

# **M I N U T E S**

of the

**NINETY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION**

of the

**ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION**

of the

**CHURCH OF GOD**

Denominated The

**FREEWILL BAPTIST**

Held With The

**MULBERRY**

**FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

**AT GRAVELLY, YELL COUNTY, ARKANSAS**

**JULY 30-31, 1965**

The next annual session will convene with the Freedom Freewill Baptist Church, Logan County, Arkansas, beginning at 9:30 a. m. Friday, July 29, 1966. Rev. Ben Black will preach the Memorial Sermon on Saturday at 11 a. m.

## OFFICERS

Moderator: Rev. Robert Ashmore  
Assistant Moderator: Rev. Bob Rackley  
Clerk: Rev. Pat Millard  
Treasurer: Sister Rebecca Millard  
Assistant Clerk: Rev. Roy Lemarr

### EXECUTIVE BOARD---

5 years - - - - - Rev. Wm. Guinn  
4 years - - - - - Rev. Roy Lemarr  
3 years - - - - - Bro. Bob Black  
2 years - - - - - Rev. Ben Black  
1 year - - - - - Rev. Bob Sanders

### MISSION BOARD---

3 years - - - - - Rev. Elmer Turner  
2 years - - - - - Rev. Bob Rackley  
1 year - - - - - Rev. Robert Ashmore

### CREDENTIAL & GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE---

3 years - - - - - Bro. Buddy Smith  
2 years - - - - - Bro. Thurman Atchley  
1 year - - - - - Rev. Bob Sanders

## PROCEEDINGS

The ninety-seventh annual session of the Arkansas Association of the Church of God, denominated the Freewill Baptist Church, convened with the Mulberry, Freewill Baptist Church, near Gravelly, Arkansas, July 30-31, 1965.

### FRIDAY MORNING

The ninety-seventh annual session of the Arkansas Association of Freewill Baptist, was called to order by the singing of a song, "Just Over in the Glory Land", led by Rev. Guinn.

After prayer by Rev. Holly, another song was led by Rev. Guinn, "I'll Be Somewhere Listening."

Some scripture was then read by Rev. Rackley, from the 10th chapter of St. Luke.

The ordained were then called into the altar for united prayer. Rev. Pat Millard took the stand and read the rules of order.

Rev. Pat Millard was appointed to act as clerk until one could be elected.

Ministers present--Rev. Bob Sanders, Rev. Bob Thompson, Rev. Bob Rackley, Rev. Robert Ashmore, Rev. Pat Millard, Rev. Roy Lemarr, Rev. Elmer Turner, Rev. Arley Holly, Rev. C. C. Kitchens, Rev. Wm. Guinn.

Moderator called for letters to be read, 12 churches reporting.

A motion was then made to accept the letters and seat the delegates. Motion was seconded and carried.

Song--"Since Jesus Came Into My Heart", led by Bro. Jim Spencer, after which we had an old time handshake.

The Moderator appointed the following committees--

Pulpit Committee--Bro. Willie Copeland, Bro. Jim Spencer, and Bro. Bob Black.

Resolution Committee--Bro. C. C. Kitchens, Bro. Bob Rackley, and Bro. Arley Holly.

Finance Committee--Sister Turner, Sister Lemarr, and Sister Black.

Temperance Committee--Sister Burnette, Bro. Stone, and Sister Holly.

Sunday School Committee--Sister Lewis, Sister Clark, and Sister Martin.

Obituary Committee--Sister Guinn, Sister Smith and Sister Moore.

Committee of Non-represented Churches--Rev. Guinn, Rev. Turner, Rev. Lemarr.

Election of Clerk--Rev. Pat Millard was elected with Rev. Lemarr as assistant clerk.

A letter from a newly organized church was then read by the Credential Committee. The Egypt Freewill Baptist Church was found acceptable by the committee.

The new church, with a charter membership, asked to become a member of the Arkansas Association of Freewill Baptist. A motion

was made to this effect by Rev. Turner. The motion received a second, and was placed before the body--motion carried.

A motion was made to elect Sister Becky Millard as treasurer. The motion was seconded, and Sister Becky was elected by acclamation.

The Divine Committee returned and reported--Rev. Guinn had been selected for the 11 o'clock hour, the afternoon message by Rev. Kitchens, and the evening sermon for Rev. Turner.

A motion was made to adjourn for a 10 minute recess--motion carried--prayer by Rev. Bob Thompson.

After recess the meeting was called back to order by a song led by Bro. Randall, "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be." Sister Paula Ashmore at the piano.

