

# MINUTES

OF THE  
SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE

## *Antioch Association Of Free Will Baptists*

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HELD WITH UNION GROVE CHURCH  
POPE COUNTY, ARKANSAS  
SEPT. 11, 12, 13, 14, 1952

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Next Session Will Be Held With  
OAK GROVE CHURCH, POPE COUNTY  
Beginning on Thursday Night Before the Second Sunday  
in September, 1953

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ELD. THOMAS BREASHEARS ..... Moderator  
Russellville, Ark.

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

BRO. E. O. WRIGHT ..... Clerk and Treasurer  
Atkins, Ark.

SISTER CLYDIE COFFMAN ..... Assistant Clerk  
Hector, Arkansas

# MINUTES OF ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION

## SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

MET IN REGULAR SESSION WITH UNION GROVE CHURCH  
SEPTEMBER 11, 12, 13, 14, 1952

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### THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION

Opened with class singing by Bro. E. O. Wright, J. V. Maxwell, Sis. Mary Ruth Wright, Eld. W. S. Isbell, Gearld Don Breashears, Sis. Laverne Wright and Bonita Tyler.

Prayer by Bro. W. F. Crouch.

Song led by Bro. Ralph Whittenburg.

Introductory Sermon by Eld. Thomas Breashears. Scripture Lesson: Exodus 32:14-23. Text: "Who is on the Lord's side this day" and hand shake.

Dismissed with prayer by Eld. T. J. Robinson to meet at 9:30 a.m.

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### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Assembled with singing led by Bro. E. O. Wright, Sister Goldie Maxwell and Clydie Coffman.

Scripture lesson, 1st Psalm, read by Moderator J. D. Kinder.

Prayer by Bro. M. A. Coffman.

Song by Bro. Lester Coffman.

Letters from the churches of the Antioch Association were called for, read, and messengers invited to seats.

SLATY CROSSING—Bro. Gust Isom.

ST. JOE—Bro. Bill Duvall, Sis. Mary Ruth Wright, clerk.

UNION GROVE—Sis. Ruby Eakes, Sis. Willard Cooper, Sis. Irene Roberts; Sis. Edith Whittenburg, clerk.

OAK GROVE—Sis. Zula Hice, Sis. Nina Warren, Sis. Mary Johnston, clerk.

WELCOME HOME—Bro. J. R. Coffman, Sis. Ida Coffman.

HARMONY—Bro. Benny and Sis. Shirley Mayhan, Sis. Marie Mason.

WALNUT GROVE—Sisters Norma and Lajuana Voss.

PINE RIDGE—Sisters Donna and Huelene Dixon.

RUSSELLVILLE—Bro. Lester and Sis. Mammie Coffman and Sis. Goldie Maxwell.

HICKORY GROVE—Bro. R. S. and John Teel.

MT. HOME—Sis. Oleta Jennings.

RED OAK—Sis. Vanner Reeves and Sis. Obeta Jones.

HOLMAN—Sis. Rose Hardiman and Lottie Sparks.

JERUSALEM—Bro. Ike Adams.

DUBLIN—By letter.

ZION HOPE—

MORELAND—Bro. and Sis. Virgel Levell.

NEW LIBERTY—Bro. Hartsell and Sis. Thelma Meadows and Sis. Prue Jones.

MT. VERNON—Sis. Syble and Bro. William Chronister and Sis. Sula Mae Burris, Clerk.

MAPLE SPRINGS—Sis. Lucy and Bro. T. J. Bowden, Bro. John Harris,  
KIMBRELL CREEK—By letter.

LITTLE ROCK—Bro. Fate Farnman, Sis. Lorine Harrison, and Bro. Leo  
Robberts.

CHERRY HILL—Sis. Mabel Brown.

PHOENIX—Bro. Roy and Sis. Laverne Byrum, Sis. Alma Burris.

HECTOR—Eld. J. D. Coffman, clerk.

SWEET HOME—Bro. Cecil and Sis. Louise Fridell.

SOUTH MOUNTAIN—Sis. Vada Kimble and Sis. Ermadean Kelley. New-  
ly organized.

