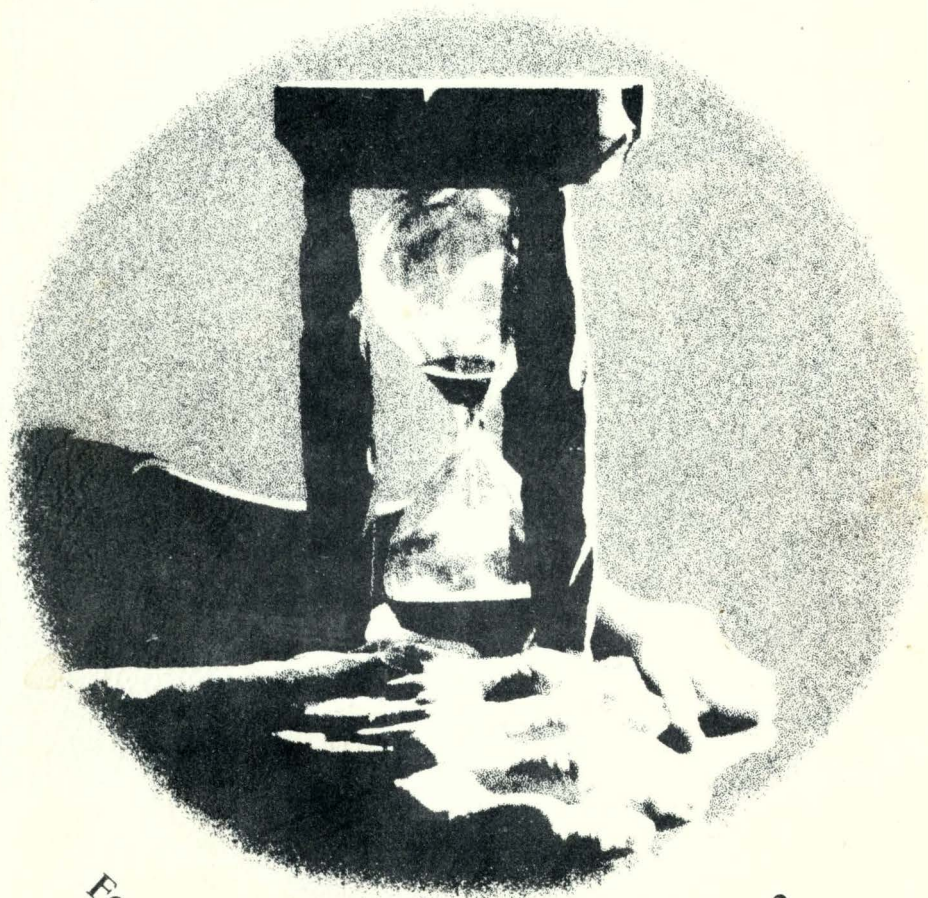


A. B. Bryson
19 Yearbook 83
for
**Original Free Will Baptists
of North Carolina**

A Publication of the Free Will Baptist Press
Ayden, North Carolina



For July 1, 1981, through June 30, 1982

1982-83
Yearbook
for
Original
Free Will Baptists
of
North Carolina

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.
Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158

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

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Available from the Publishers at:

811 North Lee Street
Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

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MINUTES
of the
THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE
of
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS
of
NORTH CAROLINA
OCTOBER 6, 1982

Held with Saint Paul Free Will Baptist Church
Elizabeth City, North Carolina

The next session will convene Wednesday before the second Sunday in October, 1983. The location for the session will be announced by the Executive Committee.