Ministers present: Rev. Bob Sanders, Rev. Bob Thompson, Rev. Robert Ashmore, Rev. Pat Millard, Rev. Bob Rackley, Rev. Roy Lemarr, Rev. Elmer Turner, Rev. Arley Holly, Rev. C. C. Kitchens, Rev. Wm. Guinn.

A song was then led by Bro. Bob Black, "Look For Me At The Gate," with Paula Ashmore at the piano. Prayer was led by Rev. Rackley. A song was led by Rev. Lemarr, "I Am Thine Oh Lord," with Sister Black at the piano.

#### 11 O'CLOCK

Rev. Guinn read from St. John 2:15, and took the subject "Feed My Sheep." After a very spiritual service a handshake was called for. While Sister Paula Ashmore played the piano, the congregation sang, "Amazing Grace," led by Bro. Jim Spencer.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Turner.

#### FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The 1 o'clock service was called to order by a song, led by Sister T. R. Jones, "Oh, I Want to See Him." Special song by Sister Gail Payne, "Follow Me."

Special song by Frances Moore and Lora Henry, "Farther Along."

Business session opened by Moderator.

A letter from Rev. David Robbins was read, asking for dismissal from the Arkansas Association, to the Harmony Association.

The body voted affirmative.

The Upper Spring Creek Church and the Charleston Church also asking for letters of dismissal.

The body again voted yes, and gave the clerk permission to proceed in writing the letters.

A letter from the clerks' of the association, was read, to the body, concerning the actions of the previous year.

The letter is, as follows:

We the clerks of the quarterly meetings of Freewill Baptist, which now consist of 14 churches, wish to make the following report:

During the past year, at each setting of the quarterly meetings, all churches were represented, except for the last setting when 2 churches were not present. Every church had a pastor, were at peace, and were in good working order. All churches have week-end services and several have mid-week services.

There were only 3 settings of the quarterly meeting, due to the change of the date of the association. We had 10 ministers present at each setting.

The total offerings sent in by the churches were \$150.50.

Rev. Bob Rackley made the motion that we elect the moderator and assistant moderator Friday evening instead of Saturday morning. Rev. Turner seconded the motion, and the body passed the motion.

Rev. Robert Ashmore was elected Moderator and Rev. Bob Rackley was elected assistant moderator.

A special committee report was made by the Committee For The Study of Over Lapping Enactments, with suggestions for corrections.

A motion was made by Rev. Rackley, to accept the report and add it to the Constitution as an amendment. Motion carried.

The Moderator turned the service over to Rev. C. C. Kitchens, who requested a song and prayer. The song was led by Bro. Spencer, Sister Black at the piano. Prayer led by Rev. Guinn.

Song--"Everybody Will Be Happy Over There."

Special song--Rev. Guinn and Bro. Black sang "You Never Mentioned Him To Me."

Rev. Kitchens then took the stand and read from St. John Chapter 15. His subject was "The Law of Abiding."

After a very spiritual service and heart warming message, a handshake was called for while we sang "If I Could Hear My Mother Pray Again."

Service was dismissed by Rev. Holly.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT

The meeting was called to order by Bro. Willie Copeland, acting in absence of the moderator.

Song--"Power In The Blood," led by Sister Jones.

Prayer led by Rev. Bethel Garner.

Song--"Amazing Grace," led by Rev. Guinn.

Prayer led by Rev. Guinn.

Special song--by Rev. Pat Millard and Sister Becky Millard, "Jesus."

Special song--by Sister Patsy Millard, "I Was Born To Serve the Lord."

Service was then turned over to Rev. Turner, he preached an informative message from St. John chapter 1. Using the subject, "Who Is Able To Drink From the Cup."

Ministers present Friday Night were: Bethel Garner, C. C. Kitchens, Wm. Guinn, Elmer Turner, Pat Millard, Lester Bradley.

#### SATURDAY MORNING

The meeting was called to order by the assistant moderator.

Song--"I'll Be Satisfied," led by Rev. Kitchens, Sister Smith at the piano.

Prayer led by Rev. Lemarr, scripture reading by Rev. Turner, song led by Rev. Kitchens.

Ministers present Saturday morning were: Bethel Garner, Roy Lemarr, Elmer Turner, Pat Millard, Bob Rackley, Bob Sanders, C. C. Kitchens, L. D. Carlisle.

The assistant moderator selected the following to act on the auditing committee: Rev. Turner, Bro. Hawkins and Rev. Sanders.

Sister Smith asked for the next association to convene at Freedom. Motion made and seconded--motion carried.

Executive board election for permanent officers--Rev. Ben Black was elected to fill the vacancy left by Bro. Sharp. Rev. Bob Thompson was elected to a 5 year term on the board. Rev. Turner was elected by acclamation to fill a vacancy on the Mission Board. Bro. Buddy Smith was elected to serve on the Credential Committee.

