

The One Hundred Seventieth Annual Session

October 12-13, 2018



Cross Roads Missionary Baptist Church

CAMDEN, TENNESSEE

Southwestern District

Missionary Baptist

Association

www.swdmba.org

2018 MINUTES
OF THE
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTIETH
ANNUAL SESSION
SOUTHWESTERN DISTRICT
MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
HELD WITH
Cross Roads
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
CAMDEN, TENNESSEE
OCTOBER 12-13, 2018
THE NEXT MEETING

to be held with Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Henderson County, Tennessee, beginning on Friday before the second Sunday in October 2019, at 10:00 a.m.

2019 SERMONS

Introductory Sermon -----	Eld. Andrew Stokes
Alternate -----	Eld. Ryne Bivens
Doctrinal Sermon -----	Eld. Randy Thompson
Alternate -----	Eld. Michael Butler

Cross Roads Missionary Baptist Church History

Cross Roads Missionary Baptist Church is rich in history from every generation. It was first organized on December 3, 1849 by Elijah Autry and David Quinn. Services began in an existing building that also served as Cross Roads School. The church endured many things (including the Civil War), but God brought them through as the members remained faithful and Cross Roads continued to grow. In 1917, the membership moved into their newly constructed church. As time marched on, so did God's children. In October 1931, Sunday School was organized and added to the service. In July of 1934, a choir was built on to the church. That year revival broke out and 21 people joined during the meeting. In August of 1975, the motion was made and passed to build rest rooms in the church. We wonder today how we ever worshipped without such conveniences. Over the years Cross Roads met —Part time for worship, meaning twice a month and other times —Full time. We have been a —Full time church since 1981. That commitment lead to the preached Word affecting more souls that were saved and even more growth in our membership. In May of 1995, the Lord blessed with another new building and Cross Roads held their first service in the building we now call home. This past year we purchased a little over 5 acres of land across from the church in anticipation of what the Lord has yet for us as we continue to grow. We have seen what He has done in our past, we are thankful for what He is doing in the present and we are excited to see what He has in store for Cross Roads future!

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Order of Business






FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2019

- Call Association to Order
- Appoint Committee on Divine/Hospitality Service
- Appoint Finance Committee
- Appoint Topics Committee for 2020 Session
- Appoint Obituary Recorder
- Reading Of the Rules of Decorum
- Call For Reception of Church Letters
- Call for Petitioning Church Letters
- Roll Call of Messengers
- Elect Moderator, Clerk, and Assistants
- Select Host Church for 2020 Session
- Select Brethren to Preach 2020 Annual Sermons
- Introductory Sermon - 11:00 A.M.
- Call for Correspondence
- Call for Report on *To what extent can technology be used in worship?* Bro. Randy Thompson & Bro. Ronnie Stewart
- Call for Report on *Outside of a personal testimony of salvation and baptism, are there requirements for active church membership?* Bro. Andrew Stokes & Bro. Kenny Oldham

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2019

- Roll Call of Messengers
- Call for report of Finance Committee
- Call for report of Obituary Recorder
- Call for report of Historical Committee
- Call for Report of the Topics Committee
- Call for Report from Associational Missionary
- Report from Missionaries
- Doctrinal Sermon—11:00 A.M.
- Call for report on *Define real worship versus religious entertainment.* Bro. Clint Ezell & Bro. Jimmy Allen
- Call for the Report on *What are the benefits of Biblical marriage and family?* Bro. Ryan Bivens & Bro. Marcus Rickman
- Call for New Business
- Reading of the *Vote of Thanks*
- Song and parting hand

Elected Officers for 2018-2019

Moderator		<p>Bro. Ray Smith</p> <p>19950 East Main Street Huntingdon, TN 38344 (731) 986-4717</p>	Huntingdon Church
Assistant Moderator		<p>Eld. Andrew Stokes</p> <p>310 Westport Road Huntingdon, TN 38344 (731) 986-3738 andrewstokes@att.net</p>	Bible Grove Church
Clerk		<p>Eld. Scott Carter</p> <p>400 Chickasaw Drive Huntingdon, TN 38344 (731) 415-1688 cell clerk@swdmba.org</p>	Shiloh Church
Assistant Clerk		<p>Eld. Trey Crews</p> <p>45 Hwy 22 North Yuma, TN 38390 (731) 415-4745</p>	Huntingdon Church
Associational Missionary		<p>Eld. Dennis Lunsford</p> <p>19990 Hwy 22 North Wildersville, TN 38388 (731) 968-2842</p>	New Cross Roads Church

Friday October 12, 2018

The moderator called the 170th annual session to order and asked Bro. Allen Douglas, Cross Roads Church, to come lead the singing, with Sis. Dawn Thompson, Cross Roads Church, playing the piano. The congregation stood and “Have a Little Talk With Jesus.”

The moderator asked Bro. Ken Massey, Murfreesboro Church, to open us in prayer.

The congregation continued by singing “Amazing Grace.”

Committee on Divine Service and Hospitality:

The moderator asked the pastor, Bro. Randy Thompson, to introduce this committee. He asked the deacons to stand and be recognized.

Myron Kirk
Ronnie Stewart
Michael Boshers
Jimmy Hicks

Bro. Smith read from Isaiah 55:8-13.

The Moderator made the following appointments:

2019 Topic Committee:

Bro. Scott Carter (Chairman) - Shiloh Church
Bro. Ronnie Stewart - Rushing’s Creek
Bro. Bryan Oakes - Pleasant Ridge

Obituary Recorder:

Bro. Chris Wallace - Westport Church

Finance Committee:

Bro. Larry Pritchard - Shiloh Church
Bro. Dennis Lunsford - New Cross Roads Church
Bro. Dennis Stokes - Concord Church

The moderator then asked for the clerk to read the *Rules of Decorum*.

Call was made for church letters followed by roll call of messengers.

Motion and second was made to seat 41 messengers for Friday’s session; motion carried.

The association then moved in to the election process.

Bro. Ray Smith, Huntingdon Church, was nominated as Moderator. **Motion and second** was made that nominations cease and elect by acclamation; **motion carried**.

Bro. Ray Smith assumed the role as the permanent moderator.
Bro. Andrew Stokes, Bible Grove Church, was nominated as Assistant Moderator, and being the only one nominated, a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Bro. Scott Carter, Shiloh Church, was nominated as Clerk, and being the only one nominated, a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Bro. Trey Crews, Huntingdon Church, was nominated as Assistant Clerk, and being the only one nominated, a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Topics Committee:

- 1) To what extent can technology be used in worship?
Bro. Randy Thompson & Bro. Ron Stewart
- 2) Outside of a personal testimony of salvation and baptism, are there requirements for active church membership?
Bro. Andrew Stokes & Bro. Kenny Oldham
- 3) Define real worship versus religious entertainment.
Bro. Clint Ezell & Bro. Jimmy Allen
- 4) What are the benefits of Biblical marriage and family?
Bro. Ryne Bivens & Bro. Marcus Rickman

Respectfully submitted,
Bro. Lynn Stapleton
Bro. Scott Carter
Bro. Ron Stewart

Motion and second was made to approve the topics, **motion carried.**

Four churches requested the Association to meet with them for the 2019 session. A **motion and second** was made to select Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church in Henderson County as the host site; **motion carried.**

Bro. Andrew Stokes, Bible Grove Church, was nominated to preach the Introductory Sermon, and being the only one nominated, a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Bro. Ryne Bivens, Pleasant Grove Church, was nominated to be the alternate for the Introductory Sermon, and being the only one nominated, a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Bro. Randy Thompson, Cross Roads Church, was nominated to preach the Doctrinal Sermon and being the only one nominated a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

Bro. Michael Butler, Pleasant Ridge Church, was nominated to be the alternate for the Doctrinal Sermon, and being the only one nominated, a **motion and second** was made to elect by acclamation; **motion carried.**

The clerk read the correspondence and a motion and second was made to add the received correspondence in the minutes this year; motion carried.

The moderator asked for a song lead by Bro. Allen Douglas with Sis. Dawn Thompson, playing the piano. We stood and sang "Mansion Over the Hilltop."

The moderator called for all visitors to be recognized (see p.??)

Introductory Sermon
Bro. Bryan Oakes

The moderator called on Bro. Bryan Oakes as the pastor of Pleasant Ridge Church, as the one chosen to preach the introductory sermon.

Bro. Bryan came and told the honor to be chosen to be the one to bring the message this morning. He read I Kings 21:1-4 and paused for a word of prayer. He told about the king wanting Naboth's vineyard, and offered him something that would be better. Naboth told the king that he could not sell the vineyard and that he could not sell that which was given to our ancestors. There is nothing the devil would want more than for us to sell out what we have been given. He took for a thought "It's Not For Sale." Our prayer life is not for sale. He referenced Luke 18 how we should not faint in praying, and to not get discouraged. Jesus knew all that we would go through and urged us to watch and pray. In this flesh, we are weak. We must seek after God in prayer to overcome our weaknesses. We should battle evil by studying God's word and having family devotions.



In Deuteronomy 6:5, it told how we should put God first and foremost in our lives. The words of God are supposed to be in our hearts. It is important for us to tell our children and grandchildren about the Lord. Have we taught our children as faithfully as we should have? Is the Lord pleased with what we have done? We need to step up to the plate and realize "this is not for sale." It is our responsibility to give God our best and to not be conformed. If we are being conformed, then we are forming to the world. It is time for us to stand up and tell that "it is not for sale," and we are not going to conform.

Our surrender to God should "not be for sale." In Romans 6:11-16, we should ask ourselves if we are going to be lead by the Lord or the devil. The devil wants us to sell out on our zeal and passion for the Lord. What is your desire? The Psalmist tells us that his word is a lamp unto our feet and a guide unto our path.

Many today are selling out, and trying to find a reason not to go to church or to cancel service. We should not forsake the assembling of ourselves together.

It is time we stand up and say like Naboth "it is not for sale." Our surrender to God and our prayer life, "it is not for sale." The old landmarks, they are "not for sale."

After a few closing remarks, he turned the service back over to the moderator.

Bro. Smith told how we had heard a powerful message and one that we needed to hear.

The moderator then asked for a song so we could take up an offering for the associ-

ational missionary. The congregation stood and sang “When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder” while the offering was taken.

Bro. Smith then asked for a song and the congregation gave Bro. Oakes the right hand of Christian fellowship.

Motion and second was made to adjourn one hour for lunch; **motion carried**.

The moderator then called on Bro. Bob Vanderpool, Mt Lebanon Church, to dismiss the morning session and to ask the blessing on the food.

Friday Afternoon

The Association reconvened after a wonderful meal by the host church and began by singing “Heavenly Sunlight” lead by Bro. Chris Wallace, Westport Church, with Sis. Kim Carter, Shiloh Church, playing the piano. The moderator asked Bro. Ronnie Stewart, Rushing’s Creek Church, to open the afternoon session in prayer. Afterward the moderator thanked the church for the wonderful meal prepared and read from Colossians 3:1-4.

The moderator called the afternoon session back together. **Motion and second** was made for the chairman to have ten minutes and the assistant have five minutes to discuss their topics; **motion carried**.

The moderator called for the topic **As a local and visible church, how visible are we in our communities? And what are some things we can do to improve our visibility (our community outreach)?**

The Lord states in his Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5 verse 14-16 “Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. **15** Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. **16** Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.” We believe not only does the Lord teach this metaphor for our individual witness but the local visible church body should apply the principle in the community. Each church will have to assess its own body to determine how well that city can be seen on the hill or how hidden or brightly glowing that light is in that community.

First, each church needs to answer some assessment questions? Do we have a desire or do we even see a need to improve our visibility? What resources are available whether it’s money, time and/or people willing when opportunity arises to brighten the light in the community? Today’s global and gradual decline in church interest and attendance should be enough evidence to be more visible and more concerned.

The most obvious way a church could be more visible would be to relocate to the center of town or to a higher traffic area. A place where some of our churches might have been a thriving community 100 years ago may have over the years become a less dense population; however, this may not be a desirable or the most cost effective plan of action. Even though our concentrated populated areas where our churches stand have changed, so have our mode of transportation and communications have changed as well to lessen this as a major problem.

If we have determined our church is not being the most visible and accessible body to maximize exposure to those in need, then the church most definitely needs to have its finger on the pulse of the community and get to know the commu-

nity as it changes. A church may explore any data community reports or polls that may give ideas or a focus to an outreach ministry that a church may undertake to get the most “bang for the buck”. The church could connect with a community organization like the county chamber which may allow us to be aware of an area of outreach or assistance such as the number of homeless, single parent homes, age of population, current community services and events that our church could start, assist, or do better if we have a member with a skill set or burden to do so.

