

# MINUTES

of the

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

of the

## Red River Bowie Missionary Baptist Association

held with the

**WEST SIDE BAPTIST CHURCH**

August 28 - 29 , 1957

### OFFICERS

MODERATOR ..... ELD. AUGUSTUS DOWNING  
Clarksville, Texas

CLERK ..... ELD. VEO GLOVER  
Rt. 6, Clarksville, Texas

TREASURER ..... ELD. E. L. MERRILL  
DeKalb, Texas

The next session will be held with the **Avery Baptist Church,**  
**Avery, Texas,** beginning Wednesday night before the first Sunday  
in September of 1958.

Introductory sermon by **Eld. G. F. Crumley.**

Alternate, **Eld. Veo Glover.**

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Alternate, Eld. Veo Glover.

**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

**PROCEEDINGS**

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

of the

**RED RIVER-BOWIE MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Held with the

West Side Missionary Baptist Church

of New Boston, Texas

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT**

At 7:30 p.m. the Moderator, Brother R. T. Stevens, Moderator of the Red River Missionary Baptist Association, opened the meeting by calling Eld. Veo Glover to direct the congregational singing. Songs, "Lord Send Me" and "Praise Him, Praise Him" were sung, followed by prayer voiced by Bro. W. H. Harper. Another song was sung in title of "I'll Be Satisfied." Prayer by Eld. E. W. Teeter.

Moderator, Eld. Stevens addressed the messengers and visitors of the Association and presented Bro. E. C. Mooney, the speaker chosen for the annual sermon. Bro. Mooney read for his text Eph. 6:10, "Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might." The message was delivered with great power. Another prayer was voiced by Bro. E. E. Sweatengen.

The meeting adjourned until 10:00 a.m. Thursday with singing of hymn, "Blest Be The Tie That Binds." The benediction was worded by Eld. Alvin Blalock.

**THURSDAY MORNING**

10:00 A.M.

The meeting began with song service led by Veo Glover with Eld. G. F. Crumley at the piano, and prayer was worded by Eld. A. J. Findley.

The congregation was asked to stand while Moderator, Eld R. T. Stevens declared the meeting officially open for business.

The first business was the election of Brother J. W. Harper to bring the 11:00 o'clock message.

The Moderator appointed Brethren E. G. Merrill and E. C. Mooney as reading clerks.

In order to conserve time a motion was made, and carried to brief read the church letters.

A finance committee composed of Bren. Robert Tull, Augustus Downing, and J. B. Watson was appointed by Moderator Stevens.

The messengers bearing the letters from their respective churches were instructed to deliver the letters to Eld. Veo Glover, acting clerk in the absence of the clerk, Eld. Jim Taylor. The letters were read by the reading clerks and were approved by the vote of the messenger body. The messengers were seated and visiting Brethren were invited to council with us in our deliberation.

Petitionary letters were called for and one was presented by College Hill Baptist Church. It was read and the messenger body voted to receive her (College Hill) in fellowship and to seat her messengers with Red River-Bowie Association.

A congregational song, "Blessed Be The Name," was directed by Bro. E. L. Merrill and prayer by Bro. E. G. Neilsen.

The time for the 11:00 o'clock sermon had come and the speaker, Bro. J. W. Harper, was presented by the Moderator. Bro. Harper read from Rev. 3: 14-19; and Matt. 28: 19,20. For his text Bro. Harper read II Tim. 3: 1, "This Know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come." His subject was, "The Perils of the End Time." A Powerful message was delivered by the speaker and it was enjoyed by all. The hand of endorsement and appreciation was extended to Bro. Harper for the entire congregation by Bro. Cecil Hill.

Committees were appointed to report on various phases of the associated work and the meeting was adjourned for noon lunch. The lunch and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

#### THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The meeting was resumed by singing, "I Am Resolved," led by Eld. Merrill. The Moderator called the meeting to order and the election of officers and committees were as follows.

