

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

Held with Slaty Crossing
Yell County, Arkansas
July 7-9, 2011

NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD WITH
ANTIOCH CHURCH
Pope County, Arkansas

BEGINNING ON THE THURSDAY NIGHT
BEFORE THE SECOND SUNDAY IN JULY 2012
July 5-7, 2012

Denver Robinson *Moderator*
Casa, AR

Kirk McConnell *Assistant Moderator*
Dardanelle, AR

Robert Williams *Clerk*
Springfield, AR

Jimmy Williams *Assistant Clerk*
Solgohachia, AR

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

Held with Slaty Crossing
Yell County, Arkansas
July 7-9, 2011

**NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD WITH
ANTIOCH CHURCH**
Pope County, Arkansas

**BEGINNING ON THE THURSDAY NIGHT
BEFORE THE SECOND SUNDAY IN JULY 2012
July 5-7, 2012**

Denver Robinson Moderator
Casa, AR

Kirk McConnell Assistant Moderator
Dardanella, AR

Robert Williams Clerk
Springfield, AR

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

ORDAINED MINISTERS CURRENTLY PASTORING

Darrell Barnes, 2145 St. Joe Road, P.O. Box 433, Atkins, AR 72823 479-858-8001

Jerry Burris, 1900 Buttermilk Road, Russellville, AR 72802 479-284-5115
tgburris@yahoo.com 479-886-0109

Jimmy Chronister, 1601 Buttermilk Road, Russellville, AR 72802 479-284-5551
479-886-6047

Emery Crossland, 7011 Reece Drive, Hensley, AR 72065 501-888-2697
501-240-7928

Wayne Douthit, 23215 Tiffany Drive, Mabelvale, AR 72103 501-602-2408
wdouth@aol.com

Hank Duvall, 6866 State Highway 247, Hattiesville, AR 72063 479-641-7721

Glendon Garrison, 1431 Rushing Road, Dover, AR 72837 479-331-0701

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

Geno Johnston, 9350 SR 105, Russellville, AR 72802 479-641-7934

John David Keeling, P.O. Box 125, Centerville, AR 72824 479-576-4216
jdzorhog@yahoo.com 479-858-2734

Charles King, 10278 Ramblers Lane, Dardanelle, AR 72834 479-576-4388
479-970-0309

Kirk McConnell, 10146 Clear Lane, Dardanelle, AR 72834 479-264-5497

Johnny McCoy, 6200 Crow Mountain Road, Russellville, AR 72802 479-890-5328
johnnyfmc coy@yahoo.com 479-747-4170

Jim McNutt, 701 S.E. 6th Place, Atkins, AR 72823 479-641-2805
479-858-2368

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

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

Herb Tilley, 365 County Road 1699, Knoxville, AR 72845 479-885-2015
479-774-2367

Jimmy Williams, 3735 Highway 9, Solgohachia, AR 72156 501-354-3947
jameslutherwilliams@yahoo.com 501-215-9713

Robert Williams, 3894 Highway 9, Springfield, AR 72157 501-354-4857
melbadw@hotmail.com 501-208-1648

ORDAINED MINISTERS NOT CURRENTLY PASTORING

Kevin Haralson, 231 Hartwick Lane, Atkins, AR 72823 479-641-1022

haralson4@centurytel.net 479-747-5769

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

J.C. Kinder, 269 Pebble Branch, Russellville, AR 72802 479-968-2275

Donnie Marvel, P.O. Box 469, Lamar, AR 72846 479-885-0239

Kenny McDaniel, 337 Strawberry Hill Road, Marshall, AR 72650 870-448-3770

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

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

479-970-6590

Taft Standridge, HC 30 Box 350, Pelsor, AR 72856 870-294-5508

Bobby Wells, 26972 State Highway 154, Dardanelle, AR 72834 479-264-4425

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bro. John David Keeling	5 years
Bro. Fred Goates.....	4 years
Bro. Herb Tilley.....	3 years
Bro. Geno Johnston	2 years
Bro. Kevin Haralson.....	1 year

With the Moderator and Clerk

EXAMINING COMMITTEE FOR ORDINATION

Bro. John David Keeling	5 years
Bro. Fred Goates.....	4 years
Bro. Herb Tilley.....	3 years
Bro. Geno Johnston	2 years
Bro. Kevin Haralson.....	1 year