HONORARY MEMBERS—is. Mary Hopper, Julia Gideon, Bro. J. J. West,  
M. A. Coffman, Sisters Sallie Davis, Annie Lathum, Tennie John-  
son, Mary Coffman, Mary Moore, Nettie West, Blanche Duvall.  
Handshake, all Christians invited.

VISITING MINISTERS—Eld. Sam Ashmore, Pres., Eld. Joseph Hub-  
bard, Eld. T. H. Dixon of Randell Association, Oklahoma.

The Committee on Divine Service announced Eld. Othel Dixon to  
fill the stand at 11 o'clock.

The Association further organized by electing the following officers:  
Eld. Thomas Breashears, moderator; Eld. W. S. Isbell, assistant mod-  
erator; Bro. E. O. Wright, re-elected clerk and treasurer; and Sis. Clydie  
Coffman, assistant clerk.

Intermission.

11 o'clock: Reassembled with singing led by Bro. W. W. Crow and  
Bro. Lester Coffman.

Prayer by Eld. Othel Dixon.

Preaching by Eld. Othel Dixon.

Scripture lesson, Hosea 4:1-3.

Dismissed by prayer by Eld. R. G. Webb.

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Assembled with singing by Bro. E. O. Wright.

Scripture lesson, 1st John 3:15-22, read by Bro. J. R. Coffman.

Prayer by Eld. W. A. Crouch.

Moderator declared Association open for business.

Moderator appointed the following committee on Divine Service:  
Bro. Roy Staggs, Bro. Bob Teel, Bro. Roy Byrum, Bro. Roy McCuin, Bro.  
W. W. Crow; Resolutions: Elders Jack Lathum, J. D. Kinder and R. G.  
Webb; Finance: Bro. E. O. Wright, Bro. J. J. West, Bro. J. V. Maxwell,  
Sister Zula Hice; Temperance: Bro. M. A. Coffman, Sis. Mary Hopper,  
Sis. Goldie Maxwell; Sabbath Schools: Sis. Shirley Mahan; Sis. Sylvia  
McCuin, Sis. Jessie Robinson; Obituary: Bro. J. A. Davis, Sis. Julia Teel,  
Sis. Obeta Jones; Non-represented and Union of Churches: Eld. Ellis  
Warren, Sis. Pearl Harris, Eld. T. J. Robinson.

Resolution No. 3 adopted.

Resolution No. 2 carried over.

The Committee on Divine Service announced that Eld. R. S. Harri-  
son and R. G. Webb to fill the stand at night, and Bro. Paul Jones to  
conduct devotional service.

Dismissed by Eld. Sam Ashmore to meet at 9 o'clock Saturday.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

Assembled with class singing led by different leaders of which 45  
minutes of singing was enjoyed.

Prayer by all.

Song by Bro. W. W. Crow.

Devotional service led by Bro. Paul Jones.

Preaching by Eld. R. S. Harrison. Text: St. Luke 9:23, "If any man will come after me let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me".

Concluded by Eld. R. G. Webb.

Dismissed by Eld. T. H. Dixon.

### **SATURDAY MORNING SESSION**

Assembled with singing led by Bro. L. M. Coffman, Bro. Gust Isom. Scripture Lesson, 15th Psalm, by Moderator, Eld. Thomas Breasnears.

Song by Bro. Dan Coffman.

Moderator declared Association open for business, called for tardy letters and newly organized churches. South Mountain church, near Marshall, presented a petitionary letter and was received and messengers seated.

Report of Temperance Committee.

Partial report of Resolution Committee.

Intermission, 11 o'clock.

Assembled with singing led by Bro. Lester Coffman.

As this was Memorial Service, the Obituary Committee reported the following named Brothers and Sisters who have departed this life since our last Association:

LIBERTY CHURCH: Sis. Tinnie Deeds.

ST. JOE: Sis. Fannie Burris.

WELCOME HOME: Sis. Tinnie Sanders.

HARMONY: Sis. L. J. Stanton.

SWEET HOME: Sis. Gracie Sorrels.

RED OAK: Sis. Lizzie Sutterfield and Sis. Lizzie Fisher.

DUBLIN: Sist. Ellene Holmes.