Officers elected were;

1. MODERATOR: Eld. Augustus Downing
2. CLERK: Eld. Veo Glover
3. TREASURER: Eld. E. L. Merrill

Nominations were called for by the Moderator for the election of someone to preach the introductory sermon of the 1958 session of the association. By vote of the messengers Eld. G. F. Crumley was elected. Eld. Veo Glover is alternate.

A COMMITTEE OF DIVINE SERVICE was appointed consisting of, Bren. Humphrey, Robert Tull, and J. H. Hines.

There was a call by the Moderator for any miscellaneous business and there was a resolution presented by Eld. G. F. Crumley to amend article XIV of the constitution to include in the list of officers an assistant moderator. This was tabled until the next session.

A place for the 1958 session of the Association to meet was the next line of business. Avery Baptist Church was the place designated by the messenger body.

The Worker's Meeting was discussed and a motion carried to discontinue the work.

#### REPORTS

of

#### Appointed Committees

The Moderator was asked to read the Rules of Decorum before hearing the reports of the committees.

The Moderator called for the reports of the committees and each report was spoken on by some of its respective committeemen and other informants, finally to be adopted by the vote of the messenger body.

#### ASSOCIATIONAL MISSIONS

We your committee on Associational Missions submit the following report:

Since we do not have an Associational Missionary we recommend that each church and pastor watch for opportunities to establish new work and when a need for a Missionary arises that we call on State or Interstate Missionaries and that each church give them their support.

We further recommend that each church give their support to Bro. Stevens' Radio program as associational work. Respectfully submitted,

J. B. Watson  
Cecil Hill  
Augustus Downing

#### OLD MINISTERS' RELIEF

We your committee on Old Minister's Relief submit the following report.

We recommend, if we have any old Ministers, or their widows, in our association that are in destitute condition that each church send a contribution for their relief.

Respectfully submitted by your committee.

Eld. J. B. Watson  
A. S. Crow  
Eld. Carl Raleigh

#### ORPHANS HOME

We your committee submit the following:

Since the teaching of caring for orphans is taught in the scripture we feel that regular offerings should be sent to support this work. Therefore, we recommend that regular support be sent to the Texarkana Baptist Orphanage, Texarkana, Texas. Respectfully submitted,

E. G. Nielsen  
Jess Humphrie  
Bill Lee

#### STATE MISSIONS

We your committee submit the following:

Our State Workers are, R. E. Walters, C. W. Pierce, H. E. Rhodes, J. C. Askew, and J. W. Harper.

We recommend that our churches support these missionaries with their prayers and regular offerings.

The field is white --- the laborers are few ---. Pray that there may be a greater number of workers on our State Mission field.  
Respectfully submitted,

J. W. Harper  
Veo Glover  
Robert Healy

#### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Education is properly speaking the knowledge of Christ and His teaching as set forth in the Word of God. It should begin in early childhood and continue through life. It is a field of

learning that can never be fully mastered. Therefore, Christian education should be systematically in the home, the church, in Sunday School and B.T.C., and by every honorable and legitimate means, always under the supervision of our churches. It is as definitely a part of the great commission as the preaching of the Gospel.

For the better training and education of our ministry, we have the Texas Baptist Institute at Henderson, Texas. We believe this school is sound in the faith and worthy of our support.

We believe that an informed people will be a greater working people for the Lord, and therefore recommend greater and greater expansion in this field.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. Kirkland  
E. L. Merrill  
Augustus Downing

A motion and second was presented to take a special offering to be divided equally between State Missions Orphans Home, and Christian Education. After the motion was discussed it was approved by the vote of the messenger body. The congregation was led by Bro. Merrill in singing, "A Soul Winner For Jesus," and an offering of \$49.71 was received.

#### TEMPERANCE

We your committee on Temperance submit the following report:

We believe the Bible teaches for God that His children should be temperate in all things. (I Cor. 9: 25, I Cor. 10: 31).

With reference to strong drink we recommend total abstinence.  
Respectfully submitted,

Alvin Blalock  
Raymond Jerrers  
C. H. Walker

#### FOREIGN AND INTERSTATE MISSIONS

We your committee on Foreign and Interstate Missions wish to say that our responsibility has not been fulfilled in the sight of God until we have gone into all the world with His Gospel--as the Commission in Matt. 28: 19, 20 calls for.

