

Minutes of the  
Ninety-Sixth Annual Session  
of the

Mates Creek Association of the  
Old Regular Primitive  
Baptists

Held With the Johns Creek Church  
Coleman, Pike County, Kentucky

SEPTEMBER 3-4-5, 1948

Elder W. H. Thacker	Moderator
Elder A. P. Justice	Assistant Moderator
Brother Stearl Hatfield	Clerk
Brother C. H. Mickey	Assistant Clerk



# PROCEEDINGS OF THE MATES CREEK ASSOCIATION

FRIDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 3d, 1948

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Prayer by Elder W. H. Thacker.

The introductory was preached by Elder Teddy Ball, text St. John 4:34.

Ministers left on the stand for Friday 1st, Elder Harmon Kiser of the Washington Association, 2nd, Elder M. M. Edwards of the Washington Association, 3d, Elder Raleigh Cumpton of the Washington Association, 4th, Elder Hadley Edwards of the Washington Association.

Messengers assembled in the home of Brother Harvey Coleman and was called to order by the Moderator, prayer by Elder E. S. Stephens of the Washington Association.

Letters from the several Churches were read, from which the following table was prepared.

Louisa Church, Elders, W. H. Thacker, A. P. Justice and Brethern T. I. Blackburn, G. A. Collins, A. L. Justice; and Bradley Warrix.

Pond Creek Church, Brethern, W. J. Hatfield, George Hunt, Frank Wheeler and Anderson Farley.

Big Creek Church, Elders, Joe Thacker, and John Fuller, Brethern M. B. Blackburn, Joe Stanley, and Paris Blackburn.

Raccoon Church, Elders, M. C. Slone and Joe Slone, Jr., and Brethern Joe Morris, T. B. Collins, Joel Thacker, Milton Coleman, and Sam McCoy.

Sulphur Spring Church, Elder, J. H. Blackburn, and Brethern, Ira Simpkins S. K. Smith, and S. H. Smith.

Peter Creek Church, Elder Anderson Casey, and Brethern Philip Dotson, R. N. Dotson, Albert Casey, Roland Dotson, and Anderson Dotson.

Little Hope Church, Brethern, J. M. Blackburn, Lee Stiltner, Willie L. Williamson, and Dewey Dotson.

Joppa Church, Elder John Fuller, and Brother Floyd Stepp and Sisters, Amy Roberts and Tennie McCoy.

Grapevine Church, Elder, J. W. Slone, and Brethern Parris Ramey, Hillard Justice, Orville Justice and Stewart Justice.

Samaria Church, Elders Teddy Ball, Wallace Chaptman, and Kitt Ratliff and Brethern, Willie Hatfield, C. C. Dotson, Stearl Hatfield, Jim Varney, and Bob Dotson.

Little Union Church, Brethren W. M. Miller, John S. Milller, and James H. Fuller.

Johns Creek Church, Elders, Paris Coleman, W. N. Smith, and Brethern Ira Smith and Harvey Coleman.



## ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Association then elected Elder W. H. Thacker Moderator, Elder A. P. Justice assistant Moderator, Brother Stearl Hatfield Clerk, Secretary-Treasure and Brother C. J. Michey Assistant Clerk.

## PROCEEDINGS OF BUSINESS

1. Newly constituted Churches called for, none reported.

2. Abstracts of principles, rules of decorum, and constitution read and to be printed in the minutes.

3. Correspondance from sister Associations received and seated as follows Washington Association, Messengers, Elders, E. S. Stephens, Haddley Edwards, Raleigh Cumpton, Brother J. A. Deel.

Indian Creek Association Messengers, Elder Lowell Lilly Union Association by Letter and Minutes.

Visitors from Sister Associations was received and seated as follows:

Washington Association. Elders A. R. Singleton, M. M. Edwards, and Harmon Kiser, Brethern Vins Breeding, Stafford Rasnick, F. M. Arrington, and sisters Ellen Breeding, Bertha Countz, and Sarah Deel.

Indian Creek Association, Brethern M. L. Canady and Wife, Leonard Mann and Wife, Henry Mann and Wife, Lewis Campbell, and Sister Minnie Canady.

Powells Valley Association, Elder B. E. Dotson.

Mates Creek Association visiting Elders seated as follows, Elders Dan Adkins, Lonnie Warrix, W. E. Thacker, and A. J. Blackburn.

4. The Moderator is to make all temporary arrangements.

5. A messenger from each Church together with all the messengers from the Johns Creek Church was appointed to arrange for the Preaching at the stand.

