

MINUTES

of the

NINETY - NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

of the

ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION

of the

CHURCH OF GOD

Denominated The

FREEWILL BAPTIST

Held With The

EGYPT FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH

SCOTT COUNTY, ARKANSAS

August 4-5, 1967

The next annual session will convene with the Freedom Freewill Baptist Church, Freedom, Logan County, Arkansas, beginning at 9:30 a. m. Friday, August 2 - 3, 1968. Rev. Robert Ashmore will preach the Memorial Sermon on Saturday at 11 a. m.

OFFICERS

Moderator: Rev. Robert Ashmore
Assistant Moderator: Rev. Frank Moore
Clerk: Rev. Roy Lemarr
Assist. Clerk: Rev. Gene Bishop
Treasurer: Rev. Jackie Allen

STANDING BOARDS

EXECUTIVE BOARD - - -

5 years - - - - - Rev. Willie Copeland
4 years - - - - - Rev. Hubert Hutchens
3 years - - - - - Rev. Buck Garner
2 years - - - - - Rev. Roy Lemarr
1 year - - - - - Bro. Bob Black

MISSION BOARD - - -

3 years - - - - - Rev. Frank Moore
2 years - - - - - Rev. Robert Ashmore
1 year - - - - - Rev. Elmer Turner

CREDENTIAL & GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE - - -

3 years - - - - - Bro. Roy Wilkins
2 years - - - - - Bro. Herman Kanady
1 year - - - - - Bro. Buddy Smith

PROCEEDINGS

The ninety-ninth annual session of the Arkansas Association of the church of God denominated the Free Will Baptist Church, convened with the Egypt Free Will Baptist Church, Waltreak, Arkansas, August the 4th and 5th 1967.

FRIDAY MORNING

The first business session was called to order by Rev. Robert Ashmore, song was led by Bro. Herbert Randall with Sis. Paula Ashmore at the piano. Prayer was given by Rev. Moore.

A quorum found the following ministers present; Elmer Turner, Roy Lemarr, Pat Millard, Robert Ashmore, Jackie Allen, Frank Moore, Willie Copeland, Joe Tidwell, Bethel Garner. The clerk read the letters. Bro. Turner made the motion to accept the letters and seat the delegates, the motion was seconded by Bro. Lemarr-motion carried.

Bro. and Sis. Bob Black sang a song while the right hand of fellowship was given to the delegates.

Due to the death of Bro. Bob Thompson, assistant moderator, the moderator selected Bro. Moore to assist. The moderator appointed the following to serve on divine committee: Sis. Copeland, Sis. Black and Bro. Stone. *Resolution Committee, Bro. Turner, Bro. Smith, and Bro. Black. *Finance Committee: Sis. Yates, Sis. Moore and Sis. Joyce Smith. *Temperance Committee: Sis. Hunt, Bro. Randall and Sis. Tidwell. *Sunday School Committee: Bro. Fluellen, Audie Hunt, Sis. Paula Ashmore. *Obituary Committee: Sis. Mildred Lemarr, Sis. Mary Lou Smith and Sis. Rheda Ashmore. *Committee for non represented churches: Sis. Syble Copeland, Sis. Norma Williams, and Sis. Sallie Lou Johnson.

The Divine Committee reported that Rev. Moore was to preach at 11:00 a. m. Bro. Black led "Try Jesus" with Sis. Bob Black at the piano. Bro. Jackie Allen led "When the Roll Is Called up Yonder" with Sis. Bob Black at the piano.

Motion was made by Bro. Roy Lemarr to adjourn-motion passed.

11 O'CLOCK SERVICE

The 11 o'clock service convened with a song "When We All Get to Heaven" sung by Sis. Joyce Smith with Sis. Bob Black at the piano.

The moderator called for recognition of visitors: Bro. Lowrey of Glenwood, Bro. Denver Robinson of Hickory Grove with a testimony by Bro. Denver.

