



The 107<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the  
**CONVENTION OF  
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

**May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**

**OFWB**



**Growing in Grace**

**2016-2021**

Ministry & Conference Report Book

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**Minutes of the  
Seventy-Fourth Annual Session  
of the  
Albemarle Conference  
of  
Original Free Will Baptists  
held at  
Union Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church  
Plymouth, NC  
October 10, 2018**

**Officers for the Years 2017-19**

Moderator: The Reverend Al Markuson

Assistant Moderator: The Reverend Royce Reynolds

Clerk: Mrs. Shirley Pelletier

Assistant Clerk: Mrs. Kathy Markuson

Treasurer: Mr. Lloyd Jones, Jr.

**Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee is composed of the general officers of the Conference, chair of the Board of Trustees, chair of the Board of Ordination, and the chair of the Board of Missions.

**Board of Trustees**

Mrs. Carolyn Reynolds (2021)

Mr. Wayne Britt (2019)

Mr. James Cahoon (2020)

**Board of Ordination**

The Reverend Royce Reynolds (2023)  
Pelletier (2020)  
(2022)

The Reverend David Pooser (2019)  
The Reverend Jim Skipper (2021)

The Reverend Keith  
The Reverend Al Markuson

**Board of Missions**

Mr. Wayne Britt (2023)

Mrs. Lucy Jones (2019)

Mrs. Carolyn Reynolds (2020)

Mrs. Sarah Parker (2021)

Mr. Richard Paul (2022)

**Ordained Ministers**

Jonathan Best	1200 NE Miami Gardens Dr. Apt 904W North Miami Beach, FL 33179	<i>Absent</i>
David Furlough	PO Box 533, Columbia NC 27925	<i>Present</i>
Raymond Lagcher	19225 US HWY 64 East, Pinetown, NC 27865	<i>Present</i>
Al Markuson	5993 NC HWY 32 South, Plymouth, NC 27962	<i>Present</i>
Keith A. Pelletier	195 Gus Town Road, Creswell, NC 27928	<i>Present</i>
David Pooser	5580 Sidney Road Belhaven, NC 27810	<i>Excused</i>
Royce L. Reynolds	PO Box 22, Columbia, NC 27925	<i>Present</i>
Jim Skipper	2883 Porter Road, Greenville, NC 27834	<i>Present</i>

## Proceedings

The 74<sup>th</sup> annual session of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists was held at Union Chapel Original Free Will Baptist Church in Plymouth, North Carolina on Wednesday October 10, 2018, with the Reverend Al Markuson moderating.

The session convened at 9:30 a.m. with the singing of the hymn "Grace Greater Than All Our Sins" led by Brother Lloyd Jones Jr., with Sister Lucy Jones serving as pianist. The morning devotion was brought by The Reverend Raymond Lagcher, speaking from the Gospel of Luke, 10:38-42, using the scripture to help set the tone for the day's proceedings. "Laying aside all encumbrances to lift up and worship Our Lord. Listening closely for HIS desire's for our individual service." He then led the session in prayer. The moderator recognized Brother Wayne Britt of the host church for the welcome. Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. gave the response thanking Union Chapel Church for their invitation and hospitality.

The session was called to order by the clerk Sister Shirley Pelletier, using the call to order established by the late Brother Oscar Webster, "I, Shirley Pelletier, clerk of the Albemarle Conference of Original Free Will Baptists, do declare the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Conference is now officially in session; for prayer and praise to God, for the preaching of His Word, and for the transaction of any business pertinent to the ongoing business of said conference. May God to our good and His Glory bless our coming together. The Reverend Al Markuson now presiding." The moderator presented the program for the annual session. A motion was made, seconded and passed to adopt the program.

The moderator called for the roll call of churches. There were 9 churches with delegates present. They included Free Union, Hickory Chapel, Malachi Chapel, Mt. Tabor, Mt. Zion, First Plymouth, Soundside, Trinity, and Union Chapel. Saint Paul Church and Sidney Church were represented by letter. The moderator called for the roll call of ministers. There were 6 ministers present, 1 absent, and 1 excused. Ten (10) visiting ministers were recognized; they included The Reverend Howard Scott, The Reverend Bobby Taylor, The Reverend Harold Jones, The Reverend Ronnie Taylor, The Reverend Tim Heath, The Reverend John Hill, The Reverend Tony Parrish, The Reverend Joe Radcliffe, The Reverend Gary Bailey, The Reverend Franklin Baggett and The Reverend Charley Reber from Piney Grove FWB Church.

