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A REPRINT FROM A  
MINUTES  
OF THE  
SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
ARKANSAS  
STATE ASSOCIATION  
OF  
FREE WILL BAPTIST  
HELD WITH  
STRAWBERRY VALLEY CHURCH  
JOHNSON COUNTY ARKANSAS  
OCTOBER 24, 25, 26, 1903  
REV. J. W. PHELPS MODERATOR  
REV. J. H. JOHNSTON, RECORDING CLERK.  
G. W. BURRIS, CLERK, & TREASURER.

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Jack I hope this will  
help you.

Cliff

## STATE ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory sermon
2. House called to order by Moderator or in his absence, by the clerk
3. Letters from the subordinate associations of this association called for and read and messengers invited to seats.
4. Call for letters from newly organized associations.
5. Corresponding associations.
6. Right hand of fellowship.
7. Election of permanent officers.
8. Reading rules of order and minutes of last association.
9. Appointment of following committees; (A) Resolutions. (B) Finance. (C) Arrangement of preaching. (D) Temperance. (E) Sabbath school. (F) Obituaries. (G) Condition of non-represented associations. (H) Union of associations.
10. Reports of committees appointed by last association and other unfinished business.
11. Reports of new committees.
12. New business.
13. Adjournment

## CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE ASSOCIATION

From a long experience, we, the members of the Freewill Baptist Church of Church, being Baptized upon the profession of our faith in Christ and being convinced of the necessity of a combination of subordinate associations to perpetuate a union and a communion among us and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this constitution for our better government.

Section 1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different subordinate associations in our union not exceeding five delegates each. provided all ordained ministers shall be full ex-officio members when present.

Section 2. Letters from different associations shall express their number in fellowship, the number received by experience, recommendation, died or restored, also time and place of meeting, with name and P.O. address of the Moderator and the Clerk.

Section 3. The members thus chosen and convened shall be denominated the Arkansas State Association of Freewill Baptist and shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage nor shall have any ecclesiastical power over the associations composing this body, reserving the right of withdrawing from any association becoming disorderly.

Section 4. The Association shall have a Moderator and assistant Moderator, a Recording Clerk and Treasurer, and a Corresponding Clerk who shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

Section 5. Newly constituted associations may be admitted into the union, which shall petition by letter and by delegates, and if upon examination they are found to be orthodox and orderly, may be received into the Association by the right hand of fellowship being extended to them.

Section 6. No query from any association shall come under the considerations of this body unless it has been first discussed in

the body in which it originated.

Section 7. All motions made and seconded shall come under the considerations of the associations unless withdrawn by unanimous consent.

Section 8. This Association is to endeavor to furnish the subordinate associations with minutes of this association in proportion to the number of members in each subordinate association, the distribution being at the discretion of the association.

Section 9. It shall be the duty of the Recording Clerk to keep a file of the minutes of each association in a book to be kept for that purpose, and the Correspondence Clerk shall conduct the correspondence.

Section 10. The association shall have a fund for her support, which shall be supplied by voluntary contributions of the subordinate associations, whose duty it shall be to send it by the hand of their messengers, which money so sent shall be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer, and he shall be accountable to the association for all money by him received until paid out as it may direct.

Section 11. The association, in case of failure of any subordinate association to attend, may inquire the cause.

Section 12. It is the duty of this association to see after the union of associations.

Section 13. The minutes of the association shall be read and corrected if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk. Before the association shall adjourn.

Section 14. Amendments to this plan or form of government may be made at any time when a majority of the members may deem it necessary.

#### RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting of the association, business shall be opened and concluded by prayer.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

9. At the future sessions of this association arrangements shall be made so as to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises which shall be equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and that the chair announce before adjournment who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.



10. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the association.

### ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in the true and living God. the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and these three are equal in divine essence, power and glory. Rom. 1:21. John 5:7.