Delegates to the state convention are: Sister Guinn, Sister Turner, Sister Lemarr, Sister Thompson, and Sister Millard; as elected by the body.

Bro. Ben Black was elected to preach next year's memorial service, Bro. Bob Thompson to be the alternate speaker.

The meeting was dismissed for a short recess by a prayer from Rev. Thompson.

The meeting was called back to order by a song--Rev. Guinn, Rev. Kitchens, Sister Carlisle, Sister Thompson, Sister Rackley at the piano. Song--"Lord I'm Depending On You."

Song--"What a Friend", led by Rev. Kitchens.

#### 11 O'CLOCK

Rev. Bob Rackley took the stand for the Memorial Service. The clerk read the names of the deceased.

Rev. Rackley read scripture beginning at Job 14 and 14, using the text "If a Man Dies, Shall He Live Again?"

After a very touching sermon Rev. Guinn led the song "Some Have Loved Ones Over Yonder."

Handshake-----

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Doc Oglesby.

SATURDAY EVENING

The service was called to order by a song led by Rev. Guinn, "Amazing Grace."

Song--"Wonderful Story Of Love."

Prayer led by Rev. Garner.

Committee reports given----

Song led by Bro. Oglesby.

Service was then turned over to Rev. Bob Sanders. He read from the II Corinthians Chapter 2. His text--"Weapon For The Lord."

After an interesting message, there was a handshake while Brenda Thompson and Doug Harberson led singing.

The installation of officers was made by Rev. Guinn.

Next year's officers are:

Robert Ashmore - - - - -Moderator  
Pat Millard - - - - - Clerk

Bob Rackley - - - - -Assistant Moderator  
Roy Lemarr - - - - - Assistant Clerk  
Rebecca Millard - - - - - Treasurer

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE ON NON REPRESENTED CHURCHES--

We are glad to report that Cole Dale Church is the only Church that is not represented. We have learned that the Cole Dale Church is in Peace.

Wm. Guinn  
Roy Lemarr  
Elmer Turner

TEMPERANCE--

We find that Satan has many ways in which to draw our mind away from God and to destroy the souls. Namely, worldly amusement, Sunday recreation, Alcoholic beverages, narcotics, and many other ways not mentioned.

We pray that the children of God stay with Paul who said "touch not, taste not, handle not."

We also recommend each pastor preach more on Temperance in the future.

Sister Burnette  
Sister Holly  
Brother Roy Stone

OBITUARY COMMITTEE--

We, the obituary committee find that God has called from our midst, and added to His glorious union, this brother, Deon Hale, Mulberry, and these sisters, Mrs. Rosa Parker, Union Hill, Mrs. Ida Smith, of Harmony, Mrs. Winnie Isom, Keener, Mrs. Rhonda Ferguson, Mrs. McKinney.

We thank God for the Privilege of serving Him together with these --in this life and look forward to seeing them again when we see Him Face to face.

Joyce Smith  
Mrs. Wm. Guinn  
Mrs. Frank Moore

SUNDAY SCHOOL--

We your Sunday School committee, urge all our Sunday School to use Free Will Baptist literature.

That the teachers be Christians and members of Free Will Baptist Church.

We also recommend that we get behind our young people in the Sunday School Rally.

Sister Lizzy Clark  
Sister Lillian Lewis  
Sister Maver Martin

## RESOLUTIONS--

We your Resolutions Committee recommend that none serve on more than one board at a time.

C. C. Kitchens  
Bob Rackley  
Arley Holly

## FINANCE COMMITTEE--

Brethren we your Finance Committee, find in the Treasury \$174.71 and cash sent in by the Churches of our fellowship \$65.99 making a total of \$240.70 in the treasury for the budget use.

We recommend the following to be used for the necessary expenses of the Association:

(1) \$39.00 to be sent to the youth camp for entertainment of the state association.

(2) \$84.00 to be sent to the state treasury for the state budget system.

(3) \$35.00 to be placed to the use of the mission board for necessary expense of same, at present.

(4) \$95.00 for printing of minutes.

(5) \$25.00 for clerk's fee and expenses.

In order to meet our expenses we recommend the budget system for the raising of the funds necessary, as this system has proven to be the most successful method in the past.

We pray each pastor, deacon and delegate will help their Church to understand this method and let us unite our efforts and prayers for the spread of the gospel at home and abroad.

Budget System: For all funds sent in to the quarterly meeting to be marked (budget).

50% to the state budget.

50% to local association budget.

All special marked funds to be used for purpose so marked.

## MISSION BOARD\*

Oral report by Rev. Rackley:

After visiting in every Church except one we found them in harmony.

