

**MINUTES
OF THE ONE HUNDRED
TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

Held with Antioch Church
Pope County, Arkansas
July 5-7, 2012

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

**BEGINNING ON THE THURSDAY NIGHT
BEFORE THE SECOND SUNDAY IN JULY 2013
July 11-13, 2013**

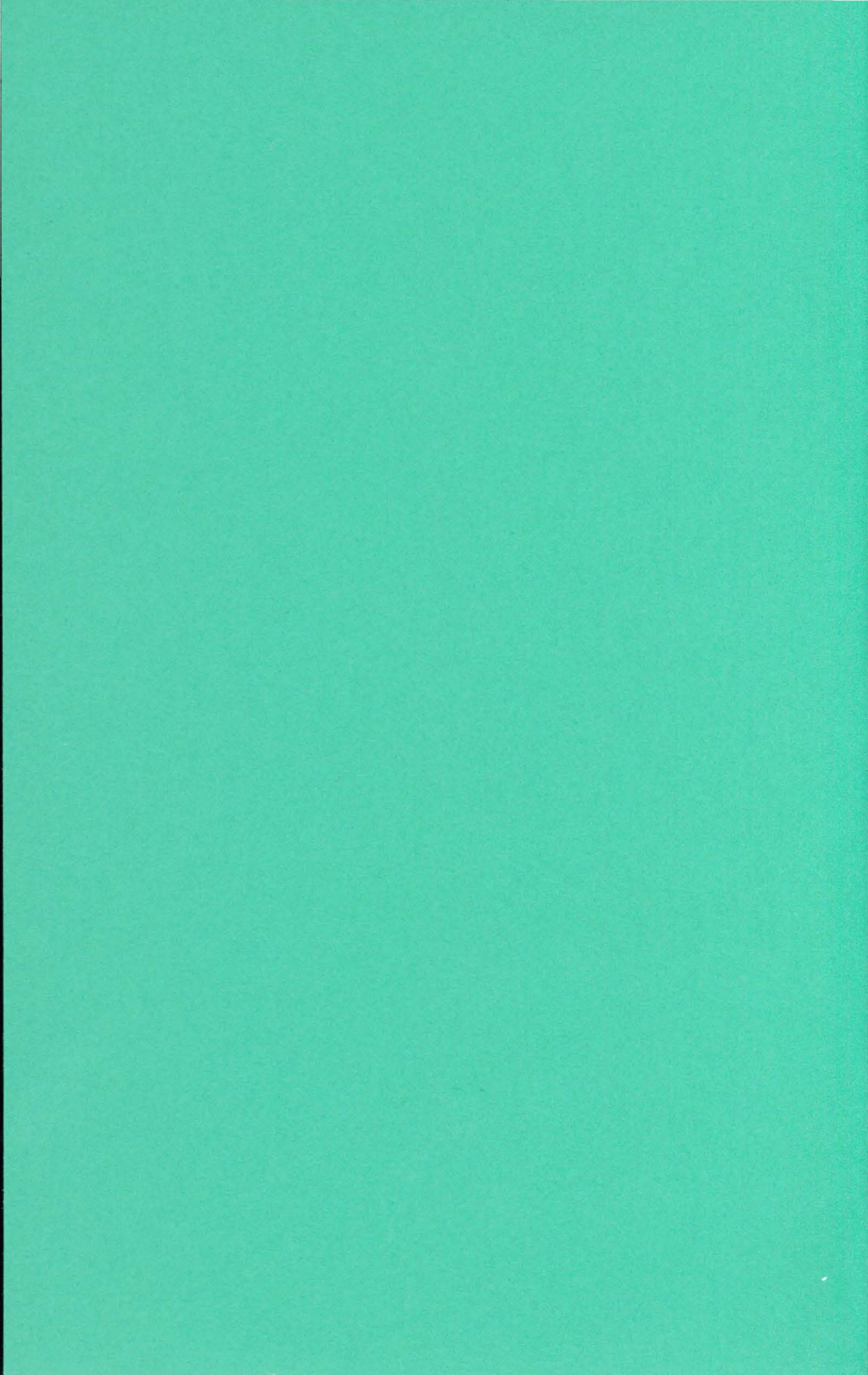
Kirk McConnell Moderator
Moderator

Dardanelle, AR

Kevin Haralson Assistant Moderator
Atkins, AR

Robert Williams Clerk
Springfield, AR

Jimmy Williams Assistant Clerk
Solgohachia, AR



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Kevin Haralson *Assistant Moderator*
Atkins, AR

Robert Williams *Clerk*
Springfield, AR

Jimmy Williams *Assistant Clerk*
Solgohachia, AR

ORDAINED MINISTERS CURRENTLY PASTORING

- 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
- Randy Chronister, 75 Condley Lake Road, Hector, AR 72843, 479-886-1941
- 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, Hattievile, 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
- John David Keeling, P.O. Box 125, Centerville, AR 72829, 479-576-4216
jdzorhog@yahoo.com 479-858-2734
- Charles King, 10278 Ramblers Lane, Dardanelle, AR 72834, 479-576-4388
479-970-0309
- Terry Latham, 305 Latham Lane, Russellville, AR 72802, 479-641-2393
terrydlatham@centurytel.net 479-970-9798
- Kirk McConnell, 10146 Clear Lane, Dardanelle, AR 72834, 479-264-5497
- Johnny McCoy, 6200 Crow Mountain Road, Russellville, AR 72802, 479-890-5328
johnnymccoy@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
- 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 501-652-1812

ORDAINED MINISTERS NOT CURRENTLY PASTORING

Jeffery Burris, 1986 South Elmira Ave, Russellville, AR 72802, 479-857-2987

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

Geno Johnston, 9350 SR 105, Russellville, AR 72802, 479-641-7934
479-857-0574

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