2. We believe that the scripture in the Old and New Testaments is the Word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice. II Tim. 3. John 10:30

3. We believe that God created man good and gave him holy commandments, whereby he should live holy, but man voluntarily disobeyed the commandments of God, transgressed the law and fell under the just condemnation of the same, whereby all mankind are sinners, not by constraint, but by choice, being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the power. But we see Jesus who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor; then he by the grace of God should taste death for every man. Gen. 1;31 Heb. 2;9

4. We believe that Christ by his death, burial and resurrection purchased our pardon and offers it freely to all mankind upon the principle of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He now commands all men everywhere to repent: therefore look unto Me and be ye saved of all the ends of the earth, for I am God, and there is none else. Matt. 4;17. Isa. 45;22 Acts 20;21

5. We believe that adult persons must be regenerated and born of the spirit of

God if they inherit eternal life. John 3:3  
 Rom. 5: 1 - 13.

6. We believe that all Christians shall persevere in grace, and be faithful to the end if they inherit eternal life for blessed are they that do his commandments that they have a right to the tree of life and enter in through the gates of the city. I. Cor. 10: 12  
 Rev. 22;14.

7. We believe the visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women who have obtained fellowship with each other, and have given themselves to the Lord and one another, having agreed to keep up good discipline according to the rule of the gospel.  
 I Cor. 1; 2-10

8. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church, and the government thereof is with the body. John 10;7-14  
 Col. 1;18. Matt. 18;17-18

9. We believe that baptism by immersion was the apostolic mode, even the burial of a believer in water, and that Christ who is our life shewed this humble example to his children and bade them walk therein. Matt. 3;4-16 Rom. 6;4-5 Matt. 28;19-20

10. We believe that God in his goodness displays power of grace in a great degree in calling and qualifying His servants by the teaching of the Holy Ghost and by the instruction of his blessed word to go forth and proclaim life and salvation without price. He bids us freely to come and nothing prevents the salvation of any but their own stubborn rebellion and sinful refusal to come.  
 I Cor. 1;23 Eph. 3;7 Rev. 22;17.

II. We believe that baptism, the Lord, &

Supper and the washing of the saints feet are ordinances of the gospel of Jesus Christ and that the keeping of the Lord, a day holy and abstaining from worldly lusts and carnal cares and assembling of our - selves together are ornaments which prepare and beautify the soldier of the cross to march onward in the army of the Lord. Matt. 26;28 John 13;14 15. Heb. 10;25.

12. We believe that none has a right to baptism only those who have obtained a - living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ, and none right to administer the same only those who are called of God and have come under presbytery of elders. Tit. 1;15.

13. We believe it is the duty of each church to assemble themselves together once a month, and that is the duty of the pastor of the church when setting forth the Lord, a Supper and washing the saints feet, to invite all Christians. Heb. 10;25

### CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought as we humbly trust by divine grace to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior, and having obtained justification by faith in His name, we as MEMBERS OF the Free Will Baptist church at \_\_\_\_\_ agree.

1. To watch over each other in love, to pray for each other as members of a common faith ever striving to keep the unity of the spirit of peace. James. 5;3. Eph. 4;3.

2. We will not speak evil of one another nor will we persecute or expose the faults of the weak members of our church; but will endeavor to be governed by Paul, a instruction to Timothy; That we will reprove,



rebuke and exhort each other as members of a common brotherhood. Tit. 3;2 Eph. 4;2 Tim. 9;2

3. We are commanded to do good unto all men especially to those who are of the household of faith. In adopting this covenant we become a family, and assume in a Christian sense, the care and responsibility that the members of a family should feel for each other. I Cor. 12;25.

4. We will attend the stated meetings of the church unless we are providentially hindered or uncontrollable circumstances prevent us. And we will prefer the services of our own church to that of any other. Heb. 10;25

5. We will not injure our influence in the house of the Lord by occupying seats with the ungodly and sinners, but will occupy seats near the pulpit, and use the natural powers which God has given us to praise His holy name. 2 Cor. 5;17.

6. we will not be guilty of Sabbath breaking, that is, we will not push the ox in the ditch to get to pull him out on the Sabbath nor by doing any work therein, for the Lord saith, (Keep the Sabbath day holy.)

