

TOMBIGBEE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

ARTICLE 5. Each church shall send to the annual session of the Association letters containing the names of messengers and full statistics of the churches for the past year which shall be entered into the minutes of the Association.

ARTICLE 6. Orderly and orthodox churches may be received into the body by majority vote.

ARTICLE 7. This body shall be governed by Pendleton's manual of parliamentary practice. In case additional information is needed beyond that found in Pendleton's manual, Robert's Rules of Order shall be the accepted guide.

ARTICLE 8. This Association of churches may hold annual and monthly meetings at such time and places as may be designated by the messengers, and each church is sole judge as to the qualifications of its messengers. Each church is entitled to equal privileges in all business transactions, and shall be entitled to three messengers chosen from her membership to represent her at these meetings.

ARTICLE 9. That all things may be done in decency and order, the messengers of the cooperating churches may elect a moderator and assistant moderator, a clerk and assistant clerk, treasurer and assistant treasurer, and three auditors to perform the duties of such offices, and any other office necessary to the carrying out of the expressed will of the churches. Said moderator is not to hold office more than two consecutive years.

ARTICLE 10. Money sent by the churches shall be given into the hands of a committee on Finance, who shall state in their letter to the body the amount from each church, and the purpose for which it was sent. They shall pay the same over to the treasurer. The treasurer shall pay out the money as directed by the churches.

ARTICLE 11. This association shall be ruled by a majority vote unless otherwise stated in this constitution.

ARTICLE 12. This association shall never exercise a practice of authority over the churches of which she is composed or in any way interfere with their initial rights — always recognizing that to these are committed the glorious work of preaching to every creature the glad tidings of salvation and eternal life, and that the churches are absolutely free to work as the New Testament directs. As such, this body shall remain in subordination to the churches, never exercising any power beyond that of a promotional council.

ARTICLE 13. At the last monthly meeting before the annual meeting of this association recommendations for a missionary, or missionaries and/or Missions project or mission projects be received from churches and open for discussion.

Said recommendations to be sent each church of this Association by the clerk for their information, so they can discuss and

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instruct their messengers if they so desire. At the annual Association the messengers present will choose the Missionary, or missionaries, and/or mission project or mission projects.

In the event that an urgent need is felt between the annual meetings, the same procedure will be used as above on the monthly meetings, after the churches have been advised.

ARTICLE 14. This constitution may be altered or amended by two-thirds of the messengers voting at any annual meeting, except the 12th article, which shall never be changed.

DOCTRINAL STATEMENT (SUGGESTED)

The churches of this association heartily subscribe to and agree to defend and promulgate the historic Missionary Baptist Faith and Practice, the interpretation of which is tersely stated as follows:

1. The Trinity of God.
2. The infallible and plenary verbal inspiration of the Scriptures.
3. The Biblical account of creation.
4. The personality of Satan.
5. The hereditary and total depravity of man in his natural state involving his fall in Adam.
6. The virgin birth and deity of Jesus Christ.
7. Christ's blood atonement for fallen man.
8. His bodily resurrection and ascension back to His Father.
9. The person and work of the Holy Spirit.
10. Justification before God by faith without any admixture of works.
11. Separation of God's children from the world.
12. Water baptism (immersion) to be administered to believers only and by Divine authority as given to Missionary Baptist Churches.
13. The Lord's Supper, a church ordinance to be administered to baptized believers only and in Scriptural church capacity.
14. Eternal security of the believer.
15. The establishment of a visible church by Christ Himself, during His personal ministry on earth.
16. World wide missions according to the Great Commission which Christ gave His church. (Matthew 28:19-20).
17. The perpetuity of Missionary Baptist churches from Christ's day on earth until His second coming.
18. The right of scriptural churches to be held as equal units in their associated capacities, with equal rights and privileges for all.
19. The subjection of all scriptural associational assemblies and their committees to the will of the churches, so that they shall for-

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ever remain as servants of the churches originating them.

20. The separation of the Lord's Church from all so-called churches or church alliances which advocate, practice, or uphold heresies and other human innovations which are not in harmony with the word of God. Open communion, alien baptism, pulpit affiliation with heretical churches, modernism, and all kindred evils arising from these practices are unscriptural.

21. The only valid baptism is that administered by the authority of a scriptural Missionary Baptist Church. Any so-called Baptist church which knowingly receives alien Baptism, habitually practices this or other evils as those listed in statement 20, cannot be a scriptural Baptist Church, nor can its ordinances remain valid.

22. The personal, bodily and imminent return of Christ to earth.

23. The bodily resurrection of the dead.

24. The reality of Heaven, involving Divine assurance of eternal happiness for the redeemed of God.

25. The reality of Hell, involving everlasting punishment of the incorrigible wicked.

### SCHEDULE OF ASSOCIATIONAL MEETINGS

#### YOUTH MEETINGS

Every 5th Sunday night—7:00 p.m.

#### MISSION MEETINGS

Monthly, Tuesday after every 4th Sunday—7:30 p.m.

#### CHOIR PRACTICE

Monthly — Saturday night before the 4th Sunday, with the same church entertaining the mission meeting—6:30 p.m.

#### DISTRICT W. M. A. MEETINGS

Quarterly — Monday night after the 4th Sunday—7:30 p.m.

#### DISTRICT G. M. A.

Quarterly—Monday night after the 4th Sunday—7:30 p.m.