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

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, 1209 Highway 155N, Casa, AR 72025, 479-264-4425

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

With the Moderator and Clerk

EXAMINING COMMITTEE FOR ORDINATION

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

HOME MISSION BOARD

Bro. Arthur Harrell	5 years
Bro. Charles King	4 years
Bro. David Mason	3 years
.....	2 years
Bro. Jimmy Williams	1 year

YOUTH COMMITTEE

Sis. Maize Pyburn	3 years
Sis. Linda Mashburn	3 years
Bro. Kirk McConnell	2 years
Bro. Brian Cooper	2 years
Sis. Donna Rankin	1 year
Sis. Melba Williams	1 year
Bro. Gary Adaire	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
For the Quarterly Meetings
Host Church Receives\$40.00
NOTE: Clerk Receives\$225.00
Assistant Clerk Receives\$150.00

2012 Treasurer’s Report

General Fund.....\$1,161.65 (minutes not paid for yet)
Home Mission Fund\$10,422.08
CTS Fund\$481.85
Revival Fund\$445.13

THURSDAY NIGHT, JULY 5, 2012

The 121st session of the Antioch Association was called to order with a welcome by Bro. Fred Goates, host church pastor, encouraging us to worship and feel free to follow the Lord’s leadership. Service was turned to Bro. Denver Robinson, the moderator, who shared fond memories and joy of being part of the Association. Prayer was led by Bro. Charles King. Bro. Jerry Burris, our song leader, came to lead our song service. He had all military servicemen to stand in recognition of their service. He then called for altar prayer for rain. This prayer was led by Bro. Fred Goates. Bro. Jerry led the following songs: “Bearing the Cross to Win the Crown”, “I Feel Like Traveling On”, “Glory to His Name”, “The Glory-land Way”, and “Amazing Grace”. Sis. Vicki Chronister sang “Thank God for My Christian Home” for our special singing.

