

Original  
Free Will Baptists  
Of  
North Carolina

# 1983 YEARBOOK

For July 1, 1982, Through June 30, 1983

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**1983-84**  
**Yearbook**  
**for**  
**Original**  
**Free Will Baptists**  
**of**  
**North Carolina**

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

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Ayden, North Carolina**

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## MINUTES OF CONFERENCES AND ASSOCIATION

Piedmont	261
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## CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

423

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433

**MINUTES**  
**of the**  
**THIRTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION**  
**of the**  
**ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE**  
**of**  
**NORTH CAROLINA**  
**OCTOBER 5, 1983**

Held with Free Union Free Will Baptist Church  
 near Pinetown, North Carolina

The next session will convene Wednesday before the second Sunday in October, 1984. The location will be announced by the Executive Committee.

**OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1983-84**

Moderator, the Rev. Robert May  
 Assistant Moderator, the Rev. Charlie Overton  
 Secretary, Mrs. Ercie I. Waters  
 Assistant Secretary, Mrs. Beulah Whitson  
 Treasurer, Mr. Lloyd W. Jones Jr.

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

The Executive Committee is composed of the general officers of the Conference, the Moderator of the Albemarle Union Meeting, the President of 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. W. L. Brickhouse

Mr. Ervin Foreman

The Rev. Joe Griffith

**BOARD OF ORDINATION**

The Rev. Charlie Overton

The Rev. Steve Hargrove

The Rev. Robert May

BOARD OF MISSIONS

The Rev. Steve Hargrove  
Mr. Billy W. Dilday

The Rev. Floyd Burkey  
The Rev. Bobby Brown

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mrs. Laura C. Webster

Mrs. Margaret Woolard Sheppard

Mrs. Mae Oliver

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, Route 2, Box 259, Columbia, NC 27925  
Floyd Burkey Jr., 333 West Avenue, Plymouth, NC 27962  
Steve Hargrove, Route 3, Box 294, Ayden, NC 28513  
David Thick, Route 4, Box 109, Morehead City, NC 28557  
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  
Bobby Brown, Route 1, Box 32, Pinetown, NC 27865  
Robert L. Burke, 105 Church Street, Morehead City, NC 28557  
Ronnie Mohn, 104 Spruce Street, Williamston, NC 27892  
Charles Parrish, Route 2, Box 100, Belhaven, NC 27810

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. Joseph Lehmann, 407-E Church Street, Farmville,  
NC 27828

WASHINGTON COUNTY

*Mount Tabor*—Clerk, Mrs. Naomi Ambrose, Route 2, Box 169, Cres-  
well, NC 27928  
Pastor, the Rev. Frank Thigpen, Box 128, Saratoga, NC 27873  
*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 1983 session. Present status on pastor unknown.

*Plymouth, First*—Clerk, Mrs. Edna Smith, 210 Mott-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

*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

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

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

#### PASQUOTANK COUNTY

*Saint Paul*—Clerk, Margie Lamb, Route 6, Box 82, 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 4, Box 387, Ahoskie, NC 27910

#### BEAUFORT COUNTY

*Belhaven*—Clerk, Mrs. Hazel Jarvis, Swanquarter, NC 27885

Pastor, the Rev. W. L. Brickhouse, Columbia, NC 27925

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

Pastor, the Rev. Aubrey Williamson, Route 1, Box 97, Pinetown, NC 27865

*Shiloh*—Clerk, Mrs. Mary F. Harris, Box 58, Pinetown, NC 27865

Pastor, the Rev. Bobby Brown, Route 1, Box 32, Pinetown, NC 27865

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

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

*Trinity*—Clerk, Talmage O. Cooper, Route 1, Box 175, Pantego, NC 27860

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

## PROCEEDINGS

### WEDNESDAY MORNING

The congregation sang "Where He Leads I'll Follow" to open the thirty-ninth session of the Albemarle Conference. The devotions were conducted by Mrs. Betty Whitley of Free Union Church.

The welcome was given by Mrs. Christine S. Waters. The response was given by the Rev. Charlie Overton.

The Conference was called to order by the moderator, the Rev. Robert May, due to the death of Brother Oscar Webster, Conference secretary. Brother May then made the following announcements.

