

**MINUTES
OF THE ONE HUNDRED
FIFTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

**Held with Slaty Crossing
Yell County, Arkansas
July 6-8, 2006**

**NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD WITH
CLARKSVILLE FIRST
Johnson County, Arkansas**

**BEGINNING ON THE THURSDAY NIGHT
BEFORE THE SECOND SUNDAY IN JULY 2007
JULY 5-7, 2007**

*Denver Robinson Moderator
Casa, AR*

*Herb Tilley Assistant Moderator
Knoxville, AR*

*Robert Williams Clerk
Springfield, AR*

*Jimmy Williams Assistant Clerk
Solgohachia, AR*

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Robert Williams Clerk
Springfield, AR

Jimmy Williams..... Assistant Clerk
Solgohachia, AR

ORDAINED MINISTERS CURRENTLY PASTORING

Wayne Brown, 403 NW 7th, Atkins, AR 72823 479-641-0183

Jamie Burris, 1286 Hartwick Lane, Atkins, AR 72823 479-641-0345

Jeffery Burris, 1900 Buttermilk Road, Russellville, AR 72802 479-284-5115

Jimmy Chronister, 1476 Buttermilk Road, Russellville, AR 72802 479-284-5551

Emery Crossland, 7011 Reece Drive, Hensley, AR 72065 501-888-2697

Wayne Douthit, 23215 Tiffany Drive, Mabelvale, AR 72103 501-602-2408

Mike Galloway, P.O. Box 77, London, AR 72847 479-293-4931

Glendon Garrison, 227 Cedar Lane, Hector, AR 72843 479-284-2701

Freddy Goates, 1795 Buck Mountain Road, Dover, AR 72837 479-331-1415

Leon Hill, 3979 Highway 9, Springfield, AR 72157 501-354-4128

Geno Johnston, 9350 SR 105, Atkins, AR 72823 479-641-7934

Charles King, 10278 Ramblers Lane, Dardanelle, AR 72834 479-576-4388

George Latham, 1504 N. Knoxville, Ave, Russellville, AR 72801 479-968-5077

Johnny McCoy, 6200 Crow Mountain Road, Russellville, AR 72802 479-890-5328

Jim McNutt, 3235 State Highway 247, Atkins, AR 72823 479-641-2805

Denver Robinson, 297 Highway 247, Casa, AR 72025 501-727-5432

Taft Standridge, HC 30 Box 350, Pelsor, AR 72856 479-567-0752

Herb Tilley, 365 County Road 1699, Knoxville, AR 72845 479-885-2015

Bobby Wells, 10205 Bermuda Lane, Dardanelle, AR 72834 479-576-4081

Robert Williams, 3894 Highway 9, Springfield, AR 72157 501-354-4857

ORDAINED MINISTERS NOT CURRENTLY PASTORING

Terry Anthony, 700 Mount Vernon Road, Russellville, AR 72802 479-284-3076

Darrell Barnes, 2145 St. Joe Road, P.O. Box 433, Atkins, AR 72823 479-641-8819

Jerry Burris, 1900 Buttermilk Road, Russellville, AR 72802 479-284-5115

Shane Chancellor, 263 Highway 154, Casa, AR 72025 501-727-6414

Bobby Joe Chronister, 7242 SR 164 E., Dover, AR 72837 479-331-2263

David Duvall, 6467 SR 105 N., Atkins, AR 72823 479-857-6682

John David Keeling, P. O. Box 113, Centerville, AR 72829 479-576-4216

Ellis McCuin, 1106 W. 19th Terrance, Russellville, AR 72801 479-968-3365

Kenny McDaniel, HC 76 Box 285, Marshall, AR 72650 870-448-3770

Ronnie Morris, 162 M&M Road, Center Ridge, AR 72027 501-215-7554

Eugene Parham, 700 East 8th Street, Russellville, AR 72801 479-967-9827

Brian Rose, P.O. Box 659, Ola, AR 72853 479-489-3201

Jimmy Williams, 3735 Highway 9, Solgohachia, AR 72156 501-354-3947

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bro. Johnny McCoy.....	5 years
Bro. Denver Robinson	4 years
Bro. Bobby Wells	3 years
Bro. Herb Tilley.....	2 years
Bro. Jimmy Williams.....	1 year