Had the Commission not been accepted by one local church in the days of Christ, we here in the U.S.A. would not have ever heard

## Churches and Statistics

Akin Grove .....	1	5	85	537.35	50.25	24.26	17.00	60.25	41.26	43.11	30.00	26.68	42.88	25.74	7.00	17.00	211.11	874.56	
Austin Chapel .....	16	4	240	3,050.00	140.00	53.82	67.06	12.06	120.88	746.00	33.42	184.37	174.14	78.18	40.01	8.00	96.00	4,611.84	
Avery .....	19	4	211	2,740.00	271.65	79.68	79.68	30.50	239.04	1,512.88	73.00	241.06	144.10	2.10	7.50	177.65	200.00	5,476.93	
College Hill .....	5	5	80	285.00	120.00			20.00				246.25	17.64		5.00			693.89	
Concord .....	4	5	23	107.41	60.00		45.00		45.00	43.11	30.00	766.70	32.04		5.00	16.62	242.75	322.56	
Friendship .....	25	8	142	2,033.69	300.00	16.62	23.36	23.37	63.35	746.00	27.01	150.14	140.08		5.00	81.88	242.75	4,071.44	
First Johnstown .....	8	9	125	1,160.00	125.00		77.23	82.45	142.14	19.37	77.20	72.85	20.79	7.00	5.00	11.75		1,870.28	
Hodson .....	1	8	89	138.00	110.00			10.00		229.99	77.20	22.02	52.14		5.00			907.77	
Hopewell .....	3	11	67	926.30	123.50		51.63		51.63	71.00	85.45	122.69	92.30		5.97		35.00	1,338.01	
Hubbard Chapel .....	12	3	157	1,010.00	125.00	12.50	25.00	40.00	70.00	153.78	94.00	41.37	42.31		5.00			1,707.77	
Lydia .....	2	2	86	600.00	80.00	5.46	2.00		5.46	158.72		38.00	42.50		6.00			932.86	
Maple Creek .....	3	12	52	368.87	77.25		42.00	29.88	2.00	241.00	13.41	18.15	40.00	13.84	5.00			805.50	
Mount Pleasant .....	3	29	44	610.00	123.51		56.25	12.00	42.00	723.78	59.13	316.57	74.35	4.00	5.00		574.93	1,601.69	
New Haven .....	13	12	180	2,045.61	165.00	23.50	24.10	25.17	103.25	4,490.82		68.77	48.32		5.00			7,263.73	
New Hope .....	3	3	66	570.50	70.50			31.94	24.10	133.90	30.00	143.72	27.30		5.00			964.26	
Pinkham Memorial .....	1	3	25	54.06	121.03				11.75	140.00	15.00				9.01			1,106.26	
Post Oak .....	4	5	66	962.00	108.50		11.75		11.75						4.28			3,112.91	
West Side .....	5	8	109	1,365.63	619.47	15.00	78.50	11.00	104.50	9,339.13	72.46	835.85	69.16	29.56	12.00	4.28		3,112.91	
TOTAL .....	121	136	1,731	18,784.37	2,790.66	225.38	70.37	600.00	1,066.36	9,339.13	676.28	3,295.19	1,137.34	154.32	63.11	97.76	177.65	260.70	38,197.12

the gospel. They believed in foreign missions --- so should we.

The Commission was not given to an association but to a local church. Therefore each church should consider it her responsibility to get the Gospel to every part of the world.

We recommend regular offerings to the Interstate and Foreign Mission work to be sent to the mission office in Texarkana, Ark. Tex., Box 1050.

Submitted by your committee,

Eld. E. C. Mooney  
Eld. A. J. Findley  
Eld. Cecil Hill

#### YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

We the committee on Young People's Work recommend to the messengers of this association that they stress to their respective churches the importance of training their youth in Christian service. We believe that, through the young people's meetings, this training can be accomplished in part.

As parents, the responsibility of Christian Growth rests mainly upon you. We urge you to encourage the young people's work, both locally and state-wide, and thus, do your part in forwarding the work of Christ.

