

MINUTES
OF THE
Fifty-fourth Annual Session
OF THE
Antioch Association
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH UNION GROVE CHURCH
POPE COUNTY, ARKANSAS,
SEPTEMBER 6, 7, 8, 9, 1945

Next Session Will Be Held With Walnut Grove Church, Near Hector,
Pope County, Arkansas, Beginning On Thursday Night Before the
Second Sunday in September, 1946.

J. D. COFFMAN, Hector, Ark. Moderator

W. S. ISBELL, Russellville, Ark. Assistant Moderator

E. O. WRIGHT, Atkins, Ark. Clerk

MINUTES OF ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION

Fifty-fourth Annual Session

THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION

Rained out.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened with singing by T. L. Tackett. Scripture lesson, 11th Psalm by Moderator Eld. W. S. Isbell. Prayer by Eld. John Reel. Letters from the churches of the Association were called for.

Walnut Grove—Sis. J. D. Coffman, Hazel, Marable, Willedene Marable, Sis. Myrtle Conley, Deacon's wife.

Oak Grove No. 2—Elder's W. S. Isbell, R. G. Webb, and J. D. Kinder. Sis. J. D. Kinder, Minister's wife.

Harmony—Sis. Lottie Wiles and Sis. Frank Harris.

Welcome Home—Sis. Nora Condlery, Sis. Beatrice Coffman, Minister's wife; Sis. Arizona Crouch, Clerk

Pine Ridge—Bros. Frank Burris, Ike Brewer, Willie Standridge, R. S. Reid, Deacon.

Holman—Sis. Margaret Schlafka, and Sis. Hopper.

Maple Springs—Bro. Will Heflin, J. D. Harris, Theodore Gideon.

Dublin—By letter.

St. Joe—Eld. J. A. Venable.

New Liberty—Sis. Martha Vasseur and Sis. W. W. Crow, Bro. Coy Baker.

Union Grove—Bro. R. L. McVey, Clarence Haralson, Sis. Olgie Wright, Sis. Edith Whittenburg, Clerk.

Sweet Home—Bro. Jim McNutt, Charlie Compton, Clerk; W. J. Sorrels, Delegate.

Mt. Home—Bro. Jess Looper, Deacon.

Hickory Grove—Bro. T. H. Teel and wife, Bro. H. A. Ison.

Song, "Won't It Be Wonderful There."

Hand shake. All Christian's invited.

Called for newly organized churches. One received; Zion Hope in Searcy county. After a report from Eld. W. S. Isbell and W. A. Crouch, motion carried to receive the church and seat delegates, Bro. J. C. Treat and wife.

Honorary members: T. W. English from Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Eld. John Reel from Grande River Association in Oklahoma, Eld. G. Z. Clayborn from Stone Hill church in Johnson County

Bro. John Heflin, Assembly of God Church, Moderator, appointed a committee on Divine Service; Bro. Roy Staggs, J. D. Harris, Coy Baker.

Dismissed by Eld. Clayborn for preaching. 11:00 o'clock service—Song, "There Is a Fountain" and "If I Could Hear My Mother Pray Again". Scripture lesson, St. John 14: 1-7. Prayer by Eld. John Reel. Preaching by Eld. W. E. Coffman. Text, Acts 2: 39. After a good sermon and song "I'll Live On", "Love Lifted Me" led by Eld. W. S. Isbell. Hand shake. Dismissed by Eld. J. A. Venable.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Song, "I'll Live On" by Goldie Maxwell. Song, "A Wonderful Time," by H. A. Ison. Scripture lesson Romans fourth chapter by Moderator. Prayer by Bro. T. H. Teel. Song "Won't It Be Wonderful There" by Bro. W. W. Crow.

The Association further organized by electing the following officers, Eld. J. D. Coffman, Moderator; Eld. W. S. Isbell, Assistant Moderator; Bro. Charlie Compton, Clerk; Sis. Lottie Wiles, Assistant Clerk;

Eld. J. D. Coffman took the chair as Moderator. Rules of order read by Moderator.

Following committees appointed:

Committee on Resolution: Elders E. L. Hill, W. E. Coffman, and W. A. Crouch.

Committee on Finance: Bro. E. O. Wright, Tom Bowden, Owen McCuein.

Committee on Temperance: Eld. R. G. Webb, Sis. Martha Vassaur, and Bro. Clarence Haralson.

Committee on Sabbath School: Sisters Lucy Bowden, Willadene Marable, Mary Hill.

Committee on Obituary:: Sis. Nora Coffman, Bros. Frank Burris and R. L. McVey.

Committee on Non-Represented Churches: Bro. Jim McNutt, Eld. Dewey Kinder, and Sis. Olgie Wright.

Committee on Union of Churches: Sis. Reatha Bowden, Bro. J. C. Treat, Sis. Nona Kinder.

Motion made and carried to appoint a committee to formulate a Church Covenant Committee. Eld. W. S. Isbell, W. A. Crouch, Dewey Kinder, with Moderator and Clerk.

