

1889

1943

MINUTES

—OF THE—

FIFTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

EBENEZER BAPTIST

ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE

MT. PLEASANT BAPTIST

CHURCH

BESSEMER CITY, N. C.

REV. W. M. MURRAY, Pastor

SEPTEMBER 23-24, 1943



The Next Annual Session Will Convene With the St. Peter Baptist Church,
Grover, N. C., Thursday Before the Fourth Lord's Day in
September, 1944.

OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. F. L. Howell..... Route 2, Cherryville, N. C.
 Vice-Moderator, Rev. M. L. Davidson..... 521 Ingle Street, Charlotte, N. C.
 Recording Secretary, Rev. Dwight A. Costner..... 104 Tracy St., Kings Mt., N. C.
 Corresponding Secretary, Rev. S. N. Davidson..... Gastonia, N. C.
 Treasurer, Mr. J. F. Howell..... Route 1, Shelby, N. C.
 Auditor, Mr. M. J. Burke..... Blacksburg, S. C.
 Historian, Rev. T. C. Sanders..... 2300 Tate Street, Charlotte, N. C.
 Field Worker, Rev. R. J. Davidson..... 1230 Beattie's Fd. Road, Charlotte, N. C.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. D. A. Costner, B. D.	Rev. R. J. Davidson, D. D.
Rev. S. N. Davidson	Rev. W. M. Neely
Rev. M. L. Davidson	Rev. R. F. Kilgore
Rev. D. F. Moore	Rev. J. H. McKissick
Rev. F. L. Howell	Rev. J. A. White

Rev. T. C. Sanders

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. R. J. Davidson	Rev. D. F. Moore	Rev. F. L. Howell
Rev. D. A. Costner	Rev. S. N. Davidson	Bro. W. H. Green
Bro. J. F. Howell	Bro. D. A. Cornwell	

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. J. A. White..... 312 W. Allison Avenue, Gastonia, N. C.
 " J. W. Hairston, Jr..... P. O. Box 453, Belmont, N. C.
 " D. F. Moore..... 1901 Beattie's Ford Road, Charlotte, N. C.
 " H. B. Wray..... P. O. Box 23, Lawndale, N. C.
 " C. F. Gingles..... Dallas, N. C.
 " Robert F. Kilgore..... Route 2, Shelby, N. C.
 " J. C. Mitchell..... 220 W. Cedar Street, Belmont, N. C.
 " L. R. Barber..... 502 Allen Street, Rock Hill, S. C.
 " A. T. McDaniel..... 438 Fewell Street, Rock Hill, S. C.
 " W. L. Johnson..... 56 McClain Street, Asheville, N. C.
 " W. W. Price..... 309 Wilson Street, Shelby, N. C.
 " C. E. Griffen Exe. Sec. Gen. Bap. State Con. of N. C., Bx. 287, Raleigh, N. C.
 " P. B. Barnett..... P. O. Box 44, Rock Hill, S. C.
 " R. J. Davidson, D. D..... 1230 Beattie's Ford Road, Charlotte, N. C.
 " E. D. Wray..... Route 1, Lawndale, "
 " F. L. Howell..... Route 2, Cherryville, "
 " M. L. Davidson..... 521 Ingle Street, Charlotte, "
 " S. W. Bryson..... Gastonia, "
 " N. P. Anderson..... Gastonia, "
 " S. N. Davidson..... P. O. Box 785, Gastonia, "
 " T. H. Grier..... Grover, "
 " D. A. Costner..... Kings Mountain, "
 " C. L. Jolly..... Route 1, Box 846, Gaffney, S. C.

Rev. C. H. Williams.....	509 S. Myers Street, Charlotte, N. C.
" W. H. Davidson.....	1316 Beattie's Ford Road, Charlotte, "
" J. A. Reeder.....	Rock Hill, S. C.
" T. J. Pearl.....	442 Hall Street, Rock Hill, "
" T. C. Sanders.....	2300 Tate Street, Charlotte, N. C.
" W. G. Boyce.....	Route 3, Shelby, "
" G. Knox.....	Blacksburg, S. C.
" W. M. Murray.....	P. O. Box 411, Bessemer City, N. C.
" H. Gray.....	465 Fewell Street, Rock Hill, S. C.
" Jesse Baxter.....	Route 3, Shelby, N. C.
" S. L. Johnson.....	P. O. Box 331, Shelby, "
" C. E. McCaskill.....	214 Lincoln Avenue, Gastonia, "
" J. R. Gordon.....	P. O. Box 492, Cherryville, "
" C. E. Rice.....	Route 1, Chesnee, S. C.
" A. T. McDaniel.....	438 Fewell Street, Rock Hill, "
" J. W. Boyce.....	Bessemer City, N. C.
" H. W. Huff.....	1221 S. Church Street, Charlotte, "
" H. B. Wray.....	Box 23, Lawndale, "
" W. M. McClure.....	Kings Mountain, "

