

**for
Original**

Yearbook

**Free Will Baptists
of
North Carolina**

A PUBLICATION OF
THE FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS
AYDEN, NORTH CAROLINA

For
July 1, 1979 through June 30, 1980

**PUBLISHED
1981**

1980-81

Yearbook

for

Original

Free Will Baptists

of

North Carolina

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.
Ayden, N. C.

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.
Ayden, North Carolina

All Rights Reserved

Available from the Publishers at:

811 North Lee Street
Ayden, North Carolina

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

MINUTES OF CONFERENCES AND ASSOCIATION

Piedmont	235
Albemarle	258
Western	268
Pee Dee	283
Eastern	297
Cape Fear	330
Central	360
CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES	377
STATISTICAL TABLES	385

MINUTES
of the
THIRTY-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE
ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE
of
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS
of
NORTH CAROLINA

October 8, 1980

Held with Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church,
 Roper, North Carolina

The next session will convene Wednesday before the Second Sunday in October, 1981. The place will be announced by the Executive Committee.

OFFICERS FOR THE 1981 SESSION

Moderator.....	The Rev. Robert May
Assistant Moderator.....	The Rev. Charlie Overton
Secretary	The Rev. Marvin R. Waters
Assistant Secretary	Mr. Oscar Webster
Treasurer	Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Rev. Robert May, the Rev. Marvin R. Waters, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr., the Moderator of the Albemarle Union Meeting, the President of the Albemarle Sunday School Convention, the President of the Albemarle League Union, and the President of the Albemarle Woman's Auxilliary Convention

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Rev. L. E. Ambrose (1983)	Mr. Jay Leggett (1982)
The Rev. W. L. Brickhouse (1981)	

BOARD OF ORDINATION

The Rev. Marvin Waters (1983)	The Rev. Robert May (1982)
The Rev. Charlie Overton (1981)	

BOARD OF MISSIONS

The Rev. Ronnie Mohn (1985)

The Rev. Steve Hargrove (1984)

The Rev. David Ricks (1983)

Mr. Oscar Webster (1982)

Mr. Hilton Simmons (1981)

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mrs. Laura Webster (1983)

Mrs. Mae Oliver (1982)

Mrs. Margaret Woolard (1981)

ROLL OF MINISTERS

L. E. Ambrose, Route 2, Box 162, Creswell, NC 27928

Charlie Overton, Ahoskie, NC 27910

Robert May, Route 4, Box 387, Ahoskie, NC 27910

W. L. Brickhouse, Columbia, NC 27925

Marvin R. Waters, Route 1, Box 32, Pinetown, NC 27865

Johnny Sexton, Plymouth, NC 27962

Floyd A. Burkey Jr., 333 West Avenue, Plymouth, NC 27962

Steve Hargrove, Route 2, Box 100, Belhaven, NC 27810

David Ricks, Route 2, Box 177-A, Creswell, NC 27928

Ronnie Mohn, Cape Colony Mission, Box 812, Edenton, NC 27932

Bill Gaylord, Route 1, Pinetown, NC 27865

David Thick, Route 1, Pinetown, NC 27865

ROLL OF CHURCHES WITH THEIR
CLERKS AND PASTORS

MARTIN COUNTY

Corinth—Clerk, Mrs. Paul Dan Davis, Route 2, Box 97, Jamesville, NC 27846

Pastor, Paul E. Melson, Route 1, Roper, NC 27970

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Mount Tabor—Clerk, Mrs. Naomi H. Ambrose, Route 2, Box 169, Creswell, NC 27928

Pastor, the Rev. David Ricks, Route 2, Box 177-A, Creswell, NC 27928

Mount Zion—Clerk, Mrs. Beulah Whitson, Route 3, Box 29, Plymouth, NC 27962

Pastor, the Rev. W. C. Overton, 811 Academy Street, Ahoskie, NC 27910

Piney Grove—Clerk, Mrs. Lois Krawczyk, Route 1, Roper, NC 27970

Pastor, the Rev. Bill Gaylord, Route 1, Pinetown, NC 27865

First Free Will Baptist of Plymouth—Clerk, Mrs. Irene Pierce, Route 3, Box 326, Plymouth, NC, 27962