They reported for Saturday, 1st Elder Lowell Lilly of the Indian Creek Association, 2nd Elder E. S. Stephens of the Washington Association 3d Elder Haddley Edwards of the Washington Association, they preached in order of their names.

6. Messengers who agrees to visit Sister Associations are as follows, Washington Association, Elders Teddy Ball, J. H. Blackburn, Paris Coleman J. W. Slone, A. P. Justice, Frank Wheeler and Brother Jim Varney.

Indian Creek Association, Elders Teddy Ball, Frank Wheeler and W. H. Thacker.

7. Committee on arrangements was appointed as follows. Brothern, W. J. Hatfield, Roland Dotson, and Anderson Casey.



8. Committee on finance was appointed as follows, Brothern Bradley Warrix, Abner L. Justice and T. I. Blackburn.

Association adjourned until 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

### **SATURDAY MORNING SEPTEMBER 4th, 1948**

The Association met pursuant to adjournment and was called to order by the Moderator, Prayer by Elder Haddley Edwards of the Washington Association.

1. Roll called and absentees marked.

2. Committee on arrangements reported and were discharged.

3. Finance committee reported \$297.49 and were discharged.

4. Messengers appointed last year to visit sister Associations reported, and those unable to fill their appointments were excused.

5. Committee on preaching for Sunday reported as follows 1st Elder Lowell Lilly, 2nd, Elder B. E. Dotson, 3d Elder A. R. Singleton. Union Meetings and their appointees as follows.

Louisa Church meets Friday before the second Saturday in August 1949, Elders, Teddy Ball, Paris Coleman, J. H. Blackburn, A. J. Blackburn and Joe Thacker to attend.

Pond Creek Church: Meets Friday before the second Saturday in August 1949. Elders, Dan Adkins, W. H. Thacker, W. E. Thacker, and Teddy Ball to attend.

Big Creek Church. No union meeting.

Raccoon Church: Meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in August 1949. Elders, J. H. Blackburn, Wallace Chaptman, Joe Thacker, and Dan Adkins to attend.

Sulphur Spring Church: Meets Friday before the first Saturday in August 1949 Elders, Joe Slone jr., Teddy Ball, Dan Adkins, and Wallace Chaptman to attend.

Peter Creek Church: Meets Friday before the fourth Saturday in July 1949 Elders: J. H. Blackburn, Wallace Chaptman, Joe Slone jr., Frank Wheeler, Paris Coleman, and Teddy Ball to attend.

Little Hope Church: Meets Friday before the first Saturday in July 1949, Elders, Joe Thacker, J. H. Blackburn, Dan Adkins, and W. H. Thacker to attend.

Joppa Church: Meets the first Saturday in June 1949, Elders, Kitt Ratliff, J. H. Blackburn, Wallace Chaptman to attend.

Grapevine Church: Meets Friday before the third Saturday in July 1949, Elders, Dan Adkins, J. H. Blackburn, Lonnie Warrix, Wallace Chaptman and Paris Coleman to attend.



Samaria Church: Meets Friday before the third Saturday in June 1949. Elders W. H. Thacker, A. P. Justice, Dan Adkins, Frank Wheeler, and Teddy Ball to attend.

Little Union Church: No union Meeting.

Johns Creek Church: Meets Friday before the first Saturday in July 1949. Elders, Dan Adkins, W. H. Thacker, John Fuller, and Teddy Ball to attend.

7. Secretary reports all work up and cash left on hand \$302.05.

8. Circular letter called for, read, received and to be printed in the minutes, Brother Teddy Ball to prepare the next.

9. Agreed that we have one Thousand Minutes printed and annex our constitution, articles of faith, rules of decorum, and the obituaries of Elder Anderson Justice and Brother Albert Casey.

10. Agreed that the Brother Clerk superentend the printing and distribution of the Minutes.

11. Moved and seconed that the Brother Clerk may buy Record Book for the Asociation.

12. The finance was disposed of as follows.

Balance left on hand from last year	\$ 4.56
Amount received from the Churches	297.49

Total cash on hand	\$ 302.05
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Allowed for the printing of the Minutes	\$ 90.00
Allowed for record Book	30.00
Allowed the Clerk for his services	10.00
Donated to Johns Creek Church	172.05

Total	\$ 302.05	\$ 302.05
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Balance left on hand	none
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13. Moved and seconed that the Association donate to the Johns Creek Church the \$172.05 cash left after paying all the expenses of the Association.