Thirty minutes intermission for Committee work.

Reassembled by singing, "Anywhere Is Home," by Bro. T. L. Tackett. Song, "The Glory Land Way," by Tom Bowden. Committee on Union of Churches reported. Committee on Divine Service reported, then Eld. E. L. Hill conduct the devotional service and Eld. R. G. Webb, John Reel filled the stand at night. Talk by Eld. Clayhorn. Dismissed by prayer to meet at 9:30 Saturday.

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Assembled by singing, "In the Morning of Joy," led by Bro. Henry Hill. Song, "I'll Live In Glory," by Sis. Goldie Maxwell. "When All of God's Singers Get Home," led by Sis. Myra Hill. Song, "The Unclouded Day," led by Joella Maxwell. Song, "I'll Live On," led by Eld. E. L. Hill. Song, "I'll Be A Friend To Jesus," and "Some Glad Day," led by Bro. T. L. Tackett. Song, "He Bore It All." Devotional service conducted by Eld. E. L. Hill. Prayer by all christians. Song, "Beautiful Home," by W. S. Isbell. At this time a number of saints testified of the love of God. Song, "Some Day." Preaching by Eld. R. G. Webb. Scripture Lesson 2nd chapter Acts 12-18. Text, Acts 2:16. Song, "An Empty Mansion." Concluded by Eld. John Reel, Tulsa, Okla.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Heflin.

SATURDAY MORNING

Assembled by singing led by Eld. John Reel, "I Will Sing the Wondrous Story." Song, "Where We'll Never Grow Old," led by Bro. Everett Shinn. Service opened by Moderator Elder J. D. Coffman. Scripture lesson John 6:1-18. Prayer by Elder W. A. Crouch.

Other delegates seated:

Honorary member—Sister Blanch Duvall.

Mt. Home Church—Bro. Vandella Voss, Bro. Mitchell Jennings, Deacon.

St. Joe—Sister Betty McKinney, Sister Goldie Maxwell, Sister Mollie Veneble, and Eider W. F. McGee.

Kimble Creek—Sister Ollie Coid, Sister Maggie Boyd, and Bro. Cecil Coid, Deacon.

Union Grove—Sister Coy Douthitt, and Sister Roy Staggs.

Maple Springs—Sister Lois Gideon, and Elder Jack Lathum.

Shiloh—Bro. G. B. Maxwell and wife.

Harmony—Bro. Everett Shinn.

Oak Grove—Bro. Boyd Gray, Bro. Homer Eakin, Bro. G. M. Roland, Deacons; Sister Maxine Webb. Sister Mary Johnston, Clerk.

Walnut Grove—Bro. H. W. Coffman.

Adjourned with prayer by W. F. McGee, as this was time for memorial sermon.

The Committee on Obituary reported the following brothers and sisters have departed this life since our last Association:

From Union Grove Church: Sister Beulah Wright, Bro. W. J. Wright, Deacon. Oak Grove Church No. 2: Sister Dora Morris. Sweet Home Church: Bro. R. B. Burris. St. Joe Church: Elder Joe Harris, Bro. Henry Veneble, Sister Mattie Venable. Harmony Church: Bro. W. F. McGee, Jr. Welcome Home: Sister Nola Story. Oak Grove No. 1: Bro. Jack Walker. New Liberty Church: Sister Mary Worst. Walnut Grove Church: Bro. J. W. Coffman, Deacon. Sister Maragrette Savage, Sister Myrtle Thompson. Pine Hill Church: Sister Marty Laffoon. Union Church: Bro. Tom Crouch. Moreland Church: Bro. Ellis Eakin.

Song, "I'll Go Sweeping Through The Gates," led by Bro. T. L. Tackett. Song, "Just Over In The Glory Land," led by Bro. Cecil Coid. Song, "Everybody Will Be Happy Over There," led by Elder John Reel. Song, "I'll Live In Glory," led by Elder Willie Coffman. Song, "I'll Be A Friend To Jesus," led by Elder E. L. Hill. Song, "I'm Not Ashamed," led by Goldie Maxwell. Prayer by Elder J. A. Veneble. Elder W. F. McGee led in the Memorial Service. Elder E. L. Hill spoke in memory of Bro. and Sister Wright of Union Grove Church, also Mr. Ira Roper who paid the supreme sacrifice in the Armed Forces.

Song, "Heaven Is Nearer Since Mother Is There." Elder A. J. Lathum spoke in memory of Sister Dora Morris of Oak Grove No. 2. Song, "There'll Come A Great Day After While." Elder J. D. Coffman spoke in memory of Sister Nola Story of Welcome Church. Song, "Further Along."

Elder W. A. Crouch spoke in memory of Sister Myrtle Thompson and Bro. J. W. Coffman of Walnut Grove. Song, "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be." "I'll Meet You In The Morning."

