**1879 Minutes**

The Delegates comprising the Fourteenth Anniversary of the Stone Association  
assembled at the Laurel Creek Church, Cumberland county, Tennessee on  
Friday, the 3d day of October ,a d., 1879.

After prayer by Elder John Kinnaird, the Introductory Sermon was preached by  
Elder John Brewster from the 15th Chapter of the Gospel recorded by St. John,  
and the first clause of the 5th verse, "I am the vine, ye are the branches."  
The delegates from the different Churches being called,came forward and took  
their seats. The Association then proceeded to organize, by electing Elder  
Benjamin Clouse, Moderator, and Bro.R. L Gentry, Clerk.  
Letters from the different Churches were then called for and were read and  
received. The door to admit sister Churches as members of the Association was  
then opened, when there were two presented themselves by their delegates-T.  
C. Peek and John Brewster, duly appointed, and were received in due form, they  
having presented petitionary letters, which letters were read and received.  
On motion, the Association adjourned until 4 o'clock p. m.

Afternoon Session-Met pursuant to adjournment, and after prayer by the  
moderator, proceeded to business. Corresponding letters were called for,when  
one from New Union Association of United Baptist was presented by its  
delegates, duly appointed, to wit: A. D. Jones, William Massa, J. H.Brannum, M.  
Curtis, and W. H. Trammel, which letter was read and received, and the  
delegates invited to seats: that being present, came forward and took their seats.  
On motion, the Association adjourned until Saturday morning , 8 O'clock.

Saturday-The Association met pursuant to adjournment, and after prayer by  
Elder T. J. Clouse, proceeded to business. On motion, and in pursuance of  
Section 9 of the Declaration of Rights,there were appointed as Presbyters,  
Elders T. J. Clouse, John Brewster,Joseph A. Moyers, G. L. Moyers and John  
Stowers for the next associational year.  
On motion, the ministers were appointed to attend the several churches as  
pastors thereof, to-wit:

Antioch-Willis Bush and John Fuquay  
Board Valley-Benjamin Clouse and E. Pennington  
Blackburn's Fork-Jesse Allen and John Kinnard  
Bethel-T. J. Clouse  
Calf Killer-Benjamin Clouse  
Caney Fork-E. Pennington and  Lewis Howell  
Crooked Creek-W. P. Brown and  John Brewster  
Cane Creek-Willis Bush and John Fuquay  
Copeland Creek-G. L. Moyers, Joseph Moyers and john Stowers  
Chapel Hill-Lewis Howell and Benjamin Clouse  
Dodson's Branch-Jesse Allen and Nathan Judd  
England Cove-E. Pennington and Benjamin Clouse  
Highland-John Kinnard and J. J. Speck  
High Rock-Mathias Judd and John Judd  
Indian Creek-C. Alred and W. Y. Tinch  
Laurel Creek-G. L. Moyers and Joseph A. Moyers  
Liberty-W. B. Isbell  
Macedonia-Nathan Judd and Mathias Judd  
Mt. Pisgah-Joseph A. Moyers and John Brewster  
Shady Grove-John Kinnard and J. J. Speck  
Viola-T. J. Clouse and Mansfield Howell  
Zion Hill, P. C.-Benjamin Clouse, Mansfield Howell and R. L. Gentry  
Zion Hill, C. C.-Joseph A. Moyers and G. L. Moyers  
Elder James A. Moyers, at his own request, was released from pastoral labor for  
the next associational year.Elder W. E. Smith, upon the report of the Board of  
Presbyters, was dismissed from the Association, and his credentials declared  
null and void.

On motion, it was agreed that we have correspondence with New Union  
Association of United Baptist, and one Messenger from each Church from this  
Association was appointed, to wit: John Fuquay, Benjamin Clouse, R. F. Pippin,  
Robert Horn, John A. Brown, John Brewster, James A. Moyers, Wm. Boisley,  
Lewis Howell, Jesse Allen, Wm. Emery, James Crabtree, Center Alred, G. L  
Moyers, Joseph Whieaker, Jackson Lee, Jr: Joseph A. Moyers, Thomas Neal, R.  
L. Gentry, Mansfield Howell, John Judd, T. J. Clouse and W. B. Isbell, and that  
this Association send up a letter of correspondence to New Union Association,  
when convened with the Indian Creek Church, Dekalb County, Tenn., on Friday  
before the second Lord's Day in September, 1880.