Service was turned to Bro. Denver. He mentioned the need for rain and then talked about the famine of souls in these trying times. He thanked those in attendance and mentioned that there were 14 preachers there. He asked Bro. Kirk McConnell to lead testimony service. After several testimonies, service was turned to Bro. Jeremy Dodd for the message. His scripture reading was John 12:35-36 and Mark 11:25-26. He mentioned that he had been preaching 2 years. He said he

believed the spiritual drought was caused by allowing darkness into our churches, schools, homes, and everywhere. To remove darkness, we must forgive and tell it like it is. Let Christ's light shine through us.

After the message, Bro. Denver reminded us to come back at 10:00 Friday morning, and we were dismissed in prayer by Bro. Jeffery Burris.

FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 6, 2012

The moderator, Bro. Denver Robinson, opened the service with prayer by Bro. Jerry Burris. Bro. Jerry then led "Just Over In the Glory-Land".

Bro. Denver called for the reading of the letters. 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.....	None Present
Benton First	None Present
Cherry Hill	By Letter
Clarksville First.....	Sis. Melody Williams, Sis. Deborah Roberts, and Bro. K.T. Williams
Dover	Sis. Anna Mitchell and Sis. Sharon Barnett
Faith	By Letter
Hector	By Letter
Holman	Bro. Kenneth Crotts
Johnson	By Letter
Morrilton First.....	Bro. Curtis Dixon Jr., Sis. Brenda Dixon, and Sis. Mary Dixon
New Life	Bro. Bobby Wooten and Sis. Debbie Wooten
Ola	Sis. Maize Pyburn
Pine Ridge.....	By Letter
Saint Joe.....	By Letter
Slaty Crossing.....	Bro. Jiggs Adaire
Smith Springs.....	Bro. Mike Wilson and Sis. Janice Wilson
South Mountain.....	By Letter
Sweet Home	Sis. Alma Chance

Resolutions to have one moderator and one clerk for both Association and all Quarterly Meetings were read, discussed, and tabled due to constitutional change being involved.

Motion made, seconded, and approved to keep Bro. Robert Williams as the Clerk/Treasurer and Bro. Jimmy Williams as the Assistant Clerk.

Bro. Robert read the Rules of Order.

The following committees were appointed:

RESOLUTION

Bro. Jerry Burris, Bro. K.T. Williams, and Bro. Charles King

PULPIT

Sis. Theresa Burris, Sis. Mary Ann Chronister, and Sis. Melody Williams

Letters were read requesting that Bro. Randy Chronister and Bro. Jeffery Burris meet with the Executive Board.

Bro. Jiggs Adaire was seated as a late delegate for Slaty Crossing.

The Pulpit Committee reported that Bro. Randy Chronister would preach the morning message and Bro. K.T. Williams would preach on Friday night.

Bro. Jerry Burris began our worship service by leading: "At the Cross", "Come and Dine" with the chorus of "Come Unto Me", "That's Why I Love Him So", "I Want to Know More About My Lord", "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be", "I'm Bound for the Kingdom", and "Where the Soul Never Dies".

Bro. Denver asked Bro. Randy Chronister to come to the altar and all preachers, deacons, and anyone who wished to, to come and pray for Bro. Randy and the message. Bro. Kevin Haralson led this prayer.

Bro. Randy thanked the association for the opportunity to preach. He asked that we turn to II Timothy 3:1-5. Scripture reading was followed by prayer. He encouraged support for young ministers and warned of hard times in the last days. But he felt plenty would hold strong. His topics were unfeigned faith, spirit of God, hold fast to sound words, be strong in grace, be separate from the world, and a sure reward to come. His message encouraged us to hold strong to these qualities. He closed in prayer. Bro. Geno Johnston prayed the blessing on the meal.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Bro. Denver Robinson, the moderator called service to begin. Bro. Jerry Burris led "Heaven's Jubilee". Bro. Herb Tilley led prayer.