Rev. Bob Rackley  
Rev. Elmer Turner  
Rev. Robert Ashmore

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

Balance--September 1964 - - - - -	\$254.84
Annual Association funds - - - - -	-90.50
First Quarterly Meeting - - - - -	\$ 54.00
Second Quarterly Meeting - - - - -	\$ 51.00
Third Quarterly Meeting - - - - -	\$ 45.51
Total -	\$150.51 \$150.51
	TOTAL \$495.85
Debits--	
State Association - - - - -	\$84.00
Youth Camp - - - - -	42.00
Union Hill Church - - - - -	35.00
Branch Church - - - - -	90.13
Lamb Church - - - - -	35.00
Booneville Democrat - - - - -	90.13
	\$321.13 \$321.13
Balance--August 1, 1965 - - - - -	\$174.72

# DIARY OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

(All Arkansas residents unless otherwise indicated)

Robert Ashmore, Russellville  
Pat Millard, Walthreak  
Bethel Garner, Walthreak  
Denver Robinson, Casa  
I. J. Wilson, Charleston  
Hubert Hutchens, Booneville  
Clifford Myers, Hackett  
Ben Black, Hackett  
M. A. Melton, Fort Smith  
L. D. Carlile, Russellville  
Arley Holly, Plainview  
Frank Moore, Waldron  
Thomas Billy, Poteau, Okla.

W. M. Guinn, Booneville  
J. T. Burnette, Waldron  
Bob Rackley, Atkins  
Ben Self, Fort Smith  
Roy Lemarr, Waldron  
Lester Bradley, Charleston  
Harold Hall, Danville  
C. C. Kitchens, Gravelly  
Henry Millard, Chicago, Ill.  
J. R. Roper, Howe, Okla.  
Bob Sanders, Atkins  
Elmer Turner, Branch

## DEACONS

A. E. Sharp, Charleston  
Marvin Story, Charleston  
Homer Robinson, Branch  
Charles Diedrich, Heavener, Okla.  
J. R. Huckaby, Heavener, Okla.  
Willie Copeland, Gravelly  
W. A. Vanderpool, Mansfield  
Jim Drewery, Mansfield  
Joe Carnahan, Mansfield  
Chester Boatright, California  
J. A. Balentine, Freedom  
Clarence Wilson, Waldron  
Arvil Smith, Barber  
Neil Cherry, Waldron  
Sherman Hawkins, Waldron  
Vernon Hawkins, Waldron  
Fulton Ison, Waldron  
Thurman Atchley, Parks  
Will Lovett, Waldron  
Lloyd Harberson, Boles  
Sherrill Phillips, Boles  
Leo Keener, Boles  
Amos Hook, Ratcliff  
Herman Kanady, Ratcliff

Lloyd Millwood, Plainview  
Odell Fryar, Plainview  
Osbern Harkey, Plainview  
Erman Henry, Waldron  
George Ray, Waldron  
Lonnie Brewer, Waldron  
Fred Hunt, Waldron  
Joe Tidwell, Danville  
George Havener, Walthreak  
J. R. Southland, Ola  
Bob Black, Hackett  
Sammy Black, Hackett  
Darrell Newton, Hackett  
S. H. Brasher, Hackett  
Jim Black, Fort Smith  
Claud Parker, Walthreak  
J. T. Hudson, Walthreak  
Obie Vaughn, Waldron  
Audie Hunt, Walthreak  
Jim Millard, Walthreak  
Earnest Wagner, Waldron  
Levy Ward, Waldron  
Fred McEntire, Waldron

## ENACTMENTS (Revised in 1964)

1940--Be it resolved that we shall devote the 11 a. m. service of each session of the Association to a Memorial Service. The one to preach the Memorial Service shall be elected by the Association each year before the close of the session of the ensuing session.

1943--Be it resolved that we, the Freewill Baptists, in speaking of our CHURCH, speak of it as, "THE CHURCH OF GOD, OR CHRIST, denominated the FREEWILL BAPTIST".

1948--Be it resolved that the several churches give our Deacons credentials and that they shall be required to record same.

1951--Be it resolved that the Association mention in its Minutes the different pianists that serve so faithfully during the Association.

1952--No. 2. Be it resolved that our Association shall instruct our Secretary to drop from our roster or diary the name of any ordained minister or deacon who is not a member of a church in good standing in our union and reported in the letter of the church to our Association as an ordained member in good standing.

Be it further resolved that the ordained minister or deacon, who is past the active age, though their church cease to exist, and they are living a Christian life and of good report, we shall retain the name of such on the roster as a member of our Association.

1953--No. 1. Be it resolved that each church in the Association organize, if possible, a league for the training of our young people, and the general welfare of the church.

