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**MINUTES**  
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OF THE

**Fifty-Third Annual Session**

OF THE

**GUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION**

HELD WITH THE

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**Hills Tabernacle Baptist Church  
of Christ**

**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE**

**September 23, 24, 25, 1933**

**-OFFICERS-**

Elder Z. W. Hill ..... Moderator  
Elder P. H. Weakley ..... Assistant Moderator  
Elder D. A. Kimbro .. Clerk  
Elder H. Covington ..... Assistant Clerk  
Bro. L. W. *Leglar* ..... Treasurer



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Bro. L. W. Leath .....Treasurer

# PROCEEDINGS

## FIRST DAY—Morning Session.

The fifty-third annual session of the Cumberland Association was called to order by the Moderator, Elder Z. W. Hill. Devotional service was conducted by Bro. Joe Elder, who sang a hymn, subject, "A few more years shall roll," and offered prayer. Elder Z. W. Hill, the Moderator, then lined hymn, "Must Jesus bear the cross alone." Scripture lesson was read by Elder A. M. Bedford from the 133 Psalm. Next the Moderator introduced Elder P. H. Weakley, who arose, lining a hymn, subject, "God did not dread to undertake," and preached the Introductory Sermon, using for his text, Gen. 2:1. Many hearts were led to rejoice. The Moderator then made some timely remarks followed by Elder D. A. Kimbro and Elder A. M. Bedford.

Next collection was taken, raised \$18.00. Then we adjourned for one hour.

## AFTERNOON SESSION

Devotional service was conducted by Bro. Forest Hill, who sang hymn, subject, "Death may dissolve my body now." Prayer by Bro. G. Armstrong. The Moderator sang, "A few more years shall roll" and made a few remarks.

Next the enrolling of the names of the messengers and Elders. The Association was then organized by choosing the different officers.

On motion by Bro. A. Taylor, seconded by Elder A. M. Bedford, that the present staff of officers retain their offices.

On motion by Bro. A. Taylor and seconded by Elder G. Knight, that the Moderator appoint all committees. Carried.

The following committees were appointed.

COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE—Elder A. M. Bedford, Elder J. H. Lee, Elder J. W. Batey, Elder R. H. Vaughter.

COMMITTEE ON ARRANGEMENTS—Elder Z. W. Hill, Elder H. Covington, Elder M. Mabry, Bro. J. Malone, Bro. A. Taylor.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE—Bro. F. Hill, C. H. Finch, W. L. Harlins, S. Hunter, A. Taylor, G. Knight, W. Mirdick, Joe Elder, B. H. Harris, G. Armstrong, J. R. Martin and C. Helmn.

On motion by Bro. A. Taylor and seconded by Elder Weakley that the brethren that are appointed to preach be allowed thirty minutes, except the messengers that represent an Association, they be allowed forty minutes. (Carried.)

Committee on Arrangements made the following arrangements:

Saturday night at the stand at 7:30 Elder J. H. Hall, Elder J. W. Batey, Elder F. Vaughter, Elder J. H. Lee.

Sunday morning at the stand at 10:30—Elder T. Stratton, Elder Sidney Dowie, Elder A. M. Bedford.

Sunday afternoon at 3:00—Elder H. Jordan, Elder Z. W. Hill.

Sunday night at 7:30—Elder D. D. Word, Elder D. A. Kimbro, and Elder H. Covington.

Next collection two dollar (\$2.10) and ten cents. We adjourned then to meet Monday morning at 8:30 o'clock. All that are late to pay a fine of ten cents (.10).

## SATURDAY NIGHT—At the Stand.

Devotional service was conducted by Bro. C. H. Finch, who sang,

"Death may desolve my body now," and offered prayer. Scripture lesson by Elder P. H. Weakley, Isaiah 53. Collection, \$13.00.

Next Elder J. H. Hall from the Friendship Association was introduced. He sang, "How sweet the name of Jesus sounds," and preached a wonderful sermon, using for his text, Psalm 33:12, followed by Elder J. W. Batey, who sang "Firmly I stand on Zion's Hill." Text Acts 2:39, followed by Elder R. Vaughtner, who sang "How can I sink with such a prop," text, Psalm 118:23. He was followed by Bro. W. Watkins who sang "There is a fountain filled with blood," text, John 1:1. Adjourned then to meet Sunday at 10:30 A. M.