PHOENIX: Bro. John Mitchel.

Bro. Ernest Burris and Sis. Taylor passed away during this Association.

Eld. W. S. Isbell spoke in memory of Sis. Tinnie Deeds, Bro. Leonard Russell, Bro. John Mitchel, Bro. Ernest Burris, and Sis. Taylor.

Eld. C. U. Kinder spoke in memory of Bro. Wylie Voss.

Eld. T. J. Robinson spoke in memory of Sis. Fannie Burris.

Eld. Melvin Snow spoke in memory of Sis. Ellene Holmes.

Eld. R. G. Webb spoke in memory of Sis. Tinnie Sanders, Sis. L. J. Stanton, Sis. Gracie Sorrels, Sis. Lizzie Sutterfield and Sis. Lizzie Fisher.

Concluded by Eld. M. A. Thompson. Text: Proverbs 4:4.

Handshake. Dismissed by Eld. R. G. Webb.

### **SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION**

Assembled with singing led by Sis. Mary Ruth Wright.

Scripture lesson, St. John 1:1-11, read by Bro. Paul Jones.

Prayer by Eld. Coy Douthit.

Song by Sis. Shirley Mahan.

Moderator declared Association open for business. Resolution No. 2 tabled.

Motion made and carried to appoint a committee to serve in valuing the church property of the Antioch Association: Bro. E. O. Wright.



Eld. W. F. McGee and Eld. J. D. Coffman.

Report of Non-represented churches - accepted.

Report of Sabbath Schools - accepted.

Report of Mimeograph Committee accepted. Voted to retain committee. A vote of thanks for Bro. Henry Brown for last minute work.

Committee on Divine Service announced that Bro. Henry Teel conduct devotional service, and Eld. T. H. Dixon fill the stand at night.

Moderator declared nomination in order for home of next Association. Oak Grove was selected to meet in 1953. Eld. Paul Jones to preach introductory sermon and Eld. W. S. Isbell, alternate.

Election of state delegates: Sis. Goldie Maxwell, Sis. Clydie Coffman, Bro. Bob Haralson, Sis. Daisy Fabus, Sis. Mary Ruth Wright; alternates, Sis. Pearl Harris, Sis. Prue Jones, Sis. Ruby Robinson, Sis. Lucy Bowden, and Sis. Sylvia McCuin.

Dismissed by Eld. T. J. Robinson.

### **SATURDAY NIGHT SESSION**

Assembled with singing.

Prayer by all.

A collection of \$65.41 was taken up for Sweet Home church.

Song by Eld. E. L. Hill, "This Old World Is Not My Home."

Devotional service conducted by Uncle Henry Teel.

Special song by Anna Sue Hopson.

Preaching by Eld. T. H. Dixon of Oklahoma. Text, Hebrew 9:28, "So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many: and unto them that look for him shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.

Resolution of thanks. Be it resolved that we the officers and delegates and visiting members of this Association wish to extend to Union Grove church and community a rising vote of thanks for their kindness and hospitality shown us while in their midst. We pray God's richest blessings upon all in attendance.

Dismissed by Eld. W. F. McGee.

### **SUNDAY MORNING SESSION**

After Sabbath School, assembled with singing, led by Eld. E. L. Hill and Bro. Ralph Whittenburg.

Prayer by Eld. Tom Johnson.

Preaching by Moderator, Eld. Thomas Breashears. Text: There is Power in the Blood.

Handshake.

Dismissed by Eld. Tom Johnson.

Eld. Thomas Breashears, Moderator

Bro. E. O. Wright, Clerk and Treasurer.

### **REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following report:

We find the great alcoholic, intoxicating liquors an immoral standard to us as a nation from a moral standpoint, that its influence leads to great crime and a great hindrance to the church. We as a denomination ask our membership and our entire churches of the Antioch Association of Free Will Baptist to use their influence against intoxicating liquors in all its forms and to abstain from its use as a beverage.

its forms and to vote against its sale.

Committee, Grandma Hopper, Sis. Goldie Maxwell,  
Bro. M. A. Coffman.