OFFICERS FOR THE 1982-83 YEAR

Moderator, the Rev. Robert May
Assistant Moderator, the Rev. Charlie Overton
Secretary, Mr. Oscar Webster
Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Beulah Whitson
Treasurer, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is comprised of the general officers of the Conference, 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) The Rev. W. L. Brickhouse (1984)
Mr. Ervin Foreman (1985)

BOARD OF ORDINATION

The Rev. Steve Hargrove (1983) The Rev. Charlie Overton (1984)
The Rev. Robert May (1985)

BOARD OF MISSIONS

Mr. Robbie Waters (1983)

The Rev. Steve Hargrove (1984)

Mr. Billy W. Dilday (1985)

Mr. Oscar Webster (1986)

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mrs. Laura C. Webster (1983)

Mrs. Margaret Woolard (1984)

Mrs. Mae Oliver (1985)

ROLL OF MINISTERS

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

Charlie Overton, 811 Academy Street, Ahoskie, NC 27910

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

W. L. Brickhouse, Columbia, NC 27925

Johnny Sexton, Plymouth, NC 27962

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

Steve Hargrove, Route 3, Box 294, Ayden, NC 28513

David Thick, Route 1, Pinetown, NC 27865

Bill Gaylord, Box 177, Pantego, NC 27860

Billy Reynolds, Route 1, Box 657, Roper, NC 27970

Joe Griffith, 1605 Cooper Street, Elizabeth City, NC 27909

Buddy Rogers, Elizabeth City, NC 27909

Licensed:

Robert L. Burke

ROLL OF CHURCHES WITH
THEIR CLERKS AND PASTORS

MARTIN COUNTY

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

Pastor, the Rev. James Owens, 105 Kathryn Lane, Greenville, NC
27834

WASHINGTON COUNTY

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

Pastor, the Rev. DeWitt Cleve, Route 2, Box 177-A, Creswell, NC
27928

Mount Zion—Clerk, Mrs. Beulah Whitson, Route 3, Box 29, Ply-
mouth, NC 27962

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

Piney Grove—Clerk, Mrs. Lois Krawczyk, Route 1, Box 626, Roper, NC 27970

No report received 1982 session. Present status on pastor unknown.

First Free Will Baptist of Plymouth—Clerk, Mrs. Edna Smith, Matt-Ransom Drive, Plymouth, NC 27962

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

Union Chapel—Clerk, Mrs. Brenda Whitford, Route 2, Box 1-B, Jamesville, NC 27846

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

TYRRELL COUNTY

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

Pastor, the Rev. N. D. Wiggs, 23 Crescent Drive, Kinston, NC 28501

Gum Neck—Clerk, Mrs. Dorothy Brickhouse, Route 1, Box 260, Columbia, NC 27925

Malachi's Chapel—Clerk, W. Braxton Voliva, Box 376, Columbia, NC 27925

No report 1982 session. Present status not known.

PASQUOTANK COUNTY

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

Pastor, the Rev. Joe Griffith, 1605 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 1, Box 387, Ahoskie, NC 27910

BEAUFORT COUNTY

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

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

Trinity—Clerk, Talmage O. Cooper, Route 1, Box 88-A, Pantego, NC 27860

Pastor, the Rev. N. Dan Beaman, Route 4, Box 400, Snow Hill, NC 28580

Belhaven—Clerk, Mrs. Hazel Jarvis, P. O. Box 66, Engelhard, NC 27824

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

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

Pastor, the Rev. Charles Parrish, Route 2, Box 100, Belhaven, NC
27810

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

Pastor, the Rev. Royce Reynolds, Route 1, Box 32, Pinetown, NC
27865

CHOWAN COUNTY

Cape Colony—No report to 1982 session. Present status not known.

PROCEEDINGS

The thirty-eighth annual session of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened with Saint Paul Original Free Will Baptist Church in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, on October 6, 1982.

WEDNESDAY MORNING

The devotions were conducted by the Rev. Royce Reynolds. The congregation sang "Amazing Grace." Brother Reynolds read for a Scripture Romans 12, beginning with Verse 1. Prayer was by Brother Reynolds.

The welcome was given by Sister I. H. Fowler. The response was given by the Rev. L. E. Ambrose.

The Conference was called to order by the Conference secretary, Brother Oscar Webster.

A motion was made and carried to adopt the printed program as the order of business, with the moderator having the privilege to make any changes that he may deem necessary.

The list of churches was called and eleven (11) reported by letter or with delegates. The list of ministers was called with ten (10) being present.