Elder W. S. Isbell spoke in memory of Bro. Charley Fabus of Hickory Grove Community who paid the supreme sacrifice in the Armed Forces. He also spoke in memory of Bro. Elis Eakin of Moreland Church, Sister Mary Worst of New Liberty Church, Bro. W. F. McGee of Harmony Church, and in memory of Elder Joe L. Harris of St. Joe Church. Song, "This World Is Not My Home," led by Bro. Willie Coffman.

Elder W. F. McGee spoke in memory of Sister Maragrette Savage of Walnut Grove Church, Marty Laffoon of Pine Hill Church. Bro. J. L. Harris of St. Joe Church, Bro. and Sister Venable of St. Joe Church, Bro. R. B. Burris of Sweet Home Church, and in memory of Bro. Jack Walker of Oak Grove No. 1. Song, "In The Sweet By And By."

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Called together by singing, led by Bro. Elmo Edding, "He Bore It All." Song, "Jesus Hold My Hand," led by Bro. E. O. Wright. Scripture lesson read by Elder A. J. Lathum. Prayer led by Bro. Homer Eakin.

Letter from Phoenix received.

Mt. Vernon—Bro. Dolan Burris, Tempie Duvall.

Kimble Creek—Bro. Frank Knowel, Sister Nora Knowel, Sister Maggie Boyd.

Sweet Home—Dean Crawford.

Slaty Crossing Church reports by letter and by Moderator Elder W. F. McGee.

Moreland Church reports by letter and by Moderator Elder R. G. Webb.

Report of Elder J. D. Coffman, Acting Clerk, received.

Committee on Temperance received.

Committee Non-represented Churches received.

Committee on Church Covenant received.

Motion made and carried to ask for the next State Meeting.

Committee to select the church for the State Meeting: W. F. McGee, J. D. Coffman, R. G. Webb, W. A. Crouch, W. S. Isbell

Motion made and carried to empower the Moderator and Assistant Moderator to appoint delegates to the State Meeting.

Nominaions were in order for a next place of meeting. Walnut Grove Church was selected to meet on Thursday night before the second Sunday in September, 1946. Elder E. L. Hill to preach the introductory sermon. Elder Willie Coffman as alternate.

The Examining Council for Ordination: Elders F. M. Hudson, W. F. McGee, W. A. Crouch, W. S. Isbell, R. G. Webb.

Bro. Charley Compton resigned as clerk, and Bro. E. O. Wright was elected by acclamation.

The Committee on Divine Service selected Elder W. S. Isbell to conduct devotional service. Elder W. A. Crouch and Elder Dewey Kinder to fill the stand at night..

Motion made and carried to let the letters decide the vote on the National Association Movements.

Dismissed by Bro. Cecil Coid.

SATURDAY NIGHT

Called together by singing "I'll Live On," led by Clerk E. O. Wright. Song, "He Bore It All," by Bro. Bill Dixon. Song, "Glory Land Way," dle by Bro. Tommy Bowden. Song, "Everybody Will Be Happy Over There," led by Bro. Henry Hill. Song, "Redeemed," by Sis. Stella Pierce. Song, "When All Of God's Singers Get Home," led by Bro. Everette Shinn. Song, "I'll Be A Friend To Jesus," led by Eld. E. L. Hill. Song, "I'll Fly Away," led by Sis. Goldie Maxwell. Song, "I'd Rather Be An Old Time Christian," led by Bro. Cecil Coid.

The State Delegates were appointed as follows:

Bro. R. L. McVey, Bro. Elvine Johnston, Bro. C. T. Marable, Bro. H. A. Vasseur, Bro. Frank Burris. As alternates; Sis. T. L. Tackett, Bro. H. W. Coffman, Bro. H. A. Isom, Bro. Vandilla Vass, Bro. John M. Millon.

Eld. W. S. Isbell led Devotional Service. Prayer by Bro. J. J. West. Song, "There Will Be Showers Of Blessings," led by Eld. W. F. McGee. Song, "When The Saints Go Marching In." Preaching by Eld. W. A. Crouch. Text: "Where is He that is born King of the Jews?" Concluded by Eld. Dewey Kinder.

Dismissed by Eld. Charley Douthit to meet with Walnut Grove Church.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION

Assembled by singing "The Old Gospel Ship," led by Bro. T. L. Tackett. Song, "Everybody Will Be Happy Over There," led by Eld. John Reel. Song, "Anywhere Is Home," led by Eld. W. F. McGee. Scripture lesson, Matthew 25:31, read by Eld. A. Vaughan. Prayer by Eld. W. F. McGee. Song, "It Won't Be Very Long," led by Bro. T. J. Bowden. Preaching by Moderator Eld. J. D. Coffman. Text, Eccles. 8:8; "There is no discharge in that war." Dismissed by Eld. John Reel.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS

We, your Committee, submit the following:

Whereas the good people of Union Grove Church and community have so generously cared for and entertained all in attendance at this Session.

Be It Resolved, That we extend them a unanimous vote of thanks for their kindness and hospitality shown us while in their midst. May God add His richest blessings to the entire community.