With the Moderator and Clerk

EXAMINING COMMITTEE FOR ORDINATION

Bro. Johnny McCoy.....	5 years
Bro. Denver Robinson	4 years
Bro. Bobby Wells	3 years
Bro. Herb Tilley.....	2 years
Bro. Jimmy Williams.....	1 year

HOME MISSION BOARD

Bro. Jerry Burris	5 years
Bro. Jimmy Chronister	4 years
Bro. Emery Crossland.....	3 years
Bro. Darrell Barnes.....	2 years
Bro. Charles King.....	1 year

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Bro. Barry Turnbow	3 years
Sis. Tammy Freeman.....	3 years
Sis. Belinda Adaire.....	2 years
Sis. Becky Uptigrove.....	2 years
Bro. Shane Chancellor.....	1 year
Sis. Susan Hunt.....	1 year
Bro. John David Keeling	CTS Director
Bro. Corey Adaire.....	Assistant CTS Director
Sis. Belinda Adaire & Sis. Sandy Andrews.....	Sword Drill

Association Song Director.....	Bro. Jerry Burris
Assistant Song Director.....	Bro. Jimmy Chronister

Please note the following break down of fees to be sent to Antioch Association.

Antioch Minutes	\$40.00
Executive Board Expenses	\$10.00
State and National Fees	<u>\$130.00</u>
	\$180.00

NOTE: Quarterly Meeting times are the last Friday night and Saturday of January, April, and October.

NOTE: The Association Revival begins the Monday night following the second Sunday in April.

NOTE: All meetings of the Antioch Association except Youth Rallies will begin at 7:30 for night services and 10:00 for morning services. The Youth Rallies begin at 6:30 P.M.

NOTE: In order to host the upcoming Association or Quarterly Meeting, the church should request it in their letter.

NOTE: At the Association Meeting, the body will choose where the Association Revival will meet.

NOTE: For the Annual Association Meeting

Host Church Receives\$200.00

Clerk Receives.....\$150.00

Assistant Clerk Receives.....\$75.00

NOTE: For Quarterly Meeting

Host Church Receives\$40.00

Clerk Receives.....\$25.00

Assistant Clerk Receives.....\$25.00

2006 Treasurer's Report

General Fund.....\$1041.79 (minutes not paid for yet)

CTS Fund\$683.48

Revival Fund.....\$280.73

Home Mission Fund.....\$10,920.93

THURSDAY NIGHT, JULY 6, 2006

The 115th Annual Antioch Association Meeting was opened by the assistant moderator, Bro. Jimmy Chronister. Prayer was led by Bro. Gary Adaire. We were encouraged to continue in the way. Bro. Denver Robinson, Host Pastor, was called to welcome us to this session. Bro. Jerry Burris led the congregation in singing "Down On My Knees"; "That's Why I Love Him So"; "I Want to Know More About My Lord"; and "Help My Lord To Stand". Sis. Rhonda Reece sang, "Bend In The River" and "Because He Loved Me" for our special singing. Bro. Jimmy Chronister asked for prayer requests. After several were shared, altar prayer was led by Bro. Leon Hill. Service was turned to Bro. Jimmy Williams for the message. He stressed his appreciation for the opportunity to preach. His text "I pray for them that shall believe on me" from John 17:15-23 with key verse being verse 20. Other scripture referenced was 1 Samuel 12:6-25. The message had seven points that encouraged us to examine where we were and what we desired in our service for the Lord. A moving and challenging message was given. Bro. Jerry Burris brought a song of invitation "Trust and Obey". Bro. Jimmy Chronister reminded us to return at 10:00 Friday. Bro. Jamie Burris prayed the dismissal prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 7, 2006

Bro. Jim Chronister called the service to order with prayer by Bro. Emery Crossland. Bro. Jim Chronister read Psalm 124 as our devotional. Bro. Jerry Burris led "Bearing The Cross To Win The Crown". Bro. Jim Chronister called for the reading of the letters. These were read and delegates were seated with the right hand of fellowship. The following delegates and churches were present:

