

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SANDY RUN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Nineteen churches met together to form The Sandy Run Baptist Association at a meeting held at Bethel Church, Ellenboro, NC November 27th, and 28th, 1890. The association was organized on the first day of the meeting which was November 27, 1890.

The original Charter Member churches were as follows:

Bethel, Big Springs, Concord, Forest City First Baptist, Fairview, Floyd's Creek, First Broad, High Shoal, Henrietta First Baptist, Holly Springs, Mt. Olivet, Mt. Lebanon, Mt. Pleasant (C) Mt. Pleasant (R) Mt. Zion, Mt. Harmony, Sandy Run, Union and Walls.

Each of these churches presented letters of dismissal from their previous associations of Kings Mountain, and Green River, along with letters of intent to form this new association.

It was suggested in the first order of business that the new Association should be named, whereupon, after quite a number of names had been offered as appropriate, it was decided by a rising vote that the new association would be called, >The Sandy Run Baptist Association@ after the oldest church that took part in the formation of this association, which was the Sandy Run Church of Mooresboro, NC.

During the second order of business, on motion, the Constitution, Order of Business and Rules of Decorum, adopted by the last session of the Kings Mountain Association were temporarily adopted by this body with some amendments, all of which appeared in the minutes of 1890.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.
2. The Moderator shall be deemed a judge of order, and shall have a right to call to order at any time; also, it shall be his duty to see that the Rules of Order are attended to; to take the opinion of the Association on all questions properly brought before the body.
3. Any member not being satisfied with his decision on any point of order may appeal to the Association on the same day the decision is made, but at no other time.
4. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular record of the transactions of the Association.
5. But one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise to this feet and obtain leave of the Moderator, and when he has done speaking he shall sit down, and shall not speak more than twice on the same question, nor more than twenty minutes at a time, unless he obtains permission of the Association.
6. The Moderator, when addressed for leave of speech, shall signify the same by naming of them, or otherwise.
7. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject on hand, or uses words of personal reflection, or with a view off calling to order for some particular purpose. Any motion made and seconded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, except withdrawn by him who made it.
8. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided first, before another is offered.
9. When anything is taken up by the Association, after allowing time for debate, the Moderator shall put the question; and those in favor of the thing proposed shall rise to their feet, and those opposed to it shall keep their seats; the Moderator shall procure the decision before those standing take their seats.
10. No person being a member shall depart the service of the Association without leave.
11. The appellation of ABrother@ shall be used in our addresses to each other.
12. The names of the members shall be called as often as necessary.
13. No member shall be indulged in any practice that has a tendency to interrupt in the time of a public speech, or any other practice that would dishonor the Association.
14. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speech as any other member, provided that he appoints some other member to his seat while he is speaking, but shall not vote unless the Association is equally divided, then he shall give the casting vote.
15. Any person breaking the rules of order shall be reproved at the discretion of the Association, but

only on the day the breach was made.

Records in 1895. The first record found of The Association consisted of twenty three Baptist Churches in 1895. Namely:

Bethel, Big Springs, Bethany, Concord, Cane Creek, Camp=s Creek, Forest City, Fair View, Floyds Creek, First Broad, High Shoal, Henrietta, Holly Springs, Mt. Olivet, Mt. Pleasant [C], Mt. Pleasant [R], Mt. Zion, Mt. Harmony, Sandy Run, Shiloh, Union, and Walls Baptist Churches. Each church listed had their Pastor. The minutes of the meeting were printed in Shelby, N. C. by Mr. C. P. Roberts

The following record of the association was found in 1950 Association report. The Sandy Run Baptist Association reported fifty-six churches, five hundred twenty six baptisms, sixteen thousand five hundred forty five members, and twelve thousand five hundred and seven in Sunday school.

At the present date of preparation of this information September 27, 2010 there are sixty churches in the association,

Note: The work of the association was carried out in the home of the Director of Missions until 1965 when the Florence Baptist Church offered office space for the DOM. In February of 1968 the office was moved from Florence Church to two rented rooms in the Union Trust Bank Building of Forest City.

In the executive board meeting on January 13, 1975 a recommendation was made to move the office back to the parsonage of the Director of Missions on 600 E. Main Street Forest City which had been bought for the Director of Missions on January 1, 1959.

In the early ministry of Rev. Otis J. Wheelhouse as Director of Missions, property was purchased in 1977 in Sandy Mush for the future building site for the association office. In 1980 the present location of 43.5 acres along with a small house was purchased for the price of \$90, 000 and the property in Sandy Mush was sold. The associational office was relocated sometime later to the small house on the newly purchased property until the completion of the present building. The office was moved to the new building on January 2, 2002.

