

History of the Red Creek Association

Oct. 15, 1880 to Sept. 22, 1979

The Red Creek Association was organized October 15, 1880. The three day session was held at Red Hill Baptist Church which was located on Black Creek in Perry County, Miss. There were seventeen churches represented with a total membership of 637. Elder James P. Johnson was elected moderator; E. B. Cox, clerk; and M. G. O'Neal, treasurer. In the beginning, the Association was designated the Red Creek Association of Regular Baptists. The term "Regular" was used to identify the true Baptist Church from others that had departed from some of the fundamental teachings of the Bible.

During his ministry, Elder J. P. Johnson organized church after church and baptized many people in south Mississippi, and it was through his leadership and encouragement that the Red Creek Association was organized. The churches composing the first session of the Association follow:

Church	Location	Pastor
Red Creek	Jackson County	J. P. Johnson
Ten Mile	Harrison County	Thomas Price
Oaky Hill	Harrison County	John Williams
Antioch	Harrison County	J. P. Johnson
Morris Hill	Harrison County	J. P. Johnson
Fair Mount	Harrison County	John Williams
Fair Hope	Perry County	Eld. Merrit
Little Black	Marion County	T. Anderson
Cypress Creek	Perry County	J. P. Johnson
Sand Hill	Hancock County	A. J. Fry
Oak Grove	Harrison County	J. P. Johnson
Juniper Grove	Hancock County	Thomas Price
Mount Zion	Marion County	Elder Graham
Pine Ridge	Covington County	Elder Graham
Sunny Hill	Harrison County	Elder Williams
Spring Hill	Marion County	A. J. Fry
Cancelling Hill	Harrison County	John Williams

These ordained ministers held membership in churches composing the Red Creek Association in 1895:

J. P. Johnson, Wildwood, MS	G. W. Byrd, Purvis, MS
A. J. Fry, Poplarville, MS	Thomas Price, Elinor, MS
J. A. Smith, Purvis, MS	F. Daughdrill, Hillsdale, MS
J. R. Whittington, Beatrice, MS	W. J. Walker, Long Beach, MS
Abner Walker, Finley, MS	Morgan Smith, Barkley, MS

Over the years, churches continued to come into the Association. When the thirty-seventh session was held with Sand Hill Church, thirty-one churches represented with a total membership of 1965. At that meeting four churches withdrew to help organize the Black Creek Association. Between 1916 and 1929, several churches ceased to represent for various reasons such as location, consolidation, or dissolving. At the 50th session 23 churches represented with a total membership of over 2,000, and it was noted that 3,714 people had been baptized since the organization of the Association.

The churches composing the Red Creek Association have always been missionary in spirit and practice. They have supported every phase of the work from local to foreign. With the exception of a few years, there has been a local missionary on the field since the organization.

Foreign mission work was done through the Old General Association of Mississippi

until about 1906 when that body voted to do their work through the Southern Baptist Convention Board. The churches of the Red Creek Association then ceased cooperating with them and, instead, sent their foreign mission funds direct to the missionaries on the foreign field. This continued until the organization of the Mississippi State Baptist Association in 1909. At that time, the churches of the Red Creek Association affiliated with them on the state level and continued cooperating with that group for nearly 40 years. However, because the Mississippi State Association began to use unscriptural practices, a number of churches drew away and organized the Mississippi State Faith Baptist Association in 1947. Their first regular session was held in 1948 with Tabernacle Baptist Church, Purvis, MS. The churches of the Red Creek Association have since supported men on that field.

In 1950, six churches desiring to continue work with the Mississippi State Association pulled out of the Red Creek Association to help organize the Ten Mile Association, an organization which is not fellowshipped by the Red Creek Association. The churches were Bethel, Cypress Creek, Little Creek, Ten Mile, Paramount and Red Creek.

The 100th session of the Association was held with Sunflower Baptist Church. It was composed of 42 churches with a total of 3660 members and 52 ordained ministers.

Editor's Notes

I would like to call our attention, by the way of a reminder, that we have available to us some important history of our old time Landmark Missionary Baptist work. There are some brethren who have made quite an effort, involving much research time and expense getting this together. Mostly from our associational minutes, some minutes many years back. I congratulate them on

this. I do not know who all had a part, but it was mainly Elder Mike Brumfield, pastor of Centerville Baptist Church, Tylertown, Miss., in the State Line Association, and Eld. R.K. Smith in the R'Ted Creek Association Bro. Smith is pastor of Community Baptist Church, Gulfport, Miss., and Charity

Baptist Church, Bay St. Louis, Miss.

We hope we can have others about our other associations later. I would like to suggest also that it would be good to keep one or more copies of the papers that contain these articles for future reference and use. In case you might have missed the October, 1980 issue that has the State Line Association history in it, and you desire a copy just let us know. We will be glad to send you a copy without charge.

Stonewall Mississippi Visit

I was invited and visited with Elder J. E. Hicks in the new Missionary Baptist Church at Stonewall, Miss. During the day Thursday, Oct. 9, we visited the planned church site. They finally found some land, purchased it, and have had quite a bit of

a hill moved fixing a place for the church building, plenty parking space and room for a cemetery when needed.

At this time they have the building site squared up and ready for the form and the foundation. They are going by faith. Anyone having time or money you could contribute it will be appreciated. Anyone having an opportunity to help should contact Eld. J. E. Hicks, P. O. Box 274, Stonewall, Miss., 39363, or Bro. Joe Mac Lee, P. O. Box 725, Stonewall MS., 39363. I don't think Bro. Hicks has a phone up there, and I do not have Bro. Lee's phone number.

I was with them Thursday night in their midwell service and got to meet the people of the church. I enjoyed my visit.