Antioch	By Letter
Atkins First	Bro. Chuck McCoy*
Bakers Creek.....	By Letter
Ben Hur.....	Sis. Marsha Willis
Benton First	By Letter
Cherry Hill.....	Sis. Pat Bird
Clarksville First.....	Sis. Melody Williams, Sis. Samantha Williams
Dover	Sis. Barbara Harbour, Sis. Nell Bretta
Faith.....	By Letter
Hickory Grove	Sis. Aline Robinson, Sis. Terri George, Sis. Ruby Smith
Holman	Sis. Jo Lemly, Sis. Karen Marvel
Johnson	Sis. Tracy Liles, Sis. Kristie Gray
Maple Springs.....	By Letter
Morrilton First	By Letter
Mount Vernon.....	By Letter
New Life	None Present
Ola	Sis. Sue Pyburn, Sis. Ruby Benefield
Pine Ridge.....	None Present
Saint Joe.....	By Letter
Slaty Crossing.....	Bro. Jiggs Adaire
Smith Springs.....	By Letter
Sweet Home.....	Sis. Alma Chance, Sis. Johnnie Barrett

* A motion was made and approved to add Bro. Chuck McCoy to the Atkins First delegate list.

A letter was read from the Hector Church requesting to be dropped from the Association. This was granted and the clerk was directed to send a letter of confirmation.

The clerk and assistant clerk were elected as follows:

Clerk/Treasurer.....	Bro. Robert Williams
Assistant Clerk.....	Bro. Jimmy Williams

Bro. Jimmy Williams read the Rules of Order.

The following committees were appointed:

RESOLUTION

Bro. Denver Robinson, Bro. Herb Tilley, Bro. Brian Rose

FINANCE

Sis. Pat Bird, Sis. Betty Tilley, Sis. Aline Robinson

OBITUARY

Sis. Vivian Hill, Bro. Johnny McCoy, Sis. Melody Williams

NON-REPRESENTED AND UNION OF CHURCHES

Sis. Sue Pyburn, Sis. Mary Chronister, Bro. Chuck McCoy

TEMPERANCE

Bro. Jiggs Adaire, Sis. Alma Chance, Sis. Melba Williams

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sis. Barbara Harbour, Bro. John David Keeling, Sis. Marsha Willis

The Clarksville church was the only church to ask to host the next association. Therefore it was approved to go to Clarksville for the 116th Association, July 5-7, 2007.

Worship service began with Bro. Jerry Burris leading the congregation in singing "Come and Dine"; "I Feel Like Traveling On", and "This World Is Not My Home". Specials consisted of Sis. Vickie Chronister and Sis. Rhonda Reece singing "Go Back" and Sis. Vickie Chronister sang "It Is Well". Altar prayer was led by Bro. Brian Rose. Service was turned to Bro. Robert Williams for the message. He expressed thanks for the opportunity and privilege to preach. Scriptures included 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, Isaiah 40:1-8, Matthew 18:10-14, John 14:6, Romans 6:23, and 1 Corinthians 2:1-10. The thought was there is only one message. "Jesus is the only way". We were challenged to always share the message with those around us. After a time of invitation, we were dismissed in prayer and blessing of the meal was given by Bro. Ronnie Morris.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Bro. Jim Chronister called the service to order and read Psalm 133 as our devotional scripture. Prayer was led by Bro. Fred Goates. Sis. Rhonda Reece was seated as a late delegate from Slaty Crossing Church.

Since the South Mountain Church had not reported it was suggested and approved to have the Executive Board contact them for resolution. It was later reported that their letter was in the mail.

The following reports were read and accepted:

NON-REPRESENTED AND UNION OF CHURCHES

We, the Committee on Non-Represented and Union of Churches, find that 22 churches reported. Eleven with delegates, nine by letter, and two with delegates listed but none present.

FINANCE

We, the Finance Committee, find that 22 churches sent \$180 each for a total of \$3,960.00.

TEMPERANCE

We, the Temperance Committee, had no reported cases. Follow 1 Corinthians 9:25a – “And every man that striveth for mastery is temperate in all things”.