1954--Be it resolved that this Association hereafter convene on Friday morning at 9:30 before the first Sunday in September and continue through Sunday; the Sunday's services to be used in a Sunday School Rally and Religious Services.

1957--No. 1. Be it resolved that the Mission Board consult each other before arranging any revivals or spending any mission money for any cause.

No. 2. Be it resolved that this Association elect, a treasurer to receive all money collected by the Association and the Quarterly Meetings.

No. 3. Be it resolved that in choosing our delegates to the State Association that we consider choosing five junior members of the church to serve in connection with the senior delegates. Elected from the Freewill Baptist Church, if possible.

No. 4. Be it resolved that this Association pay our Clerk \$25.00 for his service rendered in this Association and for the time it will take to compile the Minutes of this Association.

1958--No. 1. We, your committee on resolutions, request that the Association receive or accept the resolution passed by the Third Quarterly Meeting at the Branch Freewill Baptist Church in electing an Executive Board, which reads as follows:

"The Quarterly Meeting, while in session in the third quarter, set up and selected an Executive Board, which shall be empowered to enter or decide any question concerning the welfare of our Association, either from the churches within or the neighboring Associations without, of the State or National Association's relation in our Association, in church piety, and the piety of the ordained. Passed unanimously for this board to act proteen until the sitting of the annual session at which its permittance will be decided."

1960--Be it resolved that: (a) the Executive Board shall consist of five elected ordained--one to be elected each year hereafter, and (b) that Clause A be written as Act 2 of Constitution of the Executive Board, as given on Page 7, 1958, Clause 2.

## CONSTITUTION OF ASSOCIATION

From long experience, we, the members of the Church of God, denominated Freewill Baptist, being regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union among us, and to preserve and maintain correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this Constitution for our better church government.

Art. 1. MEMBERSHIP--This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the church or quarterly meetings of our union, not exceeding five messengers from each church or quarterly meeting, and upon producing letters, they shall be entitled to seats. All ordained Ministers and Deacons of said union shall be regular members, and the wife of each ordained, and the Clerk of each church, will be members, when present, by virtue of their office.

Art. 2. NAME--The members thus chosen and assembled with the Ministers and Deacons, to be denominated the Arkansas Association of Freewill Baptists, being composed to the several churches of our union, the Association having no power to lord-it over God's heritage, nor having any ecclesiastical power over the churches, reserving the right of withdrawal from any church becoming disorderly.

Art. 3. LETTERS--Letters from the different churches represented are to express their number in fellowship, including the names and addresses of ordained and licensed Ministers, the number of members received upon profession of faith, by letter or recommendation, by restoration, or denominational choice; the number dismissed by letter, excluded, and those having died since last Association. Churches, in sending their letters, may send obituaries of our dead.

Art. 4. NEW CHURCHES--Newly-constituted churches may be admitted to the Association, which are to petition by letter and delegates, and if upon examination, they are found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 5. QUESTIONS--No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has been first considered in its own church.

Art. 6. MOTIONS--Every motion made and seconded shall be under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

Art. 7. MINUTES--The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with Minutes of the Association in proportion to the amount paid by each church--the distribution to be at the discretion of the Association.

Art. 8. CLERK--It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the Minutes of the Association in a book to be kept by the Association for that purpose.

Art. 9. SIGNATURES--The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and the Clerk before the close of the Association.

Art. 10. AMENDMENTS--Amendments to this Constitution may be made, when necessary, by a majority vote of the members present, notice having been given in writing, and recorded at the last previous session.

#### AMENDMENTS

Art. 1:-THE CREDENTIAL AND GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE, is a permanent COMMITTEE accepted September 2, 1951. It consist of three ordained members of the Deacon Order: one elected for three years; one for two years and one for one year, then one each year hereafter to take the place of the out going member.

The duties of the Committee will be:-(a) To examine each candidate for license to preach and each candidate for ordination as a minister within our Association, either must be a member of a church within the Association and recommended by their church for the office of a minister. If a minister coming from another denomination desires to unite with a church in our fellowship and hope to retain his ordination he must pass the examination of this committee and be recognized on their recommendation.

(b) All petitionary letters from a church desiring to unite within our fellowship must be examined and recommended by this Committee.

(c) At the request Of a church in our fellowship, a deacon, they have chosen for their church may be examined and if found sound in Doctrine, the committee may recommend same to be ordained by the Associational council, or if so desired they may recommend same to be ordained by the requesting Church.

(d) In case of any GRIEVANCE from any Church in our fellowship, and such has been made in writing, this committee must hear both sides and set each witness testimony in writing, then their decession so rendered must be accepted in their written report. In case either party is not satisfied, this committee may request a joint review of the case from the written evidence, with the executive board. Their joint decession will be final and acted upon without argument.