We need more than just a new sign or even a website to advertise our location and content. We need to be involved in the lives and activities of our community instead of **only** having church activities in isolation on our church property. The parable in Luke 14:21-23 states “So that servant came, and shewed his lord these things. Then the master of the house being angry said to his servant, Go out quickly into the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in hither the poor, and the maimed, and the halt, and the blind. **22** And the servant said, Lord, it is done as thou hast commanded, and yet there is room. **23** And the lord said unto the servant, **Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that my house may be filled.**” How many hundreds or thousands of people pass our church daily or weekly? Even though we are not buying and selling property business experts say Location, Location, Location is key. There are things that we may consider without relocating that we could be more visible in the community. Historically a listing in the phonebook, newspapers and radio station were great ways to advertise church events but currently social media has taken front stage by tracking what people view, people’s interests of website hits, and etc. For some of you that are exploring this avenue, what keywords are you including in your search tags to create more views and a priority of our church content? This is a data tool Christians can use to spread information and check the pulse of the community when we “friend” and tag someone with community events such as Trunk or Treat, Relay for Life, and/or ads at the theatre. Yes scripture teaches us we are to be a “peculiar people” so what relationships, connections and rapport are we building in the community to compel and share the gospel message.

In 1 Peter 2:5 “Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ.”

When the scriptures state “We must be wise as serpents” I believe that some members may have great salesmanship and marketing skills that the holy spirit could utilize for the Lord’s honor and glory to accomplish his will to fill his house.

God has chosen us, His Ministers and Laborers, to tell men everywhere that Jesus died, that He rose again, and that He is coming soon. Many of the masses may not come through the doors of our churches to hear the preaching of the gospel. A relationship between people in communities may be marketed by the power of the Holy Spirit to view our signs (Christians presence), to be at-tracted by our advertising (Christians witness) that we trust will ripen interests into conviction. These “lively stones” and “light in the darkness” that the Lord refers to is not just the latest fad, trick or overnight success here today gone tomorrow but a long term enduring constant glowing light to this lost and sinful world. As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness that men might be saved so shall we lift up Jesus for all to see.

Respectfully submitted

Trey Crews and Johnny McClure

The topic As a local and visible church, how visible are we in our communities? And what are some things we can do to improve our visibility (our community

outreach) was read, adopted, and spoken to by Brothers Trey Crews, Johnny McClure, Andrew Stokes, Lynn Stapleton, and Kenny Medlin.

The moderator called for the topic **With the potential of war always present, how should Christian's be instructed on their duty to God and country?**

War and its Potential Presence

War- Warfare This is armed conflict with an opposing military force. From the perspective of the Hebrew people, a Holy War was one that God himself declared, led and won. The concept was at its height during the period of the Judges. By the time of the united kingdom under David and Solomon however, political concerns began to cloud the concept of holy war. The prophets saw war as God's judgment against Israel. Those looking for a violent end to human existence saw war as a sign of the end times, both in the Old and New Testaments. Jesus emphasized peace instead of war and the New Testament church saw war as a spiritual battle between good and evil.

The concept of Holy War required that God declare the war (Exodus 17:16, Numbers 31:3). Every warrior considered himself consecrated to God (Isiah 13:3). Before and during a war, soldiers abstained from certain activities to sanctify themselves, (Judges 20:26, 2nd Samuel 11:11). Those who fought under a divinely ordained leader (Judges 6:34) had to be single-minded in their devotion to God.

Those who were frightened, newly married, or beset by domestic or financial problems were asked to go home (Deuteronomy 20:5-9). The Ark of the Covenant, the symbol of God's presence, went with Israel's army into battle (2nd Samuel 11:11). The Israelites determined the right moment to enter into battle and sought guidance by casting the sacred lot by heeding the words of a prophet (Judges 1:1, 1st Samuel 23:2, 1st Kings 22:5). King Ahab was killed when he failed to heed the warning of Micaiah, the Lord's prophet (2nd Chronicles 18).

In Numbers 21:14, Moses mentioned a book that has remained a mystery to Biblical scholars- "the book of the wars of the Lord". This was probably a collection of records or songs celebrating the victories of Israel over its enemies. The Old Testament contains many references to God's role in battle against Israel's foes (Exodus 15:3, Psalms 24:8). God struck Israel's enemies with terror overtaking and killing all fugitives (Exodus 15:1-27, Joshua 10:11). The judge Deborah cursed those who did not come to the Lord's aid against might Sisera (Judges 5:23). As Israel's King David fought "The Lord's battles" (1st Samuel 18:17). Jeremiah cursed those who refused to fight the Lord's battles (Jeremiah 48:10).

According to 2nd Samuel 11:1 wars were usually fought "in the spring of the year". In springtime the land dries out after the winter rains and therefore does not impede the movement of troops or chariots. In addition troops live off the land as the early grain crops begin to ripen. The trumpet or ram's horn, symbolic of the voice of God, called Israel into battle (Judges 3:27, 1st Samuel 13:3). The number of soldiers Israel mustered for battle did not matter, for God fought alongside them (Judges 7:1, 1st Samuel 14:6). Indeed the Israelites were forced to wander in the wilderness for 40 years because they did not believe God could help them win over the Canaanites, who outnumbered them in both manpower and equipment. (Numbers 14:1-12).

The tactics of war were simple. They included surprise, ambush, flight and surrounding the enemy (Genesis 14:15, Joshua 8:2-7, 2nd Samuel 5:23). On occasions a representative of each army met in battle (1st Samuel 17).

According to Deuteronomy 20:10-20, three outcomes of a holy war were possible. If the besieged city surrendered, the occupants lives were spared, but they were

enslaved. If the city refused to agree to peace terms and had to be taken by force, all the males were killed by the sword. An exception to both these policies occurred when the captured city lay within Israel's boundaries. Then all occupants and their possessions were utterly destroyed. Known as the ban, this custom was intended to keep Israel free of heathen influence (Joshua 6-17, 1st Samuel 15:3). Besieging a city required elaborate planning. Often towers and gates were set on fire (Judges 9:52). In order for armies to use battering rams and catapults that propelled arrows or stones, ramps had to be built to raise weapons to appropriate height. All the time city defenders were using similar weapons to kill and destroy the enemy and their war machines (2nd Samuel 11:21, 24, 2nd Chronicles 26:15). A famous battle using these techniques was the Roman siege of Masada, a rock fortress about 1.6 kilometers (one mile) west of the Dead Sea. Masada was considered impregnable. It took the Romans nearly three years to gain entry into Masada only to find all the people dead by suicide.

Early prophets accepted the Holy War concept and even stirred up war, but the later prophets condemned war because it did not meet the qualifications for a holy war. The firsts mentioned battle in the Bible was the one in which Chedorlaomer and three kings attacked five kings who ruled over the cities of plain (Genesis 14:8). The last battle mentioned the Battle of Armageddon, also called "the battle of that day of God Almighty" (Revelation 16:14-16).

The topic **With the potential of war always present, how should Christian's be instructed on their duty to God and country** was read, adopted, and spoken to by Brothers Dennis Lunsford, Larry Pritchard, Marcus Rickman, Ray Smith, Jimmy Wallace, and Rufus Chandler.

The moderator asked if there were any announcements or prayer requests before we adjourned for the afternoon session. **Motion and second** was made to adjourn until 10:00 a.m. on Saturday; **motion carried**. We were dismissed in prayer by our moderator, Bro. Ray Smith, Huntingdon Church.

Saturday, October 13, 2018

The Association met back at Cross Roads Missionary Baptist Church on Saturday and began the morning session with congregational singing of "I'll Have A New Life," "Standing On The Promises" led by Bro. Myron Kirk, Cross Roads Church, with Sis. Dawn Thompson, Cross Roads Church, playing the piano.

The moderator welcomed everyone and called on Bro. Randy Thompson, Cross Roads Church, to open us in prayer.

The moderator asked Bro. Kenny Sherrod, Cross Roads Church, to sing us a song. He came and sang "Touching Jesus."

The moderator read Psalms 116:1-19.

Roll call of messengers was made with 39 messengers to be seated. **Motion and second** was made to seat these messengers; **motion carried**.

The moderator called for the report from the Finance Committee. Bro. Dennis Lunsford gave the report. **Motion and second** was made to accept this report; **mo-**

tion carried.

The time had come for the report from the Obituary Recorder. Bro. Chris Wallace came to give his report. Bro. Wallace told how uncertain things are and that none of us are certain to be here next year. He quoted Solomon and how the day of death is better than our day of birth. He felt like we were here to celebrate those who have gone on. He read from I Thessalonians 4:13-17 and read the names of the members of this association who have gone on to heaven. Even though they are home, their lives live on.

Motion and second was made to accept this report; **motion carried.**

The Historical Committee reported that they are still working.

The moderator called for the report from the Associational Missionary. **Motion and second** was made to accept his report and to thank him for his efforts and to elect him for another year; **motion carried.**

Bro. Smith asked if anyone else present would like to give a report on mission work.

Bro. Scott Carter gave a brief report on the work going on in Jamaica.

With the eleven o'clock hour near, the moderator asked for a song and we stood to sing "I'll Fly Away."

Doctrinal Sermon
Bro. Lynn Stapleton

The moderator began by introducing Bro. Lynn Stapleton as the pastor of Huntingdon Church.

Bro. Stapleton began by telling of the honor of being here today and thankful to be healthy. After a few opening remarks, he read from Acts 11:19-26 and noted that this is an extension of the gospels. The disciples gathered at Antioch, were experiencing a revival and great spiritual movement. He took for a thought "The Cornerstones of the Christian Faith." He was unsure of the exact timeframe, but we can understand that they were living in times where they need to be encouraged to cleave to the Lord. They were called Christians because they behaved themselves much like the Lord did. In a relatively short time from Jesus crucifixion (less than 70 years), they turned the world upside down with the gospel. Paul (and others) warned about false Christ's that would come.



To understand how important it is for us to earnestly contend for the faith, we need to understand we are in a warfare. Isn't theological correctness what gives us our unity? If we walk in the light as Jesus Christ walked in the light, then do we have fellowship with each other.

The men and women of Antioch earned a name that was costly. In their day, the name Christian was a name that was hated because of the way they lived and their connection to Christ. The name Christian today still means the same thing. It took courage for them to love that name. Jesus told in Matthew 16:18 and how Jesus was going to build his church on this rock. There are some 41,000 denominations in the world today (and still growing). Of these, many believe that the church was built on Pentecost. We are among the few that believe that Jesus did exactly what he said and built his church in Matthew 16:18. The Lord gave them their mission and their message. How many of these denominations and their origin can be traced back to a man? A true church can be traced back to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Another cornerstone of the faith is experimental experience of salvation. Bro. Stapleton was thankful for an experience of salvation that he knows about. There is peace in knowing that we have been saved by the grace of God.

Another cornerstone we believe in is eternal security. If we are resting in our own merits to make it through, we will not make it. Of the 31,000 versus in the Bible, one stands out above the rest. John 3:16 what is God telling us here? Not that we will have to wait to the end to know, it tells us that those who believe on his name, they will have eternal life.

Another cornerstone is believer's baptism. Jesus was baptized not to become the Son of God, but because he already was. He was baptized to please his father and give us an example. John was called a Baptist because of what he did, not who he was.

After some parting words, he turned the service back over to the moderator.

The moderator thanked Bro. Stapleton for his message and wanted us to have a song and give him the right hand of Christian fellowship. The congregation stood and sang while shaking hands one with another.

Motion and second was made to adjourn one hour for lunch; **motion carried.**

The moderator called on Bro. Phillip Gullede, New Hope Church, to dismiss the service and to ask the blessing on the food.

Saturday Afternoon

After a delicious meal provided by the host church, we met for the Saturday afternoon session of the 170th annual session of the Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association. The moderator asked for a song and the congregation sang “Revive Us Again, “ “What A Lovely Name,” and “He Set Me Free” led by Bro. Myron Kirk, Cross Roads Church, and Sis. Kim Carter, Shiloh Church, playing the piano.

The moderator called the session back to order and thanked Cross Roads Church for the wonderful meals we have had the last two days. He then read Psalms 111.

The moderator called for the report on **Proper ordination practice and procedures. Answer the who? Why? When? Where? For how long? And include an outline of typical procedure/order of ordination service.**

Ordain, according to Webster’s 1828 Unabridged English Dictionary, means “To invest with ministerial or sacerdotal functions; to introduce into the office of the Christian ministry, by the laying on of hands, or other forms; to set apart by the ceremony of ordination.” Paul said in 1 Corinthians 14:40 “Let all things be done decently and in order.” “Decently” simply meaning to be conducted with sincerity and composure, suitable to the importance of the reverence and worship of God in our personal service for Him. “Order” meaning in an orderly fashion or arrangement. No matter what act of service we do for our Lord, we need to keep these two principles in mind. We always need to understand and recognize the gravity and seriousness of these services and their meaning. Steven, one who the Scriptures call a man “full of faith and power,” along with the Apostle Paul should be the examples we look to for men to be ordained into the work.

Ordination services are not held on a regular basis. Of the twenty churches in the Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association that responded back to an email inquiry of their ordination records, the responses totaled only sixteen (16) ordinations over the past 20 years. Five of these ordinations have occurred within the last two years and one is scheduled for the near future. As we consider this topic, let us prayerfully consider how important it is for us to not only be familiar with, but to be diligent in ensuring that these things are done appropriately.