Visiting ministers were recognized with the following present: the Revs. Royce Reynolds and Billy Ray Jordan, Central Conference; Fred Baker and Charles Crisp, Western Conference; Frank Harrison, Cape Fear Conference; and David Charles Hansley, Eastern Conference.

The Rev. Robert May gave the Moderator's address. As always, Brother May's remarks were well prepared and pertinent to the occasion.

The Moderator appointed temporary committees for the day as follows: Nominating: the Revs. Charlie Overton, W. L. Brickhouse, Mr. Billy Dilday; Resolutions: the Rev. Joe Griffith, Miss Alice Webster, Mr. Ervin Foreman; Temperance: the Rev. Steve Hargrove, Mrs. I. H. Fowler, Mrs. Colla Miller.

As the congregation sang "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus," an offering was taken for the General Fund of the Conference. Prayer for the offering was prayed by the Rev. Joe Griffith.

The report of the Executive Committee was given by the Conference secretary. A motion was made and carried to adopt the report. (See Reports.)

Reports of standing boards were called for:

Board of Trustees—no report

Board of Christian Education—no report

Board of Missions—no report

The report of the Board of Ordination was given by the chairman, the Rev. Charlie Overton. A motion was made and carried to adopt the report. (See Reports.)

A report on the work of the North Carolina Board of Superannuation, prepared by the Rev. Walter Reynolds, director-treasurer, was read by the Rev. Robert May. Printed material was given out.

A report on the Church Finance Association was given by the Rev. Robert May on behalf of the Rev. Walter Reynolds, the Association's president. Printed material was handed out. A motion was made and carried to receive these two reports as information.

A report on the ministry of the North Carolina Board of Foreign Missions was given by the Rev. Fred Baker, our missionary on furlough from the Philippine Islands. Printed material was given out. A motion was made and carried to receive the report as information.

A report on the ministry of the North Carolina Board of Home Missions was given by the Rev. Charles Crisp, director-treasurer of the Board. Printed material was also given out. A motion was made and carried to receive the report as information.

The Rev. Frank Harrison, Chaplain, Mount Olive College, gave a report on the progress of the College. He, too, gave out printed material. A motion was made and carried to adopt the report as information.

The Rev. David Charles Hansley, Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, gave instructions as to the locations of the Press and Children's Home displays in the church and urged the people to visit them during the lunch hour.

Brother Hansley presented Brother Oscar Webster a Bible ("The New King James Version") from the Press in recognition of his many years of faithful service to the denomination. More than a half-century ago, Brother Webster was elected Superintendent of the Sunday school at his home church at the age of sixteen.

A report of the Free Will Baptist Retirement Home was given by Mr. Charles Watts. Printed material was handed out. Mr. Charles Watts, promotions director of the Free Will Baptist Children's Home, gave a report on the child care ministry of the Home. Mrs. Watts also spoke in behalf of the ministry there. Printed material was handed out. A motion was made and carried to receive these reports as information.

Business was called off for worship service. The Rev. Joe Griffith, pastor of the host church, was in charge of the service. A solo, "Ivory Palaces," was sung by Mr. Bill Pipkin, a member of the host church.

The Convention sermon was preached by the Rev. Joe Griffith. He read for a Scripture Mark 1:1-4. Using for his subject "Preaching the Word," Brother Griffith spoke with power as he declared the need to proclaim the message of Christ. The congregation sang "Just As I Am." Prayer was by Brother Griffith.

The benediction and blessing on the noon meal was prayed by the Rev. Frank Harrison.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

The devotions were conducted by the Rev. L. E. Ambrose. The congregation sang "'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus." Scripture and prayer were by Brother Ambrose.

A memorial service was conducted by the Rev. Charlie Overton. The congregation sang "Sweet By and By." Prayer was prayed by Brother Overton. He then read Scripture from Mark 14:9. A resolution of respect based on this Scripture was read by Brother Overton. A motion was made and carried to adopt this resolution. (See Reports.)

A report of the activities of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina was given by the Rev. Steve Hargrove, a member of the Executive Committee of the Convention. A motion was made and carried to receive the report as information.