#### SUNDAY MORNING—Second Day.

Service was opened by Bro. F. Hill, who sang a hymn, subject, "The days are passed and gone" and offered prayer. The Scripture lesson was read by the assistant Moderator, Elder P. H. Weakley. He read the nineteenth division of the Psalm. Next Bro. Armstrong lined a hymn, subject, "I heard the voice of Jesus say," and offered prayer. The Moderator sang "The old time religion is good enough for me" and introduced Elder T. Stratton the messenger from the Big Harper Association, who arose and lined a hymn, subject, "On Jordan's stormy banks I stand," and preached a soul-stirring sermon using for his text the one hundred and thirty-third division of the Psalms. Next Elder Sidney Dowie, the messenger of the Indian Creek was introduced. He sang "He died the mighty Saviour died," and preached a most wonderful sermon using for his text, Jeremiah 5:1. He was followed by Elder A. M. Bedford, who sang, "I couldn't hear nobody pray," text Hebrews 8:5. He preached a strong sermon. Many hearts were made to rejoice. Next an offering was taken, raised \$24.05. We then adjourned for one hour for dinner.

#### AFTERNOON SESSION—3:00 P. M.

Devotional service was conducted by Deacon A. Taylor, by singing hymn, "Lord teach me how to pray" and offered prayer. The Moderator then introduced Elder Jordan, the messenger from Lynn Creek, who sang a hymn, subject, "How beautiful are their feet, text Acts 20:28. Many hearts were made to rejoice. He was followed by the Moderator, Elder Z. W. Hill, who sang, "Of all the themes we mortals know." Text, Isaiah 40:30. He preached a wonderful sermon. We then adjourned till 7:30 o'clock Sunday night.

#### SUNDAY NIGHT—7:30 P. M.

Service was opened by Bro. Forest Hill, who sang "And am I born to die," and offered prayer. Next a collection was taken, raised \$17.00. The Moderator then introduced Elder D. D. Ward, from the Friendship Association, who preached from 2 Timothy 1:7. He was followed by Elder D. A. Kimbro, who sang "Hark don't you hear the turtle dove." Text, Acts 20:23. He was followed by Elder H. Covington, who sang "O what a wretched land is this." He used the same text. Many hearts were made glad. We then adjourned to meet Monday morning at 8:30 o'clock.

#### MONDAY MORNING—At the House of Business.

Service was opened by Bro. F. Hill, who lined hymn, subject, "Much Jesus bear the cross alone" and offered prayer. The house was called to order by the Moderator, Elder Z. W. Hill. The Scripture lesson was read by Elder P. H. Weakley, from Isaiah 40. The moderator made some timely remarks followed by several of the brethren. Next the letters from the church were called for and received. The petitionary letters were called for, none offered. Next the letters from the cor-

4 MINUTES OF THE CUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION

responding Associations were called for and received. The messengers and Elders were then given the right hand of fellowship.

Next the report of the different committees was called for. First Committee on Correspondence. They reported as follows:

From Lynn Creek a messenger and letter by Elder H. Jordan. From Big Harper a letter by her messenger, Elder T. Stratton. From Indian Creek a letter by her messenger, Elder Sidney Dowie.

On motion the report of the committee was adopted and the committee discharged.

Next Committee on Arrangements was called for. The committee reported all appointments filled according to arrangements, except Elder J. H. Lee. The report of the committee was adopted and the committee discharged.

Next Committee on Finance was called for they made the following report:

From the Congregation .....	\$ 86.13
From Churches .....	117.20
From Treasurer .....	7.12
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$210.45</b>

On motion the report of the committee was adopted and the committee to be discharged when all their work was done. (Carried.)

EXPENSES

For tent .....	\$ 60.00
For the Moderator, Elder Z. W. Hill .....	25.00
Clerk, Elder D. A. Kimbro .....	25.00
Assistant Clerk, Elder H. Covington .....	15.00
Assistant Moderator, Elder P. H. Weakley .....	15.00
Treasurer, Bro. L. W. Leath .....	4.00
Printing Minutes .....	15.00
	<b>\$159.00</b>

On motion it was agreed to have eight hundred minutes printed. Give the clerk \$15.00 now and allow him to draw on the treasury for the remainder. (Carried.)