Without spending a great deal of time on the subject, the only two offices of the church by the biblical standard are pastors and deacons. The office of deacon originated with the early church in Jerusalem in the 6th chapter of the book of Acts. We see here that “there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministrations.” It was due to this need for servants in the church to look after the day to day physical needs of the church, that the apostles told the early church to “...look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.” It should be noted in the apostle’s words that they, the church, were the ones to recognize those among them who would be competent and trustworthy individuals for this need within the church. Likewise, today, our churches should be careful to choose not just any one to fill the office of deacon. Ideally, the individuals chosen for this responsibility would be those individuals who are in

some capacity already willing servants of the church.

Pastors on the other hand hold a special calling that comes from God above. In the 13th chapter of the book of Acts, we see where God through His Holy Spirit revealed to the church that he had called Barnabas and Saul (Paul) to the work of the ministry and that they should "...Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them." You will notice in this set of scriptures that it was God through His Spirit that was doing the calling. The need to ordain a minister to the full work of the Gospel should be guided solely by the work of the Holy Spirit. When ordaining a pastor, a church and the presbytery are simply agreeing with the fact that God has placed a call on the individual's life to that work. No church or ordained brother can make a man a preacher. The role of the church, and especially the presbytery, should be that of determining whether the brother is: 1) ready for the responsibilities before them and; 2) qualified to fulfill them.

Having then answered the questions as to When and Why; Who should be ordained for the offices mentioned? First and foremost a great deal of prayer and fasting needs to take place before ordaining anyone for the office of pastor or deacon. 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:5-9 give instructions for "who" is qualified for the two offices of the Lord's church mentioned in this report. I encourage the reader of this report to pause before continuing to read any further so as to familiarize yourself with these scriptures...(Read 1 Tim. 3:1-13 and Titus 1:5-9) Of all of the qualifications for pastors mentioned in the passage in 1 Timothy, whether you are speaking of being above reproach (blame), the husband of one wife, sober minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, not a drunk, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not greedy, managing the affairs of his family and children well, well thought of in the community, or lastly, not a new convert or novice to the Word of God; we often start with the "husband of one wife." Now do not get the wrong impression from this comment, that this qualification is not an important qualification. After all, the first thing we need to make sure is abundantly plain is that husband is a man, not a woman. We the committee believe that this is a very important qualification that is due great and grave consideration. However, if a man cannot live up to the other qualifications in this list, it does not matter whether he is the husband of one wife. If a man can satisfactorily meet all the qualifications mentioned in that passage of scripture, we should hopefully believe he will be the husband of one wife. After all, as Paul told Titus, one of the main purposes for making sure men meet these qualifications is so that in the days in which we live in today, filled with such adversity and falsehood on every corner, that they may "be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers."

Deacons likewise must be dignified, not one who tells two different versions of the same story, not addicted to strong drink, not after dishonest gain, and holding to the revelation of the gospel of Christ in truth. I hope this does not need to be said in this report, but any man that is under consideration to be a pastor or a deacon, must first and foremost be a born-again believer! After all, if you go back and look at the first deacons for the Lord's church, one of the main characteristics the apostles asked for in those individuals was to be full of the Holy Ghost. Another qualification Paul mentions to young Timothy is one that I hope is not overlooked in the days in which we live. "And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless." To prove someone is to put them to the test. We often test our newly called preachers in the pulpit for a great length of time. But how many of us honestly and sincerely think that a candidate for deacon

should undergo the same scrutiny. As it has already been stated in this report, the individuals selected for possible ordination to the office of deacon should already be fulfilling some of the obligations as set forth in scripture for the office they may soon hold. Paul made it abundantly clear to young Timothy in 1 Timothy 5:21-22, “I charge thee before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, and the elect angels, that thou observe these things without preferring one before another, doing nothing by partiality. Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men’s sins: keep thyself pure.” If we truly want the word of God to increase as it did in the early days of the church at Jerusalem after deacons were selected to serve the church, we as churches must adhere to the biblical example for who should be filling the office of deacon.

A final qualification for the “Who” is often overlooked. As Solomon stated in Proverbs, “*Whoso findeth a wife findeth a good thing, and obtaineth favour of the LORD.*” (Prov 18:22) Or “Who can find a virtuous woman? For her price is far above rubies.” (Prov. 31:10) Rest assured that a man who has a good “help meet” is already blessed by the Lord. A good wife can, and will, make or break the ministry of a called man of God. As a person who knows firsthand, a good wife is the most precious thing, other than the Lord Himself, a minister of the Gospel has for his support. The wife of a deacon will also have a great impact on the service a deacon performs to the church. Just as the church today needs to be doing its best to train and bring up able bodied men to fulfill the office of pastor or deacon, we need to be raising godly women to assist those men to whom God chooses. This next comment may not be popular, but if an individual, regardless of how qualified he is to fill the office of pastor or deacon, does not have a wife that can live up to the biblical standard that Paul addresses to Timothy and can be found throughout the whole of scripture, the individual may not be as qualified as thought. In 1 Timothy 3:11 Paul states the wives must be worthy of respect, not gossipers, but temperate and self-controlled, trustworthy in all things. As we believe most, if not all, will agree, “Beside every good man is a good woman!”

Having now answered the questions as to who, why, and when, let us now move on to the where and for how long? The apostles called the young church there in Jerusalem together and ask them to “look ye out among you seven men of honest report.” The Holy Ghost spoke to the church at Antioch in the 13th chapter of Acts and told them to separate Barnabas and Saul for the work He had called them to do. In both instances it is the church that does the separating or ordaining of these men for their work for the Lord. We hope it is understood that no one can decide to get some of his ordained brethren together for ordaining someone to any office. The “where” will always be under the authority of the local church. We believe it is good practice for a church to invite the ordained brethren from their sister churches for assisting in the ordination, but not necessary.

For how long? This is a subject that at one time would have not been up for debate. Let me start by saying, nowhere in the biblical record do we find a provision for term limits for the office of pastor or deacon. However, we live in a fallen world that is full of temptations that can pull godly men and women away from the Lord. It is our opinion that just as Saul was rejected by God from being king of Israel in 1 Samuel 15, a man can disqualify himself from the office of pastor or deacon. Paul mentions a man by the name of Demas who was a fellow laborer with him according to Philemon 24. It is not perfectly clear from scripture if he had been set apart for the work, but we also find Demas mentioned to Timothy in 2 Timothy 4:10 as

having forsaken Paul for the love of this present world. Whatever your thoughts about Demas, Paul told the Corinthians to not give a cause for stumbling, that the ministry be not blamed. (2 Cor. 6:3) Whether or not we today as the Lord's church recognize and act upon the open and public transgressions of the servants of God, just as in the case with Saul, we the committee believe God has already removed them from that portion of His service.

At the request of the Topics Committee, we have included an outline of a typical ordination service for your consideration. We hope that it is understood that the following outline is for the service itself. Proper preparation before the service is as important if not more important than the service itself. Intense, dedicated, detailed preparation should precede the ordination service. Sincere prayer must accompany the efforts of the church, the candidate and those ordained brethren who plan to participate in the service. Lessons and open discussions pertaining to the service should be held in the church to familiarize the congregation with the ordination process. Remember the infrequency of Baptist ordinations? Some may have never participated in, nor been responsible for, the proper ordination of a preacher or a deacon. Ordination is a very solemn and memorable service for the candidate, the Church and the Lord. Therefore, all parties involved should be prepared to serve in an honorable fashion. Invited ordained brethren planning to attend the service should come ready to serve and be prepared to do whatever is asked of him. Ordained preachers are called by Scripture to be instant in season and out of season. Simply put, the man of God should be ready at a moment's notice to fill the pulpit if requested. The ordination service should be directed by God's Holy Spirit just as in all our services. If we have followed God's leadership by His Spirit up to the point of the ordination service, wouldn't it seem reasonable to follow His leadership in the service. Even the novice participator can bring honor to God if he comes well prepared and willing to serve. May we always put the proper emphasis on the work of the Holy Spirit in all things, especially the ordaining of a man to the work of the ministry or the office of deacon.

May this report be a help for not only our sister churches but for the generations to come. Let us all spend the time to teach the importance of the ordination service. More importantly, we need to train our young men and women so that they will be prepared in the days to come to take on the responsibilities of pastors, deacons and their wives. If we fail to do so, we may soon find ourselves outside of the biblical standard. Solomon gives us great advise concerning the neglect or slothful attention to things. "I went by the field of the slothful, and by the vineyard of the man void of understanding; And, lo, it was all grown over with thorns, *and* nettles had covered the face thereof, and the stone wall thereof was broken down. Then I saw, *and* considered *it* well: I looked upon *it*, *and* received instruction. *Yet* a little sleep, a little slumber, a little folding of the hands to sleep: So shall thy poverty come *as* one that travelleth; and thy want as an armed man. (Proverbs 24:30-34) As God as our help, let us not be found wanting for truth in any of our churches.

Respectfully submitted,
Phillip Gullede
Chris Wallace

THE BAPTIST ORDINATION SERVICE

Pastor of the host church assumes position of temporary moderator and calls the service to business order (or Pastor asks church to open conference for

ordination if that is the church's custom)
 Temporary moderator appoints temporary clerk.
 Church Clerk reads the minutes pertaining to the calling for ordination.
 Temporary Clerk will then call roll of the invited ordained brethren present by name and title.
 The Presbytery will then elect the following officers for ordination:
 Moderator
 Clerk
 Preacher for the Sermon (if included in format by ordaining Church)
 Presentation of Candidate to the Presbytery
 Interrogation of the Candidate
 Ordaining Prayer
 Charge to the Candidate
 Charge to the Church
 Presentation of the Bible
 The Church should approve or disapprove the work of the Presbytery by vote.
 Sermon
 Presentation of the Candidate
 Interrogation of the Candidate (should be thorough, this is a time to not only learn about the beliefs of the candidate but also as an opportunity to teach those present about our beliefs)
 Presbytery should recommend Candidate for ordination OR NOT recommend continuing. (if more than one candidate is being ordained, recommendation of each candidate separately should be considered)
 Church should approve or disapprove the work of the Presbytery and vote to proceed with ordination
 Candidate then bows in the altar area for the Ordaining Prayer
 Laying on of hands by the Presbytery
 Charge to the ordained brother/brethren
 Charge to the Church
 Presentation of the Bible
 Church accepts the work of the Presbytery
 Clerk reads minutes of the service
 Presbytery approves minutes
 Presbytery moves to dissolve itself
 Church moves to close business/conference
 Parting hand, closing remarks and benediction

The topic **Proper ordination practice and procedures. Answer the who? Why? When? Where? For how long? And include an outline of typical procedure/order of ordination service** was read, adopted and spoken to by Brothers Chris Wallace, Phillip Gullede, Lynn Stapleton, and Ron Stewart.

The moderator wanted to pause for a word of prayer, and called on Bro. Johnny McClure, Huntingdon Church, to lead us in prayer.

The moderator asked for the topic **As Non-Denominational churches increase in number, and traditional worship is being abandoned, how do we maintain our relevance in this rapidly changing world?**

As Non-Denominational churches increase in number and traditional worship is

being abandoned, how do Missionary Baptist Churches maintain their relevance in this rapidly changing world?

“The future of American religion is increasingly being driven by the nones and nons, the religiously unaffiliated and the denominationally unaffiliated. A new gallop study finds the percentage of Americans who identify with a specific Protestant Denomination has fallen from 50 percent in 2000 to 30 percent in 2016.” What is causing the surge in those who have no religious preference or those who are placing affiliation with non-denominational religious places of worship?

Per Roger Olson, a theology professor at Baylor University states there seems to be a trend toward “generic Christianity” that is feeling very self-centered, pragmatic and somewhat anti-intellectual.

In reviewing the statement by Professor Olson that religion is basically turning from Christ-centered to man-centered is a dangerous road for our society. This is not acceptable whether this is a Bible-believing church or one which deviates from the scriptures.

The gospel which Jesus established when he went to the cross, died and rose from the grave is a doctrine that will never change. In Malachi 3:6 the Lord tells us that He does not change, and through further study of the scriptures we understand that His Word is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Yet society’s ideals, opinions, and philosophies are ever-changing and human nature seems to require a constant search for “the next big thing”. This mind set is even present when considering worship. This consideration has led to a rapid increase in non-denominational churches.

A non-denominational church simply means open or acceptable to people of any Christian Denomination, meeting together is not restricted to any particular belief system, therefore any and all views toward the Bible are acceptable. Per the Hartford Institute for Religion Research, in America, more than thirty-five thousand non-denominational churches exist and greater than twelve million people affiliate themselves with this type congregation. The median average size for religious participants is 75.

The shifting perception of religion has led to the various reasons why this is the fastest growing church organization, including; infighting, politics, and denominational reputations. Listed below are the eight reasons that Thom Rainer’s Study shares for the rise of non-denominational churches:

Denominational Churches, negative reputation

Denominational Churches are known for more what they are against than what they are for

Denominational Churches are known for too much infighting and politics

Denominational Churches are too liberal

Denominational Churches have no loyalty

Denominational Churches have inefficient systems and organizations

Denominational Churches, no benefit

Denominational Churches are not good stewards of their financial resources

In reviewing the eight reasons listed by Mr. Rainer, it is always appropriate to perform a self-inventory check to further the advancement of the church. James 4:1 teaches us that we should not fight among ourselves. We have church traditions that cause us to judge one another in ways by which we have no authority, resulting in being known for what we don’t believe in rather than what we do. Infighting, politics, and inefficient bureaucracy leads to pride and selfish intentions. As concluded by Mr. Rainer’s study this has led to the growth of non-denominational churches.