LICENTIATEE MINISTERS

Bro. W. A. Oates

Bro. J. W. Freeman

MESSENGERS

Bro. S. M. Davis.....	Rt. 4, Shelby, N. C.	" W. R. Robbins.....	Rt. 1, Grover, "
" W. L. Logan.....	Kings Mountain, "	" Amos McCluney.....	R. 2, Shelby, "
" Rainy Locket.....	Gastonia, "	" M. J. Burke.....	Blacksburg, S. C.
" H. B. Wray.....	Lawndale, "	" Israel Good.....	Bessemer City, N. C.
" C. L. Thompson.....	Hickory, "	" T. R. Howell.....	R. 2, Cherryville, "
" W. M. Hall.....	Earle, "	" Charlie Nicholson.....	Bessemer City, "
" D. C. Gill.....	Route 2, Shelby, "	" Nolan Brooks.....	Gastonia, "
Mrs. M. L. Hunter.....	Route 1, Bessemer City, N. C.		
" Birdie Goins.....	Bessemer City, "		
" Brite Webber.....	P. O. Box 604, Bessemer City, "		
" Gertrude Degree.....	412 Oak Street, Shelby, "		
Miss Beatrice Briggs.....	Kings Mountain, "		
Mrs. Delia Wilson.....	Bessemer City, "		
" Elizabeth Moon.....	Shelby, "		
" Tiny Lee Lockard, P. O. Box 367.....	Bessemer City, "		
Bro. John Houser.....	Bessemer City, "		
" J. V. Wray.....	Cherryville, "		
" A. C. Canady.....	Route 1, Shelby, "		
" S. B. Cornwell.....	Route 1, Shelby, "		
" D. A. Cornwell.....	Route 5, Shelby, "		
" W. M. Mather.....	Route 1, Kings Mountain, "		
" J. W. Watkins.....	Boiling Springs, "		
" John Durden.....	Shelby, "		
" Ernest McDowell.....	Kings Mountain, "		

Bro. L. L. Lutz.....	Route 1, Kings Mountain, N. C.
" J. P. Childers.....	Blacksburg, S. C.
" J. H. Burson.....	Route 1, Shelby, N. C.
" Charlie A. Horne.....	Kings Mountain, "
" Z. A. Hunter.....	Route 1, Bessemer City, "
" Wardell Giles.....	Kings Mountain, "
" L. M. Reid.....	Route 3, Gastonia, "
Mrs. Annie W. Ramseur.....	Lincolnton, "

LIFE MEMBERS

Bro. W. Earl	Rev. W. M. Neely	Rev. W. W. Price
Mrs. Frances Ramseur	Mrs. W. A. Roberts	Mrs. Katie Brooks

ANNUAL MEMBERS AND VISITORS

Bro. Robert McCullough	Bro. Ben Webber	Bro. J. S. Mauney
" J. S. Davidson	" C. M. McBrayer	
Rev. C. E. Boyce, Spartanburg, S. C.	Rev. R. W. Kennedy, Spartanburg, S. C.	
" D. P. Harley, Gaffney, S. C.	" A. C. Hill, Charlotte, N. C.	
" W. R. Surratt, Gaffney, S. C.	" R. E. Lindsay, Lowell, N. C.	
" C. H. Hargrove, McCormick, S. C.	Mrs. M. V. Gingles, Dallas, N. C.	
Mrs. Eva Matthews, New York City, N. Y.		

APPOINTED COMMITTEE

Committee on Enrollment:	Bro. S. M. Davis, Mrs. Elizabeth Moon, Mrs. Brite Webber.
Committee on Finance:	Bros. T. R. Howell, J. F. Howell, M. J. Burke.
Committee on Elections:	Rev. J. A. White, Bros. D. C. Gill, W. M. Hall, S. M. Davis, John Durden, Ernest McDowell. Rev. R. F. Kilgore.
Committee on New Churches:	Bros. Nolan Brooks, L. L. Lutz, W. L. Logan, John Burson, L. M. Reid.
Committee on Resolutions:	Revs. C. H. Williams, A. C. Hill, Bros. J. P. Childers, Charlie A. Horn, Mrs. Birdie Goins.
Committee on Missions:	Revs. J. W. Hairston, S. N. Davidson, W. M. Murray, C. L. Jolly, Bro. J. V. Wray.
Committee on Education:	Revs. C. F. Gingles, W. H. Davidson, A. T. McDaniel, R. J. Davidson.
Committee on Temperance:	Revs. J. C. Mitchell, J. W. Boyce, C. L. Thompson, H. Gray, Bro. J. W. Freeman.
Committee on Obituary:	Revs. S. L. Johnson, W. W. Price, G. Knox, T. H. Grier, W. G. Boyce.
Committee on Attitude:	Revs. C. F. Gingles, J. W. Hairston, J. A. White, J. A. Reeder.
Committee on Publicity:	Revs. R. J. Davidson, P. B. Barnett, Mrs. Brite Webber, Mrs. M. V. Gingles.
Committee on Corresponding Messengers:	Bros. Charlie Nicholson, L. M. Reid, Revs. J. W. Boyce, R. J. Davidson, J. W. Hairston.
Committee on Statistics:	Revs. L. R. Barber, J. A. White, Miss Beatrice Briggs, Mrs. Birdie Goins, Mrs. Gertrude Degree.

Committee on Appropriations: Bros. D. C. Gill, James Baxter, Revs. R. F. Kilgore, T. H. Grier, Bro. D. A. Cornwell, Rev. D. F. Moore.

Committee on Time and Place: Bro. John Durden and a Messenger from each Church.

CONSTITUTION AS REVISED 1942

We, the Missionary Baptist of Western North Carolina and Northern South Carolina, being convinced of the necessity of a combination of Churches in order to promote the cause of Christ and to maintain and keep the rules of the Association, we therefore agree to the following:

Article I. Section 1. This body shall be called the Ebenezer Association.