A report on the services offered by the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation was given by Mrs. Minnie Chandler, credit manager of the Press. A motion was made and carried to receive the report as information.

A brief report on Cragmont Assembly was given by Mrs. Minnie Chandler.

A report on the 1982 session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists was given by Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr. A motion was made and carried to receive the report as information.

A report of the work of the Albemarle Union League was given by the President, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr. Brother Jones submitted a written report also. A motion was made and carried to adopt the report. (See Reports.)

The report of the Resolutions Committee was given by the Rev. Joe Griffith. A motion was made and carried to adopt the report. (See Reports.)

The report of the Temperance Committee was given by the Rev. Steve Hargrove. A motion was made and carried to adopt the report. (See Reports.)

The report of the Nominating Committee was given by the Rev. Charlie Overton. There being no nominations from the floor, those persons named by the committee were by proper motion elected to office. (See Reports.)

Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr., treasurer, gave the treasurer's report. A motion was made and carried to adopt the report. (See Reports.)

The Rev. Buddy Rogers and wife were appointed delegates to the 1983 session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

A motion was made and carried to pay up to \$50 on the expenses of two delegates to any body to which the Conference officially sends a delegation.

Oscar and Laura Webster were appointed delegates to the 1983 session of the General Conference that will convene with Sandy Plains Church in North Carolina.

Mrs. Minnie Chandler, who with her late husband, the Rev. A. B. Chandler, lived in and pastored churches in the Albemarle Conference, and who has been very active in all phases of the work of the denomination on both the local and state level, and is at present Credit Manager of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Ayden, was recognized at this time for a special report to the Conference.

The Albemarle Conference was organized in 1945. Our history begins with the minutes of the 1945 session. Therefore we had no record of our roots before that date. Mrs. Chandler, as a labor of love, researched the Conference affiliation of the churches that make up the Albemarle Conference. With this information, she compiled, in record form, a history of the conference membership of each of the churches

that make up the Albemarle Conference. We now know the Conference roots of each of our churches.

The Conference is indebted to Mrs. Chandler for the tremendous amount of work that went into making this information available to the Conference. A motion was made and carried to adopt as a part of the Conference record this work by Mrs. Chandler, and to also express to her the affectionate appreciation of the Conference for her contribution. (See Reports.)

There being no positive invitation from any church for the 1983 session of the Conference, the location will be announced by the Executive Committee.

The minutes of the thirty-eighth annual session were read by the secretary. A motion was made and carried to adopt the minutes as read.

A motion was made and carried to adjourn.

The benediction was prayed by the Rev. Buddy Rogers.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert May, *Moderator*
Oscar Webster, *Secretary*

REPORTS 1983 SESSION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina met at Cape Colony Mission, Edenton, North Carolina, October 17, 1981. The purpose of this meeting was to organize Cape Colony Mission into a church.

Members of the Executive Committee present were the Revs. Robert May and Charlie Overton, Mr. Oscar Webster, Mrs. Beulah Whitson, Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr, and the Rev. Joe Griffith.

The Rev. Ronnie Mohn, pastor of Cape Colony Mission, opened the meeting. Prayer was by the Rev. Joe Griffith.

The meeting was then turned over to the Rev. Robert May, moderator of the Conference. Mr. May stated the purpose of the meeting and asked for a motion to organize the church. Such a motion was made by the Conference secretary, Oscar Webster. This motion carried.

The Rev. Charlie Overton was recognized and presented the Bible to the Chairman of the Deacon Board of Cape Colony Mission.

Remarks were made by the Rev. Taylor Hill, director-treasurer of the North Carolina State Home Missions, and Church Extension Board.

The Rev. Ronnie Mohn, called the roll of the charter members (52). Each member was presented a certificate with the name of each charter member listed. Copies of these certificates signed by members of the Executive Committee were given to the members of the Committee.

The prayer of dedication was prayed by Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr. The sermon was preached by the Rev. Dean Kennedy. The communion of the Lord's Supper was held, consisting of taking the bread and wine.

The mission now became Cape Colony Original Free Will Baptist Church of Edenton, North Carolina.