Pastor, the Rev. Floyd Burkey, 333 West Avenue, Plymouth, NC 27962

Union Chapel—Clerk, Mrs. Mivarene Phelps, Route 1, Box 293, Plymouth, NC 27962

Pastor, the Rev. O. Swade Benson, Route 1, Box 513, Clayton, NC 27520

TYRRELL COUNTY

Sound Side—Clerk, Mr. Marvin Sawyer, Box 62, Columbia, NC 27925

Pastor, the Rev. N. D. Wiggs, Box 356, LaGrange, NC 28551

Gum Neck—Clerk, Mrs. Dorothy Brickhouse, Route 1, Box 280, Columbia, NC 27925

Pastor—None listed on report

Malachi's Chapel—Clerk, W. Braxton Voliva, Box 394, Columbia, NC 27925

Pastor, the Rev. N. D. Wiggs, Box 356, LaGrange, NC 28551

PASQUOTANK COUNTY

Saint Paul—Clerk, Mrs. Eunice F. Ambrose, 95 Woodstock Apartments, Elizabeth City, NC 27909

Pastor, the Rev. Joe Griffith, 1805 Cooper Street, Elizabeth City, NC 27909

HERTFORD COUNTY

Hickory Chapel—Clerk, Wayne Taylor, 920 Jessie Street, Ahoskie, NC 27910

Pastor, the Rev. Robert May, Route 4, Box 387, Ahoskie, NC 27910

CHOWAN COUNTY

Cape Colony Mission

Pastor, the Rev. Ronnie Mohn, Edenton, NC 27932

BEAUFORT COUNTY

Free Union—Clerk, Robert Wilkens, Highway 32, Plymouth NC 27962

Pastor, the Rev. David Thick, Route 1, Pinetown, NC 27865

Trinity—Clerk, Talmadge Cooper, Route 1, Box 88-A, Pantego, NC 27860

Pastor—Philip Boykin (Supply), Campbell College, Bules Creek, NC 27506

Sidney—Clerk, Jimmy D. Brinn, Route 2, Box 350, Belhaven, NC 27810

Pastor, the Rev. Steve Hargrove, Route 2, Box 100, Belhaven, NC 27810

Belhaven—Clerk, Mrs. Harry Jarvis, Engelhard, NC 27824

Pastor, the Rev. Beverly Ballard, Ayden, NC 28513

Shiloh—Clerk, Mrs. Mary Ann Harris, Route 1, Box 479, Pinetown, NC 27865

Pastor, the Rev. Marvin R. Waters, Route 1, Box 32, Pinetown, NC 27865

PROCEEDINGS

The thirty-sixth annual session of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened with Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, Roper, North Carolina, on October 8, 1980.

WEDNESDAY MORNING

The conference began with the singing of a hymn, "He Keeps Me Singing." Psalm 36 and other passages were used by the Rev. Ronnie Mohn for devotional thoughts. Brother Mohn led the conference in the opening prayer.

Lloyd Jones Jr. of the host church gave the welcome. Oscar Webster of Trinity church gave the response to the welcome. The Rev. Marvin Waters called the conference to order. Motion carried to adopt the program as the order of business for the day with the moderator to have privilege to change said order of program as he deemed necessary.

Roll call of churches showed ten churches present, four absent, two representing by letter, with one mission (Cape Colony) reporting.

The list of ministers was called and the following reported: L. E. Ambrose, Charlie Overton, Robert May, Marvin Waters, Johnny Sexton, Floyd Burkey, Steve Hargrove.

Visiting ministers were recognized with the following present: Taylor Hill, Cape Fear; Ronnie Mohn, Western; Hubert Burress, Central; David Thick, Eastern; David Ricks, Piedmont; Walter Reynolds, Central; Scott Sowers, Eastern; Dr. Burkette Raper, Cape Fear.

Motion carried to receive David Ricks as a member minister of the Albemarle Conference.

Motion carried to receive Ronnie Mohn into membership of the conference pending his letter of transfer from the Western Conference.

The Rev. Robert May, moderator, gave the moderator's address. The moderator appointed the following committees:

Nominating—Charlie Overton, L. E. Ambrose, Louise Stotesbury

Resolutions—Marvin Waters, Billy Dilday, Steve Hargrove

Temperance—Bill Gurganus, Floyd Burkey, David Furlough

An offering was then received by the conference for denominational enterprises as the congregation sang, "Count Your Blessings." The Rev. David Ricks prayed the offertory prayer.