(Signed) Committee.

MINISTERS REPORT

Eld. W. F. McGee—I have delivered 112 messages; held two revivals; witnessed a number of conversions; baptized 11; received 15 into the church; conducted seven funerals; married one couple; received in all \$424.65. For all of which we are very thankful.

Eld. W. S. Isbell—I have pastored two churches; delivered 95 sermons; conducted two revivals; and assisted in two others; witnessed a number of conversions; baptized seven; helped to organize one church; conducted and assisted in 13 funerals; performed three marriages; received \$342.15.

Eld. R. G. Webb—I have pastored four churches; held four revivals; assisted in two revivals; delivered 140 messages; baptized 18; received 17 into the church; conducted two funerals; assisted in two, married two couples; received from all sources \$408.00.

Eld. W. E. Coffman—I have pastored one church; delivered 29 messages; helped in three revivals; received \$34.50.

Eld. C. E. Douthitt—I have preached the fourth Sunday in each month at Union Grove; did some local preaching; conducted one funeral; received \$35.10.

Eld. R. L. Rainwater—I was assistant pastor at Dublin; preached 14 sermons; received four into the church; conducted one revival; witnessed 25 conversions; received \$12.75.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Temperance Committee

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following report: Realizing since the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment, the devil is putting up a hard fight with intoxicating drinks, we feel that it is the duty of every child of God to stand firm for Temperance in every way. We earnestly urge parents as far as possible to keep their sons and daughters from all immoral places of amusement which tend to weaken their power of resentment.

Resolved, that we go on record as opposing open saloons and recommend that we use our influence and vote to have them closed, and that we teach and preach the evil influence of strong drinks and encourage people to abstain even from moderate drinking.

Eld. R. G. Webb, Sis. Martha Vassaur, Bro. C. C. Haralson.

Report of Sunday School Committee

We, your Committee, find that by examining letters that 17 churches have Sunday Schools, and Moreland, Jerusalem, St. Joe, Cherry Hill, Shiloh, and Phoenix have no Sunday School. Most of these Sunday Schools are using Free Will Baptist literature.

We urge that Sabbath Schools be organized in all churches.

Sisters Lucy Bowden, Willedean Marable, and Mary Hill, Committee.

Report of Committee on Obituary

We find that the All-Wise God has seen best to call from our midst the following members: Sis. Beulah Wright, and Bro. W. J. Wright (Deacon), from Union Grove Church; Sister Dora Morris, from Ook Grove No. 2; Bro. R. B. Burris, from Sweet Home Church; Eld. Joe Harris, Bro. Henry Venable, and Sister Mattie Venable from St. Joe Church; Bro. W. F. McGee, Jr., from Harmony Church; Sister Nola Story, from Welcome Home Church; Eld. Jack Walker, from Oak Grove No. 1; Sister Mary Worst, from New Liberty Church; Bro. J. W. Coffman (Deacon), Sisters Margaret Savage and Myrtle Thompson, from Walnut Grove Church; Sister Marty Lafoon, from Pine Hill Church; Bro. Tom Crouch, from Union Church; Bro. Ellis Eakin, from Moreland Church.

Report of Non-represented Churches

We find the following not represented:

Jerusalem, and Cherry Hill.

We urge the ministers of this Association to visit these churches and if possible have them represented at the next session.

Bro. James McNutt, Eld. J. D. Kinder, Sis. Olgie Wright.

Report of Church Covenant Committee

We, your Committee on Church Covenant, recommend the following:

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ and adopted the word of God as our rule of Faith and Practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this Solemn Covenant.

1. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusement and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to provide things honest in the sight of all men.

2. We agree faithfully to discharge our obligation in reference to the study of the scriptures, secret prayer devotion and religious worship and by self denial, faith and good works endeavor to grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

3. We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for Church Conference, public worship, and the observance of the Gospel,

nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the Church, of its poor and all its benevolent work.

4. We agree to accept Christians admonitions and reproof with meekness and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the Church and of the Gospel.

5. We will everywhere hold christian principals sacred and christian obligations and enterprise supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and telling that God's will may be done in us as in Heaven.

6. To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world, and may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Committee on Finance

We have collected the following amounts from the different churches:

Churches	Antioch	State
Holeman	\$2.50	\$2.00
Welcome Home	2.50	2.00
Pine Ridge	2.50	2.00
Walnut Grove	2.50	2.00
Maple Springs	2.50	2.00
New Liberty	2.50	2.00
Dublin	2.50	2.00
Sweet Home	2.50	2.00
Hickory Grove	2.50	2.00
Harmony	2.50	2.00
Mt. Vernon	2.50	2.00
Zion Hope	2.50	2.00
Kimble Creek	2.50	2.00
Ook Grove No. 2	2.50	2.00
Mt. Home	2.50	2.00
Phoenix	2.50	2.00
St. Joe	2.50	2.00
Union Grove	2.50	2.00
Moreland	2.50	2.00
Slaty Crossing	2.50	2.00
Total	50.00	40.00

Bro. E. O. Wright, Bro. Tom Bowden, Bro. Ray McCuine, Committee

REPORT OF ELD. J. D. COFFMAN, ACTING CLERK

Received from Mrs. J. W. Coffman, \$48.00; paid out for printing of Minutes, \$30.00; mailing expenses, \$4.00; Clerk's fee, \$5.00; total, \$39.00. Balance on hand, \$9.00.