* See reports on pages 6 - 7

Next was a special song by Paula and Rheda Ashmore, and a song by Bro. and Sis. Bob Black "What a Day That Will Be." After prayer by Denver Robinson, Bro. Moore took the stand and read his text, Matt. 16:24, "Take Up Thy Cross and Follow Me."

"No Place to Hide" was led by Bro. Randall with Sis. Black at the piano. Everyone shook hands with Bro. Moore and then were dismissed for noon by Bro. Copeland.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Service opened with a song by Bro. Randall, Sis. Black at the piano "I Want to be Ready to Meet Him." Bro. Black sang "Sunset is Coming", with Sis. Black at the piano.

The motion was made and passed that we list in our minutes in the obituary, the names of the infants who die not having had the opportunity to come to the age of accountability.

Next was the report by the Sunday School Board. Motion was made and passed that we accept the report and adapt it with the insertion of buying Nashville literature. A song was sung by Bro. Lemarr with Sis. Black at the piano "Some Day".

At 2:00 p.m. the song "He Will Pilot Me" was led by Bro. Bob Black, also "I don't Know About Tomorrow". Several came forward for altar prayer.

Bro. Ashmore took the stand and read from 1 Samuel 16 the text, "Come With Me to the Sacrifice". After a well delivered sermon, Bro. Bob Black sang the song "Joy Unspeakable". After a good old fashioned hand shake the congregation was dismissed with prayer by Bro. Turner.

SATURDAY MORNING

The service was opened with a song "The Gloryland Way" by Bro. Bishop with Sis. Bishop at the piano. Prayer was given by Bro. Copeland.

The association was called in conference by the assistant moderator, Rev. Moore. Then the delegates were given the right hand of fellowship. Ministers present were: Moore, Turner, Millard, Lemarr, Copeland, Allen, Bishop and Garner.

A motion was made and carried to send the next association to Freedom. A motion was made and carried to send the financial report back to the committee. The report was returned and accepted.

A report from the Temperance Committee by Sis. Louise Jones and Sis. Tidwell was received. The Obituary Committee Report by Sis. Williams, Sis. Johnson and Sis. Mary Lou Smith was accepted. Bro. Jackie Allen and Bro. Gene Bishop were appointed to the Resolution Committee.

Delegates appointed to the State Association were: Sis. Moore, Sis. Bishop, Sis. Allen, Sis. Lemarr and Sis. Copeland. A motion was made to adjourn for five minutes and to return at 11 a. m.

At 11 o'clock the meeting was opened with a song "When All of God's Singers Get Home," by Sis. Frances Moore.

The Temperance Committee reported that Bro. Bishop was to preach at 2 o'clock. In the absence of Rev. J.T. Burnett, Bro. Pat Millard took the stand at 11 o'clock. Subject "Life" 1 Thess. 4:13, 2 Tim. 4.

Rev. Pat Millard then asked the assistant clerk to read the names of the deceased. They were: Bro. Jim Drewery, Freedom; Rev. Bob Thompson, Boles; Bro. Less Crosley, Plainview; Bro. Bird Parker, Union Hill; also Sis. Lizia Hunt and infant Gail Ann Hodges, Mulberry, Sis. Birge, Branch; Sis. Dellar B. Starn and little infant Shelly Annette Powell, Harmony; Bro. Richard Huckaby, Coledale; and Sis. Rachel Blakely, Coledale.

After a good message, song and handshake the meeting was dismissed by prayer for lunch.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

At 1 o'clock the meeting was opened with a song by Bro. Roy Wilkins with Sis. Bishop at the piano, "Love Lifted Me."

The motion was made and carried to accept the reports of the Mission Board, the Executive Board and the Non-Represented Churches. Resolution Committee reports: Resolutions #1 and #2 all received and adopted by the assembly.

A motion was made and passed to adopt the corporate plan. The motion was then made and carried to have a centennial Service Saturday night at our next association.

The Ledbetter family being present, a motion was made and seconded to adopt the resolution of Thanks - carried.