## THE MISSION BOARD

Act II-, The Board of Mission was accepted September 4, 1954. It will consist of three ordained ministers, or two ordained ministers and one ordained deacon; one elected for three years, one elected for two years, and one elected for one year, then one each year hereafter to take the place of the out going member.

The working bases and duties of the Mission Board:

(a) The revenue for the Mission work may be derived from gifts sent in by the Churches marked "Home Mission"; Gifts and grants made by individuals for the use of Home Mission Work; Also by a part of the General Revenue of the Association sent into the Quarterly Meetings for the Budget of the Association, as may be granted by the Association. Also by any special collection taken up by the Mission Board in their field of labor.

(b) The members of the Board visit the Churches to organize Mission Societies and to inform them of the need of their activities in the Mission Work of the Association; They will endeavor to answer the call of the weaker churches for help and do all that is in their power to revive them and to supply them with a pastor. They will do their best to see that each minister that is idle to find a place where they may be useful in the service of their vocation. They will visit prospective new fields where we have no organization, and survey same as to the prospect of opening a Mission in same. They may secure evangelist for needed work in the Mission work.

(c) This Board will cooperate with the State and National Mission Boards in the promotion of mission work at home or abroad.

(d) The said Board will have no authority to involve the said Association in debt for their operation. All expenditures must be confined to the available revenue.

(e) They shall report their activities and expenditures in writing to each yearly meeting of the Association: Also to make a verbal report to each Quarterly Meeting of their activities.

## THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Act III-, The EXECUTIVE BOARD shall consist of five members elected from the standing members of the Association; one for five years, one for four years, one for three years, one for two years, and one for one year, then one each year hereafter to take the place Of the outgoing member.

The duties of the Executive Board will be:

(1) To fill any vacancy that may occur in the standing officers of the ASSOCIATION caused by, either a member deceased or a member moved out of the ASSOCIATION and united with another sister association, between the session of the Annual meeting. Such appointee will serve until his successor is duly elected.

(2) The BOARD will have power to receive property or grants given for the Association: They also will have power to sell property or dispose of same according to the wish of THE GRANTOR, or ACCORDING TO THE ORDER OF THE ASSOCIATION. All funds so received must be placed in the TREASURY OF THE ASSOCIATION.

(3) The Board will have power to discuss and settle difference of dispute that might arise between OUR ASSOCIATION, and the State or National Association of Freewill Baptist, or between our Association and a sister Association of THE CHURCH OF GOD DENOMINATED THE FREEWILL BAPTIST.

(4) The Board can call a special session of the Association if it becomes necessary. Each church must be given a ten day notice before the meeting day.

(5) A written report of the ACTIVITIES OF THIS BOARD must be given to each ANNUAL SESSION OF THE ASSOCIATION.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **GOD**—We believe in one true and living Triune God; composed of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost—equal in divine essence, purpose, power and glory.—St. John 1:1; I Cor. 8:6; 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 this 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 tomb, arose from the dead the third day, completed 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; Matt. 14:13-21; Mark 16:9-19; Luke 24:50-53; Acts 1:9-12; Mark 15:22-47.

3. **HOLY SPIRIT**—We believe that the Holy Spirit has 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 His office work among all nations of people as a Divine Reprover, Comforter, and Guide.—Judges 6:34; 11:29; St. John 1:8-14; Isaiah 63:10-12; Eph. 4:30; Acts 8:7-20; Ezek. 36:27; Joel 2:28.

4. **THE BIBLE**—We believe the Bible, which is composed of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament, was given by inspiration of God, is our way-bill from earth to heaven, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.—II Peter 1:19-21; II Timothy 3:14-17; Daniel 10:21; Acts 1:16-17; Matthew 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 promise of reward for faithfulness and with penalties of punishment for disobedience. Gave man power of free moral agency to choose the right and reject the wrong. But, our first parents heeded the voice of the great enemy of souls; voluntarily transgressed the law of God; fell, with their posterity, under the just penalty of the same, and were unable of their own power to extricate or save themselves from the great dilemma into which they had fallen. God gave them the hope of salvation through the coming Christ.—Gen. 1:27; 2:16-17; Psalms 51:5; Gen. 3; Gen. 6:5; Rom. 5:12-19; Ephesians 2:3.

6. **REDEMPTION, SALVATION, ADOPTION**—We believe that Jesus Christ by His birth, death, burial, resurrection and ascension, paid the purchase price for the redemption of the whole human race, arranged a pardon for all who come 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; Hebrews 1:4; St. John 3:16; Isaiah 15:22.