Art. II. Sec. 1. The membership of this Association shall consist of Messengers elected by the Churches and their Pastors and the Messengers must have their membership in the bounds of this Association. The enrollment fee shall be 25c each. Sec. 2 No Church shall send more than three Messengers. Sec. 3. All ordained Ministers, who are not too old except the founders, who fail to attend the Association, their names shall not be put on the roll. Licentiates subject to the same rule. Sec. 4. Life members will be added when recommended by some responsible member of the Association and approved by the body.

Art. III. Sec. 1. The Officers of this Association shall be Moderator, Vice-Moderator, Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary, Treasury, Auditor, Historian, Field Worker, and Executive Board. Sec. 2. The Executive Board shall act when necessity calls in the absence of the Association and report the same to it. Sec. 3. The Moderator shall preside at all meetings of the Association, and sign all orders drawn upon the Treasurer. The Vice-Moderator shall assume the same in the absence of the Moderator. Sec. 4. The Recording Secretary shall keep an accurate account of all the proceedings, prepare the Minutes for the press and send the same to various organizations. Sec. 5. The Corresponding Secretary shall do all the corresponding with other organizations. Sec. 6. The Treasurer shall give complete security for all monies entrusted in his care.

Art. IV. Sec. 1. Every Church shall support Missions, Education, Church Extension, etcetera. Therefore this Association shall require such of them. Sec. 2. The Association shall have no right to infringe upon the sovereignty of the Church rights as a body. Sec. 3. This Association will hold no Church as a member who licenses a brother to preach who cannot read, spell, and write reasonably well, and who has not a fair knowledge of the Bible and English language. Sec. 4. Any Church becoming disorderly, the Executive Board shall investigate and if possible settle the matter or report the Church to the Association. No complaint shall be heard from the Church in the Association except through a committee.

Art. V. Sec. 1. This Association shall meet Thursday before the fourth Sunday in September of each year.

Art. VI. Sec. 1. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a two-third vote of the members present at a regular session.

RULES OF ORDER

1. The Moderator shall preside and decide all questions of order subject to appeal. He shall appoint all Committees unless otherwise ordered and when two or more rise to speak at the same time, he shall name the one to speak previous to any discussion thereof.

2. When a member is about to speak or command any information he shall arise and address the Moderator and confine his remarks to the subject under consideration.

3. No person shall speak more than twice upon the same subject without leave from the body.

4. No member shall absent himself from the Association without leave from the body.

5. Brethren invited to seats shall have privilege to debate but not to voting.

6. A fine of 5c shall be paid by Messengers or Ministers who are tardy coming into the sessions of the Association, except a legal excuse is given.

7. A motion for adjournment shall be in order except when voting, or when a member is speaking and shall be decided without debate.

MEMORIAL PAGE

The Memory of the Just is Blessed.—Proverbs 10:7.

PROCEEDINGS

FIRST DAY--THURSDAY

Thursday morning, September 23, 1943, the Association assembled in its 54th annual session, at 10:45 (Eastern War Time.)

Worship was conducted by the Rev. S. L. Johnson, which was fervent and inspirational.

The Moderator, Rev. F. L. Howell, gave greetings. The order of the day was called for. The program was adopted as a guide, after which the Association was enrolled. Some Committees were appointed. The time having arrived for the Introductory Sermon, Rev. J. A. White, accompanied by Revs. C. L. Jolly, R. F. Kilgore, and W. W. Price, entered the rostrum. Rev. White chose for a text Matt. 4:20, subject, "Following the Leadership of Christ." The Association sang "Come Ye That Love the Lord."

Rev. T. C. Sanders and Bro. W. L. Logan lifted a collection amounting to \$10.15.

The following visitors met the Association: Dr. W. H. Davidson and Bro. J. S. Davidson of the Mt. Peace Association; Rev. C. L. Thomas, Toluca; Rev. Surratt of Gaffney, S. C.; Rev. A. C. Hill of Charlotte, N. C.; Rev. Holly of Gaffney; Mrs. Eva Matthews of New York City, and also new Pastors were introduced. Benediction by Rev. J. A. White.

2:20 P. M. The Association reassembled. Worship was conducted by Mrs. Minnie Hunter.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. The report of the Treasurer and Auditor were submitted and adopted. The Chairman of the Executive Board, Rev. R. J. Davidson, made a verbal statement which was accepted. The Ordaining Council reported that it had not been called upon for service during the interim. The Field Worker submitted a report which was informative. It requested an investigation Committee for Western Union Academy. A motion prevailed that Revs. R. J. Davidson and W. L. Johnson constitute a Committee to cooperate with a Committee of Mt. Peace Association to investigate the possibility of improving the W. U. A. property. The Historian submitted a report. (see report) which was adopted. The Committee on Elections reported. (see report.) The Rev. C. F. Gingles presided during the election and installation. The report on Elections was adopted. By common consent Rev. T. J. Pearl installed the Officers which was done in a masterful way. Rev. J. W. Hairston escorted the Officers-elect to the floor. The Rev. R. J. Davidson, D. D., gave expression of gratitude on behalf of the Officers.

The Moderator resumed the chair. The Executive Board was elected, (see the Board.) The Ordained Council was elected (q. v.) Mrs. M. V. Gingles was presented in interest of the Junior Church. The Rev. J. W. Hairston spoke in interest of the Junior Church. These talks inspired the house.