The next order of business was the election of permanent officers and permanent board members. Three candidates were nominated for moderator, Bro. Robert Ashmore was retained, a motion was accepted to use the next highest number for Assist. Moderator, this being Rev. Frank Moore. Rev. Roy Lemarr was nominated and elected by acclamation for Clerk and elected for Assist. Clerk was Rev. Gene Bishop.

A motion was made and seconded to elect Bro. Jackie Allen as Treasurer - carried. Rev. Willie Copeland was nominated and elected by acclamation for the five year man on the Executive Board.

Rev. Bethel Garner was nominated and elected by acclamation for the three year man on the Executive Board. Then the motion was made and seconded to retain Bro. Frank Moore on the Home Mission Board, a motion was made and seconded to elect by acclamation Bro. Roy Wilkins to the Credential and Grievance committee - motion passed.

Rev. Robert Ashmore was elected as speaker for the Memorial Service and Bro. Gene Bishop was elected as alternate speaker.

The moderator appointed the preachers of the Association to a board to arrange the Centennial Celebration.

Rev. Pat Millard asked for a letter of recommendation and the motion was accepted.

The service was adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

2:30 SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The service was opened at 2:30 with a song by Sis. Copeland with Sis. Bishop at the piano. Rev. Bishop took the stand and read the text, Romans 14, "and He That Doubteth is Damned if He Eat".

Then a motion was made and seconded to send one dozen minutes to W.M. Lowrey at Havana, Arkansas. Bro. Lowrey, a visitor, gave the Association \$5.00. The motion carried.

The Egypt Church expresses its thanks to the ladies from the other churches who helped with lunch and everything.

Bro. Gene Bishop was given the right hand of fellowship while a song was sung. Meeting dismissed with prayer.

PERMANENT BOARD REPORTS

EXECUTIVE BOARD - -

We the Executive Board have not seen fit to call a meeting of the Board this past year.

Rev. Roy Lemarr

Rev. Hubert Hutchens

Bro. Bob Black

Rev. Ben Black

MISSION BOARD - -

The Mission Board with the help of Bro. Bob Rackley and many others conducted a revival in Mansfield, Ark. as a result of which one soul was saved.

We extend our thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Berry Fulgham of Mansfield and also to the Mansfield Public School and the superintendent of said school; also to Mr. Albert Wiley for their cooperation in that revival.

The Mission Board also contacted Bro. C.E. Kitchens to teach a Bible School for the Association. The Home Mission Board reported the school a great success and encourages our Association to conduct a similar Bible School each year.

Rev. Elmer Turner

Rev. Frank Moore

Rev. Robert Ashmore

TEMPORARY COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL - -

We the Sunday School Committee agree that Nashville Free-will Baptist literature should be used in all our Sunday Schools and that all teachers be Christians and should be Freewill Baptist.

We would like to encourage all churches that don't have classrooms to add them.

Bro. Audie Hunt

Bro. Luther M. Fleuellen

Sis. Paula Ashmore

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE - -

RESOLUTION #1

1. Be it resolved that this association in its regular meeting shall adopt the cooperative plan as was referred to the churches concerning the State and National Plan.

2. This plan being 10% of incomes of each church in the association. The said 10% to be allocated in this fashion, 3/10 or 3% of total church incomes to be retained by the association for furthering of its work. 7/10 or 7% of total church incomes to be forwarded to State Treasurer for disbursement as aforesaid plan calls for.

3. Any funds for any special purpose should be so earmarked if this plan is approved.

RESOLUTION #2

1. Be it resolved that we shall set aside the Friday night service at the next association in memory of the Centennial Year of the Arkansas Association.

2. A committee shall be appointed to arrange an appropriate religious service for the occasion.

We wish to thank the moderator, clerk, and committee on Divine service, for your fairness, and Christian spirit, also we want to thank the Egypt Freewill Baptist Church for the welcome shown us during the association.