1. Brother Robert Burke was to conduct a funeral that day and asked to be excused.

2. Oscar Webster, the secretary, passed away October 4, 1983.

3. Mr. Webster's funeral would be conducted October 6, at 2 p.m. in Washington, North Carolina, with interment in the Webster Cemetery, near Free Union Church. Our hearts are sad this morning to hear of Brother Oscar's passing. We will miss him very much. The Conference will never be the same. He served so long and so faithfully and always enjoyed working for his Lord anywhere he could. Let's stand and have silent prayer in his memory. It was closed by the Rev. L. E. Ambrose.

Brother May introduced the assistant secretary, Mrs. Beulah Whitson, acting today in Brother Oscar's place.

He also welcomed all ministers, delegates and visitors to worship with us.

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

The list of churches was called with 14 present, 2 absent, and 1 dropped.

The list of ministers was called with 12 present, 2 excused, and 1 absent.

Visiting ministers were recognized with the following present: the Revs. Billy Jordan, Bobby Taylor, and Don Fader, Central Conference; Harold Jones, Charles Crisp, Western Conference; Frank



Harrison, Cape Fear Conference; Gary Bailey, president of the State Convention. Also attending was Brother Cliff Gray, Executive Director of the Free Will Baptist Press.

Motion was made and carried to receive the Rev. Bobby Brown into the Albemarle Conference today, so he could have voting privileges now.

The moderator's address was short and to the point. Mr. May chose Acts 2:42-47 as his text. Walking close to the Lord, let go and let God have His way, always being considerate of other's feelings and be willing to yield the floor to others so all may have a chance to express their desires.

The moderator appointed temporary committees for the day as follows: Nominating: the Rev. Charlie Overton, Brother Billy Spencer, Mrs. Christine Waters; Temperance: the Rev. Bobby Brown, Brother Lloyd Jones Jr., Mrs. Collier Miller; Resolutions: the Revs. Joe Griffith, Charles Parrish, and Brother David Furlough.

The following board appointments were made.

Board of Trustees: the Revs. W. L. Brickhouse, Joe Griffith, Brother Ervin Foreman.

Board of Ordination: the Revs. Charlie Overton, Steve Hargrove, Robert May.

Board of Missions: the Revs. Steve Hargrove, Floyd Burkey, Bobby Brown, Brother Billy Dilday.

Board of Christian Education: Mrs. Laura C. Webster, Mrs. Mae Oliver, Mrs. Margaret Woolard Sheppard.

An offering was received while the Rev. Joe Griffith played soft music. The Rev. W. L. Brickhouse prayed the offertory prayer.

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

Reports of standing boards were called for.

The report of the Board of Education was given by the Rev. Joe Griffith, who talked about improving our Sunday schools. The Spring workshop and the new methods and materials are to help us do a better job. The Fall banquet will be announced later.

The Rev. Harold Jones gave a report on Foreign Missions. Progress is slow but improving. He thanked us for our support and asked that we continue. They have disappointments also; the Board received news that the passports for the Van der Plas family waiting to go to India did not come through. Time elapsed before all credentials could be taken care of. He asked that we all pray that God would open the door to India or anywhere He wanted them to go. May God's will be done in

the matter. Motion was made and carried to adopt report. The Rev. Frank Harrison, chaplain of Mount Olive College, reported on the progress of College Hall. A special need is arising for dormitory space for the extra students that will be transferring to the four-year College as the grades are added on. We can start having our Convention, Conferences and meetings of different kinds in College Hall next year.

Motion was made and carried to adopt the report.

In giving the report of the State Convention the Rev. Gary Bailey reported that it was well attended and the business went very smoothly. He spoke of some minor changes. Motion was made and carried to adopt this report.

The Rev. Charlie Overton gave the report of the Board of Ordination. (See Reports.) Motion was made and carried to adopt the report.

The worship service began with singing by the New Day Spirituals of the host church. They sang "Where No One Stands Alone," and "My Jesus Knows Just What I Need."

The Rev. Don Fader brought the message, concerning the blessings and promises of God and His boundless love toward us. We should put Him first in our lives, with study, worship, and service.

The Rev. Bobby Brown dismissed us with a prayer of thanksgiving and asked God's blessings on the food we were about to receive.

### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

The devotions were conducted by the Rev. Charles Parrish. Speaking on the true gospel of Christ, he warned against man-made religions and cults.