If we are to keep our significance or relevance in this world we must rely the un-

changing truths of God and in the right manner. Our teaching of love and understanding the scriptures is crucial in guiding the blind to Jesus instead of focusing only on what condemns them. Our emphasis should be placed on informing people of the truth about Jesus, whether it be a congregation as a whole or any individual. Matthew 28: 18-20 says, “All power is given unto me in heaven and earth. Go ye therefore and teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and the Holy Ghost, Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you and lo I am with you always even unto the end of the world, Amen”.

We, as Missionary Baptists, will become more relevant in our communities when we heed the advice that our Lord and Savior gave us in the great commission. Do we go out in our communities and seek out the lost? Based on the great commission and other scriptures, we should. This is not a modern practice of religion but rather when Jesus called his disciples he did not maintain their presence inside the walls of a building. The disciples went out two by two to seek out and point others to a Savior.

In John 17:16, Jesus says we are not to be of the world as he was not of the world. In Peter 2:9, it says, “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people, that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” As we stated earlier, human disregard for the moral code of God in favor of self-indulgence is interfering in the worship of God. How can we get to true worship? Deny ourselves and uplift Jesus! There is a “watering down” of God’s declared justice and a dedicated effort to cause believers to focus on the love of God without personal sacrifice or accountability to him.

How do Missionary Baptist’s regain relevance? We must renew our zeal and recapture the passion. Go back 1, 10, 25, 50, 75 years to the moment the heavy burden of sin rolled away and peace was placed in your soul. Sometimes life’s disappointments and difficulties cause us to lose some of our passion. Romans 12:11 states “Not slothful in business, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord”. Missionary Baptists must be good stewards of the tithes and offerings that God blesses. In the 21st century, we must look to the needs of our respective churches and how best we can serve those needs. Whether that is the allocation of resources to the ministry, allocation of resources to senior adults, adults of all ages, and youth. To meet the needs it will take a passion and fervent spirit that the writer of Romans spoke of to match the resources of the man centered religions.

We must hold fast to Jesus’ doctrine, follow His leadership, and worship God in an acceptable way rather than focus on individualistic opinions that will always lead to sinful actions.

Respectfully Submitted
Brother Jeff Simmons
Brother David Leslie

The topic **As Non-Denominational churches increase in number, and traditional worship is being abandoned, how do we maintain our relevance in this rapidly changing world** was read, adopted and spoken to by Brothers David Leslie, Jeff Simmons, Johnny McClure, Trey Crews, Frank Rickman, Andrew Stokes, Rufus Chandler, Ron Stewart, Phillip Gullledge, Jerry Dodd, David Leslie, Ken Oldham, and Kenny Medlin

The moderator then called for new business.

New Business:

None at this time

The clerk read the Vote of Thanks.

Vote of Thanks

The Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association, its officers, and the messengers of this association wish to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Cross Roads Church in Benton County for serving as host for this session. We last met with you in 2009, and it was a pleasure for us to meet with you once again and enjoy sweet fellowship one with another.

We thank God for Bro. Bryan Oakes and his message "It's Not For Sale" and for Bro. Lynn Stapleton and his liberty to preach "The Cornerstones of the Christian Faith." We were once again blessed with ministers being led of the Spirit.

I once again give thanks to the Topic Committee for their selecting the topics and the ones to prepare/present them. May we use this information for the spiritual growth of us all. Thank you for selecting topics that are food to our souls and that make us stronger in the army of the Lord. We are looking forward to hearing the topics next year.

I thank God for those who serve as the Finance Committee, and the Obituary Recorder, and a special thanks to Bro. Trey Crews for serving as the assistant clerk. These brethren make the work of the Clerk much easier.

May our Moderator and Assistant Moderator receive many blessings from God for their efforts to serve this association.

Our appreciation is offered to the members and friends of Cross Roads Missionary Baptist Church for the food provided both days. The food was delicious as always and the efforts of service did not go unnoticed. Again, we see evidence of Christ's love for us being shown through the efforts of the Church.

As plans are underway for next year's sessions, may we all pray God's will be done with us all, as individual church members, as individual churches and as a united group of churches.

Please begin to pray for Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church as she prepares to host the Association next year.

I anxiously await, if it be God's will, the next session and look forward to meeting with all of you as we gather together at Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church for the 171st annual session on October 11-12, 2019 at 10:00 am ready to receive another blessing from the Lord.

Under His wings,
Scott Carter, Clerk

Motion and second was made to adjourn until Friday morning before the second Sunday in October 2019; **motion carried.**

After a fellowship handshake, the moderator called on Bro. Scott Carter, Shiloh Church, to dismiss us in prayer.



Bro. Ray Smith, Moderator



Bro. Scott Carter, Clerk

Messengers for the 170th Annual Session

Bethel:

Friday–
Saturday–

Bible Grove:

Friday– Andrew Stokes, Melanie Stokes, Ken Oldham
Saturday– Andrew Stokes, Melanie Stokes, Ken Oldham

Center Point:

Friday– Jenny Moon, Norman Hilliard
Saturday– Jenny Moon, Norman Hilliard

Clarksburg:

Friday–
Saturday– Jeff Simmons

Concord:

Friday–Russell Tucker, Dennis Stokes, Cynthia Brewer
Saturday– Russell Tucker, Alvin Boyd

Cross Roads:

Friday– Kenny Sherrod, Ronnie Stewart, Steve Hargrove
Saturday– Kenny Sherrod, Ronnie Stewart, Steve Hargrove

Huntingdon:

Friday– Rufus Chandler, Trey Crews, Johnny McClure
Saturday– Rufus Chandler, Johnny McClure

Marlsboro:

Friday–
Saturday–

Mixie:

Friday–
Saturday–

New Cross Roads:

Friday– Dennis Lunsford, JoAnn Lunsford
Saturday– Dennis Lunsford, JoAnn Lunsford

New Hope:

Friday– Dale Seagraves, Scott Gallimore, Michael Montgomery
Saturday– Dale Seagraves, Scott Gallimore, Michael Montgomery

New Spring Hill:

Friday–
Saturday–

Oak Grove :

Friday–Glenn Lewis, Jimmy Wallace, Jason Howard
Saturday–David Leslie, Loy Wallace, Jimmy Wallace

Old Paths:

Friday– Wallace Douglas, Ken Carrington, Kenny Medlin
Saturday–Wallace Douglas, Ken Carrington, Kenny Medlin

Pleasant Grove:

Friday– Marcus Rickman, Tim Lashlee, Frank Rickman

Saturday– Marcus Rickman, Frank Rickman

Pleasant Hill:

Friday– Bill Hargrove, Waymon Umstead, Flo Hargrove

Saturday- Bill Hargrove, Waymon Umstead, Flo Hargrove

Pleasant Ridge:

Friday– Bryan Oakes, Tom Kellett

Saturday– Anthony French, Bryan Oakes, Rhonda French

Rushing Creek:

Friday–Bruce Seaton, Carol Broadway, Ron Stewart

Saturday–

Shiloh:

Friday- Scott Carter, Kim Carter, Larry Pritchard

Saturday- Scott Carter, Kim Carter, Larry Pritchard

Westport:

Friday– Brenda Leslie, Chris Wallace, Jerry Dodd

Saturday– Brenda Leslie, Chris Wallace, Jerry Dodd

Financial Statement
2018 Minute Fund

BALANCE OCTOBER 07, 2017 \$ 5,271.72

EXPENDITURES:

First Bank (lock box)	\$ 60.00
Peterson Printing (minutes)	\$ 1,111.50
National Audio (CD's)	\$ 104.63
iPower (website)	\$ 329.35

CONTRIBUTIONS:

Minute Fund 2018	\$1,873.00
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BALANCE OCTOBER 13, 2018 \$ 5,539.24

Clerk Contributions	\$1,180.00
Associational Missionary Offering	\$ 888.00

Submitted by:

Larry Pritchard-Shiloh Church

Dennis Lunsford-New Cross Roads Church

Dennis Stokes-Concord Church

Missionary Report

When the year of 2017-2018 began for us as Missionary for the Southwestern Missionary Baptist Association we went forth with an urgency, to tell about the saving grace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. During the year we were privileged to visit all churches on one or more occasions. WE also visited and preached at some churches not members of our association. After traveling a little over 5000 miles the year has come to an end. Donations were received from places we visited, in the amount of \$1300.00 dollars which was used entirely to further the spread of the gospel by myself. The offerings were greatly appreciated! During the revival season we thank the LORD of Heaven for every soul that was convicted of their sins and drawn to an altar by love and saved by his Grace.

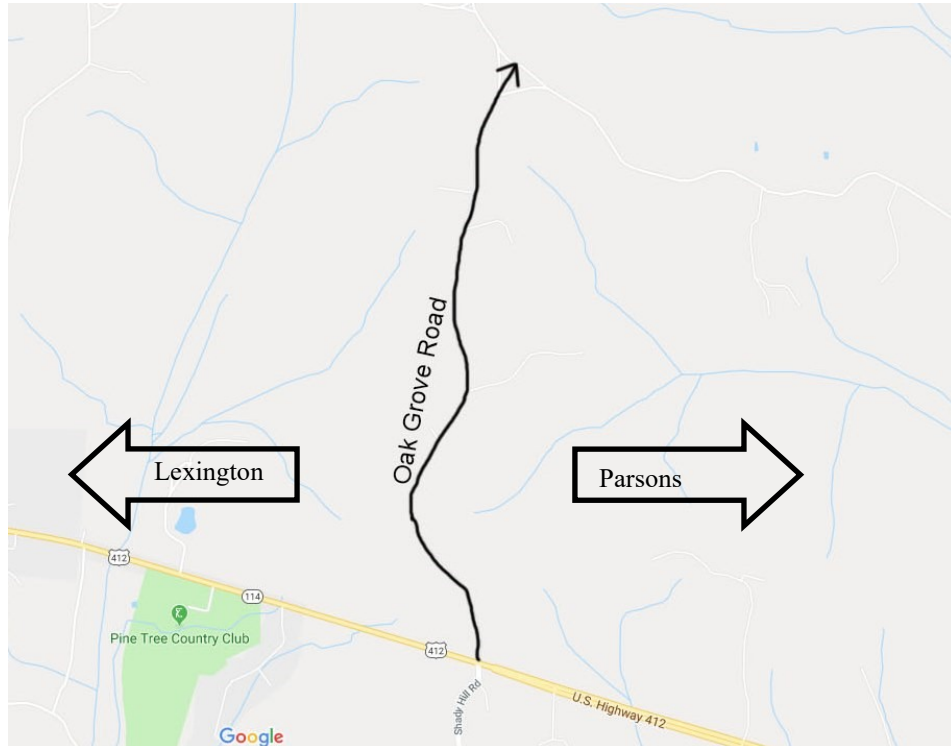
St. Mark 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. This I have tried to do for many years. I pray God will impress upon more churches to use the office of the Associational Missionary for more than just a visitor.

Submitted in the Love of God

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dennis Lunsford". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Bro.Dennis Lunsford

Direction to 2019 Session



- Take HWY 412 between Lexington and Parsons
- Turn North on Oak Grove Road

Correspondence

From the Mission Desk of Elder Rick Jones

September 2018

Southwest Missionary Baptist Association Moderator & Churches

I'm sorry I am unable to attend your Association this year due to a recent setback in health issues this summer. A nerve stimulator implant to ease my spinal disease has been canceled until November due to heart stent surgery in July, I have remained at home enduring my affliction but am encouraged by the reviews on the success of the operation and changing the lives of those who have had the implant. Please pray for its success.

I have made several trips to Jamaica this year, and since last Association, two have been saved, three baptized, for which we give God the glory! DocMike's clinics were another success. I also want to acknowledge my unsung hero, Elder Scott Carter (and his church friends), for their mission efforts to aid the church in its construction of a dormitory for future mission groups, as well revival work.

I want to convey my heart-felt thanks to **all** of you for your prayers and support of the Jamaica work and soon come in the Bahamas. I recently reapplied for my work permit and hope to hear back on this before the end of the year. Should the Lord close the door on this new mission work I will then pray and seek His guidance as the Holy Spirit reveals and leads us in our ministry.

In his majesty's service Out on the high seas

Elder Rick Jones
Jamaica Mission Fund
PO Box 572 - Buffalo, MO 65622

BIG BEAR CREEK MISSIONARY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

**Keith L. Hood - Clerk
12051 Highway 278
Double Springs, AL 35553
(256)318-0589**

June 01, 2018

Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association:

We trust everything is going well with you and your lost are being saved. We also trust God is continuing to bless you.

This past October, we convened for the One Hundred Eighty-Second Annual Session with Mt. Nebo Missionary Baptist Church. We had 15 churches reporting an increase of 24 with 10 of those being by baptism. We had □ decrease of 160 with a total membership of 1,123. We still need to see many souls saved for the Lord.