7. We will shun all appearances of evil, and all amusements that do not tend to the glory of God. We will adopt the covenant of Joshua, the servant of the Lord. I Thes. 5;21

Resolved, that each pastor before receiving candidates for membership into the church read the church covenant to the candidate.

( Will you endeavor to keep this covenant ? )

#### MINUTES OF THE ANTIOCH ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the twelfth annual session of Freewill Baptists, held with St. Joe Church, Pope county, Ark. September 25th and 26. 1903.

Introductory sermon was delivered by Elder F. M. Hudson, followed in conclusion by Elder R. E. L. Duvall. Dismissed to Meet at 8 a.m. Friday, September 26 th.

### Morning Session.

House called to order by Elder Jesse Jeffreys. Prayer by Elder J.H. Treadwell.

Called for letters composing the Anti-och Association. Twenty-two churches responded to the call by letters and delegates Bunkers Hill, Viney Grove, Shady Grove and Friendship, No. 1 failed to report by letter or delegates. Called for Petitionary letters Received three, to-wit; Mt. Zion Association by the hands of Bros. G.W. Partain and I.S. Sattiewhite. Esterling, Arkansas, by the hand of G.W. Ewing.

The Moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to the ministers and delegates present. On motion Elder F.M. Hudson was elected Moderator and G.W. Burris clerk and Treasurer. The Moderator read the constitution and rules of order. Prayer by Elder J.C. Vaughn. Adjourned to meet at 3 p.m.

### Afternoon Session

Prayer by Elder R.A. Johnson

Appointment of committees.

On Supply of the Stand. Bros. R.C. West  
W.W. Tague and J.W. Young.

On Resolutions, J.C. Vaughn. J.P. Eakin  
W.J. Wright. G.W. Johnson. J.C. Baker. C.G.  
McCoy. E. Henderson. James Chessier. T.J.  
Deane. Robert Garrison. G.W. Whitfield  
G.W. Venable. J.M. Hollibaugh. G.M. Poe.  
J.B. Vaughn. P.M. Vass. W.C. Griffith. H.B.  
Savage. James Henry. R.C. Savage. John Bowen.

W.R.Jobbe, G.W.Partain, G.W.Ewing, I.S.C.-  
 Satterwhite, J.A. Stork, R.M.Johnson, M.E.-  
 Baker, C.S.Thompson, Jessie Jeffreys, R.A.-  
 Johnson, W.D.Isable, James, Bennett, A.L. -  
 Young, J.E.Burris, A.M.Crouch, J.H.Venable,  
 R.M.Williams, M.A.Coffman, T.H. Thompson  
 W.E.Tyler, and J.H.Churchill.

Union of Churches. H.B.Savage, R.C.Chappell  
 and G.C.Baker.

Finance. H.H.Pigg, W.L.Sorrells, W.A.Watts,  
 R.C.Chappell, and G.W.Rosan.

Temperance. M.H.Bond, A.J.Hudson, J.W.Burris  
 O.H.P.Johnson, and T.E.Owens.

Sabbath School. J.H.Harshaw, J.B.Rainwater,  
 W.C.Cody, J.E.Ennis, and J.H.Hefflin.

Obituary. G.M.Hollibaugh, W.H.Johnson, A.F.-  
 Taylor, Mesdames Rosella Garrison, May Worst,  
 and Susan Thomas,

Non represented. R.B.Harrison, J.H.Tread-  
 well, and A.Dutton.

Adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock, p.m.

Prayer by Moderator.

#### EVENING SESSION

Prayer by Elder Jessie Jeffreys,

Report of committees.

Report on Motion. At future sessions of  
 this Association the committee on resolutions  
 be limited to five members in addition to the  
 Moderator and clerk.

Elder Jessie Jeffreys filled the stand  
 Sunday at 11 o'clock followed by Elder J.E.-  
 Burris.

Elder F.M.Hudson, Moderator

Geo. W.Burris, Clerk.

Courtesy of  
Ira Wright  
1620 N. Burke St.  
Visalia, California.