DISBURSEMENTS

Paid to Elder R. Vaughter for representing .....	\$ 9.00
Elder Z. W. Hill, for representing .....	3.00
Elder J. H. Lee for representing .....	4.50
Donated to Elder A. M. Bedford .....	5.00
Elder H. Jordan .....	2.50
Elder T. Stratton .....	2.00
Elder J. W. Baty .....	3.00
Elder J. H. Hall .....	2.00
Elder D. D. Ward .....	2.00
Donated to three widows \$2.00 each .....	6.00
Elder M. Mabry .....	1.29
Elder A. G. Jones .....	2.00
Elder S. Dowie .....	2.50
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$ 44.79</b>
Grand Total paid out .....	<b>\$203.79</b>
Balance in treasury .....	<b>\$ 7.32</b>

UNION MEETINGS

One at Ash Grove, to begin on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July. Elder D. A. Kimbro preached the Introductory Sermon.

One at Hills Tabernacle to begin on Saturday before the third Sunday in July. Elder A. M. Bedford to preach the Introductory Sermon.

One at Mt. Zion, Murfreesboro, Tenn., to begin on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in June. Elder Z. W. Hill to preach the Introductory Sermon.

One at Green Grove to begin on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July. Elder Z. W. Hill to preach the Introductory Sermon.

One at Walker's Chapel to begin on Saturday before the second Sunday in July. Elder Z. W. Hill to preach the Introductory Sermon.

On motion it was agreed that we hold an Elder and Deacon meeting at Ebenezer Church near the National Cemetery, to begin on Saturday before the first Sunday in November, 1933. Elder D. A. Kimbro to preach the Introductory Sermon. Elder H. Covington, alternate.

Messengers to bear letters to the sister Associations: To Big Harper, Elder D. A. Kimbro. To Lynn Creek, Elder Z. W. Hill. To Indian Creek, by letter.

On motion by Elder P. H. Weakley, seconded by Bro. G. Knight, the Cumberland Association with the church at Walker's Chapel, Alexandria, Tenn., to convene on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1934. Elder R. H. Vaughter to preach the Introductory Sermon. Elder H. Covington, alternate.

On motion by Elder P. H. Weakley, seconded by Bro. G. Knight, the Moderator and Clerk be empowered to wind up any unfinished business or correct any mistakes. (Carried.)

It was moved and carried that we extend to Hill's Tabernacle and the good members and pastor our heart felt thanks for their kindness while they entertained us, also we extend to Rev. Hollis, the pastor of Capers Chapel our thanks for his kindness in allowing us to use his church.

We then adjourned to go to the stand to try Bro. Willie Watkins and Bro. Z. Cheatham for ordination. They were properly tried, the presbytery reported not worthy of ordination. So we closed the fifty-third annual session of the Cumberland Association.

ELDER Z. W. HILL, Moderator.

ELDER D. A. KIMBRO, Clerk.

ELDER P. H. WEAKLEY, Asst. Moderator.

ELDER H. COVINGTON, Assistant Clerk.

BRO. L. W. LEATH, Treasurer.

#### ROLL OF ELDERS

Elder J. W. Baty, Murfreesboro, Tenn., Rt. 9.

Elder A. M. Bedford, Eagleville, Tenn., Rt. 1.

Elder D. A. Kimbro, 505 Highland Ave., Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Elder H. Covington, 1230 First Ave., S., Nashville, Tenn.

Elder P. H. Weakley, 1904 Cartwright St., Nashville, Tenn.

Elder John Polk, 800 19th Ave., Nashville, Tenn.

Elder B. Hyde, Nashville, Tenn.

Elder M. Mabry, Nashville, Tenn.

Elder J. H. Lee.

Elder J. H. Blackman, Flint, Mich.

Elder R. H. Vaughter, 1611 Heiman St., Nashville, Tenn.

#### Roll of Licentiates.

Willie Watkins, Tom Hayes, Zack Cheatham, Thomas Butler, Olive Roberts.