We further recommend that a committee be appointed to investigate the possibility of a youth program for the Thursday night session of the Red River-Bowie Association, and that this committee make their report at the next Fifth Sunday Meeting.

Augustus Downing  
Bradley Reed  
G. F. Crumley

In compliance with the recommendation of the committee on Young People's Work the subject was discussed and by vote of the messengers Moderator Augustus Downing appointed a committee to investigate the possibilities of a youth program. The committee is to report their findings at the next session of the Fifth Sunday meeting.

The committee appointed;

Eld. G. F. Crumley  
Eld. R. T. Stevens  
Eld. Bradley Reed

#### LADIES' WORK

We your committee on Ladies' Work recommend that our churches take note of, and consider, the work of our Ladies' Auxiliaries. Those churches that sponsor Ladies Auxiliaries can rightly recommend the great help received from their work.

This committee believes that each church could profit by supporting this work of the church.

R. T. Stevens  
Ruby Powers  
Mrs. Veo Glover

#### DENOMINATIONAL LITERATURE

Your Committee on Denominational Literature submits the following report:

The most important of all literature is the Bible, God's word. Far too many of our church members do not spend sufficient time in studying its Holy contents. We recommend that the messengers go back to their churches and encourage systematic Bible study, both in the homes and in the churches.

We recommend for use in our churches the Sunday School and Baptist Training Course literature published by the Baptist Sunday School Committee of the American Baptist Association. Much progress has been made in the past two years in improving this literature for the good of the churches.

We recommend also the material prepared by our committee for use in Vacation Bible schools in our churches. This material is second to none in quality and appearance, and it is true to the Bible and Baptist in content.

We further recommend to the messengers the Baptist Monitor, the Missionary Baptist Searchlight, and other good publications of our people.

We would warn our churches against heretical publications, and especially guard our youth against immoral, indecent, and heretical periodical magazines and books.

Respectfully submitted;

G. F. Crumley  
G. A. Hines  
Bill Horton

A motion and second carried to adjourn until 7:30 p.m.

Meeting was resumed by singing hymns, "There's A Crown For Your Cross," "My Redeemer," "Be A Light For Jesus." Bro. Cecil Hill led the congregation in prayer.

The REPORT ON FINANCE was called for by the Moderator, Eld. Augustus Downing. After the report was read by the committee chairman it was adopted by vote of the messengers.

Augustus Downing  
J. B. Watson  
Robert Tull

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A call for unfinished business was made by the Moderator and the resolution to amend Article XIV (This resolution had been tabled earlier in the session) to include in the list of officers an assistant moderator.

The resolution was presented and there was a motion and second for its adoption. After discussion the motion carried by the vote of the messenger body. Bro. Cecil Hill was elected by the messengers to the office of assistant moderator.

#### RESOLUTION OF THANKS

We your committee submit the following:

We resolve that the messengers and visitors and preacher brethren extend to the West Side Missionary Baptist Church our sincere thanks and deep appreciation for their hospitality extended to us in this one hundred and fourteenth session of the Red River-Bowle Association.

E. L. Merrill  
R. T. Stevens  
Roy C. Hill

#### CONCLUSION

The congregation was directed by Eld. Merrill in singing "Foot Steps of Jesus."

The closing message was delivered by Eld. A. J. Findley. His text was, John 3:5, Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

A hand for the entire congregation was extended to Bro-Findley by Bro. Bradley Reed in endorsement of his wonderful message.

The Moderator entertained a motion and second to adjourn to meet with Avery Missionary Baptist Church on Wednesday night before the first Sunday in September of 1958.

#### CHURCHES, PASTORS - CLERKS And SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS

AKIN GROVE: Pastor, None; Clerk, None. Superintendent, Mr. Hugh Pannell, Clarksville, Texas; Rt. 4.

AUSTIN CHAPEL: Pastor, E. L. Merrill, Rt. 1, DeKalb, Texas; Clerk, Cleadith White, Rt. 3, DeKalb, Texas; Superintendent Raymond Tidwell, Rt. 3, DeKalb, Texas.

