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Baptists. South Carolina. Bethel Association.

Minutes ... at the Baptist Church, on Jamey's-Creek

... August 10, 1793.

Charleston, 1793.

JCB copy.

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*Evans 25/70*

# MINUTES

## OF THE

### BETHEL ASSOCIATION,

*Held at the Baptist Church, on Jamey's Creek, Spartanburgh County,  
South-Carolina, begun on Saturday, August 10th, 1793.*

1. **T**HE two first days were spent in public devotion.  
MONDAY, August 12.
  2. Rev. Edmund Botsford delivered an introductory discourse, from Col. 1 chap. 28 v. *Whom we preach.*
  3. Letters from 29 churches being read, the names of their delegates were enrolled.
  4. The Rev. James Fowler was elected moderator, and Mr. William Ford, clerk.
  5. Rev. Messrs. Edmund Botsford and Benjamin Mosely, delivered the minutes of the Charleston Association for the last year, as their messengers to us; their letter unfortunately miscarried; and Rev. Messrs. Thomas Mercer and James Mathews, delivered a letter from the Georgia Association, as their messengers: and took their seats accordingly. The minutes and letter, being read, gave general satisfaction.
  6. The ministering brethren providentially present, not messengers from churches, were invited to take a seat amongst us.
  7. Seven churches applied by letters and messengers, for admission into this association, and satisfactory information being given of their faith and order, they were received into our union.
  8. On motion, agreed, That Rev. James Fowler prepare the circular letter, Rev. Alexander McIougal write to the Charleston, Rev. David Lilly to the Georgia Association, and Mr Bayles Earles, to the General Committee of Baptist Association in Virginia. Adjourned.

TUESDAY,

TUESDAY, 13, 10 o'clock,

9. On motion, by Mr. Roger Brown, agreed to request Rev. Mr. Botsford to favour us with a copy of the introductory sermon, for the press, which was granted.

10. The committee appointed at our last session to settle a difference between Genesee and Shackle-ferry churches, report, that it is happily removed.

11. *Quere*, from French Broad church: Can a man, having two wives, be admitted into the union of our churches? Answer, he cannot.

12. *Queries*, from Buffalo church: 1, what shall be done with negro professors, that have been married (in their way) and separated by compulsion: May they marry while their wives or husbands are yet alive? Laid over till next meeting. 2, Where a master, and negro servant, are both members in a Gospel church, is the master justifiable in correcting the servant with stripes, for disobedience. [This question was argued and determined; but as it will be brought forward again at the next association, it was thought proper to suspend the answer until then.]

13. *Queries*, from Mountain and Duncan's creek churches, united: Where ministers are found guilty of atrocious crimes, and excommunicated, can they be restored to the ministerial office; and if restored, what method is most advisable to be pursued by the church? Answer, there appear to be some cases in which the crimes of persons, who have been admitted into the ministry, are too great, or their character rendered too suspicious, for them ever to be admitted into the ministry again. And where, in any instance, they have been so great as to deserve and incur excommunication, the utmost caution should be used in their re-admittance. In all such cases, we would recommend the calling of ministerial helps by the church.

14. *Quere*, from the Fairforest church: Can a person who hath been baptized by a Pedobaptist, in the order of immersion, on the credit of his faith, be received as a member in fellowship, without being re-baptised? Laid over for farther consideration.

15. *Quere*, from Keewee church: Can the testimony of a person of a good character, though not of our denomination, be received, to lay a member under censure? We answer, as in the 7th of the minutes of 1799, it may. Adjourned till to-morrow.

16. *Quere*, from Padget's creek church: What authority have we to give the appellation of reverend to a minister of the Gospel? Laid over till next meeting.

17. *Quere*, from Middle Fork Saluda church: Doth public transgressions require private dealings? Answer, no.

The

18. The circular letter, and the letters to the several associations, were brought forward, read and approved. Rev. Messrs. James Fowler and Alexander M'Dougal appointed our messengers to the Charleston Association, to convene at the High Hills of Santee, Saturday, before the first Lord's day in November. The Rev. Messrs. David Lilly and George Tilman, to the Georgia Association, to convene the third Sabbath in October.

19. Agreed that the rev. Messrs. John Chaistain, George Tilman, and Moses Holland, be a committee to enquire into the state of the Genistee church, and make report of their proceedings at our next meeting.

20. Collected the money for printing the minutes; rev. James Fowler is requested to superintend their printing, and to distribute them when done.

21. Supplies to the vacant churches. Paget's-creek church, Joshua Pa'ner, Alexander M'Dougal, Reuben Rowland; Cedar-spring church, Thomas Burges, Richard Wood; Branch of Pacolet church, James Fowler, Alexander M'Dougal, and Davis Collins; to attend discretionally.