The Rev. Marvin Waters read the minutes of the Executive Committee. A motion was made and carried to adopt the report. (See Reports.)

Various announcements were made by the churches present.

The report of the Board of Ordination was presented by the Rev. Charlie Overton. Motion carried to adopt the report. (See Reports.)

Motion carried to receive the Rev. David Thick into the Albemarle Conference pending his letter from the Eastern Conference.

The Rev. Hubert Burress gave the report on Church Finance Association. The Rev. Taylor Hill gave the report from the Home Missions Department.

Dr. Burkette Raper gave the report on Mount Olive College. Dr. Raper emphasized the challenge that is before us in helping our college to attain an accredited four-year institution status. The Rev. Walter Reynolds presented the report of the Free Will Baptist Press. Brother Reynolds also gave the Superannuation report. He stated that some questions had arisen regarding the name of and services of the Board of Superannuation. He encouraged the churches to write the Board with any suggestions regarding the program now provided. It was reported that the next meeting of the Board of Superannuation would be November 4, 1980, at 1 p.m., at the Press.

The conference entered into the worship service. The congregation sang "We're Marching to Zion." A trio from the host church sang. The Rev. Charlie Overton, host pastor, delivered the conference sermon, entitled "Marching Orders." His text was Exodus 14:15. Before the benediction the Revs. Ronnie Mohn, David Thick, and David Ricks were granted the right hand of fellowship into the membership of the conference.

Albemarle Conference

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon session opened with the singing of a hymn, "All Hail the Power." Mrs. Mae Oliver conducted the memorial service, reading from Isaiah 61:1-3 and Revelation 7:9, 10. Names of former friends, pastors, and church leaders were mentioned to be memorialized. Mrs. Oliver prayed the memorial prayer. The congregation sang "When We All Get to Heaven."

Following a request by the Rev. Bill Gaylord that he be reinstated as a member of the Albemarle Conference, motion was made and carried to reinstate him as one of our member ministers.

The report of the Albemarle League Convention was given by Lloyd W. Jones Jr., president. Brother Jones reported that a trip to Cragmont for the winner in the Junior and Teenage sword drill had been awarded.

The Rev. Stewart Humphrey gave the report on both the Children's Home and the Retirement Homes Ministry. He reported that there had been some interest in a possible "boarding homes" ministry.

Motion carried to drop Billy Reynolds from the list of conference ministers, as he has missed three consecutive meetings of the conference.

The Rev. Marvin Waters gave the report from Cragmont and from the Foreign Missions Program.

The Rev. Floyd Burkey gave the delegates report of the State Convention. Motion carried to receive this report as information.

The Rev. Steve Hargrove, member of the Executive Committee of the State Convention, presented further highlights of the convention. Brother Hargrove emphasized the need for our continued support of our convention and its program of ministers.

Motion made and carried to receive this report as information.

BUSINESS SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE

The moderator opened the floor for the business session. It was requested that the boards of the conference be sure to give reports of their activities as a board of the conference.

Motion carried that we extend to the host church a rising vote of thanks for its hospitality in entertaining this conference.

Motion carried to give Billy Dilday a rising vote of thanks for his service as a member on the Board of the Children's Home.

Lloyd Jones Jr. gave the Treasurer's report. Motion carried to receive this report. (See Reports.)

The Resolutions Committee report was given by the Rev. Steve Hargrove. Motion carried to adopt this report. (See Reports.)

The Temperance Committee report was given by Bill Gurganus. Motion carried to adopt this report. (See Reports.)

The Nominating Committee report was given by the Rev. Charlie Overton. A motion was made and carried to adopt the report. The moderator called for nominations from the floor. A motion was made and carried to elect by acclamation those nominated by the Committee. (See Reports.)

Much discussion followed regarding the possible use of the Board of Christian Education. It was recommended that this board get together before next year to work on its purpose and objectives as a committee.

Motion carried to elect the following as delegates from the conference to the next State Convention: Oscar Webster, Laura Webster, Alice Webster, and Mrs. Floyd Burkey.