Eld. J. D. Coffman, Acting Clerk.

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experiences we, the Churches of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptized upon the profession of our faith in Christ, are convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union and a communion among us, and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other, we therefore propose to keep orders and rules of our Association, according to the following plan or form of government:

1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches of our Union, and each church is entitled to three messengers. All ordained ministers, deacons, their wives and church clerks of our faith and order in the bounds of the Antioch Association shall be members, when present.

2. Letters from the different churches shall be prepared, read to and approved by each church conference assembled, signed by the moderator and clerk before presentation to the Association. Also to express their number in fellowship, the number received by experience, letter, recommendation or restoration, dismissed, excluded, and that have died since the last Association. Also the Moderator, amount paid the pastor.

3. The members thus chosen and convened, to be denominated the Antioch Association of Free Will Baptists, being composed of the churches of parts of Pope, Johnson, Yell, Conway, Perry, and Searcy counties, and the Association to have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor to have any ecclesiastical power over the churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church acting disorderly.

4. The Association shall have a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and Assistant Clerk, to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

5. New churches may be admitted into the Association by letter or by delegates, if found to be orthodox in the faith of the Free Will Baptists, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

6. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by the member making it.

7. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with the Minutes of this Association in proportion to the number of members in each church, the distribution being made at the discretion of the Association.

8. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the Minutes, and that we pay our Clerk \$5.00 for his services, and urge that the minutes be printed and mailed within 60 days after the Association, and that we urge each minister furnish a written report of his year's work, and especially those having care of churches.

9. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association adjourns.

10. The Association shall have a fund for her support, which shall be supplied by voluntary contributions of the different churches, whose duty it shall be to send it by the hands of the messengers, which money sent shall be deposited in the hands of the treas-

urer for that purpose, and he shall be accountable to the Association for all money received by him until paid out as they may direct.

11. The Association, in case of failure of any church to attend may inquire into the cause.

12. It is the duty of the Association to see after the union of the churches.

13. It is the sense of this Association that if a minister takes a letter from a church of this Association and neglect or refuse to place it in some church, for a period of one year, his name shall be dropped from the roll of ministers, his credentials revoked, and this Association will not recognize any work that may come under his hands as a presbyter after such time, and it shall be the duty of the Clerk after such steps have been taken by the Association, to notify the Clerk of the county in which such minister may live, or have his credentials recorded, of the action of this Association toward such minister. Any such minister who wishes to be reinstated by this Association, can do so by uniting himself with some church of this Association, and from the beginning of his membership his credentials shall be in full force, and his work recognized without again coming under the hands of a Presbytery of Elders.

14. This Association shall maintain a committee of five, to be elected by the body, which shall be known as the Examining Council for Ordination.

Those who are to be ordained must—

(1) Have preached for at least one year in the bounds of this Association.

(2) Must be set apart, and have the endorsement for ordination, by the church of which they are a member.

(3) Must have the endorsement of the ordaining council, or a majority vote of a legally called meeting of the council.

(4) Lack of endorsement by either of the above authorities will hild up any ordination.

(5) No one can serve on the committee unless he fully believes in this plan of this wark.

(6) This committee shall report to this body, while in session, the misconduct or disregard of any rule, or ordinance, set forth and practiced by the Antioch Association, and said party shall be dealt with accordingly.

15. Amendments to this plan of government may be made at any time when a majority may deem it necessary.

The Committee: Elders F. M. Hudson, W. F. McGee, W. A. Crouch, W. S. Isbell, R. G. Webb.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **GOD**—We believe in one true and living Triune God; composed of the Father, Son and Holy spirit, equal in divine essence, Purpose, Power and Glory. St. John 1:1; I Cor. 8:6; I John 5:7; St. John 10:30.

2. **CHRIST**—We believe that Jesus Christ is the divine son of God. Was with the Father and the Holy Spirit at the time of Creation, left the Courts of Heaven and came to this earth. Took upon himself the form of humanity, sin excepted, by being born to the Virgin Mary, manifested His power, was crucified, placed in Joseph's new tomb, arose from the dead the third day, completing the great plan of salvation, walked and talked with his disciples, publicly ascended up to heaven, and that he will descend again to gather his jewels home. Isaiah 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Math. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-19; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-12; Mark 15:22-41.

3. **HOLY SPIRIT**—We believe that the Holy Spirit has visited true believers in all ages and especially since the ascension of the SON back to the Father, and its coming on the day of Pentecost. Has taken up its office work among all nations of people as a Divine Reprover, Comforter and Guide. Judges 6:34; 11:29; St. John 16:8-14; Isaiah 63:10-12; Eph. 4:30; Acts 8:17-20.