A motion by Rev. R. J. Davidson prevailed that the Association give Churches the privilege of sending a Messenger and donation from the Junior Church to the Association. A Messenger from the Western Ushers Union met the Association and spoke in interest of the development of the future Church. The doctrines of the Church were discussed by the appointees. Rev. G. Knox gave a discussion on Baptism. Rev. J. R. Gordon spoke on the work of the Holy

Spirit, whom he said is life's supreme guide. Rev. J. W. Boyce said a few words on Baptism. Rev. T. J. Pearl, a Messenger from Upper Sandy River Association, was presented. He brought greetings from his Association and made a plea for Friendship College. Rev. M. McMoore, Messenger from Mt. Peace Association, made inspirational remarks.

The Rev. W. H. Davidson and Rev. C. F. Gingles lifted a collection of \$17.90 for Friendship College. A motion prevailed to supplement the collection with \$3.85. Benediction by Rev. R. F. Kilgore.

7:15 P. M. Worship was conducted by Bros. S. M. Davis and J. H. Burson. After a fervent worship period, the Moderator called for the reading of Minutes and Letters. A letter from Bro. Berry Mintz, who has been a member of this Association for 52 years, was read. A motion prevailed to make Bro. Berry Mintz a life member.

The Vice-Moderator presiding. The Moderator was presented to deliver his annual address (q. v.) He was at his best and the congregation enjoyed the message.

Rev. T. C. Sanders led in singing, "When I Come to the End of My Journey." The Rev. R. J. Davidson commented on the splendid address, after which he submitted a motion that the address be placed in the hands of the Committee on Resolutions. The motion was adopted.

A welcome program was rendered by the host Church. Mrs. Birdie Goins presiding. The expressions of welcome were heartfelt. On behalf of the Association, the Rev. P. B. Barnett tendered a splendid response.

The Association sang, "Thy Will Be Done." Rev. M. L. Davidson lined hymn No. 559, and the congregation sang with feeling. The Moderator had the Rev. R. J. Davidson to present the talented Rev. J. W. Hairston, A. B., B. Th., to preach the Doctrinal sermon. The Rev. Hairston chose for a subject, "The New Testament Church," Matt. 16:18, from which he preached a forcible, instructive gospel sermon. The Rev. W. M. Murray sang a spiritual. The Association sang, "Go Preach My Gospel." Rev. T. R. Hampton led to a throne of grace. Rev. Sanders led a spiritual. The Moderator asked Bros. Luther Kibbler, J. H. Burson and W. L. Logan to lift a collection. The collection amounted to \$17.16. A motion was made that the roll be called Friday night and that all members required to answer. Benediction by Rev. J. W. Hairston.

SECOND DAY--FRIDAY

9:30 A. M. Worship conducted by Bro. John Durden and Mrs. Elizabeth Moon. The Moderator presiding. Roll called. The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. Rev. T. H. Grier led in singing, "I Know It Was the Blood."

The Rev. C. E. Griffen, Executive Secretary of the General Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, was presented to represent our State work. He brought greetings from North Carolina's 56 Baptist Associations and our other work. He said our State Convention is in the best condition of its history. He stated that nearly \$27,000 has passed through the Baptist Headquarters office this year (the fiscal year closes October 31.) Rev. Griffen commended to us the New Testament program of financing a Church. The message was informative and inspirational. Rev. W. L. Johnson spoke of the promptitude and the business manner of the Executive Secretary. He also urged the Churches of the As-

sociation to line up with the unified program. A motion was submitted and prevailed that we donate to the State work \$50.

The Committee on Missions reported. The report was adopted.

Time for the inspirational sermon having arrived, the appointee assisted by the Revs. C. H. Williams, W. G. Boyce and C. E. McCaskill entered the pulpit. After Rev. Williams lined a hymn, Rev. McCaskill read a portion of Phil. 3. Prayer was led by Rev. W. G. Boyce. Rev. Williams read hymn, "Amazing Grace." The Rev. T. C. Sanders was presented to preach the sermon, who chose for a text Phil. 3:1. He exhorted his hearers to stand fast in the faith. The Association sang, "Christian Fight On." A collection amounting to \$10.25 was lifted by Rev. M. L. Davidson and Rev. L. R. Barber.

Mrs. Bethel Gordon, a supervisor of Gaston County Red Cross, was presented to represent her work. The Rev. H. W. Huff made remarks. Benediction by Rev. T. C. Sanders.

3:00 P. M. Worship was led by Rev. C. E. McCaskill and Bro. J. H. Burson.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. The Committee on Education submitted an excellent report. The report was adopted.

The report of Committee on Recommendations was made and adopted.

Remarks were made by Bro. Wilson Earle, one of the founders. The remarks were enjoyed. The report on Obituary was made and adopted. Memorial services were conducted by Revs. M. L. Davidson and W. W. Price. The Committee on Corresponding Messengers reported. The report was adopted. A motion to adopt the work of the Committee on Statistics prevailed. A motion prevailed to adopt the Church Letters.

Topic: "Some Challenges to Negro Baptists" was discussed by Mr. W. H. Green, Rev. C. F. Gingles, and Rev. R. J. Davidson.

The following visitors were introduced: Revs. R. W. Kennedy, C. E. Rice, Mrs. Laura Beam, Mrs. Price, Mrs. R. J. Davidson, Miss Street, Mrs. Webber, Bro. Boyce.

A collection of \$6.00 was raised to supplement the donations to the life members. A motion prevailed that the Association give \$3 each to the life members in addition to the regular 5% designated by the Constitution. A motion prevailed that Sister Katie Brooks become a life member of the Association. Benediction by Rev. J. W. Freeman.