The Rev. David Ricks volunteered to serve as a delegate to the General Conference.

Motion was made to pay expenses of State Convention and General Conference delegates including overnight lodging, food, and gas. The motion was amended to read, "that the Albemarle Conference will pay for overnight lodging, food, and gas for delegates to the State Convention only and will discontinue paying any expenses for delegates to the General Conference." The motion as amended was carried.

Motion was made and carried that the Secretary of the conference be given the amount of \$50 for his/her services. (This would be a \$15 increase in secretary's previous reimbursement).

The minutes of the conference were read. Motion carried to adopt the minutes as read.

The moderator announced the close of the business session. Dr. Burkette Raper was called upon to pray the benediction as well as the prayer of installation for the new officers of the conference.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert May, *Moderator*
Marvin Waters, *Secretary*

REPORTS

Adopted at the Conference to be a Part of the Minutes

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Executive Committee met at Mount Zion church, Roper, North Carolina, November 26, 1979. Purpose of the meeting was to discuss the ministry of the Piney Grove church (Washington County) and the Rev. Billy Reynolds' involvement in the work there. After discussion, having learned that there was dissatisfaction among the congregation, and that there was a lack of unity, the following recommendations were made to Brother Reynolds.

1. That he (Brother Reynolds) encourage the group that had left the church to go back to the church and work for needed unity and improvements.
2. If unity could not be achieved, and the group decided that they could not correct the situation, that the said group petition the conference in order to establish a new church. Of course, the conference would have to act on such a request, such action being at the discretion of the conference.

The Executive Committee met December 29, 1979, at Union Chapel church, Plymouth. The Committee met with the Rev. Billy Gaylord to discuss his work with the Piney Grove church. Brother Gaylord was requested to work for unity and peace among the brethren at the church.

The Executive Committee met Monday evening, January 7, 1980, at the Mount Zion church, Roper, at the request of some of the membership of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Plymouth. These members were Mr. and Mrs. Bill Allgood, Mrs. Janice Modlin, Mrs. Mary Miller, and Judy Allgood Topping. The meeting concerned itself with problems that said group felt existed within their church. Discussion having ended, the following motion was made and carried: "That the Executive Committee and the Board of Ordination of the Conference request the Rev. Floyd Burkey, pastor of the Plymouth church, to meet with them; further, that the immediate past board of deacons as well as the present board of deacons meet with us for the purposes of discussing their positions on the matters that had been presented to the Executive Committee and to give direction from the Conference."

The Executive Committee met on January 21, 1980, at the Mount Zion church Roper, North Carolina. The Committee met with those of the Plymouth church who had been requested to do so at the previous meeting of January 7, 1980, of the Albemarle Conference Executive Committee. Purpose of the meeting was to discuss the problems that had been presented to the Executive Committee by members of the Plymouth church. The Executive Committee's expressed sentiment during the meeting was that these men go back to the church and continue to work in love and unity with the rest of the membership. The following motion was made and carried: "That the Deacons and Pastor of the Plymouth church continue to work together in unity and love with the faction that exists within the church, and further that as much as possible these two groups involve each other in the carrying out of the business of the church. Further, that the Board of Deacons and Pastor endeavor as much as possible to allow the congregation to carry out the business matters of the church at its regularly called and properly called-to-order business meetings. Further, that the Pastor and Board of Deacons be sure to contact the Executive Committee of the conference for any needed help or assistance in promoting the unity of the church, and for any needed assistance in the carrying out of its business meetings."

The Executive Committee met on April 11, 1980, at Plymouth church.* Purpose of the meeting was to hear out the differences between persons and the pastor of the church. The following introductory remarks were made by the Rev. Robert May, Moderator (see note below):

"We, the Executive Board of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, have come to Plymouth Free Will Baptist Church on invitation.

"We have come not as a judge in a judicial court. We come as an Executive Board to help, if asked, to help settle the unrest that was and still exists in said church. We are aware that Plymouth Free Will Baptist Church has the right to: 'manage its own internal affairs, elect its officers, receive, dismiss, discipline, and exclude members.' But this principle of the independence of each church is not held as a law of isolation; on the contrary, churches conveniently situated associate and cooperate in all things which tend to advance the common cause. Councils are, therefore called in the organization of a church and the settlement of serious difficulties. The annual Conference being the highest tribunal, shall have final disciplinary authority over the local church" (pages 52, 53, *Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists*).