The moderator, Reverend Al Markuson brought the moderator's address from II Corinthians 9:8-9, speaking on the greatness of God's Grace making our ministry possible and reminding those in attendance the need for growth within our Conference has never been greater."

Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. led the session in singing the offertory hymn, "Jesus, We Just Want to Thank You." The moderator, The Reverend Al Markuson led the offertory prayer. Reverend Keith Pelletier and Brother Lloyd Jones Jr. served as ushers.

The moderator appointed the following temporary committees. Sister Sandi White and Sister Kathy Markuson were appointed to the Memorial Committee. Reverend Keith Pelletier and Reverend David Furlough were appointed to the Resolutions Committee.

The moderator opened the floor for the presentation of reports:

- Executive Committee, Sister Shirley Pelletier, Clerk, read the minutes from the Executive Committee Meetings.
- Trustees, No Report
- Board of Ordination, Rev. Royce Reynolds reported on the work of the Ordaining Council
- Board of Home Missions, Rev. Al Markuson and Brother Santiago Arias reported on the Mt. Sinai Mission and asked for continued prayers for that work.
- Albemarle Youth District, Sister Tara Hardison reported on the activities of the Albemarle Youth District

Convention Ministry Reports were presented from the following:

- Convention of Original Free Will Baptists and Executive Committee by Reverend Gary Bailey
- Children's Home by Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr.

- Cragmont by Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr.
- Home Missions by Reverend Franklin Baggett
- Free Will Baptist Press by Reverend John Hill
- Foreign Missions by Reverend Harold Jones
- University of Mount Olive by Sister Charlene Scott & Reverend Howard Scott
- Retirement Homes by Reverend Ronnie Taylor
- Christian Education by Sister Gail Heath
- Camp Vandemere by Reverend Ronnie Taylor
- Women's Auxiliary by Sister Sandi White

After a short intermission, the Conference continued with the Business Session.

Vacant Board positions were announced and the moderator asked for nominations from the floor. A motion was made by Reverend Keith Pelletier, seconded by Brother Lloyd Jones Jr. and duly passed that the expiring position holders on the Boards of Trustees and Missions succeed themselves for the upcoming terms. A motion was made by Reverend Keith Pelletier, seconded by Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. and duly passed that Reverend Royce Reynolds succeed himself on the Board of Ordination. A motion was made by Reverend Royce Reynolds, seconded by Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. and duly passed that the Reverend Jim Skipper fill the unexpired term (expiring 2021) of Reverend Bill Mobley.

The moderator asked for the Treasurer's report which was given by Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. He reported a general fund balance of \$4,201.56 and a Mission's Fund Balance of \$11,095.11, moving that the report be accepted. The motion was seconded and passed.

The moderator called for old business:

- Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. gave a report on the status of the Belhaven Church Property; potential for loss of tax exemption status and options for disposal. Reverend Royce Reynolds moved that the Belhaven property disposal be placed in the hands of the Conference Board of Trustees and Executive Committee.

The motion was seconded by Reverend Keith Pelletier and duly passed.

The moderator then called for new business:

- The Reverend Raymond Lagcher reported from the Convention on the new process the FWB Press uses for electing its Board of Directors.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to close the business session.

The session paused for a short intermission.

The Conference Worship Service began with Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. leading the session in singing "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing." Sister Kathy Markuson from the host church provided special music, singing "It Matters to the Master." The moderator then introduced Reverend Jim Skipper, Pastor of Hickory Chapel FWB Church to bring the Worship Message. Reverend Skipper spoke from Joshua 5:13 – 6:5. He spoke on the "building up" and "the tearing down of walls" in our service to God. He reminded the congregation to "not build up or to tear down the walls that separate us and others from the love of Jesus Christ." He ended by asking those in attendance "what walls are standing between you and God?" Reverend Skipper closed with prayer.

The Conference Memorial Service was led by Sister Kathy Markuson and Sister Sandi White. Sister Sandi White spoke from Psalms 23. Sister Kathy Markuson read the names of the deceased members and led the session in prayer. Twenty-six (26) brethren were remembered. They included: The Reverend Bill Mobley, Beulah Whitson, Richard Allen Swain, Keith Brickhouse, Roy Brickhouse, Orville Phelps, Ilda Roughton, Margaret Cahoon, Elsie Sawyer, Betty Brickhouse, Gladys Thomas, Sidney Litchfield, Marina Woodley, Larry Linton, Jr., Esther Smith, Ruby Gurganus, Doris Simmons Phelps, Elaine Craddock, Bill Beasley, Barbara Beasley, Marvin Carter, Marilyn Carter, Johnny Perry, Alice Rawls, James Burbage and Kenneth Sullivan. Sister Sandi White read the poem entitled The Dash and closed with prayer.