HOME MISSION BOARD

Bro. Charles King.....	5 years
Bro. David Mason.....	4 years
Bro. Darrell Barnes.....	3 years
Bro. Jimmy Williams.....	2 years
Bro. Wayne Douthit.....	1 year

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Bro. Kirk McConnell.....	3 years
Bro. Brian Cooper.....	3 years
Sis. Donna Rankin	2 years
Sis. Melba Williams	2 years
Bro. Brian Rose	1 year
Sis. Melody Williams	1 year
Bro. Jerry Burris	CTS Director
Bro. Robert Williams.....	Assistant CTS Director
Sis. Melba Williams	Sword Drill

Association Song Director.....	Bro. Jerry Burris
Assistant Song Director	Sis. Becky Uptigrove

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>\$180.00</u>
	\$230.00

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

2011 Treasurer’s Report

General Fund.....	\$1,178.60 (minutes not paid for yet)
CTS Fund	\$593.65
Revival Fund	\$345.13
Home Mission Fund	\$7,910.16

THURSDAY NIGHT, JULY 7, 2010

The 120th session of the Antioch Association was called to order by the moderator, Bro. Jerry Burris, challenging us to put true effort into this service. Prayer was led by Bro. Denver Robinson. Bro. Denver then gave a welcome to the Association for this meeting. Bro. Jerry recognized all the ordained and mentioned that it was a good crowd for Thursday night. Bro. Johnny McCoy led “That Glad Reunion Day” and “I Want to Know More About My Lord”. Special singing was provided as follows: Sis. Rhonda Reece, Sis. Kelli Reece Jones, and Sis. Kala Small sang “It Will Happen All Over Again”. Bro. Kirk and Sis. Felicia McConnell sang “Where Could I Go” and Sis. Sydney Andrews and Bro. Ben Burnett sang “Had It Not Been”.

Bro. Jerry led a testimony service that was enjoyed by all. Bro. Jerry then took prayer requests and altar prayer was led by Bro. Terry Latham.

Service was turned to Bro. Keith Hatton for the message. He used Galatians 2:11-16, 21 and 3:1-3 with the thought “Who Hath Bewitched You”. He challenged us to look at how we were being led, examine our fruit and labor. He shared his personal experience. He asked us to consider whether we were following God or

man. Bro. Keith closed with prayer asking God to move on the congregation. Bro. Jerry called for announcements, after several were shared, he challenged us to do things according to God's leadership. Bro. Johnny McCoy prayed the dismissal prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 8, 2011

The moderator, Bro. Jerry Burris, opened the service with prayer by Bro. Leon Hill. Bro. Johnny McCoy led the congregation in singing "Victory In Jesus".

Bro. Jerry called for the reading of the letters. Sis. Melody Williams came to assist clerk in keeping records. The letters 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. Raymond Pearce
Bakers Creek.....	By Letter
Ben Hur.....	By Letter
Benton First	By Letter
Cherry Hill	Sis. Pat Bird, Sis. Naomi Maxwell
Clarksville First.....	Sis. Melody Williams, Sis. Deborah Roberts, Sis. Samantha Williams
Dover	Sis. Anna Mitchell, Sis. Barbara Harbour, Sis. Sharon Barnett
Faith	By Letter
Hector	By Letter
Hickory Grove	Sis. Ann Rowe
Holman	Bro. Kenneth Crotts
Johnson	None Present
Morrilton First.....	Sis. Brenda Dixon, Bro. Curtis Dixon Jr., Sis. Loretta Jones
New Life	Bro. Galen Hale, Sis. Rose Hale, Sis. Wanda Smith
Ola	Sis. Tracy Tucker, Sis. Ruby Benefield
Pine Ridge.....	By Letter
Saint Joe.....	Bro. James Hallum, Sis. Marilyn Hallum
Slaty Crossing.....	Sis. Gail Faulkner, Sis. Sara Adams, Sis. Sandy Andrews
Smith Springs.....	By Letter
South Mountain.....	By Letter
Sweet Home.....	Sis. Alma Chance

The clerk and assistant clerk were re-elected as follows:

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

Bro. Robert Williams read the Rules of Order.

The following committees were appointed:

RESOLUTION

Bro. Geno Johnston, Bro. Kevin Haralson, Sis. Samantha Williams

PULPIT

Sis. Gail Faulkner, Sis. Pat Bird, Bro. Curtis Dixon, Jr.

Bro. George Hyatt with Harvest Child Care Ministries gave a report on Harvest's work and accomplishments.