#### List of Dead Elders.

Elder W. M. Clayton, T. E. Crawley, D. Childress, D. D. McNary, R. House, W. M. Scott, H. Kimbro, C. Childress, K. Lillard,

M. Williams, L. Mason, T. Blackman, John Nelson, Joe Hayes, D. Gooch, Men. Lawrence, H. Huddleston, G. Bostic, G. Brown.

### FORM OF LETTER

We the Churches of Christ of the Primitive Order of Baptists at  
 ..... met in council on the ..... finding ourselves  
 in peace and in full fellowship. We chose our beloved brethren .....  
 ..... our messengers to bear this epistle of  
 love to you whom we hope you will receive and grant a seat with you  
 in your Godly council. Any favor shown them will be appreciated by  
 us. Dear brethren, we pray that you may have a glorious session and  
 the Holy Spirit will guide you and the dove of peace may hover over  
 you. Pray for us. Since the last Association, received by baptism  
 ..... by letter ..... dismissed .....  
 by letter ..... restored ..... excluded .....  
 dead ..... total ..... Meeting day .....  
 Contribution \$.....  
 Pastor .....  
 Clerk .....

### Constitution

Article 1. This Association shall be known as the Cumberland Association of the Primitive Order of Baptists.

Article 2. As an Association is a body formed for the purpose of obtaining a more general acquaintance with the state of the churches, maintaining a friendly intercourse with each other, giving advice in cases of difficulty, etc., this Association shall therefore exercise no authority over the several churches of which it is composed, but shall regard them as entirely independent, give full credit to their act, and never pass any censure or animadversion thereof.

Article 3. The churches belonging to this Association shall be such as hold the following doctrines, viz: The unity of God; the existence of three equal powers in the Godhead, the just condemnation and total depravity of all mankind by the fall of our first parents; personal and unconditional election of Christ before the foundation of the world; the proper divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ that is, he is the true elect only; the Lord's Supper, a privilege peculiar to baptized believers regularly admitted to the church fellowship; the resurrection of



the body (shall at the last day such of the saints as are found alive shall not sleep, but be changed and all the dead shall be raised up with the selfsame bodies and none other, although with different qualifications which shall be united again to their souls forever; the bodies of the unjust shall by the power of Christ be raised to dishonor;—the bodies of the just by His Spirit unto honor and be made conformable to His own glorious body;) the general judgment, the final happiness of the saints and the misery of the wicked alike interminable, the obligations of every intelligent creature to love God supremely, to believe what God says and practice what God commands; and the Divine inspiration of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as the only complete and infallible rule of faith and practice.

Article 4. Any church desiring to be received into this Association shall make application by letter and give an explicit and satisfactory declaration of her faith and practice; and any church departing from the article of faith expressed in this Constitution, shall be excluded from the privileges of the Association.

Article 5. Each church in this Association shall be entitled to represent herself by these messengers, on producing evidence of their appointment, and it is expected that each church will send a letter to the Association containing the names of the messengers, her number baptized, received, restored, dismissed by letter, excluded, deceased and number belonging to her communion.

Article 6. The Officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, a Clerk, and Treasurer, who shall be chosen annually by ballot, and continue in office until after a new election.

Article 7. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the Association during its session, to preserve order, and propose questions and announce decisions, but except on questions of order he shall never speak himself, unless he orders some other member to fill the chair for the time, and then he shall be governed by the same rules and restrictions as other members.

Article 8. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a true minute of all the proceedings of the Association, and prepare the same for publication as the Association shall direct.

Article 9. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to keep charge of money's of the Association, to pay the same, or any part thereof, at and all times, on the order of the Association which order shall always be furnished him in writing signed by the clerk; to keep an account of all receipts and disbursements, and present it annually for the examination of the Association.

Article 10. Alterations and amendments to this Constitution may be made by majority of the Association whenever they may deem it necessary.

#### ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in only one true and living God—the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rules of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of Election, and that God chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world.

4. We believe in the doctrine of Original Sin.

5. We believe in man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature by his own free will and power.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by imputed righteousness of Christ.

7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, converted, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

8. We believe that the saints shall persevere in grace and never fall finally away.

9. We believe that baptism, the Lord's Supper, and the washing of saint's feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and true believers are the subject and that the only mode of baptism is immersion.