AVERY: Pastor, R. T. Stevens, Box 41, Avery, Texas; Clerk, Mrs. Dennis Downs, Rt. 1, Avery, Texas; Superintendent Delbert Gortney; Avery, Texas.

COLLEGE HILL: Pastor, G. F. Crumley, Box 502, Texarkana, Texas; Clerk, Mrs. Gertrude Lewis, Rt. 1, DeKalb, Texas; Superintendent D. M. Pinkham, Rt. 1, DeKalb, Texas.

CONCORD: Pastor, J. B. Watson, Rt. 1, Clarksville, Texas; Clerk, Clarence Watson, Rt. 1, Clarksville, Texas; Superintendent J. L. Watson, Rt. 4, Clarksville, Texas.

FRIENDSHIP: Pastor, Augustus Downing, 303 Short St., Clarksville, Texas; Clerk, Mrs. Robert Haley, 902 S. Columbia St., Clarksville, Texas; Superintendent Andrew Ward, Clarksville, Texas.

FIRST: Pastor, Alvin Bialock, Rt. 4, Mt. Pleasant, Texas; Clerk, Drue Pirtle, 1423 N. 9th St., Longview, Texas; Superintendent, Earl Hawkins, Longview, Texas.

HODSON: Pastor, Curtis Hall, Rt. --- Hughes Springs, Texas; Clerk, Mrs. Grady Kennedy, Rt. 2, DeKalb, Texas; Superintendent Mrs. O. B. Rogers.

HOPEWELL: Pastor, Cecil Hill, Rt. 6, Clarksville, Texas; Clerk, Harvey Fryar, Rt. 1, Negley, Texas; Superintendent Drew Bell, Clarksville, Texas.

HUBBARD CHAPEL: Pastor, None; Clerk, Mrs. Mildred Duncan, Rt. 1, Box 262, DeKalb, Texas; Superintendent Rollo Henry, Rt. 1, DeKalb, Texas.

LYDIA: Pastor, Carl Raleigh, Avery, Texas; Clerk, Ida Horton, Avery, Texas; Superintendent Truman Bishop, Rt. 1, Avery Texas.

MAPLE CREEK: Pastor, Bradley Reed, 200 Marilyn Dr., Henderson, Texas; Clerk, J. D. Siddens, Rt. 1, Bogata, Texas; Superintendent Melvin Stewart, Rt. 1, Bogata, Texas.

MT. PLEASANT: Pastor, Harold Rhodes, 1103 1st Ave. N. Texas City, Texas; Clerk, Fannie McDonald, 403 E. Monroe St. Clarksville, Texas; Superintendent Oscar Childress, Bagwell, Texas.

NEW HAVEN: Pastor, Vero Glover, Rt. 6, Clarksville, Texas; Clerk, Mrs. Ross Mitchell, Rt. 6, Clarksville, Texas; Superintendent Howard Westbrook, Rt. 6, Clarksville, Texas.

NEW HOPE: Pastor, Melvin Finley, Hughes Springs, Texas;



Clerk, Edward Hawkins, Rt. 2, DeKalb, Texas; Superintendent De-  
wey Murphy, Rt. 2, DeKalb, Texas.

**PINKHAM MEMORIAL:** Carl Raleigh, Rt. 1, Avery, Texas;  
Clerk, Mrs. J. A. Cunningham, Box 845, DeKalb, Texas; Superinten-  
dent J. A. Cunningham, Box 845, DeKalb, Texas.

**POST OAK:** R. Cecil Hill, Rt. 6, Clarksville, Texas; Clerk, Wil-  
bourne Lee, Rt. 3, Detroit, Texas; Superintendent Wilbourne Lee,  
Rt. 3, Detroit, Texas.

**WEST SIDE:** Pastor, M. F. Downing, New Boston, Texas; Clerk,  
Willie Stewart, Rt. 2, New Boston, Texas; Superintendent Ed Parker,  
New Boston, Texas.

### **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 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 dis-  
orderly 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,  
an assistant 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 be-  
long 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 Chair-  
man 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 pre-  
sented in open session on the first session and said amendment or  
amendments must be over until the second day's 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.