Rev. Elmer Turner

Bro. Buddie Smith

Bro. Bob Black.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE - -

We your Temperance Committee find that Satan has many ways to blind the minds of Christian people, to draw them from God and destroy their souls, party drinking and social dancing and the use of God's name in vain. We also find that prayer is now forbidden in most of our public schools. We urge our people to use every opportunity to restore prayer in our schools.

We also urge that sincere prayer in our churches should be first.

Bro. Herbert Randall

Sis. Evelyn Hunt

Sis. Lorene Tidwell

TEMPORARY COMMITTEE REPORTS

- continued -

OBITUARY COMMITTEE - -

We the Obituary Committee find that God has called from our midst and added to His glorious union these: Bro. Jim Drewery, Freedom; Rev. Bob Thompson, Boles; Bro. Less Crosley, Plainview; Bro. Bird Parker, Union Hill; Sis. Lizia Hunt, Mulberry; Infant Gail Ann Hodges, Mulberry; Sis. Birge, Branch; Sis. Dellar B. Starn, Harmony; Infant Shelly Annette Powell, Harmony; Bro. Richard Huckaby, Coledale; Sis. Rachel Blake, Coledale.

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.

Sis. Mildred Lemarr

Sis. Rheta Ashmore

Sis. Mary Lue Smith

FINANCE COMMITTEE - -

We, your finance Committee find in the treasury \$277.37 for the budget use. We recommend the following to be used for the necessary expenses of the association.

(1) \$84.00 for the State Treasury

(2) \$25.00 for the clerk's fee

(3) \$125.00 for printing of the minutes

(4) \$42.00 to Youth Camp for entertainment of State Association.

Sis. Joyce Smith

Sis. Fern Moore

Sis. Dessie Yates

Budget system: 10% of income of each church in the Association to be allocated in this fashion. 3/10 or 3% of total church income to be retained by the association for furthering of its work 7/10 or 7% total church income to be forwarded to state treasurer for disbursement as aforesaid plan calls for.

Any funds for any special purpose should be so earmarked.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

BEGINNING INVENTORY, August 1966 - - - - - \$314.84

RECEIPTS - -

First Quarterly Meeting - - - - -	56.00
Second Quarterly Meeting - - - - -	61.00
Third Quarterly Meeting - - - - -	54.00
Fourth Quarterly Meeting - - - - -	51.00
Money for Alaska - - - - -	13.50
Money to cover Printing Expenses - - - - -	22.50
Association Funds 1967 - - - - -	83.00

TOTAL \$341.00

DISBURSEMENTS - -

State Association Representative Fee - - - - -	84.00
Youth Camp - - - - -	42.00
National Foreign Mission - - - - -	34.84
Clerks Fee - - - - -	25.00
Quarterly Meeting Clerks Fee - - - - -	5.60
Printing of Minutes - - - - -	132.50
Money For Alaska - - - - -	13.50
Home Mission - - - - -	35.00

TOTAL \$372.44

AMOUNT SHORT FOR YEAR - - - - - 31.44

BALANCE August 1967 - - - - - \$283.40

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.

DIARY OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

W. M. Gwinn, Booneville
Gene Bishop, Plainview
Robert Ashmore, Russellville
Ben Self, Ft. Smith
J.T. Burnett, Waldron
Lester Bradley, Charleston
Elmer Turner, Branch
Bethel Garner, Waltreak
Bob Sanders, Atkins
Frank Moore, Waldron
L. J. Wilson, Charleston
Hubert Hutchens, Booneville
J.R. Rooper, Howe, Okla.