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 on their part; that persons coming to the years of accountability, transgressing the law of God, must upon their part, exercise faith in Jesus Christ through repentance toward God, at the completion of which pardon takes place in the mind of the Father and by the Holy Spirit they pass through the 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 4:11-26; Ephesians 2.

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 1:5-25; 2:9-25; 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, and the Holy Spirit, in which are represented the burial and resurrection of Christ; also, represents our death to sin, and only those who have come under the Presbytery of the Elders are qualified to administer same.—Matt. 3; Peter 3:21; St. John 3:23; Acts 10:45; Matt. 28:19.

10. **COMMUNION AND FEET WASHING**—We believe that the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints' feet are ordinances of the Gospel of Christ; the Lord's Supper was instituted by our Saviour 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; St. John 13:1-17; I Corinthians 11:20-29; Matthew 26:26-29.

11. **THE SABBATH**—We believe that the Christian Sabbath should be observed as a day of rest and for the worship of God; that we should abstain from all sinful amusements and secular employments—works of mercy and piety excepted.—Exodus 20:11; 31:12-17; Deut. 5:12-15; Ezek. 20:12; Matthew 28:1; Luke 23:56; Acts 13:32-48; Mark 2:27.

12. **CALL TO THE MINISTRY**—We believe in a divine call of the ministry; that God in His goodness and power and 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 the native gift according to the Scriptures, with a full reliance upon Him, He accompanies them in the person of the Holy Spirit to guide them in the way of truth and to bless their labors according to His purpose.—Jonah 1:1; Jeremiah 1:5; Mark 3:14; Acts 1:22-26. Matthew 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, 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; Matthew 16:18.

14. **THE VISIBLE CHURCH**—We believe that a visible church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men and women, having obtained fellowship with the Lord and with each other, agreeing to keep up a good discipline and doctrine, according to the rules of the Gospel.—II Thess. 1:1; Acts 16:5; III John 9:10; Matthew 18:17; Acts 20:28; Revelation 1:4-20.

15. **PERSEVERENCE**—We believe that all true believers in Christ should persevere in divine grace, and in the knowledge of the truth, and that God's grace is sufficient to help them to overcome all the obstacles of life, and that all the combined forces of the great enemy of souls on earth and in Hell (or in his eternal abode) are not able to pluck them from His hand so long as they walk in the path of duty; but, those who sidestep and wilfully refuse or neglect to perform their duty, they would backslide if persistently continued, would be eternally lost.—II Cor. 5:10; I Peter 2:2; Rom. 8:35; Apostasy; II Pet. 1:8-9; I Cor. 10:1-13; Heb. 12:15-17; I John 5:16; Hebrews 6:1-6; I Timothy 4:1-2; Hebrews 3:12; St. John 15:1-7; Matthew 12:31-32.

16. **CHRIST THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH**—We believe that Christ is the Head of the church, and that the government of the local church is with the body.—Col. 1:18-19; Matthew 16:18; Hebrews 12:23; Matthew 21:42; Ephesians 1:22.

17. **SANCTIFICATION**—Sanctification is a work of God's grace, by which the soul is cleansed from all sin and wholly consecrated

to Christ. It takes place in regeneration, and the Christian can and should abide in this state to the end of life; constantly growing in the grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.—I Cor. 6:11; II Thess. 2:13; Hebrews 12:14; Phil. 3:21; II Thess. 5:19-23; St. John 17:17-19; II Timothy 2:20-21.

18. THE RESURRECTION—We believe in the resurrection of the dead—both of the righteous and the wicked. When the resurrection shall take place, the soul and the body shall be united, the righteous shall be received into everlasting happiness to reign with God forever; but, the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment.—Matthew 28:5; John 5:28-29; I Corinthians 15:51-58.

19. THE SOUL—The soul is endless, hence, does not die with the body, but immediately after death, enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery, according to the spiritual character here possessed.—Phil. 1:23; Luke 23:43; Rev. 6:9; Luke 16:19-25; Matt. 10:28

20. JUDGMENT—We believe that there will be a general universal judgment—when all men shall be judged according to their works, whether they be good or bad; that immediately thereafter the wicked shall enter into everlasting punishment, and the righteous into eternal happiness.—II Thess. 1:4-9; Rev. 14:9-13; Luke 16:23; Rev. 21:8; II Cor. 5:10; Matt. 12:36-37; Rev. 20:12-13; Acts 17:31; Matt. 25:32; Romans 2:1-16; Mark 9:43-48.

## CHURCH COVENANT

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

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 unconformity 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 social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of ordinances of the Gospel nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, or its poor, and all 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 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.

