

A. B. Bryan

Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina



YEARBOOK
1988

For July 1, 1986 Through
June 30, 1987

**1987-88
Yearbook
for
Original
Free Will Baptists
of
North Carolina**

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

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MINUTES
of the
FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
of the
ALBEMARLE CONFERENCE
of
NORTH CAROLINA
October 7, 1987
Held With
Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church
Roper, North Carolina

The next session will convene Wednesday before the second Sunday in October, 1988. The location will be at Shiloh Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetown, North Carolina.

OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1987-1988

Moderator, the Rev. Robert May
 Assistant Moderator, the Rev. Charlie Overton
 Secretary, the Rev. Frank Thigpen
 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 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

Mr. Fentress Simmons

Mr. Ervin Foreman

The Rev. W. L. Brickhouse

BOARD OF ORDINATION

The Rev. Charlie Overton (1992)

The Rev. Bobby Brown (1989)

The Rev. Joe Griffith (1988)

The Rev. Robert May (1991)

The Rev. W. S. Burns (1990)

BOARD OF MISSIONS

The Rev. Frank Thigpen (1992)

The Rev. Bobby Brown (1989)

The Rev. Joe Griffith (1988)

The Rev. W. S. Burns (1990)

Mr. Billie Wayne Dilday (1991)

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Mrs. Laura Webster

Mrs. Margaret Sheppard

Mrs. Mae Oliver

ROLL OF MINISTERS

L. E. Ambrose, Route 2, Box 162, Creswell, NC 27928
 W. L. Brickhouse, Route 2, Box 259, Columbia, NC 27925
 Bobby Brown, Route 1, Box 32, Pinetown, NC 27865
 W. S. Burns, Route 1, Box 97, Pinetown, NC 27865
 Joe Griffith, 1018 Maple Street, Elizabeth City, NC 27909-3726
 Raymond Lagcher, Box 146, Pinetown, NC 27865
 Robert May, Route 4, Box 387, Ahoskie, NC 27910
 Charlie Overton, 811 Academy Street, Ahoskie, NC 27910
 Billy Reynolds, Route 1, Box 657, Roper, NC 27970
 Royce Reynolds, Route 2, Columbia, NC 27925
 Johnny Sexton, Route 1, Box 254, Plymouth, NC 27962
 Dillon Rogerson (licensed minister), Pantego, NC 27860

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, 497 East Church Street, Farmville, NC 27828

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Mount Tabor

Clerk, Mrs. Naomi Ambrose, Route 2, Box 169, Creswell, NC 27928
 Pastor, the Rev. Frank Thigpen, 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

Plymouth First

Clerk, Mrs. Edna Smith, 210 Mott-Ransom Drive, Plymouth, NC 27962
 Pastor, the Rev. Luther Swinson, 333 West Avenue, Plymouth, NC 27962

Union Chapel

Clerk, Mrs. Brenda Sue Owens, Route 1, Box 301, Plymouth, NC 27962
 Pastor, the Rev. James R. Owens, Route 1, Box 301, Plymouth, NC 27962

TYRRELL COUNTY

Gum Neck

Clerk, Mrs. Burvell K. Jones, Route 1, Box 277-B, Columbia, NC 27925
 Pastor, Lay speaker, Mr. Gerald Perry, McCaskey Road, Williamston, NC 27892

Malachi's Chapel

Clerk, W. Braxton Volliva, Box 376, Columbia, NC 27925
 Pastor, the Rev. Royce Reynolds, Route 2, Columbia, NC 27925

Sound Side

Clerk, Marvin Sawyer, Box 62, Columbia, NC 27925
 Pastor, the Rev. C. H. Overman, 1201 Stokes Drive, Ayden, NC 28513

PASQUOTANK COUNTY

St. Paul

Clerk, Mrs. Margie B. Lamb, Box 2178, Elizabeth City, NC 27909
 Pastor, the Rev. Joe Griffith, 1018 Maple Street, Elizabeth City, NC 27909

HERTFORD COUNTY*Hickory Chapel*

Clerk, Miss Sara M. Willoughby, Route 4, Box 382, 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, Route 2, Box 259, Columbia, NC 27925

Free Union

Clerk, Robert Wilkins, Route 1, Box 440, Plymouth, NC 27962

Pastor, the Rev. W. S. Burns, 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 D. Brinn, Route 2, Box 350, Belhaven, NC 27810

Pastor (supply), the Rev. Raymond Lagcher, Pinetown, NC 27865

Trinity

Clerk, Mr. Talmage O. Cooper, Route 1, Box 175, Pantego, NC 27860

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

PROCEEDINGS**WEDNESDAY MORNING**

The Rev. Robert May called the Conference to order promptly at 9:30 a.m. The devotions were held by the Rev. Frank Thigpen using 1 Corinthians 13 as his text. The congregation then sang "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder."

The welcome was given by Mr. Lloyd Jones, and the response was given by the Rev. Joe Griffith.

The Conference was then called to order by the clerk, and the adoption of the program was the first order of business.

The roll call of churches was held with nine present and six absent.

The roll call of ministers was held with seven present and five absent with one excused absence on account of sickness.