On application of R. L. Gentry and J. J. Speck, and they being recommended as  
candidates for the Ministry, and being declared qualified by the Board of  
Presbyters, they were ordained to the office of Elder by prayer and the  
imposition of bonds.  
On motion, it was resolved that the next Association be held with Church at Zion  
Hill, Putnam County, Tennessee, commencing on Friday before the third Lords  
Day in October, 1880, and that Elder G. L. Moyers be appointed to preach the  
introductory sermon, and Elder Benjamin Clouse his alternate.  
Resolved, That the following be the form of letters of correspondence to the  
Annual Association, to wit:  
We, the Christian Baptist Church of Christ, at\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_County, Tenn, to the  
Stone Association.  
Dear Brethren: We have chosen our  
Messengers,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to represent us in  
your body. The statistics of our church are as follows: Increase by baptism\_\_\_\_\_  
by letter\_\_\_\_\_, by restoration\_\_\_\_\_\_,Our decrease by letter\_\_\_\_\_, by  
death\_\_\_\_\_ by exclusion\_\_\_ Total in Fellowship\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Our day of meeting is  
the \_\_\_\_\_Sabbath. We send contribution,$\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Moderator,  
\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Clerk.

**Declaration Of Rights**

Section 1. That all power of Church Government is inherent in the people and  
the Preachers, that is the churches; that they have a right through their  
representatives to establish, alter or amend their form of Church Government,  
two-thirds agreeing thereto.  
Sec. 2. That a Christian Church is a society of believers in Jesus Christ and is a  
divine institition,Christ Jesus being the head of the Church, and the Bible the  
only rule of faith and practice.  
Sec. 3. That no rule of faith and doctrine shall ever be established in the  
Christian Baptist Church contrary to the Bible.  
Sec. 4. No person who loves the Lord Jesus Christ and obeys the gospel should  
be deprived of church membership.  
Sec. 5. Every man has an inalienable right to private judgement in matters of  
religion, and may speak freely of the same in a way that will not violate the law of  
God, or the laws of his country, or the rights of his fellow-men.  
Sec. 6. Church trials should be conducted on Gospel principles only, and no  
minister or member should be excommunicated except for immorality,or the  
propagation of unchristian doctrine, or neglect of duty enjoined by the word of  
God, or the rules of the church.  
Sec. 7. The church has a right to form and enforce such rules and regulations  
only,as are in accordance with the Holy Scriptures, and may be necessary to  
carry into effect the great system of practical Christianity.  
Sec. 8. There may be three grades of Associations established in the Christian  
Baptist Church.1st.-The Monthly Association. 2d.- The Annual Association.  
3d.-The General Association, all of which may be established by the rules of the  
church.  
Sec. 9. The Annual Association has the right to elect Presbyters for the  
purpose, and with the power to ordain candidates to the ministry, and to pass  
upon and declare the credentials of any Minister not found worthy or qualified  
for the ministry, null and void.  
Sec. 10. That the Church has the right to elect their leaders and delegates to  
the annual association. All the members are entitled to a vote in the elections  
and church trials.  
Sec. 11. It shall be the duty of every church to elect two deacons and one clerk.  
Sec. 12. It shall be the duty of each church to send up their delegates with  
letters to the Annual Association.  
Sec. 13. It shall be the duty of the Annual Association to send to the general  
Association, delegates with corresponding letters in order.

**Rules Of Decorum**

We, the Christian Baptist Church of Christ, believing it to be our duty to convene  
ourselves together in an associated capacity, in order to set forth our principles,  
and also rules of decorum for the churches to be governed by in the future, the  
following rules shall be our decorum:  
1st.-The Association shall be composed of the members chosen from sister  
Churches of the same faith and order.  
2nd.-This Association shall be opened by prayer to Almighty God.  
3rd.-One of the members of this Association shall be chosen to preside, who  
shall be addressed by the name of Brother Moderator, and to him every speech  
shall be directed, and he shall not have the  liberty of discussing any subject  
unless the chair is filled by someone else.  
4th.-And we will have the liberty of choosing our own clerk, and there shall be a  
door open for sister churches into the Association.  
5th.-No complaint shall be brought in the church against transgressing members  
until the aggreived party comply with the directions given by our Lord in St.  
Matt., 18th. Chap. 15, 16 and 17 verses.  
6th,-Every motion made and seconded, shall come under the consideration of  
the Association unless withdrawn by those who made it.  
7th.-If the minority are at any time grieved by the majority, they are hereby  
directed to make the same known immediately to the association, and if  
satisfaction cannot be attained, it may be necessary in that case to call help  
from other associations.  
8th.-If at any time  the Association should deem it necessary to make  
amendments, it may be done provided two-thirds of the Association be in favor  
of it.  
9th.-All the business of the Association shall be recorded by the clerk, and  
before the association rises, the same shall be read and corrected, if need be.  
10th.-It shall be the duty of the delegates of the different churches, who have  
been elected, to bring up letters in order to the Annual Association.  
11th.-It shall be the duty of the deacons of the churches to go to transgressing  
members, talk to them, admonish them, and they shall have until the  second  
church meeting to make reconciliation. It may be the duty of the church to  
choose a committee to settle questions of aggreaved cases.  
12th.-It shall be the duty of the deacons to advise the church to promote means  
to sustain their churches and  preachers.  
13th.-It shall be the duty of each minister on receiving members into the church,  
to ask the applicant the following questions;first, do you feel that you love God  
with all your heart, soul, mind and strength? Second, are you a believer with all  
your heart that Jesus Christ is the Son of God? Third, are you willing to walk in  
all his precepts?  
14th.-It shall be the duty of all persons who become members of the Christian  
Baptist Church to attend the ordinance of Baptism.  
15th.-Each Annual Association shall elect a Treasurer, whose duty it shall be to  
hold all the funds which shall come into the Treasury. There shall also at the  
same time be a clerk elected, whose duty is shall be to record all the business of  
said Treasury. All moneys paid into the Treasury shall be subject to the order of  
the Association.  
16th.-It shall be the duty of the several churches of this Association to organize  
a Church Treasury in like manner to rule 15th, to defray Church expenses.