4. **THE BIBLE**—We believe the Bible which is composed of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments was given by inspiration of GOD, is our waybill from earth to heaven, and only infallible rule of faith and practice. II Peter 1:19-21; II Tim. 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Math. 21:42.

5. **THE FALL OF MAN**—We believe that GOD created man good, gave him a just law by which he should be governed, with promises of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man the power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of Souls, voluntarily transgressed the law of GOD, fell with all their posterity, under the just penalty of the same, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave to them the hope of salvation through the coming of CHRIST. Gen. 1:27; Gen. 2:16-17; Rom. 11:11-35; Psalms 37:23-24; Rom. 5:18.

6. **REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION**—We believe that Jesus Christ by his birth, death, burial and resurrection and ascension, paid the purchase price of the redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come to Him upon Gospel terms; and a law or adoption into the Kingdom of Heaven, and an eternal inheritance into the glorified Kingdom above. Heb. 9:12; Gal. 3:13; 4:4-5; Titus 2:14; Heb. 1:4; St. John 3:16; Isa. 45:22.

7. **CONDITION OF SALVATION**—We believe that all persons dying in infancy and all idiots are saved by the atoning merits of the Son of GOD without any act upon their part; that persons coming to the years of accountability, transgressing the law of God, must upon their part exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father and by the Holy Spirit they pass through the ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ. John 3rd chapter; Math. 19:13-22; II Cor. 7:10; Luke 18:16-17; St. John 4:11-16; Psalms 98:3.

8. **SALVATION FREE**—We believe that God desires the salvation of all; Christ died for all; the gospel invites all; the Holy Spirit

strives with all, and whomsoever will may come and be saved upon the terms of the gospel. I Peter 1:9-13,25; 2:9-24,25; Rev. 22:17.

9. BAPTISM—We believe that christian baptism is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, in which is represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also represents our death to sin, and only those who have come under the presbytery of the elders are qualified to administer the same. Math. 3:14-15-16; I Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Math. 28:19.

10. COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING—We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of feet are ordinances of the gospel of Christ; the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour to commemorate his broken body and shed blood for the sins of the world and to show our remembrance of Him 'till He comes. All Christian's have a right to the Lord's Supper and should be invited; "let a man examine himself and so let him eat."

The washing of feet was instituted by our Lord at the same time that the supper was instituted as an act of humility to show our love for each other and both ordinances should be perpetuated by all christians until his second coming. Luke 22:19-20; I Cor-11:20-29; St. John 13:1-18; Math. 26:27, 28, 29.

11. THE SABBATH—We believe that the Christian Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest' and for the Worship of God; that we should abstain from all sinful amusements and secular employments, works of mercy and piety excepted. Exodus 20:11; Exodus 31:12-18; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Math. 28:1; Luke 23:56; Acts 13:42-48; Mark 2:27.

12. CALL TO THE MINISTRY—We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and power of grace, impresses His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call becomes irresistible with personel contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise the native gifts according to the scriptures with a full reliance upon Him; He accompanies them in the person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the way of truth and to bless their labors according to His purpose. Jonah 1:1; Jer. 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 1:22-26; Math. 28:19.

13. THE INVISIBLE CHURCH—We believe that the Invisible or Spiritual Church is the redeemed in the aggregate, is the family of God, is composed of all true christians of every congregation from righteous able to the restitution of all things, from every kindred, nation, tongue and people. Ephes. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; I Peter 2:5; Ephes. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Math. 16-18.

14. THE VISIBLE CHURCH—We believe that a visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, having obtained fellowship with the Lord and with each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and doctrine according to the rules of the gospel. II Thess. 1:1; Acts. 16:5; Third John 1:10; Math. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Rev. 1:4-11-20.

15. PERSEVERANCE—We believe that all true believers in Christ should preserve in divine grace, and in the knowledge of the truth and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in Hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from his hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but those who sidestep and wilfully refuse of neglect to perform their duty they would backslide and if persistently con-

tinued would be eternally lost. Second Cor. 9:10; Second Peter 1:4-8; I Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apotasy: Second Peter 1:8-9; First Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; First John 5:16; Heb. 6:16; First Tim. 4:1-2; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Math. 12:31-32.

16. CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH—We believe that Christ is the head of the Church, and that the government of the local church is with the body. Col. 1:18-19; Math. 16:18; Heb. 12:23; Math. 21:42; Ephes. 1:22; Acts 16:4-5.

17. SANCTIFICATION—Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration, and the christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life, constantly growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. I Cor. 6:11; II Thes. 2:13; Heb. 12:14; Phil. 3:21; Second Thes. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; Sec. Tim. 2:20-21.

18. THE SOUL—The soul is endless, hence does not die with the body, but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery according to the spiritual character here possessed. Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:42; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16:19-25 Math. 10:28.