Agreed that our next Association be held with the Big Creek Church at Canada, Pike County Ky., and to begin Friday before the first Sunday in September 1949 and that Elder Dan Adkins is to preach the Introductory Sermon and that Elder Wallace Chaptman be his alternate.

The Washington Association meets with the Jerusalem Church at Page, Va., and will begin Friday before the second Sunday in September 1949 go by Grundy, Va., to Redjacket, Va., then to Page, Va.

The Indian Creek Association meets with the Dry Pond Church in Monroe County, W. Va., and will begin Friday before the last Sunday in August 1949, to go there go to Princeton, then to Rich Creek, turn right on route 219 and go to just this side of Leyside, then turn left on W. P. A. road to the Association.



The members and friends of the Mates Creek Association wishes to tender their heart felt thanks to all who helped in any way to care for the Association.

Minutes read and approved, closed by prayer by Elder Haddly Edwards, then adjourned until the time of our next Association.

Signed by: W. H. Thacker, Moderator

A. P. Justice Assistant Moderator

Stearl Hatfield Clerk

C. J. Mickey Assistant Clerk

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### SUNDAY MORNING SEPTEMBER 5TH 1948

Singing and prayer Elder M. M. Edwards of the Washington Association.

Elders on the stand 1st, Elder Lowell Lilly of the Indian Creek Association, Text, Phillippians 2.12,13, Work out your own Salvation etc.

2nd, Elder B. E. Dotson of the Powells Valley Association, used for a Text, the word Grace.

3rd, Elder A. R. Singleton of the Washington Association, Text Joshua 24. 15, and if it seem evil unto you to serve the Lord, etc.

The preaching was good and we feel the little children of God was fed a wonderful feast, dismissed by our beloved Moderator.

The Clerk.

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### NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF MINISTERS

#### ELDERS

A .J. Blackburn, Ira, Va.

Joe Thacker, Canada, Ky.

John Fuller, Canada, Ky.

Lonnie Warix, Fishtrap, Ky.

Charlie Holsinger, Mossy Bottom, Ky.

Joe Slone, Jr., Fishtrap, Ky.

Dan Adkins, McAndrews, Ky.

P. D. Smith, Belfry, Ky.

Kit Ratliff, Ransom, Ky.

J. H. Blackburn, Ira, Va.

Wallace Chapman, Belfry, Ky.

Frank Wheeler, Stone, Ky.

George Hunt, Hardy, Ky.

Ieddy Ball, Ransom, Ky.

Paris Coleman, Coleman, Ky.

W. N. Smith, Coleman, Ky.

A. J. Ball, Stone, Ky.

Anderson Casey, Coleman, Ky.

H. W. Prater, Ira, Va.

W. H. Thacker, McAndrews, Ky.

A. P. Justice, Millard, Ky.

W. E. Thacker, Millard, Ky.

J. W. Slone, Fishtrap, Ky.

M. C. Slone, Fishtrap, Ky.



## **OBITUARY OF BROTHER ALBERT CASEY**

Brother Albert Casey, was born January 20, 1876. A son of Richard and Mary Reynolds Casey. Deceased this life September 5, 1948, age 73 years, 7 months and 16 days. He was married early in life to Delilah Smith, to this union was born 13 children. Two of them preceed him in death, leaving the following children to mourn his loss; Anderson, Richard, Troy, Jim, Alex, Johnny, and Bradley Casey. Virgie Dotson, Alemnda Dotson, Lizzie Charles, and Demo Charles. He also leaves the following brothers and sisters, Bill Casey, Rhoda Kinder, Manda Smith, Bertha Taylor, Eva Farley, and Sarona Sullivan. He joined the Primitive Babtist Church 39 years ago and was babtized by Elder G. H. Coleman. He was a deacon in the church for many years and lived a faithful member until his death. Uncle Albert will be missed by the church and all who knew him. His seat in the church can never be filled, but we hope that our loss is his gain.

Written by,  
Elder Teddy Ball

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## **ELDER ANDERSON JUSTICE**

### **OBITUARY**

Anderson Justice the son of Elder Abner Justice and Mercy Slone Justice was born May 17, 1893 and died December 21st 1946 making his stay on earth 55 years 7 months 4 days. He was married to Pollie Blackburn Nov. 24th, 1911, to this union were born 9 children 5 boys and 4 girls 3 preceeded him in death 4 boys and 2 girls, Fred, Hayes, Abner, Nathaniel Justice, Mrs. Octava Coleman, Mrs. Martha Justice, Anderson Justice, Jr., and his wife, two brothers, Flem Justice, Matt Justice and one sister, Martha J. Adkins to mourn their loss, but we hope and trust our loss is his eternal gain.