The pulpit committee reported that Bro. Johnny McCoy would preach the morning message and Bro. Geno Johnston would preach the Friday night message.

The clerk reminded the body their would be a clarification change in the constitution concerning questionnaires.

Worship service began with Sis. Becky Uptigrove leading "I'll Live In Glory", "I Want to Be Ready to Meet Him", "I've Never Been Sorry", and "Amazing Grace". Special music provided by the men singing "Bearing the Cross to Win the Crown" and "On the Jericho Road".

Bro. Jerry Burris turned the service to Bro. Johnny McCoy for the message. He read Acts 1:8 and challenged us to let God lead and have charge of our lives. After several examples of life changes and the need to allow God to lead, Bro. Johnny closed with prayer asking God to continue to lead, guide, and direct our lives.

Bro. Jerry stated that the meal was ready and encouraged everyone to stay for the afternoon service. Several announcements were shared and Bro. Fred Goates prayed the dismissal and blessing upon the meal.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The moderator, Bro. Jerry Burris, called the service to order with a rising vote of thanks to the host church for the meal. Bro. Cowboy Henderson led the opening prayer. Bro. Johnny McCoy led the congregation in singing "That Glad Reunion Day".

Bro. Robert Williams gave the report for the 2011 Association Revival. Bro. Clark Snow preached Monday through Thursday night and Bro. Johnny McCoy preached Friday night. It was a good revival and several visitors were in attendance. We hope and pray people will continue to support revival.

The Executive Board reported that the credential situation for Wayne Brown had been handled, Bro. Fred Goates had been elected to fill Bro. Jeffery Burris' position, and Bro. John David Keeling was elected to the five year position on this board.

The Home Mission Board reported that Holman had borrowed \$9,000 to do renovations and that they were paying this back. Bro. Geno Johnston requested the letter from Bro. Jimmy Williams concerning home missions be read. This was read by the clerk. It encourages support for this fund. Bro. Charles King was elected to the 5-year position on the Home Mission Board.

Sis. Melody Williams gave the CTS report. She told of past rallies, encouraged participation, to remember and pray for those competing at Nationals, and listed the new board members and officers for 2011-2012.

Sis. Melissa Haralson gave the WAC Report. She reported on their past meeting, churches that have WAC, and their areas of support. They are as follows: Acts 1:8, Florence Crittenton Home, 20/20/20 Project, WNAC Office, John Reed, and Hanna Project. She told of upcoming events, the National and State meetings, and invited all churches to join them.

Bro. Jerry Burris called for a motion and second to receive these reports as read. They were accepted.

There were no resolutions at this time.

A Treasurer's Report was read and accepted.

The following reports were given by the clerk:

FINANCE

Twenty-two churches sent \$230 each for a total of \$5,060.

NON-REPRESENTED AND UNION OF CHURCHES

Twenty-two churches reported, 11 with delegates, nine by letter, and one listed delegates but none were present.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

All churches reported Sunday School.

TEMPERANCE

There were no reported cases.

OBITUARY

There were 15 deaths reported since our last Association. We pay our last respects by listing them below along with their home church:

Antioch.....	Sis. Nettie Rackley
Bakers Creek	Sis. Gwendelyn Singleton
Dover First	Sis. Janice Waldo
Hector.....	Bro. Claudie McDonald, Bro. Herb Laymon, Sis. Bertha McCuin
Hickory Grove.....	Bro. Hershel Robinson, Rev. Joseph Hubbard
Holman.....	Sis. Louise Miller
New Life.....	Bro. Frank Boerner
Ola First.....	Sis. Laquita McGrew
Slaty Crossing	Sis. Louise Goats
Smith Springs	Sis. Julie Henderson, Bro. Terry Gunsolley Bro. George Latham

These reports were accepted as read.

Bro. Jerry Burris was elected as the Association Song Leader. Sis. Becky

Uptigrove was elected as the Assistant Song Leader.

Antioch agreed to host the 2012 Association Meeting.

The following were selected as our state delegates from the Antioch Association: Sis. Melissa Haralson, Sis. Belinda Adaire, Sis. Johnnie Sue Harrell.

The 2012 Revival Committee was selected as follows: Bro. Fred Goates, Bro. John David Keeling, and Bro. Charles King. The 2012 revival will meet at the Antioch Church, April 9-13, 2012.

Bro. Jerry Burris, the moderator, encouraged people to come back for the night service. Bro. George Hyatt prayed the dismissal prayer.

FRIDAY NIGHT 7:30 P.M.