19. THE RESURRECTION—We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the righteous and the wicked. When the resurrection shall take place, the soul and the body shall be reunited, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God forever; but the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment. Math. 28:6; St. John 5:28-29; I Cor. 15:51-58.

20. JUDGMENT—We believe that there will be a general, universal judgment, when all men shall be judged according to their works whether they be good or bad, and that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment and the righteous into eternal happiness. II Thes. 1:4-19; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; II Cor. 5:10; Math. 12: 36-37; Rev. 20:12-13; Acts. 17:31.

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. Those who speak shall rise, address the Moderator, and personal reflections shall be avoided.

3. All motions made and seconded shall be opened for discussion, but debate may be cut off at any time by a majority of the members of the Association.

4. If any proposition or motion under debate, contain two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.

5. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded in the minutes unless so ordered at the time.

6. No one shall speak more than once on the same subject without special leave from the body.

7. All questions shall be decided by a majority of the members present.

8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the Moderator.

9. At the future sessions of the Association arrangements shall be made, so as to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises which shall be equivalent thereto; and the chair shall announce just before adjournment who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.

10. Changes may be made in these rules at any regular meeting of the Association.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory sermon.
2. Association shall be called to order by the Moderator, or in his absence by the Assistant Moderator, or Clerk.
3. Letters from the churches of this Association called for, read and messengers invited to seats.
4. Right hand of fellowship.
5. Call for letters from newly organized churches.
6. Corresponding Associations.
7. Election of permanent officers.
8. Reading Rules of Order and minutes of last Association by the chair or clerk.
9. Appointment of the following committees: (a) Resolution; (b) Finance; (c) Divine Service; (d) Temperance; (e) Sabbath Schools; (f) Obituaries; (g) Non-represented Churches; (h) Union of Churches.
10. Reports of committees holding over from last Association, and other unfinished business.
11. Report of new committees.
12. New business.
13. Adjournment.

CHURCH DISCIPLINE

When seven or more Christians wish to be united into a Free Will Baptist Church organic body, a committee of three or more, composed of one ordained minister, one deacon, and one layman, with others, who are members of churches within the bounds of the Association where said church is being organized, by authority here invested, shall examine the applicants, as to the faith and doctrine of the Free Will Baptists and if found to be orthodox, will proceed as follows:

- (1) The Bible is presented as the only rule of faith and practice.
- (2) The Church Covenant is read.
- (3) A prayer of consecration is offered.
- (4) The hand of fellowship is given.

(5) The church then proceeds to elect its officers: A clerk, a treasurer, a pastor, and two deacons. Other deacons may be elected and and ordained as the church grows or when a vacancy occurs.

Pastor—The pastor is to be elected for the period of one year, by a majority vote of members present at a regular or stated meeting. His time will expire at the setting of each annual Association. He is to be moderator at all church meetings when present and exercises all rights as far as his office provide.

Clerk and Treasurer—The clerk and treasurer are to be elected in the same way and at the same time as the moderator. They are to keep a record of all the business proceedings of the church: Roll of membership, minutes of conference meetings, and all funds collected and paid out by the membership.

Deacons—Special care should be taken by the church in the selection of deacons. First Tim. 3:8 to 13 gives some of the qualifications pertaining to deacons that should be heeded. They are elected by a majority vote of the church and ordained to office by a presbytery of three, one of which should be a minister. They serve their church during their lifetime unless relieved by the church for some grievance or disorderly act.

Duties of Deacons—They are to assist at baptizings, the Lord's Supper, and Feet Washing, conduct religious meetings, moderate church when the conference by a majority vote grants the request support of the church in its benevolence, look after the spiritual interest of the church in general.

Members Received—Applicants are received into the church by a majority vote of members present in a church conference if they acknowledge their sins forgiven and believe in Jesus Christ.

Members Dismissed—Members may receive letters only when in good standing with the church; and cease to be members of the church when the conference by a majority vote grants the request and authorizes the clerk to write the letter, signed by moderator and clerk. Request for letters of dismissal should be made at a conference meeting or in writing through the church clerk, stating the cause for the request.

Members dismissed, dropped, excluded or severed in any other way from the church, it should be for legal and just cause and done in church conference by a majority vote of members present at a regular meeting.

Church may be disbanded for the same rules under which they were organized, when they cease to function properly as churches; failing to hold a conference meeting for the period of one year and by consent of the majority of members living near the church at the time.

Quarterly meetings and annual Associations are organized and disbanded by the same rules of authority as the local church; except when a majority of the churches vote to unite with another quarterly meeting or Association.

Property deeded to, and owned by the Free Will Baptist, shall be under the supervision of the local church worshipping in that locality or using said property. For any legal or just cause of its proper use it may be disposed of for the benefit or said church, by public sale and the proceeds put into the treasury of the Association where the property is located, and can only be used to build or repair churches in the Association.. The Executive Committee of the Association shall have the authority of all business transactions.

Amendments may be made to this Discipline in Annual Conference of the Association.