OBITUARY

We, the Committee on Obituaries, find that fourteen souls have passed from this life since the last Association. (Two were added from South Mountain.) We want to pay again our last respects by listing them below along with their home church:

Atkins	Bro. Charlie Parker
	Bro. Jimmy Hallum
Benton	Sis. Veo McGhee
Cherry Hill	Sis. Ella Dean Brown Ballew
Hickory Grove	Sis. Rosie Surrent
Maple Springs	Sis. Edna Latham
Mount Vernon	Sis. Syble Chronister
	Bro. Teddy Cross
	Sis. Mary Ruth Wright
New Life	Bro. Gerald Taylor
Pine Ridge	Bro. Thelbert Dixon
Saint Joe	Sis. Zola Duvall
	Bro. Adam Burris
Ola	Bro. William F. “Bill” Swicegood
South Mountain	Sis. Evelyn Thompson
	Sis. Wilma Reade

Sis. Jewel Dean Chronister

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, the Sunday School Committee, report that we have 22 churches reporting Sunday School with one church not reporting.

RESOLUTION

The tabled resolution from last year was defeated at the October Quarterly Meeting.

Be it resolved that we remove from our minutes Exodus 20:11, Exodus 31:12-18, Deuteronomy 5:12-15, Ezekiel 20:12, Mark 2:27, Luke 23:56, and Acts 13:42-48 as proof text for our worship on the Lord’s Day and that we keep Matthew 28:1, 1 Corinthians 16:1, and Revelations 1:10. This resolution passed. It was also approved that we add Acts 20:7.

Be it resolved that we change Section 9 of our Articles of Faith to read, “only ordained ministers are qualified to administer the same.” This passed.

Be it resolved that we adopt the changes to our Constitution, presented by Bro. Jimmy Williams. The Constitutional changes were read, discussed, and tabled until Saturday.

It was agreed to delete #9 in the rules of order.

Bro. Leon Hill reported a very good association revival. He encouraged better support.

The following were elected to the revival committee: Bro. Brian Rose, Bro. John David Keeling, and Bro. Bobby Wells. The Atkins church will host the Revival April 9-13, 2007.

The Executive Board reported meeting with Bro. Ronnie Morris at the Ola church on Tuesday, April 11, 2006. After examining his questionnaire and his personal interview, we voted to recommend him to the association for ordination. This was approved at the April Quarterly.

Bro. Johnny McCoy was elected to the 5-year term on the Executive Board.

Home Missions Board reported no activity.

Bro. Jerry Burris was elected to the 5-year term on the Home Missions Board.

The youth report stated that \$2200 had been sent to the "Just One Thing" mission project. Also the rallies continue to be good. New officers for 2006-2007 were as follows: John David Keeling-Director; Corey Adaire-Assistant; Belinda Adaire and Sandy Andrews-Sword Drill; and Barry Turnbow and Tammy Freeman-three year board members.

Sis. Mary Chronister reported that the Women Active for Christ have had a good year. She reported six groups with real good services. She encouraged more support anywhere possible. Sis. Belinda Adaire reminded us that the National Meeting would be in Little Rock next year.

No Masters Men report was given.

No Acts 1:8 report. Bro. Jimmy Williams and Bro. Jim Chronister encouraged support of this effort.

A financial report was read and accepted.

People wanted the Newsletter to continue.

It was approved to speak in memory of Sis. Jewel Dean Chronister in the Saturday service.

After several announcements Bro. John David Keeling prayed the dismissal prayer.

FRIDAY NIGHT 7:30 P.M.

Service began by Bro. Jim Chronister with prayer by Bro. Herb Tilley. Bro. Dale Bishop, missionary to Japan, was given an opportunity to address the congregation. He thanked us for our support and challenged continued support of the Acts 1:8 program and his work in Asia and Japan. He gave a brief report on the Asian work in India, China, and Japan. A very impressive report was shared. Bro. Jerry Burris led "Revive Us Again", "I'll Live On", "Glory To His Name", "Victory In Jesus", and "In The Sweet Forever". Special music was as follows: Bro. Jim and Sis. Mary Chronister sang, "He Satisfies Me"; Sis. Aletta Robinson, Sis. Belinda Adaire, and Sis. Rhonda Reece sang, "He Touched Me"; and Bro. Jimmy Williams did a reading and sang "Coming Home". Bro. Jim Chronister called for prayer request. Several requests and concerns were shared. Bro. Leon Hill led this prayer. Bro. Terry Anthony took the stand to deliver the evening message. He expressed thanks for the opportunity and guidance from God. His title was "The Other Way". Scriptures used were John 14:6, Genesis 6, Ezekiel 37, Luke 10:25-33, and