Service called to order by Bro. Jerry Burris, the moderator, with prayer by Bro. Kirk McConnell. Bro. Jerry read Romans 13:11 with the thought "Closer to Home". Bro. Jerry led the congregation in singing "Down On My Knees", "When We All Get to Heaven", "I'll Fly Away", and "I Feel Like Traveling On".

Bro. Jerry asked Sis. Maize Pyburn to report on her trip to France. The trip included sight seeing, a march for Jesus, and witnessing to churches. She said she took away two things, a servant's heart and to not take advantage of what you have with God.

Special singing included Sis. Becky Uptigrove and Bro. Jimmy Williams singing "What a Savior" and "In the Garden". Bro. Jeffery Burris played "The Old Rugged Cross". Bro. Kirk McConnell sang "That I Could Still Go Free".

Bro. Jerry challenged us to remember the request from the morning service, requests for the present service, and Bro. Geno Johnston in the message. Altar prayer was led by Bro. Terry Latham.

Bro. Geno took the stand, spoke of the urgency of preaching the Word of God strong and firm, then read Luke 13:22-30 stressing verses 23 and 24, warning that judgment is coming. Bro. Geno challenged us to strive to enter in at the straight gate and to willingly carry our burdens to share God's message. He reminded us to live and die by the Word of God, judgment is coming, and good or bad God will be the judge. Only through Jesus can we be ready. Bro. Geno closed with prayer and asked Bro. Jeffery Burris to play a song of invitation. Bro. Geno thanked the committee, association, and most of all God for the opportunity to preach.

Bro. Jerry Burris thanked the committee and God's leadership for the service. Several announcements were shared. We were dismissed in prayer by Bro. John David Keeling.

SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 9, 2011

The service was called to order by the moderator, Bro. Jerry Burris. He reminded us of the purpose and sincerity of this service. Prayer for the service was led by Bro. Geno Johnston. Bro. Jerry led "Take My Hand, Precious Lord".

The memorial service was as follows:

Bro. Fred Goates spoke in memory of Sis. Nettie Rackley.

Bro. Jerry Burris spoke in memory of Sis. Gwendelyn Singleton.

Bro. Herb Tilley spoke in memory of Sis. Janice Waldo.

Bro. Jeffery Burris spoke in memory of Bro. Claudie McDonald and Sis. Bertha McCuin.

Bro. Geno Johnston spoke in memory of Bro. Hershel Robinson, Rev. Joseph Hubbard, and Sis. Louise Miller.

Bro. Charles King spoke in memory of Bro. Herb Laymon, Bro. Frank Boerner, and Sis. Julie Henderson.

Bro. Kirk McConnell spoke in memory of Bro. Terry Gunsolley and Sis. Julie Henderson.

Bro. Denver Robinson spoke in memory of Sis. Laquita McGrew and Sis. Louise Goats.

Bro. Robert Williams read John 3:16 and spoke in memory of Rev. George Latham.

Bro. Jerry Burris led the congregation in singing "Where the Roses Never Fade". He reminded us to never forget those that have gone before us.

Bro. Jerry then called for late delegates. Those seated were as follows:

Atkins First.....Sis. Sherry Pearce

Hickory Grove.....Sis. Janice Rainey and Sis.
Terri George

Holman.....Bro. Jesse Beasley, Sis.
Samantha Macraw

Bro. Jeffery Burris dismissed the service and offered the blessing on the meal.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Service called to order by the moderator, Bro. Jerry Burris, with prayer by Sis. Vivian Hill. Sis. Becky Uptigrove led the congregation in singing "In the Sweet Forever". Bro. Jerry thanked the Association for the opportunity to moderate and the excellent manner everything was conducted.

The 2011-2012 moderator was elected as Bro. Denver Robinson with Bro. Kirk McConnell as the assistant moderator.

Bro. Jerry turned service to Bro. Denver. He mentioned the memories of pleasure from the Association.

The updates to the Ministers' Diary were read, discussed, and approved.

A rising vote of thanks was given to the host church with appreciation for the meals, hospitality, and fellowship.

After several announcements, we were dismissed in prayer by Bro. Kenneth Pyburn.