We are truly thankful for the visitors that were able to be with us. We invite each one to join us for the **183rd** Annual Session to be held with Friendship Missionary Baptist Church in Franklin County, Alabama. The church is located east of Russellville, Alabama, on Highway 48. This session will be held October 13, 14, 15, and 16, 2018. The service Saturday morning will begin at 11:00 a.m.

In Christ's love,

Keith L. Hood, Clerk

Johnny Hood - Moderator
11630 County Road 7
Moulton, AL 35650

Billy Myrick - Vice Moderator
202 W. Douglas Street
Sheffield, AL 35660

Siloam Missionary Baptist Association

October 19, 2017

Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association

Brother Scott Carter

Greetings:

We want to begin this letter thanking the Lord for His many blessings since we last corresponded. It is always good to hear news of the lost being saved and additions to His churches.

The churches of the Siloam Association met the Friday and Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 2017 at Liberty Missionary Baptist Church for its sixty-fifth annual session. The Lord blessed us with spiritual and instructive sermons, along with wonderful topics that were presented and discussed. The Spirit of the Lord truly met with us. We must also thank the Lord for all that were saved and those who joined the churches that make up the Siloam Association.

We invite you to come and fellowship with the Siloam Association as we meet for the sixty-sixth session at Sulphur Fork Missionary Baptist Church located at 455 Fairfield Road, Bethpage, TN beginning at 10:00 a.m. Friday, October 5, 2018. Elder Phil Creecy is scheduled to preach the introductory sermon Friday morning and Elder Stephen Skinner is scheduled to preach the memorial sermon Friday night. Elder Billy Moran is scheduled to preach the doctrinal sermon Saturday morning.

We pray that the Lord will continue to bless all of His churches and that His Word will go out to the lost people of this world and many will be saved.

Your Brother in Christ,

Elder Roger Carter, Clerk
Siloam Missionary Baptist Association
1434 Alvaton Greenhill Road Bowling Green, KY 42103
(270)799-6610
carterroger@hotmail.com

Wiseman Baptist Association

To the Churches of the Southwestern District Missionary

Baptist Association: We trust you have received many

blessings from the Lord this past year.

We were greatly blessed by the Lord during our one hundred twenty sixth annual session, which was held at Concord Missionary Baptist Church in White House, Tennessee. Nine churches reported 66 additions in the past year, with 25 being by baptism and a total membership of 2,023.

We would like to extend a warm invitation to you to join us for our one hundred twenty seventh annual session, which will begin at 10:00 AM on Friday and Saturday October 26 and 27, at Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church. The church is located at 879 Long Hollow Pike, Goodlettsville, TN.

Brother Aaron Binion is scheduled to preach the introductory sermon on Friday morning, and Brother Danny Raines is scheduled to preach the doctrinal sermon on Saturday morning.

Please make your plans to attend. In Christ's love,

Charles Patterson, Clerk
524 Jim Chitwood Lane
Lafayette, TN 37083
(615) 238-4424
email - charlesp111@nctc.com

Licensed Ministers

Beecham, Brian, Bible Grove -----731-614-3287
 5555 Darden-Christian Chapel Road, Darden, TN 38328
Hale, Joe, Clarksburg-----731-968-5298
 22790 Hwy 22 N, Yuma, TN 38390
Joyner, John, New Cross Roads -----731-986-9764
 127 5th Avenue, Huntingdon, TN 38344

Ordained Ministers

Allen, Adam, Huntingdon-----731-986-6084
 116 Cedar Tree Lane, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Ambrose, Harvey, Old Paths-----Alaska
Bivens, Ryne, Pleasant Grove -----731-549-0373
 2879 Holladay Road, Holladay, TN 38341
Butler, Michael, Pleasant Hill-----731-733-1583
 88 Cub Creek Hall Road, Parsons, TN 38363
Carter, Scott D., Shiloh-----731-415-1688
 400 Chickasaw Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Chandler, Rufus, Huntingdon -----731-986-4227
 393 Skyline Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Crews, Trey, Huntingdon -----731-415-4745
 45 Hwy 22 N, Yuma, TN 38390
Dodd, Jerry, Westport-----731-987-2698
 1600 Griggs Chapel Road, Cedar Grove, TN 38321
Douglas, Arzell, Cross Roads -----731-584-8027
 587 Crossroads Church Road, Camden, TN 38320
Ezell, Clint, Bethel-----731-845-6421
 111 Oak Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Gulledge, Phillip, New Hope -----731-847-7844
 2391 Prospect Road, Holladay, TN 38341
Hale, Jimmie, Jr., Clarksburg-----731-968-5298
 22790 Hwy 22 N, Yuma, TN 38390
Hedges, Truman, Cross Roads-----731-584-7875
 620 Jacqueline Circle, Camden, TN 38320
Hilliard, Billy Joe, Center Point -----731-586-4671
 360 Ellis Road, Buena Vista, TN 38318
Hopper, Jack, Center Point -----731-586-7902
 100 Hemlock Street, Bruceton, TN 38317
Leslie, David, Oak Grove -----731-845-3859
 1118 Crazy Doe Road, Lexington, TN 38351

Lunsford, Dennis, New Cross Roads -----731-968-2842
 19990 Hwy. 22 N, Wildersville, TN 38388
McDaniel, Tracy, New Cross Roads -----731-636-1503
 630 Stafford Store Road, Greenfield, TN 38230
Oakes, Bryan, Pleasant Ridge-----731-986-2347
 955 Old 22 Lane, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Paige, Khristopher, Pleasant Ridge
 234-236 Laltoo Trace, Penal, Trinidad West Indies
Parker, Joshua, Concord-----731-614-0379
 P.O. Box 232, Reagan, TN 38368
Rayburn, Mitchell, Cross Roads -----731-584-3500
 Camden Healthcare
Rahn, Allan, Bethel-----618-638-4607
 2785 North Avenue, Metropolis, IL 62960
Seville, Ralph, Old Paths -----
 California
Simmons, Jeff, Clarksburg -----731-845-4710
 129 Windy Ridge Lane, Lexington, TN 38351
Stapleton, Lynn, Huntingdon -----731-986-2413
 106 Oak Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Stewart, Ron, Rushing Creek -----615-394-0314
 1327 Cedar Drive, Camden, TN 38320
Stokes, Andrew, Bible Grove-----731-986-3738
 310 Westport Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Thompson, Randy, Cross Roads -----731-441-1729
 211 Arnold Drive, Camden, TN 38320
Todd, Jimmy, New Spring Hill -----731-415-5135
 2325 Tate School Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
Wallace, Chris, Westport -----731-614-0662
 19830 Hwy 104 S, Lexington, TN 38351

Church Directory

- BETHEL-** 65 Bethel Church Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
P.O. Box 1012, Huntingdon, TN 38344
PASTOR-Clint Ezell-----731-845-6421
111 Oak Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344
CLERK-Jeff Carter-----731-986-5496
c/o Bethel Church P.O. Box 1012, Huntingdon, TN 38344
- BIBLE GROVE (Est. 1877)**
5365 Bible Grove Road, Lexington, TN 38351
PASTOR- Andrew Stokes -----731-986-3738
310 Westport Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
CLERK-Johnny Sanders -----731-845-3838
290 Westover Road, Huron, TN 38345
- CENTER POINT-** 2225 Rowland Mill Road, Buena Vista, TN 38318
PASTOR- Michael Hilliard -----731-418-1753
125 Holcomb Street, Hollow Rock, TN 38342
CLERK-Jenny Moon-----731-415-3172
108 Enterprise Street, Bruceton, TN 38317
- CLARKSBURG-**12281 Hwy 424, Clarksburg, TN 38324
PASTOR-Jeff Simmons -----731-845-4710
129 Windy Ridge Lane, Lexington, TN 38351
CLERK-Janice Boyd-----731-986-8342
220 Miller Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
- CONCORD (Est. 1846)-** 3275 Westport Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
PASTOR- Joshua Parker-----731-614-0379
P.O. Box 232, Reagan, TN 38368
CLERK-Dennis Stokes -----731-343-3649
850 Hawkins Creek Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
- CROSS ROADS (Est. 1849)-** -----731-584-7665
55 Crossroads Church Road, Camden, TN 38320
PASTOR- Randy Thompson -----731-441-1729
211 Arnold Drive, Camden, TN 38320
CLERK-Todd Kee-----731-441-0885
3895 Divider and Natchez Trace Road, Camden, TN 38320
- HUNTINGDON**-----731-986-4192
11110 Lexington Street, Huntingdon, TN 38344
PASTOR-Lynn Stapleton -----731-986-2413
106 Oak Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344

CLERK-Ray Smith-----731-986-4717
19950 East Main St., Huntingdon, TN 38344

MARLSBORO- 25165 State Route 114 N, Hollow Rock, TN 38342
PASTOR-Wendell Owen-----931-209-4768
560 Sandy Point Road, Camden, TN 38320
CLERK-Alica Owen-----731-209-4769
560 Sandy Point Road, Camden, TN 38320

MIXIE- (Est. 1948) 25860 Hwy 77, Hollow Rock, TN 38342
PASTOR- Matthew Floyd -----731-418-1888
135 Green Valley Road, Huntingdon TN 38344
CLERK-Amanda Holland-----731-415-8822
565 Chapel Hill Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344

NEW CROSS ROADS- (Est. 1903)
2110 Long Rock Church Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
P.O. Box 268, Huntingdon, TN 38344
PASTOR-Tracy McDaniel -----731-636-1503
630 Stafford Store Road, Greenfield, TN 38230
CLERK-Frank Gregg -----731-986-9686
c/o New Cross Roads Church P.O. Box 268, Huntingdon, TN 38344

NEW HOPE (Est. 1870)- 5315 Hwy 114, Westport, TN 38387
PASTOR-Phillip Gullede -----731-847-7844
2391 Prospect Road, Holladay, TN 38341
CLERK-Wilma Seagraves -----731-418-0756
P.O. Box 186, Huntingdon, TN 38344

NEW SPRING HILL-
145 Springhill Church Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344
PASTOR-Lathan McLean-----731-586-4404
308 Taylor Street, Bruceton, TN 38317
CLERK-Laura Hutcherson-----731-986-4557
6820 Smyrna Road, Westport, TN 38387

OAK GROVE- 105 Oak Grove Church Road, Lexington, TN 38351
PASTOR-
CLERK-Jimmy Wallace-----731-967-9794
20465 Hwy. 104 S, Lexington, TN 38351

OLD PATHS-10540 Collierville Road, Collierville, TN 38017
PASTOR-
CLERK- Joyce Medlin -----901-486-2923
1230 Cherry Road, Eads, TN 38028

PLEASANT GROVE-
Pleasant Grove Church Road, Wildersville, TN 38388
PASTOR- Ryne Bivens -----731-549-0373
2879 Holladay Road, Holladay, TN 38341

CLERK-Ernest Wood ----- 731-845-5464
375 Pleasant Grove Church Road, Wildersville, TN 38388

PLEASANT HILL-
1675 Pleasant Hill Church Road, Camden, TN 38320

PASTOR- Michael Butler----- 731-733-1583
88 Cub Creek Hall Road, Parsons, TN 38363

CLERK-Brenda Self----- 731-441-3798
450 Blackberry Road, Camden, TN 38320

PLEASANT RIDGE (Est. 1856)
5745 Hwy 70 W, Camden, TN 38320

PASTOR- Bryan Oakes----- 731-986-2347
955 Old 22 Lane, Huntingdon, TN 38344

CLERK-Mary Oakes ----- 731-986-2347
955 Old 22 Lane, Huntingdon, TN 38344

RUSHING CREEK-
4005 Rushing Creek Church Road, Camden, TN 38320

PASTOR-
CLERK-Carol Ann Broadway ----- 731-584-8567
4175 Reynoldsburg Road, Camden, TN 38320

SHILOH- 15 Shiloh Church Road, Holladay, TN 38341

PASTOR- Scott Carter ----- 731-415-1688
400 Chickasaw Drive, Huntingdon, TN 38344

CLERK-Larry Pritchard ----- 731-845-5444
730 Pritchard Road, Wildersville, TN 38388