Articles Of Faith-Christian Baptist  Church  
Article 1.-We believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be  
the Word Of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.  
Art. 2.-But to us there is but one God, the Father, of whom are all things, and we  
in Him, and the one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we by Him.  
1st Cor., 8 chap. And 6th verse.  
Art. 3-We believe that man is unable to recover himself from the fallen state that  
he is in by reason of sin, only by the grace of God through the exercise of faith.  
Art. 4.-We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper and the washing of saints  
feet are ordinances of Jesus Christ and that immersion is the only true baptism,  
not the putting away the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience  
toward God by the resurrection of Jesus Christ.  
Art. 5.-We believe that no minister has a right to administer these ordinances  
except such as are legally ordained.  
Art. 6.-We believe in the Resurrection of the dead, and a general Judgement,  
the punishment of the wicked and the joys of the righteous are eternal.  
Art. 7,-We receive no persons into the Christian Baptist Church of Christ only on  
the principle of their conversion.  
Art. 8.-We believe that no persons are members of the Church of Christ, only  
those that have the witness within themselves.  
Art. 9.-We believe that all the members of the Church of Christ have a right to  
the Sacrament table, upon the principle of their acceptance with Him, for St. Paul  
says,"But let a man examine himself and so let him eat of that bread and drink of  
that cup." 1st Cor.,11th chap. 28th verse.

Church Statistics  
                                                   Increased By        Decreased By   Total   
Church                  Delegates                     BaptismLetterRestoredLetterExcludedDeath MembersContribution  
Antioch              Smith Bryant, George Rodgers   0        0        0        0        0        0        56        0.50  
Board Valley      Benj Clouse, F.S. Robinson        0        0        0        0        0        0        112        1.00  
Blackmans Fork  Lafeyette Byers, D.G. Bradford  12        0        0        0        1        0        90        1.80  
Bethel                T. C. Peek                                 45        0        0        0        0        0        45        0.75  
Calf Killer           T. J. Clouse                              11        1        0        0        0        1        64        1.00  
Caney Fork         Taylor Hudgens                           3        0        0        0        0        3        40        0.60  
Crooked Creek     John Brewster                             0        1        0        0        8        0        46        0.20  
Cane Creek         Jas. A. Moyers, J. L. Welch       11        1        0        0        1        1        75        1.20  
Copeland Creek  Wm. Boisley, Benj. Clouse          0        0        0        0        0        0        15        0.50  
Chapel Hill                                                             7        0        0        0        2        1        97        0.95  
Dodsons Branch  
England Cove     Elijah England, John Dubois       0        0        0        0        0        0        26        0.50  
Highrock                                                                  6        0        0        1        0        0        47        0.50  
Highland             J. J. Speck                                   4        0        0        0        0        0        10        0.35  
Indian Creek        John Brewster                              0        2        0        3        1        0        20  
Laurel Creek        Jas. A. Moyers,  Wm. Brewer        0        1        0        2        0        1        28        1.70  
Liberty                 John Brewster                              0        15       0        0        0        0        15  
Macedonia                                                              9        0        0        0        0        0        34        0.25  
Mount Pisgah      John Judd                                    1        0        1        0        1        1        26        0.20  
Shady Grove       E. H. Henry                                   0        0        0        0        0        2        44        0.70  
Viola                   J. L. Gentry, N. L. Crawley            2        5        0        0        0        0        27        0.90  
Zion Hill P.C.      J. V. Martin,  A. W. Tilley              1        0        0        0        2        5      122      1.00  
Zion Hill C.C.      Jas. E. Vanwinkle, G. L. Moyers     0        0        0        0        0        0       22        0.60

Totals--------------------                           111      76       1        6       16     15     1091    15.20