Deuteronomy 30:19. It was a good message on the danger of choosing the other way. Bro. Jerry Burris led "Where Could I Go?" as a song of invitation. Bro. Terry again gave thanks for the opportunity. Bro. Jim Chronister challenged us to support the Association at all times. Bro. Brian Rose prayed the dismissal prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 8, 2006

Service began with Bro. Jim Chronister reading 1 Thessalonians 4:13. Bro. Thelbert Hamilton led opening prayer. Bro. Jerry Burris led "When The Saints Go Marching In" and "When We All Get To Heaven". Bro. Jeffery Burris sang "She's Not Crying Anymore". The memorial service was as follows:

Bro. Johnny McCoy spoke in memory of Bro. Charlie Parker.

Bro. Leon Hill spoke in memory of Bro. Jimmy Hallum.

Bro. Wayne Douthit spoke in memory of Sis. Veo McGhee.

Bro. Jeffery Burris spoke in memory of Sis. Ella Dean Brown Ballew.

Bro. Bobby Alexander sang "The Old Country Church" in memory of Sis. Rosie Surret.

Bro. Terry Anthony spoke in memory of Bro. Teddy Cross and Bro. Thelbert Dixon.

Bro. Kevin Haralson spoke in memory of Sis. Mary Ruth Wright.

Bro. Charles King spoke in memory of Bro. Gerald Taylor.

Bro. Geno Johnston spoke in memory of Bro. Adam Burris.

Bro. Denver Robinson spoke in memory of Bro. William F. "Bill" Swicegood.

Bro. Herb Tilley spoke in memory of Sis. Jewel Dean Chronister.

Bro. Jimmy Chronister spoke in memory of Sis. Zola Duvall, Sis. Edna Latham, and Sis. Syble Chronister. Bro. Jim closed the memorial service with prayer.

A motion was made and approved to finish business before lunch.

The following late delegates were seated: Sis. Jean Parker from the Atkins church and Sis. Debbie Roberts from the Clarksville church.

A motion was made and approved to remove resolution from the table. A motion was made and approved to adopt this resolution. This was adopted.

The Executive Board found that South Mountain had their letter in the mail.

Bro. Jerry Burris was elected as the Associational Song Leader and Bro. Jimmy Chronister was elected as the Assistant Song Director.

A rising vote of thanks was given to the Slaty Crossing Church for their hospitality.

The following were approved as Association Delegates to the State Meeting: Sis. Brenda Swicegood, Sis. Betty Tilley, Sis. Melody Williams, Sis. Aletta Robinson, and Sis. Alma Chance.

The Ministers' Diary updates were read, discussed, and approved. The Executive Board was to confirm a questionable entry.

Bro. Denver Robinson was elected as the Moderator and Bro. Herb Tilley was elected as the Assistant Moderator for 2006-2007.

Several announcements were shared and Bro. Stanley Wagoner dismissed with prayer.