7:40 P. M. Worship conducted by Bros. Giles and Charlie Horne. Minutes were read and adopted. The Committee on Appropriations submitted its report, which was adopted. A motion prevailed that Mrs. Anna Long become an annual member of this Association. The report of Publicity Committee was adopted.

The Association sang, "O For a Heart to Praise My God," after which the Rev. R. J. Davidson, D. D., brought the Educational Sermon, text, "Lord Teach Us How to Pray." Theme: "With Christ in the School of Prayer." The sermon was enjoyed. The Association sang, "Go Preach My Gospel. Then No. 350 was sung. Silent prayer was offered on behalf of our soldiers and sailors. Rev. W. M. Murray led in singing, "Christian Fight On."

The Educational Rally was lifted by Bros. L. L. Lutz, J. C. Camp, and W. L. Logan, which amounted to \$75.03. The Finance Committee reported that we

raised at this sitting the sum of \$440.18.

Announcements and remarks were made.

A resolution of thanks was tendered by the Rev. O. B. Burson, which was heartfelt and to the point. Benediction by the Moderator.

REV. F. L. HOWELL, Moderator.

REV. D. A. COSTNER, Secretary.

REPORT OF EDUCATIONAL RALLY

The following paid \$1.00 each: J. C. Camp, W. L. Logan, R. J. Davidson, T. H. Grier, C. E. Rice, E. D. Wray, J. C. Mitchell, H. B. Wray, Jesse Baxter, M. C. Roseboro, N. P. Anderson, W. G. Boyce, S. N. Davidson, H. Gray, C. L. Thompson, J. W. Hairston, W. Giles, John Durden, C. A. Horne, W. M. Hall, L. M. Reid, W. R. Robbins, Isr. Goode, S. M. Davis, James Baxter, M. J. Burke, Miles Boyd, D. A. Costner, D. F. Moore, F. L. Howell, W. M. Murray, J. W. Boyce, C. L. Jolly, O. B. Burson, C. H. Williams, R. W. Kennedy, J. F. Howell, Charlie Nicholson, J. H. Burson, J. P. Childers, T. R. Howell, W. L. Logan, L. Lutz, Luther Kibbler, Jasper Patterson, Will Nicholson, Ben Webber, J. W. Freeman, M. L. Davidson, D. C. Gill, D. A. Cornwell, H. B. Benson, Mrs. Gertrude Degree, Mrs. Elizabeth Moon, Mrs. Luther Kibbler, and Miss Beatrice Briggs. Amos, McCluney, 70c. The following paid 50c: Mrs. Laura Nicholson, S. B. Cornwell, Mrs. Anna Hamilton, Mrs. Hattie Gamble, Mrs. Eliza Littlejohn, Mrs. Anna Long, Mary Littlejohn, Miss Janie Hamilton, C. O. Young. Total \$75.03.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer submits the following:

Total money at Long Branch Church, Sept 1942.....	\$390.86
Paid out.....	\$349.96
Balance.....	\$ 40.90

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Bro. Moderator, the Auditor begs to report: I have examined the Treasurer's books and receipts and find them o. k.

M. J. BURKE, Auditor.

THE HISTORIAN'S REPORT OF THE EBENEZER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

To the Moderator. Officers and Members of the Ebenezer Baptist Association:

The Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Association was organized in the year 1889, in Ebenezer Baptist Church, Kings Mountain, N. C. There were thirteen Churches in the organization. The Rev. A. Ellis was the first Moderator, under whose leadership some excellent work was done. The late Rev. W. A. Roberts was the first Secretary. Deacon Baylus Gingles was the first Treasurer. Like other Associations, this organization, has fostered Home and Foreign Missions, helped weak Churches and assisted in the cause of Education, especially in Western North Carolina and Northern South Carolina. The Rev. W. A. Roberts succeeded Rev. Ellis as Moderator, in which office he served for more than 25 years. Like many other associations for years after its organization, its greatest need was a sufficient number of able men to properly conduct its af-

fairs, yet in spite of hindrance, its growth was seen and felt from year to year. This Association assisted by Gold Hill Association, gave support to Western Union Academy in Rutherford County, N. C.

The Rev. W. A. Roberts led the Association safely for more than 25 years. He served his last session at the First Baptist Church, Lawndale, N. C., where the Rev. R. F. Monref was pastor. They have both gone, but not forgotten. The fifty-first annual session of the Association was held at the Providence Baptist Church, Lincolnton, N. C., Rev. D. F. Moore, pastor, at which time the Rev. F. L. Howell was elected Moderator. Since his election he has done a fine piece of work in the Associational field.

Yours for the cause,

REV. T. C. SANDERS,

2300 Tate St., Charlotte, N. C.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

EDUCATION

We, your Committee on Education, submit the following report: Whereas we see that Education is the medium by which we obtain the necessary information of the world in which we live. In order to obtain this information the mind must be trained, for civic and religious activities. We recommend that our people take advantage of our local school system.

We further recommend that Religious Education be emphasized, in order that we may be able to carry out the divine command. We urge that all Sunday School workers, B. T. U. workers and Ministers attend the Bible Institute that is held at Spindale, N. C., each year. We recommend that we support as far as possible Shaw University and Friendship College.

We recommend that all Christians read and study the Bible daily; we also recommend that each home secure and maintain a Missionary Baptist Church Covenant in the home.