Mr. Herman Haynes Chairman of the properties Committee reported that a major milestone in the life of the Association in the One Hundred and First Annual Session in 1990, from the properties committee that the debt on the property had been paid. The association was DEBT FREE.

The churches were challenged to choose to develop the land, and use it for the needs of the association. Plans were needed to plot out the phases of development, as these plans develop, they will be shared With all the churches for their input, revision, and approval.

The churches were challenged to continue financing the association on a level that will allow for this Development, and to work together to accomplish these needs.

An open air meeting of the Executive Board was held on Sunday afternoon, August 29, 1996, on the property.

At this meeting, Rev. Michael Sepaugh presided and gave a report from the Steering Committee for Property Development, recommending that a new association office building be built on the association's property, located between the paved road (Puzzle Creek) at the front entrance of the property and the then present office building.

An impressive Ground breaking service was held on Sunday afternoon March 2, 1997 on the ground where the new office building is proposed to be built.

The service opened with those present singing "Higher Ground", led by Rev. David A. Jones, Co-Pastor of the Peoples Baptist Mission, Forest City. Everyone was welcomed to the ground breaking service by the Association's Moderator, Rev. Caris Owens, Pastor of Gantt's Grove Baptist Church.

Prayer was offered by Rev. Philip Bailey Vice Moderator.

An impressive message was given by the following Association officers entitled "Sharing The Dream."

Rev. Michael Sepaugh.....Steering Committee, Chairman, Shiloh Church
Rev. Lawrence Toney.....Past Moderator, Goode's Grove Church
Dr. Robert F. Toney.....Historian, Interim, Mt. Lebanon Church
Rev. Otis Wheelhouse.....Director of Missions

Among those present in addition to the "Sharers of the Dream" were: Association Trustees
Chairman, Mr. Herman Haynes, Smith Grove, Mr. Paul Luckadoo, Race Path; Mr. Charles Campbell
Alexander, Pastors Dr. Wayne Blackwood, Bethel, Rev. Tim Hendrick, Sandy Run, Rev. Frank Hoyle,
First Baptist, Bostic, Rev. Chris Masters, Concord; Rev. Charles Battle, First Broad; Rev. James C.
Diehl, Floyd's Creek; Rev. Cecil Lovelace, Goode's Creek; Rev. Johnny Crotts, Mt. Pleasant; Dr. Thomas
Gossett, Prospect; Rev. Marvin Green, Bethany; Rev. Jeff Springer, Smith Grove; Rev. Kevin Rhom,
Crestview, and Rev. Lee Causby, Jr., Victory. Dr. Wayne Blackwood, Bethel Church, gave the
Benediction Prayer after which the ground breaking ceremony was concluded.

Rev. Malone Thomason was elected to do the architectural drawing for the building at the meeting of
the executive board on May 29, 1997 at the Concord Baptist Church. At this same meeting gratitude
was extended to the Steering Committee for their time and effort in getting things underway for this
much needed project in our Association and to our churches and Pastors and individuals for their
cooperation.

Up until 1947 as far as records show, the association meetings were under the supervision of the
Moderator. Following is a list of Director of Missions from Sept. 30, 1947 to Nov. 1, 2009

The association had its first Director of Missions, September 30, 1947, namely:

Rev. Guy Walker, who served the association from September 30, 1947 until October 14, 1948.
Rev. Wilford W. Reese.....1948 – December 9, 1949.
Rev. J. Boyd Horton.....March 21, 1950 – January 16, 1957.
Rev. W.V. Carroll.....August 19, 1957 – 1975
Rev. Archie Hughes, Part time Interim DOM.....February, 1, 1975 – 1976
Rev. Otis J. Wheelhouse.....August 1, 1976 – December 31, 1998
Dr. James C. Diehl.....March 1, 1999 – March 28, 2008
Dr. Charles F. Cobb, Part time Interim DOM.....September 9, 2008 – October 31, 2009
Rev. Marvin Green.....November 1, 2009 - Present

The first Ministry Assistant to be paid was hired by the Sandy Run Association and Florence Baptist
Church.

Miss Martha Jean McFarland.....April 6, 1959 – May 5, 1975
Mrs. C.D. (Alma) Richardson.....October 13, 1975 – 1979
Mrs. Allene K. Wheelhouse.....December 1979 – March 31, 1999
Mrs. Loretta S. Winters.....March 1999 – Present

Respectfully submitted January 24, 2011 by: Dr. Robert F. Toney, Historian

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