WESTPORT (EST 1896)- 7080 Westport Road, Westport, TN 38387

PASTOR- Chris Wallace----- 731-614-0662
19830 Hwy 104 S, Lexington, TN 38351

CLERK-Glynn Williams----- 731-986-5782
335 Westport Road, Huntingdon, TN 38344

Church E-mail Addresses

Bethel	Jeff Carter	jeffjd@charter.net
Bible Grove	Johnny Sanders	jsandersriver@gmail.com
Bible Grove	Randy Wood	ranwood49@gmail.com
Center Point	Jenny Moon	garykkc@click1.net
Clarksburg	Roger Lindsey	customtoolinc@bellsouth.net
Clarksburg	Janice Boyd	nieceboyd@yahoo.com
Concord	Dennis Stokes	dennisleestokes@gmail.com
Concord	Josh Parker	jparker3191@gmail.com
Cross Roads	Todd Kee	tkee@bentoncountycable.net
Cross Roads	Randy Thompson	crpastor@bentoncountycable.net
Cross Roads	Kay Kee	kay@bentoncountycable.net
Huntingdon	Harold Webb	haroldwebb54@gmail.com
Huntingdon	Ray Smith	raysmith72@hotmail.com
Huntingdon	Lynn Stapleton	lynstap@hmbc.org
Marlsboro	Alicia Owen	owena545@gmail.com
Mixie	Amanda Holland	amandaleeholland@gmail.com
New Cross Rds	Frank Gregg	fgregg9686@charter.net
New Cross Rds	Dennis Lunsford	oldgospleship@yahoo.com
New Hope	Scott Gallimore	seg672002@yahoo.com
New Hope	Michael Montgomery	the-montgomerys@hotmail.com
New Hope	Phillip Gulledge	gulledgephillip@gmail.com
New Hope	Wilma Segraves	waseagraves@gmail.com
New Spring Hill	Susan Brown	susanbrownrn@yahoo.com
Oak Grove	David Leslie	davidgenn@hotmail.com
Oak Grove	Jimmy Wallace	jimmy.wallace@ymail.com
Old Paths	Joyce Medlin	joycedmedlin1945@gmail.com
Pleasant Grove	Marcus Rickman	mrickman11@hotmail.com
Pleasant Grove	Tim Lashlee	volzman53.tl@gmail.com
Pleasant Grove	Ernest Wood	woodsmaytag@gmail.com
Pleasant Hill	Brenda Self	bself@hcmc-tn.org
Pleasant Ridge	Bryan Oakes	broboakes@yahoo.com
Pleasant Ridge	Mary Oakes	oakes_mary@yahoo.com
Pleasant Ridge	James Hicks	jamesandbetty47@yahoo.com
Pleasant Ridge	Vernon Higdon	vernselectric@gmail.com
Shiloh	Larry Pritchard	larryrp@tds.net
Westport	Chris Wallace	gopher1972@charter.net

2019 Summer Revival Schedule

Church	Start Date	Revival Helper	Sunday Starting Time	Monday – Friday Starting Time
Old Paths				
Pleasant Hill	06/02/19	Tony Boyd	6:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
New Hope	06/09/19		7:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Shiloh	06/16/19		7:30 PM	10:30 AM; 7:30 PM
Huntingdon	06/23/19		7:30 PM	10:30 AM; 7:30 PM
Pleasant Ridge	06/23/19		6:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
New Cross Roads	06/30/19		6:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Westport	07/07/19		7:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Mixie	07/07/19		5:30 PM	7:00 PM
Center Point	07/14/19		7:00 PM	7:00 PM
Concord	07/14/19		7:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Pleasant Grove	07/14/19		7:00 PM	7:30 PM
Cross Roads	07/14/19		6:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Bethel	07/21/19	Derrick Jowers	6:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:30 PM
Bible Grove	07/21/19		7:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Marlsboro	07/21/19		6:00 PM	7:00 PM
Oak Grove	07/28/19		6:00 PM	10:30 AM; 7:00 PM
Clarksburg	07/28/19		7:00 PM	7:00 PM
New Spring Hill	07/28/19		6:00 PM	7:00 PM
Rushing Creek	9/8 to 9/11		6:00 PM	7:00 PM

Historical Table

Before 1846, this was part of the Western District Association. The Western District Association was organized in 1822 and is one of the oldest Associations in the state. From this, we go back into North Carolina and West Virginia where they were colonies under England. It was in these colonies that the Baptist patriot, Patrick Henry, defended the Baptist preachers before the colonial officers who were appointed by England, and it was here in these colonies that we find Thomas Jefferson who wrote the Declaration of Independence, making inquiry about the Government of Baptist Churches and Associations that he might get a model after which to assist in forming the Government of the United States. The oldest Baptist Association in the United States is the Philadelphia Association which has done more for Missions than perhaps any other.

<u>DATE AND CHURCH HELD WITH</u>	<u>MODERATOR</u> ----- <u>CLERK</u>
1846-Mt. Comfort, Carroll County-----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1847- Mt. Pisgah, Henderson County-----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1848-Ramble Creek, Benton County -----	E. Autry -----B. W. Foster
1849-Pleasant Hill, Benton County -----	E. Autry -----B. W. Foster
1850-Hopewell, Henderson County-----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1851-New Prospect, Decatur County -----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1852-Beaver Dam, Benton County-----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1853-Union, Benton County -----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1854-Bible Union, Carroll County -----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1855-Concord, Carroll County-----	M. S. Corbett-----J. P. Arnold
1856-Pleasant Grove, Henderson County -----	E. Autry -----J. P. Arnold
1857-Mt. Comfort, Carroll County-----	M. S. Corbett-----J. P. Arnold
1858-Union, Benton County -----	J. P. Arnold-----W. C. McAuley
1859-Holly Springs, Henderson County -----	J. P. Arnold-----B. W. Foster
1860-Ramble Creek, Benton County -----	J. P. Arnold-----J. P. Doherty
1861-New Prospect, Decatur County -----	J. P. Arnold-----Geo. Hollowell
1862-1864-----	No Association during Civil War
1865-Union, Benton County -----	J. P. Arnold-----W. C. McAuley
1866-Salem, Decatur County-----	J. P. Arnold-----B. W. Foster
1867-Mt. Comfort, Carroll County-----	W. Pugh-----Geo. Hollowell
1868-Ephesus, Carroll County -----	J. P. Arnold-----Geo. Hollowell
1869-Concord, Carroll County-----	J. P. Arnold-----Geo. Hollowell
1870-Chalk Hill, Benton County -----	J. P. Arnold-----G. C. Thomas
1871-New Prospect -----	J. P. Arnold-----G. C. Thomas
1872-Mt. Nebo, Carroll County -----	J. P. Arnold-----Geo. Hollowell
1873-Marlsboro, Carroll County -----	Geo. Hollowell-----G. C. Thomas
1874-New Hope, Carroll County-----	J. H. Park -----G. C. Thomas
1875-Tom's Creek, Perry County-----	J. W. Brewer -----J. F. Rogers
1876-Rushing Creek, Benton County-----	J. Richardson-----J. F. Rogers
1877-Oak Grove, Carroll County-----	J. P. Arnold-----J. F. Rogers
1878-New Prospect -----	J. P. Arnold-----J. F. Rogers
1879-Bethel, Carroll County -----	J. C. Park-----J. F. Rogers
1880-Wildersville, Henderson County -----	J. C. Park-----J. H. Thomas
1881-Ramble Creek-----	J. P. Arnold-----D. J. Allen
1882-Cross Roads, Benton County-----	J. C. Park-----D. J. Allen
1883-Prospect, Carroll County-----	J. C. Park-----D. J. Allen

1884-Sardis Ridge, Decatur County ----- Geo. Hollowell-----D. J. Allen
1885-Concord, Carroll County----- Geo. Hollowell-----C. H. Rogers
1886-Trace Creek, Humphreys County ----- J. C. Park-----D. J. Allen
1887-Liberty, Carroll County ----- J. C. Park-----D. J. Allen
1888-Unity, Benton County ----- J. C. Park-----D. J. Allen
1889-Holly Springs ----- J. F. Rogers-----D. J. Allen
1890-Mt. Nebo, Carroll County ----- J. C. Park-----D. J. Allen
1891-Rushing Creek, Benton County----- E. M. Joyner-----D. J. Allen
1892-New Hope, Carroll County ----- E. M. Joyner-----D. J. Allen
1893-Chalk Level, Benton County----- E. M. Joyner-----D. J. Allen
1894-Mt. Comfort----- E. M. Joyner-----C. H. Rogers
1895-Flatwoods, Benton County ----- E. M. Joyner-----D. J. Allen
1896-Marlsboro, Carroll County ----- E. M. Joyner-----D. J. Allen
1897-Bethel, Carroll County ----- E. M. Joyner-----D. J. Allen
1898-Shiloh, Carroll County ----- N. L. Joyner -----D. J. Allen
1899-Pleasant Hill, Benton County ----- W. S. Roney-----C. H. Rogers
1900-Salem, Decatur County----- W. S. Roney-----C. H. Rogers
1901-Chalk Hill, Benton County ----- N. L. Joyner -----C. H. Rogers
1902-Cross Roads, Benton County----- E. Z. Newsom-----C. H. Rogers
1903-New Prospect, Decatur County ----- E. M. Joyner-----C. H. Rogers
1904-Ephesus, Carroll County ----- E. M. Joyner-----C. H. Rogers
1905-Pleasant Grove----- E. M. Joyner-----C. H. Rogers
1906-Ramble Creek----- T. M. Boyd -----C. H. Rogers
1907-Oak Grove, Carroll County----- T. M. Boyd -----C. H. Rogers
1908-Concord, Carroll County----- T. M. Boyd -----C. H. Rogers
1909-Pleasant Ridge ----- T. M. Boyd -----C. H. Rogers
1910-Perryville, Decatur County ----- T. M. Boyd -----C. H. Rogers
1911-Unity, Benton County ----- T. M. Boyd -----D. H. Franks
1912-Chalk Level, Benton County ----- Joe N. Joyner-----D. H. Franks
1913-Holly Springs ----- J. G. Cooper -----D. H. Franks
1914-Mt. Nebo----- J. G. Cooper -----D. H. Franks
1915-Liberty, Carroll County ----- S. W. Joyner-----D. H. Franks
1916-Tom's Creek, Perry County----- J. N. Joyner-----D. H. Franks
1917-Westport, Carroll County ----- T. M. Boyd -----Geo. S. Price
1918-Mt. Pisgah, Carroll County ----- T. M. Boyd -----L. E. Mincey
1919-Cross Roads, Benton County----- J. N. Joyner-----L. E. Mincey
1920-Mt. Comfort, Carroll County----- J. N. Joyner-----C. E. Butler
1921-Ephesus, Carroll County ----- J. N. Joyner-----C. E. Butler
1922-Eva, Benton County ----- J. N. Joyner-----A. H. Franks
1923-Prospect, Carroll County----- J. N. Joyner-----A. H. Franks
1924-Flatwoods, Benton County ----- J. N. Joyner-----A. H. Franks
1925-Bunches Chapel ----- J. N. Joyner-----A. H. Franks
1926-Oak Grove----- J. N. Joyner-----C. V. Cooper
1927-Pleasant Hill----- J. N. Joyner-----C. V. Cooper
1928-Shiloh, Carroll County ----- T. M. Boyd -----C. V. Cooper
1929-Bruceton, Carroll County ----- T. M. Boyd -----C. V. Cooper
1930-New Prospect, Decatur County ----- J. N. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
1931-New Hope, Carroll County ----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
1932-New Liberty, Carroll County----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
1933-Westport, Carroll County ----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
1934-Ephesus, Carroll County ----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
1935-Mt. Comfort, Carroll County----- E. H. Martin -----W. S. Brinkley

1936-Marlsboro, Carroll County ----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
 1937-Cedar Hill, Decatur County ----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
 1938-Concord, Carroll County----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
 1939-Yuma, Carroll County----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
 1940-Caledonia, Henry County----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
 1941-Oak Grove, Carroll County----- W. H. Hopper -----W. S. Brinkley
 1942-New Cross Roads, Carroll County ----- W. H. Hopper -----W. S. Brinkley
 1943-New Bethel, Henry County----- W. H. Hopper -----W. S. Brinkley
 1944-Westport, Carroll County----- W. H. Hopper -----W. S. Brinkley
 1945-Marlsboro, Carroll County ----- S. W. Joyner-----W. S. Brinkley
 1946-Mt. Comfort, Carroll County----- E. F. Prince -----W. S. Brinkley
 1947-Pleasant Grove, Henderson County ----- E. F. Prince -----W. S. Brinkley
 1948-Old Union, Benton County ----- E. F. Prince -----W. S. Brinkley
 1949-Cross Roads, Benton County----- E. F. Prince -----T. L. Campbell
 1950-Bible Grove, Henderson County ----- C. F. Carter -----T. L. Campbell
 1951-Republican Grove ----- C. F. Carter -----T. L. Campbell
 1952-Pleasant Hill, Benton County ----- C. F. Carter -----T. L. Campbell
 1953-Ephesus, Carroll County ----- John Hedges -----T. L. Campbell
 1954-Mixie, Carroll County ----- John Hedges -----Ray Smith
 1955-Concord, Carroll County----- John Hedges -----Ray Smith
 1956-Tom's Creek, Perry County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1957-Independent, Carroll County ----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1958-Bethel, Carroll County ----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1959-Oak Grove, Carroll County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1960-New Bethel, Henry County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1961-Center Point, Carroll County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1962-Caledonia, Henry County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1963-Old Union, Benton County ----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1964-New Bethel, Henry County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1965-Rushing Creek, Benton County----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1966-Westport, Carroll County ----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1967-New Prospect, Decatur County ----- T. L. Campbell-----Ray Smith
 1968-Ephesus, Carroll County ----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1969-Concord, Carroll County----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1970-New Frank's Chapel, Decatur County --- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1971-Landmark, Shelby County----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1972-Yuma, Carroll County----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1973-Pleasant Ridge, Benton County----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1974-New Cross Roads, Carroll County ----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1975-Cross Roads, Benton County----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1976-Second Baptist, Lexington----- C. F. Carter -----Ray Smith
 1977-Bible Grove, Chesterfield----- M. Rayburn-----Ray Smith
 1978-New Bethel, Henry County----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1979-Independent, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1980-Bethel, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1981-Landmark, Shelby County----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1982-Pleasant Hill, Benton County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1983-New Prospect, Decatur County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1984-Concord, Carroll County----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1985-Oak Grove, Henderson County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1986-New Liberty, Carroll County----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1987-Westport, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith

1988-Center Point, Carroll County----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1989-Mixie, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1990-New Cross Roads, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Ray Smith
 1991-Bible Grove, Henderson County ----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1992-Independent, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1993-Marlsboro, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1994-Clarksburg, Carroll County----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1995-Cross Roads, Benton County----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1996-Landmark, Shelby County----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1997-New Hope, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1998-Shiloh, Carroll County ----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 1999-Concord, Carroll County----- Harold Carver-----Lee Carter
 2000-Bethel, Carroll County ----- Ray Smith -----Lee Carter
 2001-Old Paths, Shelby County ----- A. G. Hayes -----Lee Carter
 2002-Oak Grove, Henderson County ----- A.G. Hayes -----Scott Carter
 2003-New Cross Roads, Carroll County ----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2004-Center Point, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2005-Bible Grove, Henderson County ----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2006- Huntingdon, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2007-Clarksburg, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2008-Oak Grove, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2009- Cross Roads, Benton County ----- Johnny Wall -----Scott Carter
 2010- New Hope, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2011- Westport, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2012-Oak Grove, Henderson County ----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2013-Concord, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2014-Bible Grove, Henderson County ----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2015-Huntingdon, Carroll County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2016-Pleasant Ridge, Benton County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2017-Pleasant Hill, Benton County ----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter
 2018-Cross Roads, Benton County----- Ray Smith -----Scott Carter

Rules of Decorum

- ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
- ARTICLE 2. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by members present providing nothing be so construed as to prohibit newly constituted churches petitioning for admission from voting.
- ARTICLE 3. The Moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any messenger not satisfied with his decision may appeal, provided the appeal is made the same day, but at no subsequent term.
- ARTICLE 4. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as other members, so as not to vote, unless his vote be necessary to decide the question. If he arises to speak he shall call another brother to take the chair.
- ARTICLE 5. All questions brought before the Association shall be introduced by motion, and if seconded, shall be opened to discussion, unless withdrawn by the mover or his second. When a subject has been taken up and a reasonable time allowed for discussion, the Moderator shall take the question by yeas and nays and if a call is made it shall be decided by the members rising.
- ARTICLE 6. Any member wishing to speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at the same time, who shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject or makes personal reflection.
- ARTICLE 7. No person shall speak more than once on any subject until all who wish to speak have an opportunity, nor more than twice upon any subject without permission.
- ARTICLE 8. Every subject introduced for discussion shall be first decided before another shall be offered, unless it be laid over by motion with the consent of the mover and the Association.
- ARTICLE 9. The Association shall in all cases be governed by a majority vote of the members present, except in the reception of the churches; then a unanimous vote shall be required.
- ARTICLE 10. The names of the members shall be called whenever the Association shall direct, and the absentees marked. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.
- ARTICLE 11. The appellation of "brethren" shall be used by the mem-

bers in addressing each other.

ARTICLE 12. Any member violating these rules shall be subject to re-proval by the Moderator, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

ARTICLE 13. Amendments or alterations may be made to these rules when a majority deems it necessary.

ARTICLE 14. It shall be the duty of the Association to appoint a finance committee to keep up with the moneys during the association, to make their report when called upon and to turn the moneys received over to the Clerk.

Church Covenant

Having been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, as one body in Christ.

We engage, therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the Church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.

We also engage to maintain family and secret devotion; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drink as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Savior.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offense, but always ready for reconciliation and mindful of the rules of our Savior, to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that, when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's word.

Constitution

- ARTICLE I. The Association shall be called *Southwestern District Missionary Baptist Association*, known as an advisory council.
- ARTICLE II. It shall be composed of such persons as have been duly elected by such church as may belong to this union to represent them in body.
- ARTICLE III. The messengers representing the different churches shall at the opening of the Association present their letters of correspondence which shall state their appointment as messengers, together with the number of members in fellowship, the number baptized, received by letter, dismissed by letter, excommunicated, restored and dead during the year.
- ARTICLE IV. Every church belonging to this body shall be entitled to three messengers.
- ARTICLE V. Churches of this union failing to represent themselves at one Association will be expected to state reasons for their failure at the next Association, and if any church fails for two consecutive meetings, the Association shall send a committee to inquire into their state.
- ARTICLE VI. New churches may be admitted into this union by signifying their wish by messenger and letter, provided they be deemed orthodox, and are willing to walk in fellowship with us.
- ARTICLE VII. The Association shall have a Moderator and Clerk, who shall be chosen at each annual meeting, as soon as the letters from the different churches are read and their member's names enrolled, provided, also that all newly constituted churches petitioning for union with us shall have full right to vote for Moderator and Clerk, and nothing shall be construed as to prohibit them from voting.
- ARTICLE VIII. This Association shall have no power to adopt rules that shall at any time infringe upon the independence and rights of the churches. It shall however be at liberty to advise churches belonging to it, or it may

separate from churches as are known to walk disorderly.

- ARTICLE IX. The Association shall have a fund for its expenses, and the churches shall be at liberty to send up such contributions as they may think proper.
- ARTICLE X. Any church of this union having a difficulty that she cannot settle may call for help from her sister churches, or may present the case to this body for advice. Such cases must be presented in the letters of correspondence, stating the reason why it had not or could not be decided by the church.
- ARTICLE XI. When churches of this union have members supposed to possess ministerial gifts, they may call from two or more churches for the aid of their ordained ministers and deacons to examine the individuals and, if thought advisable, to ordain such member or members to preach the gospel which shall be reported at the next association and entered upon the Minutes.
- ARTICLE XII. The minutes of this Association will be read, corrected, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the session rise. And no Association shall adjourn, unless in extraordinary cases, until it has finished all its business.
- ARTICLE XIII. The Clerk shall read the Rules of Decorum on the first day of each Association meeting.

Articles of Faith

I. We believe that the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God; and the only rule of faith and practice. (Proverbs 30:5-6; 2 Samuel 23:2; John 5:38-39; John 12:47-48; Romans 1:16; Romans 3:4; Galatians 1:8-9; Philippians 3:16; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; 1 Peter 1:10-12; 1 Peter 4:11; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 John 4:1; Revelation 22:18-19)

II. We believe that the Scriptures teach that there is but one living and true God; and there are three persons in this one God - the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; and this Triune God is the only object of religious worship and adoration, and that all worship paid anything less in the name of God is idolatry and abomination in His sight. (Exodus 15:11; Exodus 20:3; Psalms 83:18; Psalms 147:5; Isaiah 6:3; Jeremiah 2:12-13; Jeremiah 10:10; Matthew 10:37; Matthew 28:19; Mark 12:30; John 4:24; John 5:17; John 10:30; John 14:23-28; John 15:26; John 17:5, 10; Acts 5:3-4; Romans 1:20; 1 Corinthians 2:10-11; 1 Corinthians 12:4-6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Ephesians 2:18; Philippians 2:5-6; Hebrews 3:4; 1 Peter 1:15-16; 1 John 5:7; Revelation 1:4-5; Revelation 4:6-8; Revelation 4:11)

III. We believe that God created man good and happy; that he sinned and fell from that condition; that by the fall he lost his original righteousness and became sinful and depraved; and as a natural consequence, that his posterity by ordinary generations are involved in all the consequences of his fall. (Genesis 1:27, 31; Genesis 2:16; Genesis 3:6-24; Genesis 6:5-6; Genesis 6:12; Psalms 51:5; Ecclesiastes 7:29; Isaiah 53:6; Jeremiah 4:22; Ezekiel 18:19-20; Matthew 20:15; John 3:6; Acts 15:26; Romans 1:18-32; Romans 2:1-16; Romans 3:10-19; Romans 5:12-19; Romans 8:7; Galatians 3:10; Galatians 3:22; Ephesians 2:1-3; Titus 3:3)

IV. We believe that man, by nature, has no power to recover himself from his lost and ruined condition and, unless God Himself had provided a way of Salvation, would have been ruined and miserable forever, because all have sinned. (Psalms 45; Psalms 89:19; Isaiah 42:21; Isaiah 53:4-5; Matthew 18:11-14; Matthew 20:28; John 1:1-14; John 3:16-18; Acts 15:11; Romans 3:10-26; Romans 4:25; Romans 5:12, 19; 1 Corinthians 3:5-7; 1 Corinthians 15:1-3; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:22; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 2:5-9; Philippians 2:6-8; Colossians 2:9; Colossians 3:1-4; Hebrews 1:3,8; Hebrews 2:9,14,18; Hebrews 4:14; Hebrews 7:25-26; Hebrews 9:13-15; Hebrews 12:24; 1 John 2:3; 1 John 4:5-10)

V. We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly by grace, through the mediatorial office of the Son of God, who took upon Himself our nature, yet without sin, honored law by His personal obedience and made atonement for our sins by His Death; being risen from the dead, is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with Divine perfection, in every way qualified to be a suitable, compassionate and all-sufficient Savior. (Proverbs 1:24; Isaiah 55:1; Matthew 11:20; Matthew 23:37; Mark 1:15; Luke 14:17; Luke 19:27; John 3:19; John 5:40; Acts 13:46; Romans 1:15-17; Romans 5:19; Romans 9:32; Romans 16:26; 2 Thessalonians 1:8; Hebrews 2:9-10; Hebrews 5:1-10; Hebrews 6:16-20; Hebrews 7:11-28; Revelation 22:17)

VI. We believe that fallen man has nothing, and can do nothing, of himself, to

recommend him to the favorable notice of the Divine Being, and that all his hopes of pardon, justification, redemption, and sanctification are derived alone from the merits of Christ. (Isaiah 64:4-8; Daniel 9:18-19; Zechariah 3:1-5; John 3:36; John 14:6; Acts 4:12; Acts 10:42-43; 1 Corinthians 3:11; 1 Timothy 2:5-6; 1 John 5:11-12; Revelation 20:15)

VII. We believe that Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, is the only Mediator between God and man; that He first became our surety and in the fullness of time our sacrifice, and that the efficacious plea He makes before the throne in our behalf is built upon His own all-adorning sacrifice. (Psalms 45:6; Psalms 89:19; Isaiah 53:4-5; Romans 3:21-26; Romans 8:34; 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Galatians 4:4-5; Philippians 2:6-8; Colossians 3:1-4; 1 Timothy 2:3-6; Hebrews 1:3, 8; Hebrews 2:9; Hebrews 2:14; Hebrews 2:18; Hebrews 4:14; Hebrews 7:25-26; Hebrews 9:13-28; Hebrews 12:24; 1 John 2:1-3; 1 John 4:10)

VIII. We believe the Holy Spirit - the third person in the Trinity - is the great agent in convincing man of his lost and condemned condition, and in making the Gospel plain and acceptable. (Psalms 34:18; Luke 15:7; John 6:44; John 6:65; John 14:16-18; John 14:25-26; John 15:26-27; John 16:7-14; Acts 3:19; Acts 8:22; Acts 9:4-5; Acts 16:14; Romans 8:16; 2 Corinthians 7:10; 1 John 2:20)

IX. We believe that all who are sanctified by the Spirit are freely justified by the righteousness of Christ, which comes to all that believe. (Proverbs 4:18; Matthew 26:41; Luke 9:23; Luke 11:35; John 3:6; Acts 13:38-39; Romans 8:5-15; 1 Corinthians 6:11; 2 Corinthians 3:18; 2 Corinthians 7:1; 1 Corinthians 13:5-9; Galatians 2:16; Ephesians 1:3-14; Ephesians 4:11-12,30; Ephesians 6:18; Philippians 1:9-11; Philippians 2:12-13; Philippians 3:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:3-5; 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24; Hebrews 6:11; 1 Peter 1:5-8; 1 Peter 2:2; 1 Peter 3:18; 1 John 2:24-29)

X. We believe that all who are called to be saints through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth shall never finally be lost. (2 Kings 6:16; Job 17:9; Psalms 16:10-11; Psalms 91:11-12; Psalms 121:3; Psalms 125:1; Jeremiah 32:40; Matthew 6:30-33; Matthew 13:20-21; John 4:14; John 6:66-69; John 8:31; John 13:18; Romans 8:28,35-39; 2 Corinthians 1:21-22; Ephesians 1:13-14; Ephesians 4:30; Philippians 1:6; Philippians 2:12-13; 2 Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 1:14; Hebrews 13:5; 1 Peter 1:3-5; 1 John 2:19,27-28; 1 John 3:9; 1 John 4:4; 1 John 5:18; Jude 24-25)

XI. We believe that Christian churches are to be formed of believers in Christ who give evidence of a change of heart, and have been properly baptized. (Matthew 3:7-17; Matthew 18:15-20; Matthew 28:18-20; John 14:15,21; John 15:12; Acts 2:37-38,41-42,47; Acts 8:1,36-38; Acts 10:44-48; Acts 14:23; Acts 15:22; Acts 16:30-33; Acts 19:1-7; Romans 16:17-20; 1 Corinthians 1:1-3; 1 Corinthians 4:11,17; 1 Corinthians 5:6,12-13; 1 Corinthians 11:2,23-26; 1 Corinthians 12:14; 1 Corinthians 14:12; 2 Corinthians 2:7; 2 Corinthians 8:5; Galatians 6:2; Ephesians 4:7; Philippians 1:1,27; 1 Thessalonians 4:2; 2 Thessalonians 3:6; 1 John 4:21; 2 John 6; 3 John 9)