He joined the primitive Baptist church, and was baptized by Elder W. H. Thacker 2nd Sat. July 1936. Shortly after he was called to speak in public, he lived a faithful believer in the doctrine of salvation by the grace of God until his death he was a loving husband and father and a faithful friend.

Written by his wife,  
Mrs. Pollie Justice.

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## **CIRCULAR LETTER**

Dear breathern, messenger and ministers, which compose the 96th annual session of Old Regular Primitive Baptist Mates Creek Association, when convened with the church at Johns Creek, Coleman, Kentucky, September 3-4-5-1948. I was appointed last year to address you in the form of a circular letter, and after careful and prayful thought I hope there is a passage of scripture recorded in Phil. 3:20; 21 which seams to have some bearing on our mind which



reads as follows: Our confession is in heaven from whence we look for the Savior the Lord Jesus Christ who shall change our vile body that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body according to the working where by he is able to subdue all things unto him-self. Now brethren we believe and the Bible tells us that Jesus come forth from the Father into this world to save his people not just something in them but mortal man that he the mortal or earthly being should be emortalized and fashioned like unto the body of the Savior Jesus Christ. For Christ being in the form of God thought it not robbery to be equal with God but made himself of no reputation and took on him the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of men. He was both human and divine having a heavenly Father and an earthly Mother therefore he was perfect man and perfect God. The humaity and the livinity connected heaven and earth together the humanity of Christ brought him in connection with God the Father in Heaven therefore Christ was a perfect Mediator between God and man to with that God was in Christ reconciling the world unto himself not emputing there trespasses unto hem, his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree that we being dead to sin should live unto righteousness for by whose stripes we were healed. Christ offered himself without spot unto God for us he entered in once into the holy place for his people and obtained eternal redemption for them and because the children were made Pertaker of Flesh and blood Christ took part of the same that through death he might destroy him that had power of death. The flesh and blood body of Jesus was nailed to the cross suffered death burried in the grave raised from the dead assended back to the Father, wrom whence we look for him to appear the second time without sin unto salvation to raise this mortal body of our, emortilized fashioned like the glorious body of the son of God. Dear brethren this is our hope that Jesus according to his glorious promise, will come riding upon the cloud of heaven to wake up his Jewels, and to take his children home. Brethren our prayer to God is that the golden cords of love and sweet fellowship will bind the hearts of the children together in peace and love till Jesus comes again.

Submitted in love by your unworthy brother in the Lord if one at all.

Frank Wheeler.

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## CONSTITUTION

Article I. This association shall be called Mates Creek District, Old Regular, or Primitive Baptist Association.

Article II. The association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union and duly sent to represent them in the association, who shall be members whom they judge best qualified for that purpose, and producing letters from their respective churches, certifying their appointment, shall be entitled to seats.

Articles III. In the letters from the different churches shall be expressed their membership in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, dismissed by letter, restored, excluded and deceased since last association.



Article IV. The members thus chosen and convened shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor shall they have any clerical power over the churches, nor shall they infringe on any of the internal rights of any church in this union.

Article V. The association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum.

Article VI. The association shall have a moderator, clerk and treasurer, who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

Article VII. Newly constituted churches may be admitted into the union who shall petition by letter and messengers, and (if found upon examination to be orthodox and orderly) shall be received by the association and manifested by the moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

Article VIII. Every church in the union shall be entitled to representation in the association.

Article IX. Every query presented by any church to the association, being first debated in their own church, shall be taken up by the association.

Article X. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the association except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

Article XI. The association shall endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the association; the best way and method for effecting that purpose shall be at the discretion of future associations.

Article XII. We think it absolutely necessary that we should have an association fund for defraying expenses of the same, for the raising and supporting of which we think it is the duty of each church in the union to contribute such sums voluntarily as they think proper, and send it by the hands of their messenger to the association, and those moneys thus contributed by the churches and received by the association shall be deposited in the hands of the treasurer, who shall be accountable to the association for all the moneys received by him, and pay out of the same according to the direction of the association.

Article XIII. There shall be an association book kept, wherein the proceedings of every association shall be regularly recorded by the secretary chosen for that purpose, who shall receive compensation for his trouble.

Article XIV. The minutes of the association shall be read (corrected if need be) and signed by the moderator and clerk before the association rises.

Article XV. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made at any time by a majority of the union when they deem it necessary.