Robert May, *Moderator*
Oscar Webster, *Secretary*

BOARD OF ORDINATION

The Board of Ordination submits the following report:

On August 29, 1982, the Board met at Shiloh Church, Pinetown, North Carolina, to question and examine Robert L. Burke relative to license to preach the gospel.

Brother Burke represented by the Rev. David Thick, a letter from Free Union Church recommending him for license. He also was represented by a letter from Sidney Church with many names signed, recommending him for same. After long questioning of Brother Burke, we recommended he be licensed to preach for a year, placing him under the watch care of said conference and on probation.

On June 27, 1982, the Board met at St. Paul Church, Elizabeth City, to clear Gordon Massey's license to pastor in said Conference. The Board was satisfied to accept him.

On September 18, 1982, the Board met at Mount Zion Church, Roper, North Carolina, to check with Billy Reynolds and Johnnie Sexton relative to license, church attendance, Union meeting and pastoral work. Both were urged to be more faithful to all phases of our work and be very careful to walk humbly before God.

Bill Gaylord was to appear on the same date but was represented by a letter stating that he was physically and mentally unable to attend at this time but would at a later date.

On October 2, 1982, the Board met at Hickory Chapel Church to give exam to Buddy Rogers. He passed.

Charlie Overton, *Chairman*
Robert May
Steve Hargrove

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Hymn—"Sweet By and By"

Prayer—the Rev. Charlie Overton

Scripture—Mark 14:9

"Verily I say unto you, wherever this gospel shall be preached throughout the whole world, this also that she hath done, shall be spoken of for a memorial of her."

"Memorial" comes from a Latin word pertaining to memory. Today we pause for a few minutes from our business session to remember all the deceased loved ones that have gone on before us.

For many years they traveled the same valleys, climbed the same hills, walked the same journeys that we are traveling. However, they paved the pathway for us, and set the Christian examples for us to follow. And by their faithfulness and hard endeavor, facing many encounters, they took new courage and, like the Apostle Paul, pressed on. By their hard and faithful work, they made it possible for us to have this heritage today. When I look back on their loyalty, they remind me of Job, who was willing to suffer for God's glory; the Psalmist David, who could praise; the weeping prophet Jeremiah, who could weep bitterly for God's people; Moses, a great leader devoted to the task; even Peter who could speak quickly and boldly; John, the beloved disciple, who stayed near Calvary to see Jesus die; and Paul, a man of great courage declaring the whole counsel of God.

May their past lives help us to press onward, because the fields are white unto harvest, and the laborers are few.

Charlie Overton

ALBEMARLE LEAGUE CONVENTION

Our League Convention was very poorly attended this year. The last two Conventions were cancelled due to sickness in one of the two churches that were active in the Convention.

We hope and pray that we can again get back to being active in our League Convention. We ask that each of you remember us in your prayers and that God's will be done.

Lloyd Jones Jr., *President*

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Albemarle Conference in annual session extend a rising vote of thanks to Saint Paul Church for its hospitality.

Resectfully submitted,
F. Joe Griffith, *Chairman*
E. G. Forman
Alice Webster

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Apostle Paul teaches that Christians should let their moderation be known among all men, we call upon all Original Free Will Baptists to conform to that teaching by continuing to oppose the following:

1. The use of intoxicating beverage,
2. Acts of violence and immorality,
3. The use of drugs.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Hargrove, *Chairman*

Colia D. Miller

Robana Fowler

NOMINATING COMMITTEE**OFFICERS**

Moderator—the Rev. Robert May, to succeed himself

Assistant Moderator—the Rev. Charlie Overton

Secretary—Mr. Oscar Webster

Assistant Secretary—Mrs. Beulah Whitson

Treasurer—Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Rev. L. E. Ambrose