Church	Moderator This Year	Moderator Last Year	Clerk and Address	Members Received	Members Dismissed	Members Died	Active Members	Total Members	Sunday School	Worship Service	Association Fees	Paid Pastor	Days of Meeting
Antioch	Mike Galloway	Mike Galloway	Debra Jennings, 755 McHenry, Russellville, AR 72802	4	3	1	58	63	31	46	180	\$15,600	FT
Atkins First	Johnny McCoy	Johnny McCoy	Dola Henderson, 403 NW 16 th St., Atkins, AR 72823	4	4	2	52	166	44	107	180	\$17,280	FT
Bakers Creek	Taft Standridge	Taft Standridge	Donna Eubanks, 114 Jackson Lane, Rsvl., AR 72802		4		5	14	14	17	180	\$1,745	FT
Ben Hur	Glendon Garrison	Glendon Garrison	Carolyn Cooper, HCR 30 Box 130A, Pelsor, AR 72856	0	4	0	16	43	17	19	180	\$4,800	FT
Benton First	Wayne Douthit	Wayne Douthit	Kevin Douthit, 10220 E Kildeer Rd, Mabelvale, AR 72103	0	1	1	15	16	17	22	180	\$5,200	FT
Cherry Hill	Jeffery Burris	Jeffery Burris	Shelby Bull, 3449 Hwy 60 W, Perryville, AR 72126	3		1	54	136	27	30	180	\$6,800	FT
Clarksville First	Robert Williams	Robert Williams	Gloria Mason, 819 CR 3701, Lamar, AR 72846	0	1	0	11	43	15	22	180	\$8,050	FT
Dover First	Herb Tilley	Herb Tilley	Alan Bradley, P.O. Box 192, Russellville, AR 72811	16	2	1	49	49	29	55	180	\$15,600	FT
Faith	Emery Crossland	Emery Crossland	Debra Butler, 21315 Chicot Rd, Mabelvale, AR 72103			1			30	45	180	\$12,000	FT
Hickory Grove		Brian Rose	Dean Robinson, 433 Hwy 324N, Casa, AR 72025			1	50	125	45	50	180	\$8,800	FT
Holman	Geno Johnston	Geno Johnston	Barbara Pearson, 3090 CR 3867, Lamar, AR 72846	11			24	73	30	35	180	\$7,100	FT
Johnson		Darrell Barnes	Betty Stovall, 14348 E SH 197, Scranton, AR 72863	2			14	35	20	20	180	\$13,050	FT
Maple Springs	George Latham	George Latham	Billie Evants, 1992 Maple Springs Rd, Rsvl, AR 72802	3	0	1	16	40	23	23	180	\$9,160	FT
Morrilton First	Leon Hill	Leon Hill	Becky Ward, 608 ½ W Broadway, Morrilton, AR 72110	10	0	0	19	19	15	30	180	\$4,800	FT
Mt. Vernon	Jamie Burris	Jamie Burris	Evelyn Helton, 362 Patterson Lane, Rsvl, AR 72802	14	2	3		185	80	110	180	\$15,600	FT
New Life	Charles King	Charles King	Lisa Russell, 38 Joshua Circle, Conway, AR 72032	9	0	1	38	46	26	42	180	\$8,200	FT
Ola First	Bobby Wells	Bobby Wells	Brenda Swicegood, P.O. Box 27, Ola, AR 72853	16	4	1	118	146	53	81	180	\$18,200	FT
Pine Ridge	Jim McNutt	Jim McNutt	Hazel King, 4161 Pine Ridge Rd, Atkins, AR 72823	5	2	1	15	72	21	28	180	\$7,675	FT
St. Joe	Fred Goates	Fred Goates	Virginia Virden, 1608 N Church, Atkins, AR 72823	3	6	2	40	107	30	55	180	\$10,750	FT
Slaty Crossing	Denver Robinson	Denver Robinson	Sandra Andrews, 10200 Digger Lane, Ola, AR 72853	9	8	0	50	77	45	52	180	\$17,150	FT
Smith Springs	Wayne Brown	Wayne Brown	Barbara Brown, 33 Gibson Rd, Morrilton, AR 72110	24	5		60	100	52	68	180	\$11,700	FT
South Mountain			Darlene Kelley, 3323 South Mtn. Rd., Marshall, AR 72650	0	0	2	14	23	18	18	180	\$3,840	FT
Sweet Home	Jimmy Chronister	Jimmy Chronister	Pam Ennis, P.O. Box 397, Atkins, AR 72823	4	2		25	60	25	50	180	\$5,200	FT

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the word of God as our rule and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise, by His grace, to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements 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."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and special worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances 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.

We agree to accept Christian admonition 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.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

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.

CONSTITUTION

From a long series of experience we, the Churches of Jesus Christ, being regularly baptized upon 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 of government:

- I. A. We are Amillennial in belief and wish to discourage churches in the Association from preaching those of different beliefs.
- B. We do not, and will not, allow those who have more than one living wife, (or their wives have more than one living husband), to pastor in this Association.
- C. We believe in, and practice, the ordinances of the gospel, Baptism (by immersion), the Lords Supper (open to all), and the Washing of the saints' feet.

D. We do not practice, so called evidences of the Holy Ghost, such as speaking in tongues or being slain in the spirit.

2. 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, Pulaski, and Newton 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.

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

4. The Association shall have a moderator, assistant moderator, clerk and treasurer, and assistant clerk, also an executive board, and a home mission board (composed of five members each, with one position on each board filled each year), to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present. No elected officer may succeed himself with the exception of clerk and treasurer and the assistant clerk. No person may serve on more than one board of the Association at the same time; but he may, however, serve on a board and a committee or an office at the same time.