The moderator called for the Resolutions Committee report which was given by the Reverend Keith Pelletier. One (1) resolution was presented, resolving a rising vote of thanks to Union Chapel for being gracious hosts to the 74<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Albemarle Conference. The resolution passed unanimously with a rising vote of all in attendance.

The moderator entertained a motion from Reverend Keith Pelletier, seconded by Reverend Royce Reynolds and duly passed that the minutes would be reviewed and approved by the Executive Committee.

The 75<sup>th</sup> annual session of the Albemarle Conference will be held at Sound Side FWB Church in Columbia on Wednesday, October 9, 2019. The moderator recognized the Reverend Royce Reynolds who led the Conference in the closing prayer. The Conference then enjoyed lunch and fellowship with the host church.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Shirley T. Pelletier, Clerk*

*Al Markuson, Moderator*

#### **Report of the Executive Committee**

February 26, 2018

The Executive Committee met on Monday evening, February 26, 2018 at Mt. Zion OFWB Church, Roper, NC for the purpose of planning the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference Revival to be held on March, 25, 2018 at 6:00 pm at Union Chapel OFWB Church, Plymouth, NC. The Rev. Al Markuson made a motion, seconded by Wayne Britt to have the Reverend Royce Reynolds be the speaker for the revival. The motion passed unanimously. The remainder of the revival program was determined. Several other items were discussed for information only: the Belhaven property, disposition of the Belhaven property, the Board of Ordination is preparing to examine a licensee for Ordination. After a time of prayer requests, the meeting was dismissed with prayer by Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr.

*Kathy Markuson, Assistant Clerk*

*Rev. Al Markuson, Moderator*

September 19, 2018

The Executive Committee conferenced by phone on September 19, 2018, changing the Conference meeting location to Union Chapel FWB Church, Plymouth NC, due to road construction in the *Columbia area*. *Al Markuson, Moderator*  
*Shirley Pelletier, Clerk*

September 21, 2018

The Executive Committee met on Friday evening, September 21, 2018 at Mt. Zion OFWB Church, Roper NC for the purpose of planning the 74<sup>th</sup> Session of the Albemarle Conference. The Conference will convene on October 10, 2018 at Union Chapel OFWB Church, Plymouth NC. The Conference program was determined. It was decided that nominations/filling of Conference Board positions would be handled on the day of the Conference.

Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. reported on the status of the Belhaven property. Being an abandoned building, it may lose its property tax-exemption status. The Executive Committee authorized Brother Lloyd Jones, Jr. to investigate disposal of the property.

A confidential complaint was made by a church member from a church in the conference regarding the use of a non-ordained officiate being allowed to preside over Communion and Washing of the Saint's Feet. The name of the member and the church do not appear in the minutes for purposes of confidentiality. The Reverend Royce Reynolds, on behalf of the Board of Ordination will address the complaint with the interested parties. The Executive Committee reminds Churches that only Ordained Ministers are allowed to preside over Communion and Washing of the Saint's Feet.

The Albemarle Conference Spring Revival will be held on Sunday evening, April 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 6:00 pm at Union Chapel OFWB, Plymouth NC.

There was discussion of the Albemarle Conference's response to the Convention's Hurricane Florence Disaster Relief efforts. No decision was made. The Conference will continue to monitor the flow of information regarding needs as Disaster Relief efforts continue.

The meeting was dismissed with prayer by the Reverend Royce Reynolds.

*Al Markuson, Moderator*

*Shirley Pelletier, Clerk*

#### **Treasurer's Report**

##### **General Fund**

Brought forward from 2017	\$4615.24
Amount received after Conference	92.70
Amount received from churches	428.06
Amount received in Conference offering	<u>115.00</u>
Total Received	\$5251.00
Amount Paid Out	<u>-1049.44</u>
Balance in General Fund	\$4201.56

##### **Mission Fund**

Brought forward from 2017	\$10752.28
Amount received during year	337.05
Bank Interest	<u>5.78</u>
Total Received	\$11095.11

Respectfully Submitted:

*Lloyd Jones, Jr.*