Ben Black, Hackett
Clifford Myers, Pocola, Okla.
M.A. Melton, Ft. Smith
Arley Holley, Plainview
L.D. Carlile, Russellville
C.E. Kitchens, Gravelly
Roy Lemarr, Waldron
Henry Millard, Danville, Ill.
Jackie Allen, Waltreak
Bob Tankersley, Cameron, Okla.
Harold Schuler, Ft. Smith
Joe Tidwell, Danville
Levy Ward, Waldron, Licensed

DEACONS

A.E. Sharp, Charleston
Marvin Story, Charleston
Homer Robinson, Branch
Charles Diedrich, Heavener, Okla.
Jim Wilson, Kansas City, Kansas
Joe Carnahan, Mansfield
Chester Boatright, California
J.A. Balentine, Mansfield
Clarence Wilson, Waldron
Arvil Smith, Barber
Sherman Hawkins, Waldron
Fulton Isom, Waldron
Thurman Atchley, Parks
Will Lovett, Waldron
Loyd Harberson, Boles
Sherrill Phillips, Boles
Leo Keener, Waldron
Amos Hook, Ratcliff
Herman Kanady, Ratcliff
Loyd Milwood, Plainview

Odell Fryer, Plainview
Osbern Harkey, Plainview
George Ray, Waldron
George Hauner, Waltreak
Lonnie Brewer, Waldron
J.R. Southland, Ola
Bob Black, Hackett
Sammy Black, Hackett
Darrell Newton, Hackett
S. H. Brashiel, Hackett
Jim Black, Ft. Smith
Claud Parker, Waltreak
Oble Vaughn, Waldron,
Audie Hunt, Waltreak
Earnest Wagner, Waldron
Fred McEntire, Waldron
Dock Castleman, Cecil
Donald Cook, Branch
Manford Robertson, Charleston
Emmett Grubb, Ft. Smith

ENACTMENTS (Revised in 1965)

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 Baptist, 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 polity, and the polity of the ordained. Passed unanimously for this board to act protem 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.

1966--No. 1. Be it resolved, we the ministers of the Arkansas Association known as Free will Baptist, arrange to have a week's

ENACTMENTS - - Continued

Bible School, for the benefit of our young ministers.

No. 2. We the resolution committee would like to go on record as encouraging the local church to conduct a vacation Bible School each summer.

No. 3. We, the committee, encourage the reading of our Articles Of Faith and Church Covenant by our pastors to their churches, often.

No. 4. Be it resolved that we again have placed in our minutes the law of the Lord's Supper as written by Rev. W. M. Mankin ninety three years ago.

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 denominate the Arkansas Association of Freewill Baptist, 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.

CONSTITUTION OF ASSOCIATION -- Continued

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 an 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

THE MISSION BOARD - Continued

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 out going 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.

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 Savior 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.

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; 1 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. - Isa. 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

ARTICLES OF FAITH - Continued

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; Acts 1: 16-17; Daniel 10: 21; 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: 6; 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 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; St. John 13: 1-17; I Cor. 11:20-29; Matt. 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;

ARTICLES OF FAITH - Continued

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.

THE LAW OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(By Rev. Wm. Mankin)

The Lord's Supper was instituted for God's people. They all have equal rights to the Supper, and the right is a birthright. "For by one Spirit are we all baptised into one body." 1Cor. 12: 13. This is not water baptism, but spiritual baptism. Again Christ says: "I am the door, by me if any man enter in he shall be saved." John 10:9. "He that entereth not by the door into the sheep fold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber." (John 10:1). Christ is not water baptism, yet He is "the door". There is but one door, and Christ says He is that door, and he that cometh in at that door shall have full fellowship and equal rights with all other Christians. "Let a man examine himself, and let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup; for he that eateth and drinketh unworthily eateth and drinketh damnation to himself," not to the church, but to himself. It is a personal matter in judging and eating. The church that does judge and exclude any of God's people is not in keeping with the instructions given by the church of Corinth. To thus judge and exclude one of the children of God is to offend the child so judged and excluded. Now, listen to Christ: "He that offends one of these little ones that believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck and that he were drowned in the depth of the sea." (Matt. 18: 6; 1 Cor. 10: 30; 13: 32). It is contended that they of the same faith and order should be entitled to partake of the Lord's Supper. I admit that Christ is the true faith, and that His church is true order, and that faith is the means by which men belong to the true order. If this is meant by the same faith, we shall not object; we are agreed. But if sect is referred to, we object. As to order, if nothing but Gospel order is meant, very well; but we do not believe that one child of God should dictate just what another should believe or what church he should belong to in order that he may be in the right church, for the visible church is but an organic body of Christians, and placing your name on the church book of the best church on earth does not make you a Christian. The eunuch that believed and was baptised, what church did he join? Here is faith and here is order. Now we ask if the eunuch were to wish to commune with some of the churches, would he be allowed the right? No, he is not the same faith and order, yet he is admitted in heaven, but could not be admitted to a sectarian table. At the Lord's table all His people have a perfect right, be he who he may, and when the supper is set, and all of God's people are not invited, it is not the Lord's but a