10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and general judgment.

11. We believe in the punishment of the wicked and that the joys of the righteous shall be eternal.

12. We believe that no minister has a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as are regularly baptized, called and come under the imposition of hands of the Presbytery.

13. We believe that none but regular baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's Table.

### RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Moderator shall fill the chair and preserve order in the Association, which shall be opened and closed by prayer, either by himself or some brother.

2. The privileges and authority of the Moderator shall be respected by all members; yet he shall not be arbitrary in exercising them. He shall decide questions of order and property, but from this decision an appeal, if seconded, may be made to the Association, and the decision of the Association shall be binding on all parties.

3. The Moderator shall vote in no case unless the Association be equally divided, then he shall give the deciding vote. He shall have the same privilege of speaking as other members proving he calls some other member of the body to the chair.

4. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator. He shall not be interrupted unless he departs from his subject or makes use of personal reflection. He shall not speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association, unless to explain what has not been understood or misrepresented.

5. No member shall vacate his seat without leave of the Moderator.

6. When a question is taken up after allowing time for deliberation, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association, either by yeas or nays, *vivi voci*, or requiring those in the affirmative to rise from their seats, and if necessary, those in the negative also. The Moderator shall announce his decision before he resumes his seat.

7. Motion and amendments to motions, if seconded, must be considered unless withdrawn. The usual order of deliberative bodies shall be observed in disposing of them by the Association.

8. The list of names of delegates shall be called over and the Constitution and Rules of Decorum, or any part thereof read as often as the Association may direct.

9. The clerk shall enroll the names of the delegates, record the proceedings of the body, and discharge such other duties as the Association may direct.

10. Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and the Clerk before the Association rises.

**STATISTICAL TABLE OF THE CUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION**

NAMES OF CHURCHES	NAME OF MESSENGERS	Received by Baptism	Received by Letter	Dismissed by Letter	Restored	Excluded	Deceased	Total	Meeting Day	Contribution	Name of Pastors
St. Luke .....	A. Taylor, D. Caruthers, P. Johnson, G. Armstrong.	2	1	..	..	5	100	4	\$25.00	Elder H. Covington	
Mt. Zion .....	C. Finch, G. Sumler	19	2	..	..	2	148	2	18.00	Elder D. A. Kimbro	
Ebenezer .....	W. Horlins, S. Hunt	3	1	..	..	1	47	2	5.20	Elder A. M. Bedford	
Green Grove .....	J. Martin, E. Britton	6	..	..	1	1	72	4	10.00	Elder A. M. Bedford	
Cedar Grove .....	H. Haynes, J. Turner	..	..	..	..	..	48	3	3.00	Elder A. M. Bedford	
Holly Grove .....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Ash Grove .....	J. Davis, A. Davis	..	2	3	..	..	46	4	6.00	Elder J. W. Baty	
Shady Grove .....	A. Jones, B. Hailey, G. Johnson	..	..	..	..	..	31	1	5.00	Elder J. W. Hill	
Antioch .....	L. W. Leath, J. Malone	1	..	..	..	1	39	1	5.00	Elder D. A. Kimbro	
Rocky Fork .....	H. E. Elder, J. W. Baty	..	..	..	..	..	13	2	2.25	Elder J. W. Baty	
St. Peter .....	P. H. Weakley	1	..	..	2	..	18	3	4.00	Elder P. H. Weakley	
Stone River .....	Joe King, A. King, D. Butler	1	..	..	..	..	14	1	2.00	Elder A. M. Bedford	
Walker's Chapel .....	C. Helmn, T. B. Cragwall	..	..	..	..	..	18	2	2.25	Elder P. H. Weakley	
Mt. Gilead .....	J. W. Baty	..	..	..	1	1	16	3	2.25	Elder J. W. Baty	
Hill's Tabernacle .....	G. Knight, F. Hill, W. M. Murdick, B. H. Harris.	47	..	..	4	1	6293	2	25.00	Elder Z. W. Hill	
Lees Chapel .....	.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Elder J. H. Lee	
Little Zion .....	R. Vaughter, Joe Elder	4	1	..	..	2	9	3	2.25	Elder R. Vaughter	