Duties:

Moderator – To conduct services and business sessions of annual meeting

Assistant Moderator – To assist the moderator and to serve in his absence

Clerk/Treasurer – To keep minutes of annual meeting, publish the yearly minute, make all records available upon request, conduct official correspondence for the Association, and to keep an accurate account of all Association funds.

Assistant Clerk – To assist the clerk and to serve in their absence

Executive Board – To serve (along with the moderator and clerk) as the association, when the association is not in session; to discipline, along with the church of which he is a member, a minister belonging to the Association, should the need arise

Home Mission Board – To gather information on churches requesting aid from the Home Mission Fund, report to the Association, and make a recommendation to the Association

5. It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes, and that we pay our clerk \$150.00 for his services and urge that the minutes be printed and mailed within 60 days after the Association. Any church hosting the Association shall be paid by the clerk \$200.00 to help defray the cost of hosting the Annual Association.

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

A. This committee shall be comprised of the members of the Executive Board.

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

- C. 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; the said party shall be dealt with accordingly.
- 7. Any minister considered for ordination into this Association must:
 - A. Have preached one year in the bounds of the Association.
 - B. Be set apart and have an endorsement for obligation by the church of which they are a member.
 - C. Have the endorsement of the Ordaining Council, or the majority of a legally called meeting of the council.
 - D. Lack of endorsement by either of the above authorities will hold up an ordination.
 - E. Be Amillennial in belief and doctrine.
 - F. Be single, or the husband of one living wife, (no previous marriages), and his wife has only one living husband (no previous marriages).
 - G. Have completed a questionnaire from the Association.
- 8. Any minister coming into the Association to pastor a church must:
 - A. Come before the examining committee. Prior to or at the next meeting of the Association, (Quarterly or Annual) from the time called to the church.
 - B. Complete a questionnaire from the Association.
 - C. Be Amillennial in belief and doctrine.
 - D. Be single, or the husband of one living wife, (no previous marriages, and his wife has no previous marriages).
 - E. It shall be the duty of the churches to comply with this resolution. A church knowingly calling a man to pastor in the Association, that does not meet the qualifications, will be set aside until it gets its house in order.
- 9. This Association shall have the right to discipline its ministers concerning the following:
 - A. Should a minister take his letter from a church in this Association and neglect or refuse to place it in a church, recognized by this Association as a legitimate Free Will Baptist 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 minister after such time.
 - B. Any minister in good standing in the Association desiring to pastor a church outside of this Association will be granted upon request a letter of recommendation within a year from his leaving this Association.
 - C. Any disciplined minister who wishes to be reinstated must be united with some church in this Association; have an endorsement from that church; and receive an endorsement from the examining committee. At such time the clerk shall be authorized to restore said credentials.
 - D. This Association will not consider for ordination or accept into the Association, any minister who is divorced and remarried or any minister who is married to a woman who is divorced and remarried. We believe this

in keeping with I Timothy 3:3-12 and Titus 1:6.

- E. When the need arises for a minister to be disciplined, the church of which he is a member shall be responsible along with the Executive Board of the Association.

10. The Association shall have a fund for its support and obligation, which shall be supplied by fees from the different churches. The money shall be deposited into the hands of the Associational Clerk/Treasurer and he shall be accountable to the Association for all money received by him until it is paid out as directed by the Association.

11. The Association shall have a fund for its support, which shall be supplied by voluntary contributions of the different churches, whose duty it shall be to send it by the hands of messengers, which money 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.

12. 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. In the event of the failure of part or all of the elected delegation to report, that said vacancy may be filled, providing some official or delegate from said church recommended others for said vacancies.

13. Letters from 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, and amount paid pastor.

14. Every motion made and seconded shall become under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by the members making it.

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

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

17. This Association cannot recognize or otherwise sanction any union between two individuals as marriage, other than that between a man and woman.