Visiting ministers and delegates from other church bodies were welcomed and recognized. They were as follows: the Rev. De Wayne Eakes, the Rev. Bobby Taylor, the Rev. Harold Jones, Mr. Cliff Gray, the Rev. Walter Sutton, the Rev. Walter Reynolds, the Rev. David C. Hansley, the Rev. Frank Harrison.

The moderator's address was "What Constitutes a Real Church?" The text was taken from Acts 2:42 with these points: (1) Continue steadfastly in apostles' doctrine, (2) not what saith man, (3) fellowship, (4) shared all things in common, (5) breaking of bread in communion with each other, and (6) praying that God will use us as His instruments.

The moderator then established the rules for the Conference and appointed temporary committees for the day as follows: Resolutions Committee: the Rev. Bobby Brown, Mrs. Oscar Webster, and Mrs. Beulah Whitson. Temperance Committee: the Rev. Joe Griffith, the Rev. Winfred Brickhouse, and Mr. Ervin Foreman. Nominating Committee: the Rev. Charlie Overton, Miss Sara Willoughby, and Mrs. Doris Simmons.

The Rev. Bobby Brown then made a motion to rescind resolution number three (#3) of the 1986 Conference which is in the 1987 *Yearbook* on page 180. The motion was passed.

As the pianist played we received our Conference offering and then sang hymn 158, "Have Thine Own Way, Lord."

The reports of standing boards were called for and given as follows: Trustees: no report; Board of Missions; the Rev. Joe Griffith and the Rev. W. S. Burns; Board of Education: no report. For complete reports see REPORTS 1987 Session.

We then had announcements from the local churches.

The Rev. W. S. Burns made the motion that the Board of Missions be granted approval from the Conference to petition churches for money and be given access to money the Conference already has for the Board of Missions. The motion passed.

The Rev. W. S. Burns, president of the General Conference, gave the report of the General Conference. He expressed the desire that the General Conference be used as one means of bringing our denomination back to Original Free Will Baptist doctrine, a time of fellowship and spiritual renewal.

The Rev. Harold Jones gave the report on Foreign Missions. He expressed the need for our churches to sponsor schools in India and the need of being faithful in praying for India. He also told us that the Foreign Missions Department is sponsoring a school of prayer on February 26, 1988.

Mr. Cliff Gray, manager of the Free Will Baptist Press, gave his report and said that the Press had a profit in excess of fifty thousand dollars.

The Rev. De Wayne Eakes, president of the State Convention, gave the report of the Convention and told what the Convention is trying to accomplish.

Mrs. Eleanor Moore gave the report of the 1987 State Convention.

The Rev. Bobby Taylor, director of the Children's Home, gave his report stating that the Home cared for sixty-six children last year.

Miss Sara Willoughby gave the report of the State Woman's Auxiliary Convention stating that they had three thousand and fifty members. She expressed the need for the ladies in the churches to become active in the Auxiliary.

Business was terminated at 11:20 a.m. and the service turned over to the host pastor, the Rev. Charlie Overton of Mount Zion Church. A ladies trio from Mount Zion sang "At an Altar of Prayer of Jesus," and Brother Overton spoke on "How to Live a Righteous Life in the Face of a Sinful World" using Matthew 5:20 for his Scripture. The congregation then sang "Just As I Am" for the closing hymn.

The Conference adjourned for lunch.

The Conference resumed business at one o'clock with a piano special by Mrs. Lucy Jones of Mount Zion. The Rev. Luther Swinson, pastor of the Plymouth Church, held the afternoon devotions. The congregation sang "Learning on the Everlasting Arms." A ladies trio sang "The Solid Rock." Brother Swinson used Scripture from 1 Corinthians 3:11. In his devotions he said, "It is time that the world knows where we stand."

The Rev. Bobby Brown then held the Memorial Service in memory of those that lived in Christ, have died in Christ and are still living in Christ. Brother Brown spoke of the seven promises spoken of in John 14:1-3, 6, 10-12, 16-17, 18, 26-27.

The Rev. Frank Harrison brought greetings from Mount Olive College. He told us that enrollment was nine hundred and four at the beginning of the semester.

The secretary of the Conference gave the Executive Committee report (see Reports).

The Rev. W. C. Overton gave the Ordaining Council report (see Reports).

The Rev. Walter Reynolds gave the Church Finance report urging churches and church members to buy shares in the Church Finance Association.

The Rev. Walter Sutton gave the report for the Retirement Homes and told of the marvelous work they are doing. We are blessed to have a Retirement Homes Program and a man with vision like the Rev. Walter Sutton.

The Rev. David Charles Hansley, the director of the Board of Home Missions and Evangelism, gave his report.

The Rev. Joe Griffith gave the report of the Temperance Committee (see Reports).

The Rev. Bobby Brown gave the report of the Resolutions Committee (see Reports). The Nominating Committee report was given by the Rev. W. C. Overton (see Reports). Mr. Lloyd Jones, treasurer of the Conference, gave the treasurer's report (see Treasurer's Report).

The Rev. Joe Griffith made the motion that we give \$100 towards the renovation of the State Convention Headquarters in Ayden. The motion was passed.