We recommend that the following books and Church papers be read by our people: "Missions in the Bible," 25c, Baptist Book Store, Raleigh, N. C., "The Baptist Informer," "Baptist State Paper," Raleigh, N. C., "The Union Review," National Baptist paper, Nashville, Tenn., "The Lott Carey Herald," Washington, D. C.

MISSIONS

We, your Committee on Missions, make the following report: Whereas Missions is the most important principle of the Baptist Church, be it resolved, that we do all we can and take advantage of every opportunity to further the kingdom program, establishing the kingdom of God in the hearts of men and women. We further suggest that we co-operate with the State unified program.

THE COMMITTEE.

RESOLUTIONS

We, your Committee on Recommendations, beg to make the following report: We found the Moderator's address to be a masterpiece worthy of commendation. We recommend that the address be placed on the face of the Minutes.

We further recommend that space be given on our program for our Junior Churches. We further recommend that the donations from the Junior Churches

be received as freewill offerings. We also recommend that every Pastor make preparation for a Junior Church, as an auxiliary to the Senior Church, and that Christian leaders give more time to the training of our young people.

THE COMMITTEE.

OBITUARY

We, your Committee on Obituary, submit the following: We recommend that business be suspended for the space of five minutes to be used in memorializing our dead. We recommend that the memorial be conducted by Rev. M. L. Davidson and whom he may choose.

REV. T. H. GRIER, Chm.

PUBLICITY

We, your Committee on Publicity, beg to make the following report: That the proceedings of this meeting be reported for publication in the following Negro papers: "The Baptist Informer," published in Raleigh, and the "National Baptist Voice," published in Nashville, Tenn., and the Church column of the "Pittsburg Courier" and the "Carolina Times." We further recommend that the Secretary make a short synopsis of the proceedings to be sent to the above named papers.

THE COMMITTEE.

CORRESPONDING MESSENGERS

We, your Committee on Corresponding Messengers, wish to make the following report: We recommend to the Mt. Peace Association, Rev. W. M. Murray; to Thickety Mountain, Rev. J. W. Boyce; to Gold Hill, Rev. J. C. Mitchell; to the State Convention, Rev. F. L. Howell.

APPROPRIATION

We, your Committee on Appropriation, beg leave to make the following recommendations: Appropriate to the Moderator, \$23; Vice-Moderator, \$12; Recording Secretary, \$25; to Corresponding Secretary, \$4; Treasurer, \$9; Auditor, \$8; Historian, \$4; Field Worker, \$14; Sexton, \$3; Sermons, each, \$5; the host Pastor, \$4; to the host Church, \$8.

Respectfully submitted,

THE COMMITTEE.

TIME AND PLACE

The Committee on Time and Place, recommends that the next session of the Association convene with St. Peter Baptist Church, Grover, N. C., Thursday and Friday before the fourth Sunday in September, 1944,

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Money raised at the 1943 session:

By Enrollment.....	\$ 21.50
Educational Rally.....	\$ 75.03
Other Public Collections.....	\$ 61.46
Donation from Western Ushers Union.....	\$ 1.00
By Church Letters.....	\$279.15
Total Raised.....	\$438.14
Forwarded from 1942.....	\$ 40.90
Grand Total.....	\$479.04

MODERATOR'S ANNUAL ADDRESS

Brother Moderator, Co-workers and Friends of the Ebenezer Baptist Association of Western N. C., and Northern S. C.:

It is with profound gratitude and unexpressible joy that I, your humble servant, do come before you for the purpose to bring you another annual address. We realize that it is through no goodness of our own that we are here, but it is through the mercies of our kind heavenly Father.

I thank God for having the privilege to assemble with you at the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church, a place, seemly, where God has spread the fragrance of welcome, of Faith and Love. I greatly appreciate the past honors you have conferred upon me and the present honor, and I thank you in advance for all future honors that you might bestow upon me. God bless you and may His face shine upon you, now, henceforth and forever.

I thank God for the many Messengers, who have come up from the various Churches and other fields to participate in the great program to help foster the work or better the condition of the human family.

Many of us have made great sacrifices to be here. Since being here, I trust you have come for the purpose to glorify God and help develop the work that He has left us to do. Let us lift up Jesus that He may draw men unto Himself. The question might be asked, How am I to lift up Jesus? The best way, I would say to lift Him up is to live Godly lives. Live as Jesus has commanded us. Let us love God and love one another, for love is the fulfilment of the law. Therefore, our theme is Love. First, I would say Love has no bounds. It is so high until you can't get over it; it is so low 'til you can't go under it. It is so wide 'til you can't go around it. I say again, Love is Boundless. He who possesses love has boundless power, and great and noble achievements are in his hands. When I speak of Love I have reference to the Love of Christ.

Webster defines Love (vt.) to regard with affection (n.) The passion excited by beauty, excellence, or whatever is pleasing, affection, good-will, fondness. The object beloved. Consequently one might love anything. That is to say one has the choice to love good or evil; either will shape our destiny for heaven or hell.

We are now having tremendous combats with good and evil in a literal and spiritual way. Literally speaking, our country and other countries are up side down waring with other Nations. Striving to protect themselves or fathers and mothers, sisters and brothers, because we love them and wish to maintain freedom. Spiritually we are combating with Satan and his host. For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual weakness in high places. Satan as it was, is going to and fro in the earth seeking whom he might devour. The only safeguard to my mind, that will cause one to overcome him, is the love of Christ.