18. 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; 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 the creation, left the Courts of Heaven and came to earth. Took upon himself the form of humanity, sin excepted, 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 9:6; St. John 1:14; Luke 1:26-28; Matt. 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 His 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, King James version, 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; 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 punishments 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 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, 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 year 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. (St. John 3; 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 whosoever 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, the Holy Spirit, in which is represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also represents our death to sin, and only

ordained ministers are qualified to administer the same. (Matt. 3:14-16; I Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:47; Matt. 28:19)

10. COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING – We believe the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Savior 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 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. 11:20-29; St. John 13:1-18; Matt. 26:26-29)

11. THE LORD'S DAY – We believe that the Lord's Day (Sunday) should be observed as a day of rest for worship of God; we should abstain from all sinful amusements and secular employments, works of mercy and piety excepted. (Matt. 28:1; Acts 20:7; I Cor. 16:1-2; Rev. 1:10)

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 personal contentment; that when they yield to the call and exercise their native gifts according to the scriptures with 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 Abel to the restitution of all things, from every kindred nation, tongue, and people. (Eph. 3:16-21; Heb. 12:22-23; I Peter 2:5; Eph. 2:20-22; Acts 2:47; Matt. 16:18)

14. THE VISIBLE CHURCH – We believe that the 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; III 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 knowledge of the truth and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome 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. (II Cor. 9:10; II Peter 1:4-8; I Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35-39; Apostasy; II Peter 1:8-9; I Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; I John 5:16; Heb. 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Matt. 12:31-32; Heb. 6:16; I Tim. 4:1-2)

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; Eph. 1:22; Acts 16:4-5)

17. **SANCTIFICATION** – Sanctification is the work of God's grace by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated to Christ. It takes place in the 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; II Thes. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; II Tim. 2:20-21)

18. **THE SOUL** – We believe that 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. (Matthew 28:6; John 5:28,29; I Cor. 15:51-58)

20. **JUDGEMENT** – We believe that there will be a general universal judgement 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. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Acts 17:31; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; II Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13)

CHURCHES DISCIPLINE

When seven or more Christians wish to be united into a Free Will Baptist 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 Baptist 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 by a majority vote of members present at a regular or stated meeting. 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 annually. 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 membership.

Deacons – Special care should be taken by the church in the selection of deacons. I Tim. 3:8-13 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 committee of three ordained, 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 baptisms, the Lord's Supper, and Feet Washing, conduct religious meetings, moderate church when the conference by a majority vote grants the request, support the church in its benevolence, look after the spiritual interest of the church.

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 their letters only when in good standing with the church; and they 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. 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 a legal and just cause and done in church conference by a majority vote of members present at a regular meeting.

A church may be disbanded for the same rules under which they were organized, when they cease to function properly as a church; except when a majority of the churches vote to unite with another quarterly meeting or Association.

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 reflection shall be avoided.
3. All motions made and seconded shall be opened 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. Motion 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 vote of members present.
8. No member shall absent himself without leave of the moderator.
9. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular meeting of the Association.

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 are 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 clerk and assistant clerk.
8. Reading of rules of order by the chair or clerk.
9. Appointment of the following committees:
 - (a) Resolution (b) Finance
 - (c) Temperance (d) Sunday School (e) Obituary
 - (f) 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. Election of Moderator and Assistant Moderator for next church year.
14. Adjournment.

PASSED RESOLUTIONS

"Be it resolved that each and every resolution that is passed be recorded permanently in our minutes, by year date." 1995

"Be it resolved that any new minister coming into the Association (a newly surrendered preacher or one from another Association) bring a questionnaire filled out (available from a member church) when they appear before the Executive board." 1996

"Be it resolved that it shall be the duty of the Association clerk to write to the clerk of the Association of each church or minister, desiring to unite with the Antioch Association for a letter of good standing." AMENDMENT: The church or minister should supply the clerk with an address and phone number." 1996

"Be it resolved that Article 12, section A of our Constitution be amended." (See Constitution) 1999

"Be it resolved that we ask the "Home Mission Board" to forgive \$6000.00 debt owed to them by "The New Life Free Will Baptist Church"." 2002

"Be it resolved that we elect three for the Association Revival Committee." 2002

"Be it resolved that the letter from the churches to the Association be revised to include: Would you like to host the next Annual Association?." 2002

"Be it resolved that this article 14 be added to Constitution" (See Constitution) 2003

“Be it resolved that the Revival Committee through prayer and thought reach a decision by the January Quarterly Meeting.” 2004

“Be it resolved that the Constitution and the Articles of Faith #9 and #11 be revised as printed.” (See Constitution and Articles of Faith) 2006

Notes