### **Sabbath Schools**

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, find there are 23 churches reported with 1052 average attendance. We think one important thing to help increase attendance is to begin on time. We think that Sunday School is an important auxiliary of the church and parents should go with their children to Sunday School and that they should be taught the true word of God by Christian teachers. We find all represented churches have Sunday Schools.

Committee: Sister Shirley Mahan, Syvlia McCuin,  
Sis. Jessie Robertson.

### **Non-represented and Union of Churches**

We, your Committee on Non-represented Churches, find all churches represented.

We find all churches in unity and harmony one with another.

Committee, Sis. Pearl Harris, Eld. J. E. Warren,  
Eld. T. J. Robertson.

### **Committee On Resolutions**

We, your Committee on Resolutions, report as follows: Resolve to know the greatest need of Free Will Baptist in Arkansas.

Committee: Eld. A. J. Lathum, Eld. J. D. Kinder,  
Eld. R. G. Webb.

### **Finance Committee**

We, your Committee on Finance, have collected from the different churches of this Association \$60.00 for Antioch funds, \$70.00 for state funds.

Committtee: Bro. E. O. Wright, Bro. J. J. West,  
Bro. J. V. Maxwell, Sis. Zula Hice.

### **The Examaning Council for Ordination:**

Elds. W. F. McGee, W. A. Crouch, W. S. Isbell, R. G. Webb, W. E. Coffman.

## **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 graces 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 Christian 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 enterprise, 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.

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## 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, Logan, Conway, Perry, Searcy, and Pulaski counties, the Association to have no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor to have any ecclesiastical power over 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 \$10.00 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 vountary 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 treasurer 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 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 presbytery 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 said 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 hold up any ordination.

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

(6) This committee shall report to this body, while in session, the misconduct or disregard of any rule, ordinance, set forth and practiced by the Antioch Asociation, 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.

## 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; 1 Cor. 8:16; 1 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 the Cre-



ation, left the Courts of Heaven and came to this earth. Took upon Himself the form of humanity, sin accepted, by being born of 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 99:6; 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 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 1:1-921; II Tim. 14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matt. 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 and punishment for disobedience. Gave man 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 37:23-23; 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 of 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 an ordeal of regeneration, are washed in the blood of the lamb and are planted in the Kingdom of Christ. John 3rd chapter; Matt. 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:9-13, 25; 2:9-24; 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 elders are qualified to administer the same. Matt. 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 Savior to commemor-

ate His broken body and shed blood for the sons of the world, and, to show our remembrance of Him till He comes. All Christians 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. 20-29; St. John 13:1-18; Matt. 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; Matt. 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, impressed His ministers with the burden of lost souls, to the extent that the call become irresistible with personal contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise their 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; Matt. 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; Matt. 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 Thes. 1:1; Acts 16:5; Third John 1:10; Matt. 18:17; Acts 20:28; Rev. 1:4-11-20.

15. **PERSEVERANCE**—We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere 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 willfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty, they would backslide and if persistently continued, would be eternally lost. Second Cor. 9:10; Second Peter 1:4-8; I Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy: 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; Matt. 12:31-32.

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

17. **SANCTIFICATION**—Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleaned from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in regeneration. 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; Sec. 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 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16-19-25; Matt. 10:28.

19. **THE RESURRECTION**—We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both of righteous and wicked. When the resurrection shall take place, the soul and 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. Matt. 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. 1:4-13; Rev. 14:9-13; Acts 17:31; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; II Cor. 5:10; Math. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13.

### **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 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 provides.

**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 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. 8-13 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 letter 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 a letter, signed by the moderator and clerk. Re-



quest 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 one 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 of using said property. For any legal or just cause or its proper use, it may be disposed of for the benefit of 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.