XII. We believe that the government of the church is not left in the hands of any one man, or number of men, distinct from the body, but that it is left with the whole church. (Matthew 16:16-19; Matthew 18:15-20; Acts 14:23; Acts

15:22; Romans 16:17-20; 1 Corinthians 1:10-13; 1 Corinthians 5:6, 12-13; 1 Corinthians 11:2, 23; 1 Corinthians 12:14; 1 Corinthians 14:12; 1 Corinthians 14:26-33; 2 Corinthians 8:5; Galatians 6:2; Philippians 1:27; 2 Thessalonians 3:6; 1 Timothy 5:21)

XIII. We believe that the first day of the week, called the Lord's Day, is sanctified or set apart for the public worship of God, and that it is the duty of Christians to abstain from all unnecessary visiting, trifling conversation, and labor, except so much as is devoted to works of necessity and mercy. (Genesis 2:3; Exodus 20:8; Exodus 35:2-3; Leviticus 19:30; Psalms 26:8; Psalms 118:24; Isaiah 56:2-8; Isaiah 58:13-14; Matthew 28:1; Mark 2:27-28; John 20:19-20; Acts 11:26; Acts 13:44; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:1-2; Hebrews 4:3-11; Hebrews 10:24-25; Revelation 1:10)

XIV. We believe that God has appointed the preaching of the Gospel for the edification of His church and the advancement of His kingdom; that it is the duty of church members to contribute to the support of the ministry as God in His providence may give them ability. (2 Kings 5:11, 13; Jonah 3:4-5; Psalms 94:11-13; Mark 16:15; Acts 8:31; Acts 11:29-30; Romans 10:13-17; Romans 12:13; Romans 15:25-27; 1 Corinthians 1:17-18, 21; 1 Corinthians 9:9-14; 2 Corinthians 8:13-15; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8; Ephesians 1:13; 1 Timothy 5:17-18; Titus 1:2-3; 1 Peter 1:25; 1 John 3:17)

XV. We believe that God calls men, by His Spirit, to preach the Gospel, and that it is the duty of the individual thus called to study to show himself approved unto God a workman that needeth not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. (1 Samuel 3:4, 10; Acts 13:2-3; Acts 16:10; Acts 20:27; Romans 1:1; 1 Corinthians 1:17; 1 Corinthians 1:23-29; 2 Corinthians 4:1-7; 2 Corinthians 6:3-4; Galatians 1:10-12; 1 Thessalonians 2:3-4; 1 Timothy 4:6; 1 Timothy 4:12-16; 2 Timothy 2:15; Hebrews 6:1-2; Hebrews 13:17; 1 Peter 2:9-10; 1 Peter 5:1-3; 2 Peter 1:10)

XVI. We believe that Jesus Christ has appointed two positive institutions or ordinances to be observed in His church - baptism and the Lord's Supper; that baptism is immersion in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and believers only are capable of rightfully receiving the ordinances, that baptism precedes the Lord's Supper and none but ordained ministers have any right to administer them. (Matthew 3:5-6; Matthew 26:26-29; Matthew 28:16-20; Mark 3:13-14; Mark 14:22-25; Mark 16:16; Luke 22:14-20; John 3:22-23; John 4:1-3; John 6:26-71; Acts 2:38,41-42; Acts 6:6; Acts 8:12,36-39; Acts 10:47-48; Acts 14:21-23; Acts 16:32-34; Acts 18:8,24-28; Romans 6:4; 1 Corinthians 5:1-8; 1 Corinthians 10:3-32; 1 Corinthians 11:17-32; Galatians 3:26-28; Colossians 2:12; Titus 1:5; 1 Peter 3:20-21)

XVII. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust; that the just will rise to everlasting life and the unjust to everlasting shame and contempt. (Job 19:25-27; Ecclesiastes 3:17; Daniel 12:1-2; Malachi 3:18; Matthew 13:41-43; Matthew 13:49-50; Matthew 24:30-31; Matthew 24:35-44; Matthew 25:31-33; Matthew 25:46; Luke 14:13-14; John 5:28-29; Acts 24:15; 1 Corinthians 15:19; 2 Corinthians 5:10; 2 Peter 2:9; 2 Peter 3:11-12; Revelation 1:7; Revelation 20:11-12)

XVIII. We believe that the Gospel with all its obligations, privileges, and blessings, has been committed to the church of whom it is especially enjoined to make known to every creature, while a risen and ascended Savior pledges His presence to the end of the world. (Proverbs 1:24; Isaiah 55:6-7; Matthew 11:20-24; Matthew 23:37; Matthew 24:14; Mark 1:15; Mark 13:9-11; Mark 16:15; Luke 19:27; John 3:19; John 5:39-40; Acts 13:46; Romans 1:15-17; Romans 9:32-33; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-12; 2 Timothy 1:7-10; Revelation 14:6-7).

Missions Supported

*addresses available upon request to clerk

Rick Jones	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bethel • Clarksburg • Concord 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oak Grove • New Cross Roads • Shiloh
Eugene Brown <i>(Words of Hope)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Grove • Cross Roads • New Hope • Oak Grove 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasant Hill • Rushing's Creek • Shiloh
Paul Bryson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oak Grove 	
Ministerial Alliance, Camden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Roads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasant Hill
Back to the Bible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bethel 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasant Hill
Eric Hammett <i>(Mexico)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center Point 	
St. Jude Childrens Hospital	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marlsboro 	
Todd Marks <i>(Peru)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Center Point 	
Khrys Paige <i>(Trinidad)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bible Grove • Westport • Shiloh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pleasant Grove • Pleasant Ridge • New Hope
Shop With a Cop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marlsboro 	
Nueva Missionary Baptist Church <i>(Guatemala)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oak Grove 	
Gideon Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marlsboro 	
Samaratin's Purse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concord • Cross Roads 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oak Grove
Kenya African Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Roads • New Spring Hill • Shiloh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westport • Rushing's Creek
Jamaica Mission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bethel • Shiloh 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Roads • New Hope
Harvey Ambrose <i>(Alaksa)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old Paths 	
F.U.E.L School Lunch Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cross Roads 	
Owen Family Singers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marlsboro 	
Gregory McClerkin-Hope for Sudan:		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Spring Hill
Owen Family Singers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marlsboro 	

**In Memory of Our Sainted Dead-27
Deacon-1, Minister-1**

Bethel	Sis. Mary Alice Baker	02/09/18
Bible Grove	Sis. Edna Woods	11/16/17
	Sis. Evelyn Wood	05/07/18
Center Point	Sis. Chandra Jackson King	07/16/18
Clarksburg	Bro. Brad Dean	11/26/17
	Sis. Dorothy Douglas Halter	03/28/18
	Sis. Hazel Hollingshead	02/19/18
	Bro. Timmy Lowe	04/28/18
	Sis. Mary Todd	06/09/18
Concord	Bro. John W. "Bill" Cole (Deacon)	1/22/2018
Cross Roads	Sis. Blondell Wheatley	10/24/17
	Sis. Betty Allen	01/21/18
	Bro. Ephraim (Bub) Herrin	05/21/18
Huntingdon	Bro. Tony Umstead	10/25/17
	Sis. Patricia Wilson	04/26/18
New Cross Roads	Sis. Carolyn Haskins	07/19/18
New Hope	Bro. Jimmy Duke	11/19/17
	Bro. Barry Barber	06/17/18
	Sis. Martha Nell Gooch Seagraves	09/22/18
Marlsboro	Bro. Jim Severance (Minister)	

Oak Grove	Bro. Ernie Gibson, Sr.	03/12/18
Pleasant Hill	Sis. Edith M. Forrest Pearson	08/31/18
Rushing's Creek	Bro. Howard J. Berry	02/15/18
	Bro. Robert S. Deaton	02/20/18
	Sis. Catherine Cherry	09/07/18
Shiloh	Bro. Hubert Autry, Jr.	11/26/17
Westport	Sis. Janis Ozier	07/02/18

Visitors to the 2018 Session

Eld. Kenneth Massey (Wiseman Association)
Murfreesboro Missionary Baptist Church, Murfreesboro, TN

Bro. Tony Boyd
Ephesus Missionary Baptist Church, Mixie, TN

Bro. Bob Vanderpool (Siloam Association)
Mt. Lebanon Missionary Baptist Church, Alvaton, KY

Sunday School Statistical Table

Church	Superintendent	Teachers & Officers	Enrollment	Expenditures
Bethel	Jimmy Allen	7	62	\$6,526.37
Bible Grove	Randy Wood	8		
Center Point	Bill Noles	4	38	
Clarksburg	Tommy Altom	16	50	\$933.00
Concord	Alvin Boyd	15	50	\$1,494.30
Cross Roads	Jim Dungan	18	85	\$1,468.66
Huntingdon	Ray Smith	22	150	\$3,080.20
Marlsboro		4	44	
Mixie	Johnny Whitworth			
New Cross Roads		5		
New Hope	Michael Montgomery	6	15	\$1,388.54
New Spring Hill			15	
Oak Grove	Jason Barker	18	97	
Old Paths	Keith Brewer			
Pleasant Grove	Max Bradfield			
Pleasant Hill	Pete Hargrove	6	27	\$300.00
Pleasant Ridge	Anthony French	10	24	\$1,697.94
Rushing's Creek				
Shiloh	Joe Cary	7		\$515.80
Westport	Jerry Dodd	10	39	
TOTALS		156	696	\$17,404.81

Statistical Table 2018

Church	Baptisms	Additions by Letter	Restorations	Total Additions	Deaths	Losses by Letter	Exclusion	Total Losses	Membership	Lord's Supper	Foot Washing
Bethel	0	3	0	3	1	0	0	1	160	2	0
Bible Grove	3	3	0	6	2	2	0	4		1	0
Center Point	1	3	0	4	1	1	0	2	96	1	1
Clarksburg	1	3	0	4	5	4	0	9	136	2	0
Concord	2	0	0	2	1	0	0	1	158	2	0
Cross Roads	3	1	0	4	3	0	0	3	193	2	0
Huntingdon	2	5	0	7	2	4	1	7	330	2	0
Marlsboro	0	0	*1	0	1	0	0	1	44	1	0
Mixie	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
New Cross Rds.	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	77	2	2
New Hope	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	3	77	1	0
New Spring Hill	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	1	0
Oak Grove	7	0	0	7	1	0	0	5	158	1	0
Old Paths	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Pleasant Grove	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Pleasant Hill	2	4	0	6	1	3	0	4	114	1	1
Pleasant Ridge	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	**83	1	1
Rushing Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shiloh	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	41	1	0
Westport	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	62	1	0
TOTALS	22	22	1	44	24	16	1	45	1,744	24	5

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* By testimony

Financial Table 2018

Church	Minute Fund	Clerk Fund	Expenses	Ministrial Help	Mission Support	Grand Total
Bethel	\$150	\$50	\$56,497.88	\$2,063.00	\$6,755.00	\$65,515.88
Bible Grove	\$120	\$75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$195.00
Center Point	\$50	\$50	\$3,489.51	\$1,400.00	\$1,059.50	\$6,049.01
Clarksburg	\$80	\$50	\$31,545.00	\$2,750.00	\$4,020.00	\$38,445.00
Concord	\$100	\$50	\$6,081.99	\$1,505.00	\$2,255.58	\$9,992.57
Cross Roads	\$240	\$50	\$145,888.30	\$2,459.00	\$10,059.00	\$158,696.30
Huntingdon	\$200	\$200	\$299,023.36	\$16,650.00	\$44,879.75	\$360,953.11
Marlsboro	\$20	\$20	\$3,908.25	\$3,135.75	\$1,005.00	\$8,089.00
Mixie	\$60	\$25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$85.00
New Cross Rds.	\$100	\$25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$125.00
New Hope	\$48	\$50	\$10,037.47	\$2,285.00	\$7,645.92	\$20,066.39
New Spring Hill	\$40	\$20	\$4,300.00	\$0.00	\$680.00	\$5,040.00
Oak Grove	\$140	\$50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$190.00
Old Paths	\$60	\$75	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$135.00
Pleasant Grove	\$125	\$125	\$10,547.00	\$11,075.00	\$400.00	\$22,272.00
Pleasant Hill	\$100	\$25	\$15,813.00	\$2,983.00	\$1,250.00	\$20,171.00
Pleasant Ridge	\$100	\$150	\$8,412.44	\$2,250.00	\$3,709.00	\$14,621.44
Rushing Creek	\$40	\$20	\$5,186.63	\$4,800.00	\$1,993.00	\$12,039.63
Shiloh	\$80	\$50	\$13,731.61	\$1,400.00	\$8,170.00	\$23,431.61
Westport	\$40	\$40	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$80.00
TOTALS	\$1,893	\$1,200	\$614,462.44	\$54,755.75	\$93,881.75	\$1,113,576.25