I earnestly pray that we, the Ebenezer Baptist Association, will be of one accord. It is my uttermost desire that we pray together, live together, work together in the love of Christ. May His love predominate the whole world that all Nations everywhere may learn that there is more power, more peace, and comfort in love than there is in anything else.

St. Paul, in 1 Cor. 13 Chap., vividly compares all gifts. He said, "Though I speak with tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, (which is defined to mean love,) I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbol. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity or love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not, charity vaunteth

not itself, is not puffed up. Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil. Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoice in the truth; Beareth all things, believeth all things, endureth all things." He tells us charity or love never faileth.

But alas, as we think of the world today and sum up the conduct of the different Nations, we must conclude that one failure after another has come. What is the cause, I say. We have not the love of Christ. consequently, hatred and strife, and confusion and death are sweeping through the land. To my mind, the only salvation that will procure a remedy for this ruined and sinsick world is love of Christ. The Scripture teaches us that God is love, then love is of God. He is the source from which love flows. He exemplified His great love by the gift of His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, whom He gave to the world that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

In loving kindness Jesus came, our souls in pity to proclaim. From sinking sand He lifted me, I'm glad He lifted me. He tells us by an inspired writer, to put on the breastplate of love, and endure hardness as a soldier of Jesus Christ. As soldiers of Christ we must refrain from carnal weapons we are cautioned to not render evil for evil nor railing for railing, neither eye for eye, nor tooth for tooth. But on the other hand to do good to them that despitfully use us, to love our enemies and pray for those who cast our names out as evil. To my mind, if there ever was a time that we need to love it is now! Love is the only power that will unite the Nations of the world together. If we would come together as one loving family, God would smile upon us and His blessings would spread over us.

EDUCATION. Whereas, Christian Education is the most essential thing in developing the human families in righteous living. Let us lay more stress on it by urging our ministers and other Missionary workers, our everyday school teachers, in fact, all those who have any teaching to do, to spare no pains and instruct that literal education is inefficient, that no education is complete without Christian education. For example: Paul, or Saul of Tarsus, who from a literal standpoint was thoroughly educated. But he proved a failure until the Great Master teacher led him through the school of Christian education. As a result he became a power and was the instrument of many souls saved, and when he had come to the end of his journey, he said, I am now ready to be offered, the time of my departure is at hand. I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day, and not to me only, but unto all them that loved His appearing.

Second. Be it resolved that we, the Ebenezer Baptist Association, give our hearty and best support to our property at Spindale, N. C. It is our heritage. Our foreparents made great sacrifice for it. Many of them struggled until death to hold it, because there was a beacon light there for Christian education. Let us still hold up the light.

Since Christian education is most essential, and is preeminent to everything else, be it further resolved, that we urge the Education Missionary Convention of Western N. C., and Northern S. C., to open the doors for an Institute next year.

MISSION. After Jesus had completed His Missionary work in precept and example, and was about to take His flight back to heaven, He gave this great commission, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." Every Christian has a part to do in carrying out this command. Let us continue to work until we hear His welcome voice saying, "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thou Lord."

Faithfully submitted,

FRED L. HOWELL.

EBENEZER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

CHURCHES	Received by Baptism	By Letter	Restored	Dismissed by Letter	Excluded	Deaths	Total Membership	Representing Fees	Missions	Value of Church Property	Pastor's Salary	Days of Preaching	
Mt. Pleasant.....	3	4	5	0	0	2	250	\$14.75	\$	\$3,500	\$	2-4	Rev. W. M. Murray.....
Saint James.....	0	4	0	1	0	4	40	6.00		2,000		1-3	Rev. J. W. Hairson.....
Center.....	7	0	0	0	0	1	125	15.00		3,500	500	1-3	Rev. H. Gray.....
1st Bapt., Earle	8	1	2	0	1	2	107	8.00		3,500	200	2-4	Rev. Robert F. Kilgore.....
Maple Springs.....	10	3	3	0	0	0	50	7.50		3,000	150	2-4	Rev. C. E. Rice.....
Macedonia.....	5	0	0	0	0	1	90	5.00		1,000		2-4	Rev. F. L. Howell.....
Ebenezer.....	7	0	1	0	0	2	260	12.00		40,000		2-4	Rev. C. F. Gingles.....
Fairview.....	3	0	3	0	0	1	54	4.50		1,500	234	2-4	Rev. C. E. McCaskill, 214 V
Mt. Olive.....	12	1	1	0	0	2	75	8.00		1,500	425	2-4	Rev. J. C. Mitchell..... 220
Mt. Pisgah.....	11	4	2	0	0	0	142	7.00		1,500	300	2-4	Rev. L. J. Westbrook.....
Edwards Chapel	3	0	1	0	0	2	100	4.50		3,000		1-3	Rev. W. M. Murray.....
Ellis Chapel.....	20	10	0	0	0	2	328	18.00	3 00	3,000	400	2-4	Rev. L. R. Barber.....
Washington.....	14	0	2	0	0	5	300	7.00		5,000	550	1-3	Rev. S. N. Davidson.....
St. Peter.....	10	4	0	0	0	0	111	6.30		3,500	226	1-3	Rev. C. H. Williams.....
Mt. Zion.....	10	0	1	0	0	2	100	12.00		2,000	400	1-3	Rev. J. C. Mitchel..... 22
Mt. Calvary.....	18	7	1	0	0	3	300	14.00	1.00	4,500	864	1 2 3 4	Rev. J. A. White..... 312 V
Long Branch.....	12	0	0	0	0	1	86	13.00		2,500		2-4	Rev. T. C. Sanders.....
Eskridge Grove.	48	6	5	6	0	3	559	20.00		2,500	360	1-3	Rev. T. C. Sanders.....
Pine Grove.....	3	4	1	0	1	2	166	4.60			200	2-4	Rev. J. H. McKissick.....
Shoal Creek.....	22	0	0	0	0	7	165	8.00		2,000		1-3	Rev. C. L. Jolly.....
Providence.....	27	0	0	0	3	0	185	10.00		5,000	587	1-3	Rev. D. F. Moore.....
Shiloh.....	24	10	0	0	0	5	400	15.00		20 000		1 2 3 4	Dr. R. J. Davidson.....
Green Bethel.....	18	2	0	2	0	2	321	10.00		7,000		2-4	Rev. W. L. Johnson.....
Hopewell.....	41	6	1	0	0	5	350	10.00		6,500		1-3	Rev. R. J. Davidson.....
Palmers Grove.	12	0	0	0	0	0	55	6.00				1 -	Rev. E. D. Wray.....
Tabernacle.....	5	0	0	2	0	1	170	10.00	4.00	3,500	800	1-3	Rev. P. B. Barnette.....
Mountain View	4	6	1	0	0	0	70	5.00		1,000		2-4	Rev. E. D. Wray.....
First Baptist.....	21	3	6	0	3	1	335	10.00		1,500	480	1-3	Rev. W. L. Johnson.....
Union.....	2	0	0	0	0	0	65	3.00				2-4	Rev. S. N. Davidson.....