Article XVI. The association shall have power: (1) To provide for the general union of the churches, (2) To preserve an inviolate chain of communication among the churches. (3) To give the churches necessary advice in matters of church difficulty. (4) To inquire into the cause why the churches fail to represent themselves at any time in the association. (5) To appropriate



those moneys by the churches contributed for an association fund to any purpose they may think proper. (6) To appoint any member or members by and with their consent to transact any business they may see necessary. (7) The association shall have power to withdraw from any church in this union which shall violate the rules of this association or deviate from the orthodox principles of religion. (8) To admit any orderly ministers of our faith and order to a seat in the association. (9) The association shall have power to adjourn themselves to any future time or place they may think most convenient to the churches of the association.

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## ARTICLES OF FAITH

I. We believe in one true and living God, who is the Creator. Upholder and righteous Disposer of all things; and that He is self-existent, independent, omnipotent and eternal.

II. We believe that Jesus Christ existed in His mediatorial person, as the head and life of His body, the church, from everlasting.

III. We believe in the doctrine of eternal, personal and unconditional election; that the elect, or church is, and was, and shall forever remain, His body and fullness, and their spiritual life is hid with Christ in God.

IV. We believe in the doctrine of total depravity of human nature, and that recovery from that condition is wholly and exclusively by the sovereign, free and unmerited grace of God.

V. We believe the atonement made by Christ was full and complete, and exclusively for the elect, or heirs of promise.

VI. We believe the doctrine of God's predestination in every sense as the Bible teaches it.

VII. We believe that all the elect vessels of mercy, chosen in Christ before the foundation of the world, shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the regenerating power of God's grace, and shall ultimately enjoy heaven and immortal glory.

VIII. We believe there will be a resurrection of the bodies, both of the just and unjust, and that the happiness of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.

IX. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the subjects, and the true mode of baptism is immersion, and foot-washing is an example.

X. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as translated under the reign of King James are a revelation from God inspired by the Holy Ghost, and the New Testament is the standard of faith and the only authorized rule of practice to the church of God under the gospel dispensation. We therefore consider ourselves solemnly bound by our allegiance to the King of Zion to reject, disclaim and disfellowship all modern and ancient



religious institutions or societies of which we have neither precept nor example in the New Testament.

## **RULES OF DECORUM**

I. The association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

II. A moderator and clerk shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

III. Only one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the moderator when he is about to speak.

IV. The person thus speaking shall not be interrupted by any except the moderator until he is done speaking.

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

VI. No persons shall rise and speak more than three times on one subject without liberty from the association.

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

VIII. No member of the association shall have liberty of laughing during the sitting of the association nor whispering in time of public speech.

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

X. The moderator shall not interrupt any member in a speech or prohibit him from speaking until he gives his light on the subject, except they break the Rules of Decorum.

XI. Names of the several members of the association shall be enrolled by the clerk and called over as many times as the association may require.

XII. The moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as another member, provided the chair be filled, and he shall have no vote except the association be equally divided. In that event he shall give the casting vote.

XIII. That any member who shall willingly violate any of these rules shall be reprovved by the association as they think proper.





# CHURCHES

## ADDRESSES OF CLERKS

CHURCHES		ADDRESSES OF CLERKS										
		Rec. by Exp. and Bap.										
		Rec. by letter	Rec. by relation	Restored	Dismissed by letter	Excluded	Deceased	No. of minutes	Total membership	Saturday of meetings	Contributions	
Louisa	G. A. Collins, Fishtrap, Ky.	3				1	1	125	64	2	42.05	
Pond Creek	C. J. Mickey, Belfry, Ky.	10						125	73	2	44.54	
Big Creek	M. B. Blackburn, Canada, Ky.					1		100	31	3	24.00	
Raccoon	Milton Coleman, Raccon, Ky.	5						75	32	4	9.00	
Sulphur Spring	J. B. May, Ira, Virginia		1			1		40	27	1	5.15	
Peter Creek	Roland Dotson, Stone, Ky.	4		1	1	1	2	75	61	4	26.00	
Little Hope	Dewey Dotson, Pinsonfork, Ky.	1						60	20	1	23.00	
Joppa	Tinnie McCoy, Hatfield, Ky.	2					1	25	10	1	5.50	
Grapevine	Stewart Justice, Fishtrap, Ky.					1	1	50	21	3	12.25	
Samaria	Bob Dotson, Hardy, Ky.	3			1		2	125	92	3	56.95	
Little Union	James H. Fuller, Feds Creek, Ky.							25	9	4	19.05	
John's Creek	Ira Smith, Coleman, Kentucky	3					1	50	24	1	35.01	
Totals		31	1	1	3	5	6	875	464		297.49	