22. Agreed, that our next association be held at the old Meeting-house, on Fairforest, near col. Brandon's, in Union-county, second Saturday in August, 1794.

**JAMES FOWLER, Moderator.**  
**WILLIAM FORD, Clerk.**

## THE PRESENT STATE OF THE CHURCHES.

Ministers names in capitals; Licensed Preachers in Italics; Churches marked with an asterisk are had no account from, their numbers stand as last year; a dash denotes a vacancy.

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS.	Baptized.	Ad. by L.	Dismiss'd.	Transf.	Disch.	Members.
Buffaloe Creek,	JOSEPH CAMP, James Collins						60
Tyger River,	William M'Daniel, William Ford	2	2	4	1		47
Green River,	DANIEL BROWN, John Blackwell	5		3	1		82
Bill's Creek,	{ John Owenby, Joel Shelton, Samuel King			2	1		31
Buck Creek,	THOMAS BURGESS, Wm. Garret	7	9	2		1	87
Head of Enoree River,	ABRAHAM HARGISS, John Tubbs	11	4	9	4	1	124
Sandy Run,	Houten Harrit, John Wilson		8	5			82
Fairforest,	{ ALEXANDER M'DOUGAL, Wm. Buchanan	1	7				7
Padget's Creek,	John Putman, Wm. Woolbanks	1	2	4			15
Mountain Creek,	{ PERMINTER MORGAN, Joshua Taylor	12	7	4	6	1	114
Big Creek,	MOSES HOLLAND, John Nicholson	20	12	6	3		74
Genesie Creek,	John M'Cutchen						41
Horse Creek,	Drury Simms, Stephen Ford						29
Cedar Spring,	Toroyal Barnett, Charles Smith	2	2	1			22
Upper Church on Dun-	{ JOSHUA PALMER, Roger can's Creek, Brown	3	16	1	1		28
Praolet River,	RICHARD WOOD, Wm. Smith	2	16	1			56
Lower Church on Dun-	{ MICAJAH BENNET, Reuben Row- can's Creek, land, Abner Casey			4	2		37
Jamey's Creek,	{ RICHARD SHACKLEFORD, DAVID LILLY, Joseph Woodruff	11	18	7	3	2	227
Sandy River,	JAMES FOWLER, Wilson Henderson			5	3		79
Bath River,	JOHN COLE, Jessie Brooks	31		4	1	1	111
Siconna Creek,*	WILLIAM MURPHEY, Joseph Price		2	1		1	19
Rocky Creek of Catawba River,*	{ EDWARD PIGG						26
Reedy River, extinct.							
Big Branch of Enoree River,	{ DRURY SIMMS William Austen		1		1		19
Middle Branch of Saluda River,	{ JOHN CHASTAIN, Benjamin Stuart, Joseph Harden	1	17	11			100
Little River,	GEORGE TILMAN, William Gant	7	1	7	2	1	20
Enoree River,	Charles Coats, Edmund Gains	2	1		1	1	80
Branch Broad River,	{ RICHARD NEWPORT, Nicholas Woodson, John Boy	3	11	3	1		26
		117	140	78	43	5	1773

CHURCHES.	MESSENGERS.	Baptized.	Ad. by L.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Dead.	Number Members.
	Brought forward	117	140	3	43	9	1772
Rocky Creek of Broad River,	{ ——— Elijah Major	2	2			1	77
	{ George Vandevere						
Turky Creek,	Thomas Shirley, Thomas Foster	14	5	1		1	67
Main Saluda River,	——— Wm. Thurston, Abraham Bradley						77
Cloud's Creek,	{ PATRICK QUARTEMUS						26
	{ Thomas Delcach						
Bull Town,	——— Thomas Adams						9
Kewee River,	——— James Abbett, Isaac Lynch						17
Concord,	{ EDMUND BEARDEN, Robert Smith						43
	{ Baylis Earles, Esq.						
Catawba River,	——— Davies Collins, John Robertson						27
Sugar Creek,	——— John Recker, William Petties						19
Increase since last year, 144, besides churches received.		123	147	77	46	11	2090

## The CIRCULAR LETTER for 1793.

*The Pastors, Ministers and Messengers, met in the Bethel Association, to the several Churches they represent, send Christian Salutation.*

*Holy Brethren, partakers of the Heavenly calling!*

**T**HE gracious and merciful providence of our Covenant-God, having brought us once more together as ministers and messengers of the respective churches, whom we have the honor to represent; we think it our duty to use every method that may conduce to your spiritual profit and edification; and, as the churches in confederation wait, with earnest expectation, for some instruction, information and advice, in matters that concern their present and future happiness.

The churches will reflect on the good providence of God, in bringing them together in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel. And now is an annual opportunity in receiving information of the state of the churches in union, together with intelligence from the associations in correspondence,