sectarian supper. "So we, being many, are one body in Christ and every one members one of another." (Rom. 12: 5) And the way we become one body is by being baptised into that body, and, of course, this is spiritual baptism. He that gets in by water baptism, the same is a thief and a robber, and when any one gets into that body in a legal way he has a right to all the benefits and privileges of that body. "For we, being many, are one bread and one body, for we are all partakers of that one bread." (1 Cor. 10:17). By partaking we exhibit a oneness of that body. Who is meant by "we"? It certainly means all Christians of all ages. "When you come together, tarry one for another, be of one mind," But let the word of God control that mind. If it had ever been intended by the Savior that the supper should be guarded, as some attempt to guard it, God would have endowed judges with power to discern the pure from the impure. But the standpoint from which to judge is water baptism, and a legal administration of the same. So, if baptism by immersion, and a legal administration, this settles the matter, and Christian character is left out, by which some make a woeful mistake; for, after all this precaution, some have been found unworthy of the least of the privileges of the church. To admit immersion to be the only mode of baptism, and a true believer receiving it, is this not all right? Some would answer, "If by a legal administrator, this is all that is wanting." Is it not purely a personal matter? So it is the duty of the preacher to baptize, and the applicant to be baptized. When this is done, each has performed a personal duty. If I had never been baptized and had to wait until I found one whom I knew to be a legal administrator, I would never be baptized at all, as I cannot know the heart of man. Two acting in concert, one acting in good faith and the other not. Every Christian is responsible for his own acts, and not for another. Simon the sorcerer, "believed and was baptized," and that by a legal administrator, and yet it was discovered that he was not a Christian. So we see that baptism by legal administration does not confer any claim to Christian rights, as this proves to be a personal matter: for we clearly see that the apostle, inspired as he was, did not discover the evil of Simon's heart; neither can we know the heart of man. When we do our duty, it is ours; when an applicant, it is his. So we find that in repentance, faith, baptism and Christian duties, all are personally accountable to God and not to man. Various are the opinions of men, and the way we account for them in the capacity of men; and if we use the capacity God has given us we do not think that we should be eternally condemned for what we cannot help. The church of Christ is divided into many members, but is one spiritual body and Christ the head; and they should have the same care for each other that the fleshly body has for its members. Should Christians commune together at the Lord's table? "What God has joined together let no man put asunder." Christians do not feel alike if they do not think alike. They can preach together, sing and love together and should they not commune together? Then a union and free communion is forced upon us. Christ said He would drink no more of the fruit of the vine until He should drink it anew in His kingdom. So as assembled at God's table in heaven, so should we be on earth.

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.

STATISTICAL REPORT

CHURCH	MEMBERSHIP	MEMBERS RECEIVED	MEMBERS BAPTISED	MEMBERS DISMISSED	DECEASED	S. S. ENROLLMENT	DEACONS	MINISTERS	PRAYER MEETING
BOLES	76	4		2	1		5	1	
BRANCH	32				1		4	2	
BROOKLYN							2	2	
COLEDALE					2		2	2	
EGYPT	30						2	1	
FREEDOM	118	3			1		5	2	
HARMONY	64	2			1		2	1	
KEENER	52	9	2	4			6	1	
LAMB	21	1	1				2	1	
MULBERRY	54	10	4		1		1	3	
PLAINVIEW	54	6		2	1		3	2	
PLEASANT HILL	55	7		5			5	3	
PLEASANT GROVE	66	3	3				3	2	
UNION HILL	18	3		2	1		3	3	
TOTAL	640	48	9	15	9		44	26	