The Rev. W. L. Brickhouse

Mr. Ervin Foreman

BOARD OF ORDINATION

The Rev. Charlie Overton

The Rev. Robert May—to succeed himself

The Rev. Steve Hargrove

BOARD OF MISSIONS

Mr. Oscar Webster—to succeed himself

Mr. Robbie Waters

Mr. Billie W. Dilday

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mrs. Laura C. Webster

Mrs. Margaret Woolard

Mrs. Mae Oliver—to succeed herself

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Charlie Overton

Rev. W. L. Brickhouse

Mr. Billie W. Dilday

TREASURER'S REPORT

General Fund

Balance Brought Forward from 1981		\$587.43
Amount Received after Conference	63.00	
Amount Received from Churches	260.35	
Amount Received from Public Offering	65.81	389.16
Total Received		976.59
Amount Paid Out		421.77
Balance in General Fund		\$554.82

Mission Fund

Brought Forward		\$527.24
Amount Received During Year	44.45	
Bank Interest	29.50	
Total		\$601.19

Lloyd W. Jones Jr., *Treasurer*

October 6, 1982

MRS. CHANDLER'S REPORT

To the 38th Annual Session of the Albemarle Conference convening with the Saint Paul Church at Elizabeth City, North Carolina:

My search of the history of the Central Auxiliary Convention led me to have in my possession for a short while the Central Conference minutes. I noticed that churches of the now Albemarle Conference were very active in the Central Conference up to the time when it was organized in 1945. I called Brother Oscar Webster to ask him if you possessed copies of the Central minutes which reveal the activities of the Albemarle churches in that conference. He said, "No."

I decided that as faithful as you were in the Central Conference before the Albemarle was organized that you deserved copies of these minutes to go along with your records. I made copies of the Central minutes from 1880 to 1960 when the last Albemarle church was granted a letter of dismissal to unite with the Albemarle Conference.

I present these minutes to you in loving memory of, and with the deepest respect, admiration, and gratitude to those who went before

us, and who were so faithful to do what they could for the cause of Christ.

In service for the Master,
Minnie May (Hansley) Chandler

P.S. I trust that you appreciate this work one half as much as I have enjoyed doing it!

SUMMARY

Reports given at this session of the Conference show that our churches, for the church year July, 1981—June, 1982, gave the following amounts to our denomination's programs:

Free Will Baptist Children's Home	\$11,767.07
Mount Olive College	14,424.86
Superannuation	1,570.00
Free Will Baptist Retirement Home	620.90
Home Missions	4,489.07
Foreign Missions	8,708.35
Total	\$41,580.25

Churches	MEMBERSHIP									Total Property Value	TREASURER'S REPORT		
	Church	SS	YFA	AFC	WA	LL	Scouts	CA	League		Total Used Locally	Denomi- national Enterprises	Grand Total
ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE													
Belhaven	20												
Cape Colony	52										6,935	420	7,355
Corinth	20	24			12						771	553	1,324
Free Union	290	139	15	12	24					300,000	43,780	1,372	45,152
Gum Neck	36									40,000	3,920	395	4,315
Hickory Chapel	288	131		10	25				14	365,000	30,473	7,108	37,581
Malachi's Chapel	154	73									6,457	2,670	9,127
Mount Tabor	54	77	6	8	25			6		150,000	16,795	3,859	20,654
Mount Zion	87	38							15	30,000	11,661	3,800	15,461
Piney Grove	27	31							13	35,000	1,152	273	1,425
Plymouth, First	64	55	5		14			4		150,000	5,600	780	6,380
Shiloh	252	120	10	25	24	14		10		150,000	37,811	2,400	40,211
Sidney	147	74	10	6	18	15				200,000	33,578	3,210	36,788
Sound Side	205	150		18	20				26		15,062	3,179	18,241
St. Paul	138	70			26	8				100,000	29,742	3,268	33,010
Trinity	45	30			12				18	55,000	5,306	2,293	7,599
Union Chapel	159	113			15	6			23	65,000	25,200	4,223	29,423
Totals	2,038	1,125	46	79	215	43		20	109	1,640,000	274,243	39,803	314,046
CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE													
Bethel	144	90		10	15	8				223,000	12,586	3,265	15,851
Casey's Chapel	144	94			14					135,000	22,440	2,295	24,735
Catalpa	150	55	16		18			8		125,000	8,249	841	9,090
Daly's Chapel	53	48			10					35,000	6,805	600	7,405