## **RULES OF ORDINATION**

1. Do you believe in the Total Depravity of the human heart? Answer—No.
2. Do you believe that infants are saved while in a state of innocence? Answer—I do.
3. Do you believe in a Full and Free Salvation to all who will accept it on the Gospel terms? Answer—I do.
4. Do you believe in a burial of a believer in Christ with water after he has been baptized into Christ by the Holy Ghost is the only baptism? Answer—I do.
5. Do you believe that any man has a right in the Gospel to repeat baptism to such a subject? Answer—No.
6. Do you believe that Communion, Feet Washing and Baptism are Gospel ordinances and are to be taught and practiced until He comes again? Answer—I do.
7. Will you solemnly pledge yourself to preach and practice the same, God being your helper? Answer—I will by the help of God.
8. Do you believe that none will finally be saved but those who persevere in Holiness to the end? Answer I do.

## **RULES OF ORDER**

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded with a prayer.
2. Those who speak shall rise, address the Moderator, and all personal reflections shall be avoided.
3. All motions made and seconded shall be open for discussion, but debate may be shut off at any time by a majority of the members of the Association.
4. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and the vote taken separately.
5. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded in the annual 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. Arrangements shall be made so as to insure two sermons or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto in addition to the business session each day, and the Moderator announces at the adjournment of each business session who is to have charge of said service.
10. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular meeting of the Association.

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

1. Association called to order by the Moderator—in his absence, the Clerk.
2. Letters from the churches called for, received, and delegates invited to seats.

3. Right hand of fellowship.
4. Election of permanent officers.
5. Call for petitionary churches.
6. Reading of Rules of Order by Chair or Clerk.
7. Appointment of following committees—(a) Arrangements for Preaching; (b) Resolutions; (c) Finance; (d) Temperance; (e) Sunday Schools; (f) Obituary; (g) Condition of Non-Represented Churches.
8. Reports of Committees appointed at last Association and other unfinished business.
9. Reports of new Committees.
10. New business.
11. Adjournment.

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

CHURCH	CLERK	PASTOR
Boles	Mrs. Inez Speaks, Boles, Ark.	David Robins, Charleston, Ark.
Branch	Mrs. Bertha Turner, Branch, Ark.	Lester Bradley, Charleston, Ark.
Brooklyn	Mrs. Addie Hook, Ratcliff, Ark.	Roy Lemarr, Waldron, Ark.
Coaldale	Mrs. Mable McClain, Heavener, Okla.	J. R. Roper, Howe, Okla.
Egypt	Miss Belenda Havener, Waltreak, Ark.	Arlie Holly, Plainview, Ark.
Freedom	Mrs. Joyce Smith, Barber, Ark.	Robert Ashmore, Russellville, Ark.
Harmony	Mrs. Nadene Watson, Waldron, Ark.	Frank Moore, Waldron, Ark.
Keener	Mrs. Roxie Atchley, Parks, Ark.	J. T. Burnette, Waldron, Ark.
Lamb	Mrs. Estell Wagner, Waldron, Ark.	Roy Lemarr, Waldron, Ark.
Mulberry	Mr. E. L. Oglesby, Gravelly, Ark.	Harold Hall, Danville, Ark.
Plainview	Mr. Osbern Harkey, Plainview, Ark.	L. D. Carlile, Russellville, Ark.
Pleasant Hill	Mrs. Betty Black, Hackett, Ark.	Clifford Meyers, Pocola, Okla.
Pleasant Grove	Mrs. Lorene Looney, Charleston, Ark.	Hubert Hutchins, Booneville, Ark.
Union Hill	Mrs. Ruby Vaughn, Waldron, Ark.	Denver Robinson, Casa, Ark.

## STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	Members Received	Members Dismissed	Members Deceased	Members Enrolled	League	S. S. Enrollment	Deacons	Church Budget	Value of Church Property
Boles Branch	7	2	0	68			3	\$ 555.01	5,000.00
Brooklyn	0	0	1				2	231.68	
Coaldale	3	0	1	19		18	2	756.78	4,000.00
Egypt	15	0	0	15		15	3		
Freedom	18	0	0	118		70	7	1,988.06	5,000.00
Harmony			1	56		31	4	923.21	12,000.00
Mulberry	0	0	1	50	30	46	1	722.62	3,000.00
Plainview	0	0	0	52			3	1,186.00	7,500.00
Pleasant Hill	7	2	0	47	0	41	5	1,466.22	7,000.00
Pleasant Grove				62			3	3,483.72	
Union Hill	22	0	1	35	0	40	5	1,064.00	
Lamb	1	0	0	16		30	3	300.00	2,500.00
Keener	6	0	1	50	0	56	6	2,800.00	10,000.00