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### MINISTERS DIARY

W. F. McGee, Russellville  
W. S. Isbell, 605 East F St.,  
Russellville  
R. L. Taylor, Hector  
Frank Harris, Rt. 2, Russellville  
J. A. Venable, Rt. 1, Dumas  
J. D. Coffman, Hector  
R. G. Webb, Atkins  
C. U. Kinder, Rt. 4, Russellville  
J. D. Kinder, Caglesville  
P. C. Denton, Scranton  
A. J. Latham, Rt. 2, Russellville  
T. V. Johnson, Rt. 4, Russellville  
R. B. Venable, Rt. 3, Atkins  
Ellis Warren, Rt. 4, Russellville  
Lytle Hallum, Hector  
Melvin Snow, England

Charley Douthit, Rt. , Atkins  
E. Henderson, Carruthersville, Mo.  
W. A. Crouch, Hector  
M. A. Thompson, Jerusalem  
A. F. Banks, Rt. 1, Atkins  
Edgar, Alderson, Clarksville  
E. L. Hill, Rt. 2, Atkins  
Clarence Tillman, England  
Coy Douthit, Atkins  
Hershel Burris, Rt. 4, Russellville  
Auvaugh Vaughn, Moreland  
G. Z. Claybourn -  
W. E. Coffman, Russellville  
T. J. Robertson, Dover, Rt. 3  
J. E. Phillips, Rt. 4, Marshall  
John Parks, Rt 1, Morrilton  
Thomas Breashears, Russellville

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### RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded with a prayer.
2. Those who speak shall rise, address the Moderator, and personal reflections shall be avoided.

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

4. If any proposition or motion under debate contains 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 on 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. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular meeting of the Association.

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### ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory sermon.

2. Association called to order by Moderator, in his absence, 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) Obituary; (g) Non-represented and Union of Churches.