A memorial service was conducted by the Rev. Joe Griffith. (See Reports.) The memorial service ended with the congregation standing and singing, "It Is Well With My Soul" in memory of all the deceased.

The report of the General Conference was brought by the Rev. Steve Hargrove. Motion was made and carried to accept this report.

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

The report of the Nominating Committee was given by the Rev. Charlie Overton. (See Reports.)

Motion was made and carried to accept the report.

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

The Children's Home was represented by the Rev. Bobby Taylor. The Home has been in operation 63 years; 750 children have passed

through their doors. There is an adolescent program in formation at present.

Folders are being used this year; similar to the old Turkey folders, for raising money for the Home. Motion was made and carried to accept the report.

The Rev. Bobby Taylor also brought greetings, news and the needs of Cragmont. Motion was made and carried to accept the report.

The Rev. Walter Sutton reported on the progress of the Retirement Homes work. He asked for our prayers and support for the work, and also presented a plan they have for keeping some of the elderly in their neighborhoods. Motion was made and carried to accept the report.

Speaking for the Board of Superannuation, the Rev. Don Fader gave a short report of the needs of monies for the care of the retired ministers and/or their widows. The cost of living has risen, and there are more who need it.

Motion was made and carried to accept the report.

The Rev. Charles Crisp, reporting on Home Missions, told us the work was established 11 years ago, starting with a \$35 offering. It takes at least four families to start a mission. Victory Mission was the first one. It was started by the Rev. Taylor Hill. The churches and missions of the Laotian people of California are doing well. They have three students at Mount Olive College preparing for the ministry. They plan to go home and minister to their people. The Board is asking that we increase our support to the college for ministerial students.

Cape Colony has closed its doors for service. As of October 21, 1983, it will be put up for sale to some interested church.

A motion was made and carried to accept this report for information.

Mr. Lloyd Jones gave the Treasurer's Report. A motion was made and carried to accept the report. (See Reports.)

Mr. Cliff Gray, executive director of the Free Will Baptist Press, reported on the services offered for our needs in any organization in the denomination. For example, that they now have large-print Sunday school quarterlies for those who have difficulty reading small print. Motion was made and carried to accept this report. All of the enterprises passed out printed literature.

Brother Lloyd Jones gave an oral report on the progress of the Free Will Baptist League, stating at present it was weak but they were still hoping it would improve.

Brother Ervin Foreman and his wife were appointed to represent us as delegates to the 1984 session of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The Rev. Joe Griffith was appointed to serve as delegate to the General Conference to be held at Durham.

The Rev. Bobby Brown was given the right hand of fellowship, and welcomed into the Albemarle Conference.

The time and place of the next conference will be announced at a later date.

Motion was made and carried to adjourn.

We were dismissed with prayer by Mrs. Christine S. Waters.

## REPORTS 1983 SESSION

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina met several times with the Cape Colony Church to try to help solve their internal problems but with no success.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following article be placed in the minutes and the *Yearbook*.

WHEREAS, The Cape Colony Free Will Baptist Church, Edenton, began as a mission at the request of the Albemarle Conference to the North Carolina Home Missions Board of the North Carolina State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and WHEREAS, The Albemarle Conference organized Cape Colony Mission into a church at the request of the Cape Colony Mission and the Home Missions Board, and WHEREAS, due to internal problems the Cape Colony Church had deteriorated in numbers, to even lower than at the beginning when organized as a mission, with a decrease in support for both the church and pastor, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Albemarle Conference of Free Will Baptists, place Cape Colony Free Will Baptist Church back under the status of a mission and that all liabilities and assets be placed back under the direction of the North Carolina Home Missions Board until such time as a sufficient number of responsible believers wish to be established into a new church.

Motion made and carried to adopt the report.

### BOARD OF ORDINATION

The Board of Ordination submits the following report:

On March 26, 1983, the Board met at Mount Zion Church, Roper, to discuss a matter of business with Mr. Bill Gaylord relative to a court trial. Mr. Gaylord stated to the Board that he was not guilty of any charges. The Board also examined the Rev. Bobby Brown's license. We, the Board, were satisfied.

