEL: Pastor, E. L. Merrill, DeKalb, Tex.; Clerk, Cledyth White, DeKalb, Tex.; Supt. Raymond Tidwell, DeKalb, Tex.

AVERY: Pastor, R. T. Stevens, Avery, Tex., Box 41; Clerk, Mrs. A. M. Carey, Box 242, Avery, Tex.; Supt. Delbert Cortney, Avery, Tex.

CONCORD: Pastor, J. B. Watson, Rt. 1, Clarksville, Tex.; Clerk, Opal Davis, 128—16th St. S.E., Paris, Tex.; Supt. Jim Watson, Rt. 1, Clarksville, Texas.

FRIENDSHIP: Pastor, A. L. Merrill, 303 Short St., Clarksville, Tex.; Clerk, Mrs. Robert Healey, 307 Short St., Clarksville, Tex.; Supt. Jack Shirley, Rt. 4, Clarksville, Texas.

FIRST Jowntown: Pastor, Alvin Blalock, Rt. 2, Talco, Tex.;

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Clerk, Drue Pirtle, Jowntown, Tex.; Supt. Earl Hawkins, Jowntown, Texas.

HODGSON: Pastor, None; Clerk, Mrs. Bryant Elliott, Rt. 2, DeKalb, Tex.; Supt. Otis B. Rogers, Rt. 2, DeKalb, Texas.

HOPEWELL: Pastor, Cecil Hill, Rt. 6, Clarksville, Tex.; Clerk, Harvey Fryar, Rt. 1, Negley, Tex.; Supt. Leonard Johnson, Rt. 6, Clarksville, Tex.

HUBBARD CHAPEL: Pastor, E. C. Mooney, 315 Robbins, Texarkana, Tex.; Clerk, Mildred Duncan, Rt. 2, Box 88, DeKalb, Tex.; Supt. A. H. Richardson, Rt. 1, DeKalb, Texas.

LYDIA: Pastor, Melvin Finley, Hughes Springs, Tex.; Clerk, Halden Peacock, DeKalb, Tex.; Supt. Alvin Peacock, Avery, Tex.

MAPLE CREEK: Pastor, J. B. Watson, Rt. 1, Clarksville, Tex. Clerk, J. D. Siddens, Rt. 1, Bogata, Tex.; Supt. Melvin Stewart, Rt. 1, Bogata, Tex.

MT. PLEASANT: Pastor, None; Clerk, Mrs. Fannie McDonald, Rt. 1, Bagwell, Tex.; Supt. Oscar Childress, Rt. 1, Bagwell, Tex.

NEW HAVEN: Pastor, None; Clerk, Mrs. Ross Mitchell, Rt. 6, Clarksville, Tex.; Supt. Billy Joe Mitchell, Rt. 6, Clarksville, Texas.

NEW HOPE: Pastor, Melvin Finley, Hughes Springs, Tex.; Clerk, Mettie McMillan, DeKalb, Tex.; Supt. Dewey Murphy, DeKalb, Texas.

PINKHAM MEMORIAL: Pastor, Carl Raleigh, Rt. 1, Avery, Texas; Clerk, Mrs. Lester Flanery, Box 954, DeKalb, Tex.; Supt. J. E. Patterson, Rt. 2, DeKalb, Tex.

POST OAK: Pastor, A. I. Bond, Rt. 1, Bogata, Tex.; Clerk, Wilbourne Lee, Rt. 3, Detroit, Tex.; Supt. Wilbourne Lee, Rt. 3, Detroit, Texas.

WEST SIDE: Pastor, Oley Rivers, 719 N. Zang, Dallas, Tex.; Clerk, Willie Stewart, Rt. 2, New Boston, Tex.; Supt. Glen Moore, Rt. 2, New Boston, Tex.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. This body shall be opened by song and prayer.
2. Any member wishing to speak shall arise and address the moderator and await his recognition.
3. When a member has been recognized by the moderator he shall not be interrupted while speaking unless he departs from the

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subjects, or uses personal indecorous language.

4. No member shall be allowed to speak more than twice on any subject.

5. No one shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes on any one subject unless granted an extension of time by the body.

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. This body shall be known as the Red River-Bowie Missionary Baptist Association.

Article 2. The object of this body shall be to awaken a deeper interest in the welfare of the denomination, to cultivate a closer union between the churches and to produce and perpetuate the greatest activity as to missionary and educational enterprises, and to widen the scope of denominational benevolence.

Article 3. This body shall be composed of such regular Baptist Churches as may agree to unite with this Association by means of Messengers to carry out the object set forth in Article 2 of this Constitution: such messengers to present letters of petition for administration from their respective churches.

Article 4. The messengers holding the annual session of this body shall be chosen by their respective churches, such action being certified by the churches in their letters to the Association.

Article 5. Each church composing this body shall be entitled to three Messengers.

Article 6. This Association shall be in nature a joint auxiliary to the churches composing it. It is not formed by any ecclesiastical end, but merely for benevolent purposes, but reserves the right to withdraw from any church which becomes heterodox in faith or disorderly practice.

Article 7. Each church shall be the sole judge of her Messengers.

Article 8. The Association shall recognize freedom of speech as essential to the highest achievement of its work.

Article 9. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, a clerk, and a treasurer, who shall be chosen annually by show of hands from the Messengers composing the body and shall hold office for one year or until their successors are chosen.

Article 10. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the body, to keep order, and to discharge such other duties

as belong to this office.

Article 11. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a correct record of each session of this body and to have same published and distributed to the churches as the report of the Association.

Article 12. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep a correct account of all money received and disbursed, and he shall make a report of the same to the Association during its annual session.

Article 13. This Association shall have an Executive Committee composed of one member from each church in this Association to be chosen by their respective churches at the time the church elects its messengers to the annual meeting of the Association, to report at the next annual session of the Association. Five members of said Committee shall compose a quorum; the Moderator to be the Chairman of said Committee, to have charge of the work outlined by the Messengers to the annual meeting of the body.

Article 14. In order to change or amend this Constitution, the amendment or amendments must be offered in writing and be presented in open session on the first session and said amendment or amendments must lie over until the second days meeting, and it shall take a two thirds vote of the Messengers present to change or amend the Constitution.

Article 15. This Constitution shall be effective and in full force from and after its adoption.