FINANCIAL REPORT

CHURCH	1st Qtr. Meet.	2nd Qtr. Meet.	3rd Qtr. Meet.	4th Qtr. Meet.	5th Qtr. Meet.	Asso. Fund	Edu.	Total Give In Ch.	Past. Sal.	Bldg. and rprs.	Val. Ch. Prop.	Pd. Evan.
EGYPT	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00	\$2.00		\$2.00		\$830.00	\$420.	\$300.	\$2000.	\$100.
UNION HILL	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00		3.00		557.60	470.	470.	5000.	72.60
PLEASANT HILL	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00		5.00	54.95	2037.67	1012.27	589.72	7000.	183.73
HARMONY	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00		5.00	58.61	1019.61	646.	100.	10,000.	190.
BROOKLYN	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00		5.00		216.00	187.			
KEENER	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00		5.00	86.61	2942.82	940.	1621.21	11,500.	220.
LAMB	3.00	3.00	3.00	3.00		3.00		424.00	144.	225.	4000.	25.
BOLES	5.00	5.00	3.00			5.00		558.00	540.			
PLEASANT GROVE	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00		10.00		1891.44	1640.90	75.54	8000.	150.
MULBERRY	5.00	5.00	5.00			10.00		394.50	367.		3500.	
PLAINVIEW		5.00		5.00		5.00		1232.00	1000.	120.	7500.	87.20
FREEDOM	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00		5.00	73.79	1678.82	1165.	221.29	5000.	193.74
COLEDALE	5.00	5.00	5.00								7000.	
BRANCH	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00		15.00		3360.00	2850.	238.	7500.	225.
TOTAL	\$56.	\$61.	\$54.	\$51.		\$78.	\$273.96	\$14444.24	\$9676.17	\$3960.76	\$78,000.	\$1449.27

CHURCH DIRECTOR

CHURCH	CLERK	ADDRESS	PASTOR	ADDRESS
BOLES	Mrs. Inez Speaks	Boles, Ark.	JACKIE ALLEN	Waltreak, Ark.
BRANCH	Wanda Robertson	Box 244A, Charleston, Ark.	LESTER BRADLEY	Charleston, Ark.
BROOKLYN	Addie Hook	Ratcliff, Ark.	ROY LEMARR	Waldron, Ark.
COLEDALE	Mable McLain	Heavener, Okla.	J. T. BURNETT	Waldron, Ark.
EGYPT	Faye Wilkins	Waltreak, Ark.	BETHEL GARNER	Waltreak, Ark.
FREEDOM	Joyce Smith	Rt. 2, Box 148, Booneville, Ark.	ROBERT ASHMORE	Russellville, Ark.
HARMONY	Dessie Yates	Waldron, Ark.	FRANK MOORE	Waldron, Ark.
KEENER	Roxie Atchley	Parks, Ark.	L. D. CARLILE	Russellville, Ark.
LAMB	Robbie Zimmer	Waldron, Ark.	ROY LEMARR	Waldron, Ark.
MULBERRY	E. L. Oglesbee	Gravelly, Ark.	J.T. BURNETT	Waldron, Ark.
PLAINVIEW	Osbern Harkey	Plainview, Ark.	GENE BISHOP	Plainview, Ark.
PLEASANT HILL	Betty Black	Rt. 1, Box 15A, Hackett, Ark.	HAROLD SCHULER	Ft. Smith, Ark.
PLEASANT GROVE	Lorene Looney	Rt. 2, Box 47, Charleston, Ark.	HUBERT HUTCHENS	Booneville, Ark.
UNION HILL	Ruby Vaughn	Rt. 2, Waldron, Ark.	BOB SANDERS	Atkins, Ark.