Mrs. Christine Waters of Free Union and Mrs. Fowler of Saint Paul will represent our Conference at the General Conference.

Mr. and Mrs. Fentress Simmons of Mount Tabor will represent the Albemarle Conference at the State Convention in 1988.

The Rev. Bobby Brown in behalf of Shiloh Church made a motion to invite the Albemarle Conference there for 1988. The motion passed.

At the close of business the moderator asked that the minutes be read. They were read and accepted.

The motion was made to adjourn. The motion was passed and we were dismissed in prayer.

REPORTS 1987 SESSION

BOARD OF ORDINATION

March 21, 1987, the board met at Mount Zion Church, Roper, NC, to examine Mr. Dillon Rogerson for license. The board agreed to recommend him for license to preach for one year.

On March 30, 1987, the board met at Trinity to examine the Rev. Luther Swinson as he was called to pastor the Plymouth First Church. All was satisfactory.

On March 21, the board met at Mount Zion Church, Roper, to examine Mr. Dwayne Jones. The board refrained from renewing Mr. Jones' license for at least one year.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

1. **LET IT BE RESOLVED:** That any minister who must be absent from the annual conference notify in writing or by telephone a member of the Executive Board or the Board of Ordination. Should they not notify one of the above, that minister shall not be allowed to vote at the next conference and must meet with the Ordaining Council to explain his absence.

2. **LET IT BE RESOLVED:** That the Conference reaffirm our belief in one work of grace; that being salvation through the shed blood of Jesus Christ, God's only begotten Son for the pardon and forgiveness of sins.

3. **LET IT BE RESOLVED:** That we give Mount Zion Free Will Baptist Church, our host church, for this setting of this Conference a rising vote of thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev. Bobby Brown, *Chairman*

Mrs. Beulah Whitson

Mrs. Laura Webster

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

The Temperance Committee asks that we Christians endeavor through prayer to be faithful to our vocations, to abstain from that which would be in conflict with our church covenant and Articles of Faith.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Joe Griffith
The Rev. Winfred Brickhouse
Mr. Ervin Foreman

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee met on August 29, 1987. We discussed a better day other than Wednesday to hold our annual Conference. After duly considering all the options, we unanimously agreed that it should stay on Wednesday. Next, we discussed changing the format concerning denominational ministries. We agreed that for the present time, the day and the format should remain the same. We do recommend that the denominational ministries take only five minutes to bring their reports.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

As we the Albemarle Conference have rescinded Resolution #3 of the 1986 annual conference, we the nominating committee move that the Rev. W. C. Overton be reelected to serve another term on the Ordaining Council and that all of the Executive Committee be reelected by acclamation. The motion was passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Brought Forward From 1986		\$ 447.16
Amount Received After Conference	335.21	
Amount Received From Churches	625.57	
Amount Received From Public Offerings	<u>35.46</u>	<u>996.24</u>
Total Received		1,443.40
Amount Paid Out		<u>562.16</u>
Balance in General Fund		\$ 881.24
Mission Fund		
Brought Forward		\$ 798.80
Amount Received During Year		0
Bank Interest		<u>39.43</u>
Total		\$ 838.23

SUMMARY

Reports given at this session of the Albemarle Conference show that our churches, for the year of July 1986 to June 1987, gave the following amounts to our denominational programs. As a matter of note, out of fifteen churches only fourteen reported and one of those did not put their denominational contributions on their church letter. So, these figures are short of what this conference actually gave to our denomination.

Children's Home	\$ 7,432.31
Mount Olive College	11,047.51
Superannuation	895.99
Home Missions	4,921.06
Foreign Missions	10,357.39
Cragmont	3,051.02
Retirement Homes	1,565.74
Conferences and Unions	<u>1,898.53</u>
Total	\$41,169.55

CHURCHES	Church Members	Active	Inactiv	Average MW Att	Baptism Letter	Gain Letter	Other	Decease	Lost Letter	Other	Net Change	SSAverage Members	SS Att	Total Income
Selma	89			70			3	3	1		1	73	45	
Sherron Acres	312			155	0	3	0	0	7	0		125	85	69717.22
Spring Hill	143			90	4	14			0	3	15	143	100	71736.09
Stancils Chapel	155	155	21	110	1	7	0	2	4	0		121	83	24351.96
St Mary's	193	0		146	8	10			2	2	0	14	165	77641.15
Stoney Creek	437	312	125	264	13	12			7	6	12	346	245	
Stony Hill	101	101	68	80	1	6	1	0	0	8		94	70	41800
Trinity	287	159	128	175	12	23			3	2	30	177	125	58977.6
Union Chapel	73	29	44	30	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	40	27	
Union Grove	147	142	61	100	3	3	0	2	1	0	3	162	95	
Unity	194			145	7	4			1	4	6	93	95	
Watson's Grove	30	30	2	25		1			1		0	39	28	
Wilson, First	772			328	11	15		5	14		7	261	221	
WESTERN TOTALS	8650	3176	1461	4959	159	197	25	82	188	24	232		4142	
GRAND TOTALS	25827	9758	6059	12282	381	359	58	279	232	198	578		10519	