"The Executive Board of the Albemarle Conference was called and responded to what seemed to be a serious problem. When even a small problem arises and cannot be resolved in a church family, it is not to be taken lightly. The Executive Board has met with pastor, deacon board and others. There have not been nor are there now any charges against pastor, deacon board, or any other member of Plymouth Free Will Baptist Church. Our interest was and is to clear up any misunderstanding or ill feeling that may exist in said church."

Following the above opening remarks and following discussion, the Executive Committee made the following recommendations to the Plymouth First Free Will Baptist Church.

1. That you pray for one another and forgive.
2. Business meetings:
 - a. That all business meetings be conducted according to accepted rules of order (page 52—*Faith and Discipline*).
 - b. When in a business session consider the other members of the church (page 43—*Faith and Discipline*).
 - c. The business of the church should be carried on by all and not just part of the church/nor by a board or boards. (page 44—*Faith and Discipline*).
 - d. Respect those who have the floor in a business meeting.
3. Warning! Petty differences between individuals (pastor or laity) are not grounds for a signed charge. (A signed charge must have facts to back it up) See Matthew 18:15-17, 1 Corinthians 6:1-8.

*Note on meeting of April 11, 1980. At this same meeting; the Executive Committee accepted the resignation of the Rev. Francis Garner as moderator of the Albemarle Conference, due to his transferring to a new church and a new conference. The Rev. Robert May, formerly assistant moderator, became moderator of the Conference.

Respectfully submitted,
 Robert May, Moderator
 Marvin R. Waters, Secretary

REPORT OF BOARD OF ORDINATION

We, the Board of Ordination, submit the following report:

On June 28, 1980, we met at the Free Union church with David Ricks, to discuss his coming from another Conference and his pastoring the Mount Tabor church of the Albemarle Conference. He was examined by the Revs. Charlie Overton, Robert May, and Francis Garner. Upon Brother Overton's recommendation the Board approved of his pastoring the Mount Tabor church.

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie Overton, *Chairman*
Robert May
Francis Garner

TREASURER'S REPORT
General Fund

Brought Forward from 1979		\$496.75
Amount Received from Churches	\$299.34	
Amount Received from Public Offering	<u>37.50</u>	<u>336.84</u>
Total Received		\$833.59
Amount Disbursed		<u>334.82</u>
Balance in General Fund		<u>\$498.77</u>

Mission Fund

Brought Forward		\$390.87
Amount Received During Year	40.77	
Bank Interest	<u>21.93</u>	<u>62.70</u>
Balance in Mission Fund		<u>\$453.57</u>

Respectfully submitted,
Lloyd Jones Jr.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. WHEREAS, Mount Zion church has so graciously hosted this the thirty-sixth annual session of the Albemarle Conference, BE IT RESOLVED, that we extend a rising vote of thanks to the membership of Mount Zion church.

2. WHEREAS, the State Convention adopted a resolution that our churches be reminded of their responsibility to clear with the Ordaining Council of their Conference a prospective minister coming from another conference prior to extending him a call as pastor, BE IT RESOLVED, that we recommend the same to our member churches.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Hargrove
Billy Dilday
Marvin R. Waters

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We recommend that all churches and ministers continue to work against the use and practice of alcohol, pornography, drugs, homosexuality, and any other vice that hinders the work of Christ.

We further encourage that our churches and ministers stress the grave dangers of these vices among our youth.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Gurganus
Mary Furlough
Floyd Burkey

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

Moderator—Robert May
Assistant Moderator—Charlie Overton
Secretary—Marvin Waters
Assistant Secretary—Oscar Webster
Treasurer—Lloyd Jones Jr.

Board of Trustees—L. E. Ambrose (1983)

Board of Ordination—Marvin Waters (1983)

Board of Missions—Ronnie Mohn (1985) David Ricks (1983) to fill unexpired term of Ransom McAbee

Board of Christian Education—Laura Webster (1980–1983)

Respectfully submitted,
Charlie Overton
L. E. Ambrose
Louise Stotesbury

[illegible]