

# The Gaston County Baptist Messenger

HISTORICAL ISSUE

GASTONIA, N. C., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14th, 1923.

HISTORICAL ISSUE

## Welcome!

## DELEGATES

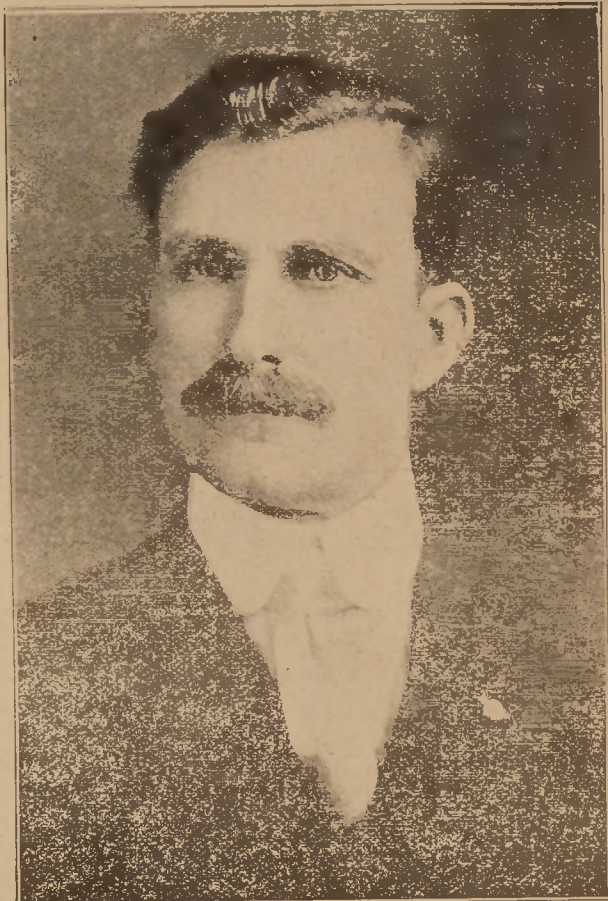
## Welcome!



H. B. MOORE, Gastonia, First Moderator



W. J. FRANCIS, Belmont, Moderator 1920-1923.



D. P. DELLINGER, Cherryville, Clerk 1919-1923.

### GASTON COUNTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 1919-1923.

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The territory covered by the Gaston County Baptist Association was first occupied by the Sandy Creek Association, the oldest in North Carolina, organized in 1758, and the Charleston Association, the oldest in South Carolina, organized in 1751. Both of these Associations sent Missionaries into this territory.

The Bethel Association was formed in 1789. Long Creek church, near Dallas, in Gaston County, the oldest Baptist church in this part of the State, was a member of the Bethel Association.

The Catawba River Association was organized in 1827. The Baptist churches along the Catawba river from the headwaters to the South Carolina line belonged to this Association.

The Broad River Association

was formed in 1800. Long Creek Church, and perhaps other churches in what is now Gaston County, belonged to the Broad River Association. Graham says in his history of the South Fork Association that the Baptists of the South Fork are "descendants of the Broad River Association."

The Kings Mountain Association was organized in 1851, and began work in the territory of Gaston county; though some of the churches in the County belonged to the Broad River Association. In 1854 Long Creek church joined the Kings Mountain Association, and in 1877 the First Baptist Church, of Gastonia, became a member of the Kings Mountain Association. Most of the churches in the County belonged to the Kings Mountain Association at this time, though some belonged to the Broad River and perhaps

some to the York Association in South Carolina. (?)

The South Fork Association was organized at Kid's Chapel, Nov. 22, 1828. Most of the Baptist churches in Catawba, Lincoln and Gaston Counties belonging to the South Fork Association.

On Tuesday, Nov. 4th, 1919, in the First Baptist Church at Gastonia, the Gaston County Baptist Association was organized with the following churches, all located in Gaston county: Dallas Mt. Beulah, Long Creek, Alexis, Belmont First, Belmont East, Gastonia First, Gastonia East, Gastonia South (Marietta St.) Loray, Hickory Grove, High Shoals, Lowell, Mayworth (Cramerton), McAdenville, Mt. Holly, Sandy Plains, Spencer Mountain, Tuckasee, Bruington, Cherryville, Bessemer City, Mt. Zion and Shady Grove, with a

membership of 5,397. Since the organization the following new churches have joined the Association: Center View, Calvary, Hull's Grove, Lucia, Ranlo, West Mt. Holly, Flint-Groves, and Hardin. The present membership is 8,102. They contributed to the 75 Million \$25,379.00; to all objects, \$175,347.20, the Associational year ending Sept. 30, 1923. The Association was organized in the First Baptist church, Gastonia, the second session was held in the Long Creek Memorial church; the third in Cherryville Baptist church; the fourth in the Cramerton Baptist Church and the fifth in the Loray Baptist Church. The first moderator was H. B. Moore. The second moderator was W. J. Francis, who still holds that office. The first and only clerk is D. P. Dellinger.

The 75 Million campaign was

in progress when the Gaston County Association was organized. The South Fork Association has been apportioned \$225,000.00 by the State Committee. A joint committee from the South Fork Association and the Gaston County Association met and apportioned to the two Associations; giving the Gaston County \$130,000.00 and the South Fork \$95,000.00. The Gaston County Association pledged about \$280,000.00. The Associational minutes show that the churches of the Association have paid \$122,032.90 to the 75 Million fund. They are far behind what they pledged, but the indications are that they will go over what they were apportioned. The people in the Gaston County Association pledged more liberally than almost any other place in the State, as the figures will show.



MRS. H. B. MOORE, Gastonia, First President Associational W. M. U., 1919-1923.



MRS. W. W. WILLIAMS, Bessemer City, President Associational W. M. U., 1923.



MRS. W. H. POOL, Gastonia, Secretary Associational W. M. U., 1919-1923.