MINISTER'S DIARY

R. L. Taylor, Hector
W. F. McGee, Russellville
W. S. Isbell, Russellville, R. 2
J. A. Venable, Dumas, R. 1
J. D. Coffman, Hector
R. G. Webb, Russellville, R. 4
C. V. Kinder, Russellville, R. 4
Dewek Kinder, Caglesville
P. E. Denton, Scranton
R. M. Johnson, Russellville, R. 4
A. J. Latham, Russellville, R. 2
T. V. Johnson, Russellville, R. 4
R. B. Venable, Atkins, R. 3
John Reel, Tulsa, Okla., R. 5
F. M. Hudson, Moreland
Ellis Warren, Russellville, R. 4
Lytle Hallum, Hector

Melvin Snow, England
Charley Daughett, Atkins, R. 3
E. F. Flowyer, Russellville, R. 2
E. Henderson, Carruthersville, Mo.
R. L. Rainwater, Scranton
Frank Harris, Russellville, R. 2
W. A. Crouch, Hector
M. A. Thompson, Jerusalem
Dave Thompson, Jerusalem
A. F. Banks
Edgar Alderson, Clarksville
E. L. Hill, Atkins
Clarence Tillman, England
Coy Douthett, Atkins, R. 3
Hershel Burris, Oklahoma
Avough Vaughn, Hector, R. 1
G. Z. Claybourn

CHURCHES	Moderator Last Year	Moderator This Year	Clerk and Postoffice	Dismissed	Received	Excluded	Died	Sunday School	League	Prayer Meeting	Day of Meeting	Minute Fund	Paid Pastor	Paid other Ministers	Total Paid Out	Membership
Slaty Crossing	W. F. McGee	W. F. McGee	Bill Fink, Dardanelle, R. 3		8	14	1	Yes			3	\$4.50	\$75.94	\$28.00	\$450.00	141
Oak Grove NO.2	Ellis Warren	Dewey Kinder	Mary Johnston, Russellville, R.2	2	1		1	Yes		Yes	1	4.50	48.00		48.00	106
Walnut Grove	J. D. Coffman	W. E. Coffman	C. T. Marable, Hector	2	1		3	Yes	Yes		1	4.50	24.15	20.75	64.90	92
Union Grove	E. L. Hill	E. L. Hill	Edith Whittenburg, Atkins		9		2	Yes	Yes	Yes	2	4.50	122.00	48.18	396.18	92
Welcome Home	R. G. Webb	R. G. Webb	Arizona Crouch, Hector		3		1	Yes			4	4.50	92.25		92.25	72
Harmony	R. G. Webb	W. S. Isbell	J. M. Sparks, Russellville, R.2		7		1	Yes	Yes		1-3	4.50	127.00	12.50	139.50	66
Mt. Home	W. F. McGee	W. F. McGee	Ben Chronistes, Lamar					Yes			1	4.50	122.15	75.00	197.15	53
Hickory Grove	W. S. Isbell	W. S. Isbell	Maynard Myres, Casa, R. 1		9			Yes			3	4.50	153.65	35.90	189.55	60
Pine Ridge	W. F. McGee	W. F. McGee	Willie Standridge, Atkins, R.1		6			Yes			3	4.50	72.60	20.00	98.40	63
Haleman	W. F. McGee	W. F. McGee	Margeret Schlafke, Lamar, R.2					Yes		Yes	4	4.50	160.00		160.00	41
Moreland	R. G. Webb	R. G. Webb	Blanche Duvall, Moreland		3						2	4.50	59.30			45
Mt. Vernon	Willie Coffman	Willie Coffman	Dolan Burris, Russellville, R. 4					Yes			1	4.50	25.10	5.00	30.10	35
Maple Springs	J. A. Lathum	J. A. Lathum	Lois Gideon, Russellville, R. 2					Yes			4	4.50	100.00		100.00	32
New Liberty	W. S. Isbell	W. S. Isbell	Timmie Blair, Delaware, Ark.	2			1	Yes			1	4.50	90.75	23.50	114.25	32
Jerusalem																50
Dublin	R. L. Rainwater	R. L. Rainwater	W. W. White, Scranton		4			Yes		Yes	4	4.50	12.75		162.75	24
St. Joe	Willie Coffman	Willie Coffman	Ora Hopson, Atkins				4				3	4.50				80
Cherry Hill																28
Sweet Home	R. G. Webb	R. G. Webb	Charlie Compton, Atkins, R. 3				1	Yes			2	4.50	48.00		48.00	28
Shiloh																
Phoenix	J. E. Warren	J. D. Kinder	Sis. Faye Mitchell, Moreland									4.50				14
Zion Hope	W. A. Crouch	W. A. Crouch	Joyce Lathum, Imo, Ark.		20			Yes			3	4.50	60.31	67.00	127.31	20
Kimbrell Creek	W. A. Crouch	W. A. Crouch	A. O. Cottu	2				Yes			2	4.50	45.00		45.00	35