Bro. Charles King reported a good revival with the right men. He felt the youth night went well and the Lord's will was served.

The Executive Board reported that after meeting with Bro. Randy Chronister, they recommended him for full fellowship into the Association. This motion was seconded and approved. Bro. Terry Latham was elected to the 5-year term on the Executive Board.

Bro. Jimmy Williams reported that the Home Mission Board recommended and the body approved sending \$1,500 to the wiring project at Camp Beaverfork. He explained the fund's purpose and encouraged continued support by all churches. Bro. Arthur Harrell was elected to the 5-year position on this board.

Sis. Melba Williams reported that the last youth rally had approximately 90 in attendance. It was a good rally with a lot of Bible Memorization. She encouraged continued support of our youth. The new officers for 2012-2013 are listed in the front of the minute.

Sis. Melissa Haralson gave the WAC Report. She reported on their past meeting, churches that have WAC, and their areas of support. This year's District

Project is Bro. Tom and Sis. Pam Jones. She told of upcoming events and invited all women to join them.

Bro. Denver called for and received a motion and second to receive these reports as read. This was approved.

A Treasurer's Report was read and accepted.

The following reports were given by the clerk:

FINANCE

Twenty-one churches sent \$230 each for a total of \$4,830.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

All churches reported Sunday School.

TEMPERANCE

There were no reported cases.

NON-REPRESENTED AND UNION OF CHURCHES

Twenty-one churches reported, 10 with delegates, nine by letter, and two with delegates listed but none present.

OBITUARY

There were 19 deaths reported since our last Association. We pay our last respects by listing them below along with their home church:

Antioch.....	Sis. Wanda Scott, Sis. Margie Thomas
Ben Hur	Sis. Willa Freeman
Dover.....	Sis. Mary Ellen Sheffield
Faith	Bro. Prentice Butler
Hector.....	Bro. John Garrigus
Johnson.....	Sis. Beverly Gray
New Life.....	Bro. Bob Brown
Ola.....	Sis. Tina Walker, Sis. Wilma Via
Saint Joe	Sis. Virginia Virden, Bro. Albert "Doc" Duvall
Slaty Crossing	Sis. Margarette Standridge
Smith Springs	Bro. Richard Kleese, Sis. Pat Campbell, Sis. Orbie Bradford, Sis. Marie Hillis
South Mountain	Bro. Fred Reid
Sweet Home	Sis. Catherine McNutt

These reports were accepted as read.

Bro. Jerry Burris was re-elected as the Association Song Leader. Sis. Becky Uptigrove was re-elected as the Assistant Song Leader.

Clarksville will host the 2013 Association Meeting.

The following were selected as our State Delegates from the Antioch Association: Sis. Theresa Burris, Sis. Melissa Haralson, Sis. Aletta Robinson, Sis. Janice Wilson, and Sis. Melba Williams.

The 2013 Revival Committee was selected as follows: Bro. Johnny McCoy, Bro. Charles King, and Bro. Terry Latham. The 2013 revival will meet at the New

Life Church, April 15-19, 2013.

After several announcements, we were dismissed in prayer by Bro. Terry Latham.

FRIDAY NIGHT 7:30 P.M.

Service called to order by the moderator, Bro. Denver Robinson, with prayer by Bro. Donald Cross. Service was turned to Bro. Jerry Burris for the song service. He led "Revive Us Again", "A New Name in Glory", "Down On My Knees", and "That's Why I Love Him So". Bro. Kirk McConnell sang "That I Could Still Go Free". Bro. Jerry, Sis. Theresa, and Bro. Jeffery Burris played "The Unclouded Day" on the piano and bass.

Service was turned to Bro. Denver who asked Bro. John David Keeling to lead testimony service. Bro. John David stressed the need for us to get a sincere burden for the lost. After several moving testimonies, Bro. Denver asked Bro. K.T. Williams to come to the altar. Other requests were shared, and Bro. Terry Latham led the altar prayer.