On September 10, 1983, the Board met at Mount Zion Church to give Robert Burke an examination for the ministry. He passed. The Board met at Mount Zion Church to examine Johnnie Sexton. After much discussion we decided it best to ask him to turn in his credentials, which he did.

On September 17, 1983, the Board met at Free Union Church, Pinetown, to ordain Robert Burke.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charlie Overton, *Chairman*  
Robert May  
Steve Hargrove

### MEMORIAL SERVICE

The Rev. Joe Griffith conducted the service; remembering those faithful members who have passed away during the year, of how much we loved them and would miss them. But God loved them better; He called them to their reward. He made personal reference to Brother Oscar Webster who passed away on October 4, 1983, the day before our Conference. He was planning to be at the meeting, but God saw fit to call him home at this time. He spoke of Brother Oscar's loyalty to his God, his church, his denomination and its enterprises. He took great pride in serving them.

Brother Joe compared our lives to a beautiful flower, which lives a beautiful life then it fades and dies. So the human life is to be a beautiful, Christian life full of service to our Lord who then takes us home to be with Him.

To the Christian, a more beautiful life is waiting for us, after we pass this one. To conclude the service he asked that the congregation stand and sing, "It Is Well With My Soul."

### RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

1. BE IT RESOLVED, that this Conference, at the request of the State Convention of Original Free Will Baptists of the State of North Carolina, elect three members of this body to serve on a committee, whose objective will be to work with our sister conferences to unify the qualifications, requirements for ordination of ministers statewide.

2. WHEREAS, Brother Oscar Webster has faithfully served the Albemarle Conference for a number of years, BE IT RESOLVED, that a letter to tribute be published in *The Free Will Baptist* and a copy given to Mrs. Webster as a memorial to Brother Webster's faithful service and labor in the Christian community, the North Carolina State

Convention of Original Free Will Baptists, the Albemarle Conference, and his church and family.

3. WHEREAS, Free Union Free Will Baptist Church has extended their facilities and themselves to us today, and we have accepted their hospitality.

BE IT RESOLVED, that this Conference extend a rising vote of thanks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joe Griffith,  
Mrs. D. H. Furlough,  
Charles Parrish.

#### TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, the Word of God teaches us to walk in the Spirit and not in the flesh. we ask the Conference to go on record as being against all manner of pornography. We also urge that all our members do likewise, and whereas cable television is a prime source of pornography we ask our members to abstain from purchasing cable service.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bobby Brown  
Collia Miller  
Lloyd Jones Jr.

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Moderator—the Rev. Robert May  
Assistant Moderator—the Rev. Charlie Overton  
Secretary—Mrs. Erchie I. Waters  
Assistant Secretary—Mrs. Beulah Whitson  
Treasurer—Mr. Lloyd Jones Jr.

#### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Rev. W. L. Brickhouse  
Mr. Ervin Foreman  
The Rev. Joe Griffith

#### BOARD OF ORDINATION

The Rev. Charlie Overton  
The Rev. Steve Hargrove  
The Rev. Robert May

## BOARD OF MISSIONS

The Rev. Steve Hargrove

The Rev. Floyd Burkey

The Rev. Bobby Brown

Mr. Billy Dilday

## BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mrs. Laura Webster

Mrs. Mae Oliver

Mrs. Margaret Woolard Sheppard

## TREASURER'S REPORT

*General Fund*

Brought forward from 1982		\$524.82
Amount Received After Conference	30.00	
Amount Received From Churches	314.50	
Amount Received From Public Offering	<u>39.27</u>	383.77
Total Received		\$908.59
Amount Paid Out		<u>\$490.35</u>
Balance in General Fund		\$418.24

## Mission Fund

Brought Forward from 1982		\$601.19
Amount Received During The Year	\$47.35	
Bank Interest	<u>33.88</u>	81.23
Total		\$682.42

Lloyd Jones Jr., *Treasurer*

## SUMMARY

Reports given at this session of the Conference show that our churches, for the year of July 1982—June 1983, gave the following amounts to our denominational programs:

Children's Home	\$8,126.88
Mount Olive College	8,291.93
Superannuation	1,140.55
Retirement Homes	125.00
Home Missions	3,044.88
Foreign Missions	4,431.60
Cragmont	<u>1,499.66</u>
Total Received	\$26,660.50
Conferences and Unions	\$517.95

[illegible]