ATION STATISTICAL TABLE 1943

PASTOR

CLERK

y.....	Bessemer City, N. C.	Mrs. Birdie Goins.....	Bessemer City, N. C.
gore.....	Belmont, "	Miss Modell Black.....	Bessemer City, "
	Rock Hill, S. C.	Miss Eunesta Reid.....	R. 3, Gastonia, "
	Route 2, Box 68, Shelby, N. C.	C. H. Varner.....	R. 2, Shelby, "
	Chesnee, S. C.	Mrs. Beatrice Thompson.....	R. 2, Shelby, "
	R. 2, Box 115, Cherryville, N. C.	Mr. U. S. Harris.....	R. 2, Cherryville, "
kill, 214 W. Lincoln Ave., Gastonia, "	Dallas, "	Mrs. V. M. Johnson.....	Kings Mountain, "
y.....	220 W. Cedar St., Belmont, "	Mr. W. H. Green.....	Cherryville, "
ok.....	Box 106, Rock Hill, S. C.	Mr. John Ross.....	Kings Mountain, "
y.....	Bessemer City, N. C.	Mrs. Minnie Hunter.....	R. 1, Box 67, Bessemer City, "
on.....	Rock Hill, S. C.	Mr. Prince E. Thompson.....	Hickory, "
s.....	Gastonia, N. C.	Mr. Ambrose Mosley.....	Patterson Springs, "
	Charlotte, "	Mr. T. R. Howell.....	R. 2, Box 117, Cherryville, "
	220 W. Cedar St., Belmont, "	Mr. A. B. McCluney.....	Grover, "
	312 W. Allison Ave., Gastonia, "	Mrs. Mabel Owens.....	Kings Mountain, "
ick.....	Charlotte, "	Mrs. Cleo Boswell.....	416 Orange St., Shelby, "
	Gaffney, "	Miss Brownie Adams.....	R. 1, Grover, "
	Route 1, Gaffney, "	Mrs. Rosie Mae Jemerson.....	R. 4, Shelby, "
n.....	Charlotte, "	Mrs. Mary McBrayer.....	P. O. Box 236, Blacksburg, S. C.
on.....	Asheville, "	Mr. C. Z. Accor.....	R. 2, Shelby, N. C.
e.....	Charlotte, "	Mr. Nicola Edgerton.....	R. 3, Box 4, Lincolnton, "
n.....	Lawndale, "	Mrs. Jennie Enloe.....	Shelby, "
n.....	Rock Hill, "	Mrs. Nevada Wilson.....	Boiling Springs, "
	Lawndale, "	Mr. S. R. Cornwell.....	R. 1, Box 146, Shelby, "
	Rock Hill, "	Mr. L. R. Whaley.....	R. 1, Lawndale, "
	Lawndale, "	Mr. J. W. Crocket.....	Carver P. O., Gastonia, "
	Asheville, "	Mr. James Roberson.....	R. 5, Shelby, "
	P. O. Box 785, Gastonia, "	Mrs. Mattie Lou Caclough.....	R. 1, Lawndale, "
		Mrs. Daisy Hargrove, 108 E. Walnut Ave., Gastonia, "	

EBENEZER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

CHURCH LETTER

Bro. Moderator and Brethern of the Ebenezer Baptist Association:

Date.....

The..... Baptist Church begs to report as follows:

Our Church is in a.....condition

We send to represent us in your body: 1.....

2..... 3.....

To whom we refer you for any additional information.

STATISTICS

Received by Baptism..... Letter..... Restored.....

Dismissed by Letter..... Excluded..... Deaths.....

Total Membership..... Days of Preaching

FINANCE

Representative..... Missions..... Total.....

Value of Church Property \$.....

Pastor's Salary \$..... Raised for Missions \$.....

Total Money Raised \$.....

Pastor

Address

Church Clerk.....

Address