Bro. K.T. took the stand and read II Timothy 2:15 with the thought "Be a Workman Unto God". He read Matthew 10:7-16-preach what the Lord provides; Matthew 10:17-28-beware, obey God's leadership, and don't fear men; Matthew 10:29-33-God is all knowing; I Peter 2:9-be God's workman.

Bro. Denver reminded us of II Chronicles 7:14, and Bro. Kenneth Pyburn prayed the dismissal prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING, JULY 7, 2012

Bro. Denver Robinson, the moderator, called the service to order with prayer by Bro. Glendon Garrison. Bro. Jerry Burris led "Take My Hand, Precious Lord". Bro. Denver spoke of the importance, sadness, and rejoicing that this service brings.

The memorial service was as follows:

Bro. Fred Goates spoke in memory of Sis. Wanda Scott and Sis. Margie Thomas.

Bro. Glendon Garrison spoke in memory of Sis. Willa Freeman.

Bro. Herb Tilley spoke in memory of Sis. Mary Ellen Sheffield.

Bro. Terry Latham spoke in memory of Bro. John Garrigus.

Bro. Jimmy Williams spoke in memory of Sis. Beverly Gray.

Bro. Charles King spoke in memory of Bro. Bob Brown, Sis. Pat Campbell, and Sis. Marie Hillis.

Bro. Denver Robinson spoke in memory of Sis. Wilma Via, Sis. Tina Walker, and Sis. Margarette Standridge.

Bro. Jim McNutt spoke in memory of Sis. Virginia Virden and Bro. Albert "Doc" Duvall.

Bro. Kirk McConnell spoke in memory of Sis. Orbie Bradford and Bro. Richard Kleese.

Bro. Jimmy Chronister spoke in memory of Bro. Fred Reid, Bro. Prentice Butler, and Sis. Catherine McNutt.

Bro. Denver mentioned how wonderful this service was, the sweet spirit that was felt, and reminded us to be ready to depart. Bro. Jim McNutt prayed the blessing on the meal.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Service called to order by the moderator, Bro. Denver Robinson, thanking the Antioch Church for their excellent accommodations. Bro. Kevin Haralson led prayer.

Sis. Wendy Chancellor was seated as a late delegate from Ola.

The following tabled resolutions were removed, discussed, and passed:

Whereas, the Antioch District Association of Free Will Baptists has three quarterly meetings and one annual meeting per year, and whereas, the Antioch Association currently elects one moderator and one assistant moderator for the annual meetings and separate moderators and assistant moderators for each of the quarterly meetings, and whereas, the Antioch is one body, and whereas, the Constitution of the Antioch Association does not define the offices of Quarterly Moderator or Quarterly Assistant Moderator, Be it resolved, we as an association will have one moderator and one assistant moderator per year performing the duties of the office. Be it also resolved, the following amendment be adopted to the Constitution of the Antioch Association: Replace point 4, Duties: Moderator with: "To conduct all services and business sessions of the district association."

Whereas the Antioch District Association of Free Will Baptists has three quarterly meetings and one annual meeting per year, and whereas, the Antioch Association currently elects one clerk/treasurer and one assistant clerk for the annual meeting, and whereas, the Constitution of the Antioch Association does not define the offices of Quarterly Clerk or Quarterly Assistant Clerk, and whereas, the Antioch Association is one body, and whereas, one duty of the Clerk/Treasurer as defined in the Constitution of the Antioch Association is to "make all records available upon request: which would include minutes from Annual Meetings as well as minutes from Quarterly Meetings, Be it resolved, we as an association will have one clerk/treasurer and one assistant clerk per year performing the duties of the office so that one officer shall have possession of all records for presentation if requested. Be it also resolved, the following amendment be adopted to the Constitution of the Antioch Association: Replace point 4, Duties: Clerk/Treasurer with: "To keep all minutes of all meetings of the Association, publish the yearly minute, make all records of the Association available upon request, conduct official correspondence for the Association, and to keep an accurate account of all Association funds.