Church	Moderator This Year	Moderator Last Year	Clerk and Address
Antioch	Fred Goates	Fred Goates	Charlotte Bryan, P.O. Box 10328, Russellv
Atkins First	Johnny McCoy	Johnny McCoy	Dola Henderson, 403 NW 16 th St., Atkins, .
Bakers Creek	Jerry Burris	Jerry Burris	Donna Eubanks, 114 Jackson Lane, Rsvl., ,
Ben Hur	Glendon Garrison	Glendon Garrison	Carolyn Cooper, HC 30 Box 130A, Pelsor,
Benton First	Wayne Douthit	Wayne Douthit	Kevin Douthit, 10220 E Kildeer Rd, Mabel
Cherry Hill	Ronny Morris	Ronny Morris	Shelby Bull, 3449 Hwy 60 W, Perryville, A
Clarksville First	Robert Williams	Robert Williams	Gloria Mason, 819 CR 3701, Lamar, AR 7
Dover First	Herb Tilley	Herb Tilley	Arlene Davis, P.O. Box 218, Dover, AR 7
Faith	Emery Crossland	Emery Crossland	Frances Crossland, 7011 Reece Drive, Hen
Hector		Kevin Haralson	Pearl Gregory, 12695 SR 27, Hector, AR 7
Hickory Grove		Darrell Barnes	Dean Robinson, 433 Hwy 324N, Casa, AR
Holman	Geno Johnston	Geno Johnston	Barbara Pearson, 3090 CR 3867, Lamar, A
Johnson		Jim McNutt	Betty Stovall, 14348 E SH 197, Scranton, ,
Morrilton First	Jimmy Williams	Jimmy Williams	Becky Ward, 19 Housley Drive, Plumervill
New Life	Charles King	Charles King	Marianne Smart, P.O. Box 92, Solgohachia
Ola First	J.D. Keeling	J.D. Keeling	Sue Pyburn, #2 Pyburn Lane, Casa, AR 72
Pine Ridge	Hank Duvall	Hank Duvall	Donna Davis, 3514 Pine Ridge Road, Atkin
St. Joe	Jim McNutt	J.C. Kinder	Judy Virden, 150 South Fox Run, Pottsvill
Slaty Crossing	Denver Robinson	Denver Robinson	Kelli Reece Jones, 495 Highway 247, Casa
Smith Springs	Kirk McConnell	Kirk McConnell	Johnnie Sue Harrell, 1001 Kentucky, Morr
South Mountain			Darlene Kelley, 3323 South Mtn. Rd., Mar
Sweet Home	Jimmy Chronister	Jimmy Chronister	Pam Ennis, P.O. Box 397, Atkins, AR 728

	Members Received	Members Dismissed	Members Died	Active Members	Total Members	Sunday School	Worship Service	Association Fees	Paid Pastor	Days of Meeting
e, AR 72811	7	0	1	40	45	18	45	230	\$10,400	FT
R 72823	16	0		158	201	38	180	230	\$33,600	FT
R 72802	0	0	1	12	25	14	17	230	\$4,500	FT
R 72856	0	0	0	16	41	18	20	230	\$5,950	FT
le, AR 72103				15	16	16	23	230	\$5,200	FT
72126	2		0	48	132	25	28	230	\$10,400	FT
46	0	0	0	11	46	15	24	230	\$10,650	FT
37	5	0	2	36	46	28	49	230	\$18,500	FT
ey, AR 72065	2	0	1		25	10	27	230	\$12,000	FT
843			3	25	50	25	35	230	\$13,400	FT
2025	2		2	62	127	49	52	230	\$18,225	FT
72846	10		1	42	45	38	41	230	\$10,300	FT
R 72863	0	0			33	15		230	\$11,375	FT
AR 72127	4		0	22	28	22	36	230	\$11,600	FT
AR 72156	3		1	70	70	34	52	230	\$13,130	FT
25	5	8	1		148	43	65	230	\$14,950	FT
, AR 72823	2		0	40	157	30	40	230	\$13,000	FT
AR 72858	0	0		35	87	15	35	180	\$12,050	FT
AR 72025	12	0	1	52	100	54	60	230	\$18,000	FT
on, AR 72110	8		2	42	133	30	47	230	\$10,450	FT
all, AR 72650		0			21	17	17	230	\$5,500	FT
	4	0	0	47	88	55	85	230	\$10,400	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:

1. 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 (new or returning) 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: Resolution and Pulpit
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

“Be it resolved that we omit the appointment of committees, except the Resolution Committee. If needed, the moderator will appoint the needed committees.” 2009

“Be it resolved that the Antioch Association’s Ministers’ Directory be expanded to request and include the minister’s cell phone number and e-mail address.” 2009

Notes