10. Report of Committees appointed at last Association and other unfinished business.

11. Report of new committees.

12. New business.

13. Adjournment.

| Churches               | Moderator<br>Last Year | Moderator<br>This Year | Clerk and Postoffice             | Received | Dismissed | Sun. School<br>Attendance | League | Minute<br>Fund | Paid Pastor | Paid Other<br>Ministers | Total<br>Paid Out | Days Of<br>Meeting | Membership |
|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------------------|--------|----------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------|
| Slaty Crossing         | J. D. Kinder           | J. D. Kinder           | Lola Fay Crawford, Dardanelle    | 4        | 1         | 101                       | 65     | \$ 5.00        | \$147.50    | \$ 69.90                | \$ 217.40         | 1-3                | 167        |
| St. Joe                | T. J. Robinson         | T. J. Robinson         | Mary Ruth Wright, Atkins         |          | 4         | 35                        |        | 5.50           | 128.29      | 113.07                  | 253.37            | 3                  | 82         |
| Union Grove            | J. D. Kinder           | J. D. Kinder           | Edith Whittenburg, Atkins        | 9        | 1         | 70                        | 60     | 5.50           | 310.08      | 348.00                  | 1248.00           | 2-4                | 135        |
| Oak Grove              | Curtis Libarger        | Curtis Libarger        | Mary Johnston, Russellville R. 4 |          | 3         | 32                        |        | 5.50           | 306.00      | 10.00                   | 316.00            | 1                  | 122        |
| Welcome Home           | R. G. Webb             | T. J. Robinson         | Arizona Crouch, Hector R. 1      | 6        |           | 55                        | 40     | 5.50           | 209.00      | 194.50                  | 1028.25           | 4                  | 114        |
| Harmony                | T. Breashears          | T. Breashears          | Egbert D. Barton, Russellville   | 6        | 9         | 45                        | 25     | 5.50           | 405.43      | 40.85                   | 891.28            | FT                 | 86         |
| Walnut Grove           | C. U. Kinder           | C. U. Kinder           | Willadean Biffle, Hector         | 7        |           | 35                        | 35     | 6.50           | 103.48      | 3.00                    | 183.48            | 1                  | 80         |
| Pine Ridge             | J. T. Robinson         | T. J. Robinson         | Donna Dixon, Atkins, R. 1        | 1        |           | 40                        | 30     | 5.50           | 102.00      | 72.00                   | 474.00            | 2                  | 87         |
| Russellville           | Othel Dixon            | Othel Dixon            | Fay Magness, Russellville, R 3   | 39       |           | 110                       | 70     | 5.50           | 1535.00     | 100.00                  | 1635.00           | FT                 | 113        |
| Hickory Grove          | R. G. Webb             | R. G. Webb             | Mrs. F. E. Forbes, Casa          |          | 1         | 40                        | 35     | 5.50           | 185.00      | 90.00                   | 294.00            | 1                  | 75         |
| Mt. Home               | Othel Dixon            | T. J. Robinson         | Freedra Townsend, Hagerville     |          |           | 52                        |        | 5.00           | 190.00      |                         |                   | 1                  | 63         |
| Red Oak                | Coy E. Douthit         | R. G. Webb             | Cora Watts, Marshall R. 4        | 5        | 2         | 61                        | 25     | 5.50           | 487.49      | 121.26                  | 533.12            |                    | 68         |
| Holman                 | T. Breashears          | C. U. Kinder           | Erie Crotts, Lamar               | 4        |           | 35                        | 25     | 5.00           | 416.87      | 65.00                   | 506.97            | 4                  | 57         |
| Jerusalem              | R. G. Webb             | W. E. Coffman          | Oma Clairday, Jerusalem          | 3        |           | 45                        |        | 4.50           | 160.32      |                         |                   |                    | 53         |
| Dublin                 | R. G. Webb             | R. G. Webb             | Garner Denton, Scranton          | 3        |           | 40                        | 25     | 4.00           |             | 50.00                   |                   | 2                  | 45         |
| Zion Hope              | W. A. Crouch           |                        |                                  |          |           |                           |        |                |             |                         |                   |                    |            |
| Moreland               | C. U. Kinder           | C. U. Kinder           | Blanch Duvall, Moreland          | 1        |           | 42                        |        | 5.50           | 110.80      | 20.82                   | 286.00            | 2                  | 44         |
| New Liberty            | J. D. Kinder           | Ellis Warren           | Stella Farnum, Delaware          | 10       | 1         | 30                        |        | 5.50           | 225.50      |                         | 225.00            |                    | 43         |
| Mt. Vernon             | Lytle Hallum           | Ellis Warren           | Lula Mae Burris, Russ., R. 4     |          |           | 25                        |        | 5.50           | 89.61       |                         | 89.61             | 1                  | 37         |
| Maple Springs          | Ellis Warren           | Ellis Warren           | Lois Gideon, Russellville, R. 2  | 2        |           | 30                        |        | 4.50           | 166.34      | 38.00                   | 204.34            | 2-4                | 38         |
| Kimbrell Creek         | Coy E. Douthit         |                        |                                  |          | 4         | 12                        |        | 5.50           | 78.32       | 3.25                    | 81.58             | 2                  | 22         |
| Little Rock            | M. H. Snow             | M. H. Snow             | Dovie Barnes, Little Rock        | 5        | 1         | 35                        |        | 5.50           | 225.50      | 19.86                   | 245.36            | 1-2                | 28         |
| Cherry Hill            | T. J. Robinson         |                        |                                  |          |           |                           |        | 1.50           |             |                         |                   |                    |            |
| Phoenix                | C. U. Kinder           | C. U. Kinder           | Nola Bruce, Dover, R 3           |          | 1         | 30                        |        | 5.50           | 52.16       | 13.66                   | 65.82             | 3                  | 15         |
| Hector                 |                        | W. E. Coffman          | J. D. Coffman, Hector            | 1        |           | 30                        |        | 5.50           | 212.36      | 63.57                   | 475.93            | 2-3                | 14         |
| Sweet Home             |                        |                        |                                  |          |           |                           |        | 5.50           |             |                         |                   |                    |            |
| South Mtn.             |                        | W. A. Crouch           | Vada Kimbrell, Watts             |          |           |                           |        | 5.50           |             |                         |                   |                    | 12         |
| <i>Prayer Meetings</i> |                        |                        |                                  | 106      | 28        | 1033                      | 425    |                | 6,847.24    | 1,436.72                |                   |                    | 1590       |

EXCLUDED: None; Died: St. Joe 1, Welcome Home 1, Harmony 1, Walnut Grove 1, Russellville 1, Mt. Home 1, Red Oak 2, New Liberty 1, Phoenix 1 - Total 10.

Prayer Meetings - 8.  
Total Value of Church Properties - \$51,205.00.

*Kennwood*