It was approved to pay the clerk \$225 and at the assistant clerk \$150. The body agreed that the clerk would word point 4 and 5 of the Constitution appropriately.

The Executive Board reported that they met with and recommended Bro. Jeffery Burris be accepted into the Association. This motion passed.

The updates to the ministers' diary were read, discussed, and approved. A rising vote of thanks was given to the Antioch Church.

The 2012-2013 Moderator was elected as Bro. Kirk McConnell with Bro. Kevin Haralson as the Assistant Moderator.

After several announcements, Bro. Jeffery Burris dismissed the 2012 Antioch Association Meeting in prayer.

Church	Moderator This Year	Moderator Last Year	Clerk and Address
Antioch	Fred Goates	Fred Goates	Carolyn Finley, 907 McHenry, Russellville
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., A
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 72
Dover First	Herb Tilley	Herb Tilley	Barbara Harbour, P.O. Box 93, Dover, AR
Faith	Emery Crossland	Emery Crossland	Frances Crossland, 7011 Reece Drive, Hen
Hector	Terry Latham	Terry Latham	Pearl Gregory, 12695 SR 27, Hector, AR 7
Holman		Geno Johnston	Barbara Pearson, 3090 CR 3867, Lamar, A
Johnson			Betty Stovall, 14348 E SH 197, Scranton, A
Morrilton First	Jimmy Williams	Jimmy Williams	Becky Ward, 19 Housley Drive, Plumerville
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	Jim McNutt	Judy Virden, 150 South Fox Run, Pottsville
Slaty Crossing	Randy Chronister	Denver Robinson	Kelli Jones, 495 Highway 247, Casa, AR 7
Smith Springs	Kirk McConnell	Kirk McConnell	Johnnie Sue Harrell, 1001 Kentucky, Morri
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
AR 72802	4		2	45	49	15	40	230	\$10,400	FT
R 72823	5		0	163	206	50	175	230	\$36,400	FT
R 72802	4			14	29	16	18	230	\$4,650	FT
R 72856	0	1	1	15	39	17	20	230	\$6,000	FT
le, AR 72103	0	0	0	15	16	15	23	230	\$5,200	FT
72126	0	0	0	48	130	25	28	230	\$10,400	FT
46	1	0	0	12	48	15	22	230	\$10,575	FT
837	13	3	1	36	54	28	49	230	\$18,500	FT
ey, AR 72065			1	15		10	27	230	\$12,000	FT
843	0	0	1	25	50	25	25	230	\$15,600	FT
72846						12	30	230	\$10,100	FT
R 72863			1	13	32	13	13	230		FT
AR 72127	3	0	0	29	31	20	40	230	\$9,300	FT
AR 72156	1	0	1	71	71	33	50	230	\$4,570	FT
25	5		2	79	154	43	72	230	\$15,600	FT
AR 72823	4			40	157	30	40	230	\$14,175	FT
AR 72858	4	1	2	21	85	20	32	180	\$13,950	FT
025	5	0	1	37	92	50	62	230	\$16,350	FT
on, AR 72110			4	42	129	30	42	230	\$15,000	FT
all, AR 72650	5	0	1	15	26	16	20	230	\$5,450	FT
	6	0	1	53	89	50	80	230	\$11,500	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 all services and business sessions of the district association

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

Clerk/Treasurer – To keep minutes of all meetings of the Association, publish the yearly minute, make all records of the Association 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 minutes of all meetings, be paid for his services, and have the Annual Minutes printed in a timely manner. Any church hosting the Association Meeting shall be paid by the clerk \$200 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. (I 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

“Be it resolved that the Constitution #4 & #5 be revised as printed.” (See Constitution) 2012

Notes

