

MINUTES
OF
THE
108TH
BEAR CREEK
FREE WILL
BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION
2005

Minutes Of The
108th Annual Session

of the

BEAR CREEK
FREEWILL BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH
ANDREW CHAPEL FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH
DANVILLE, AL
SEPTEMBER 9 & 10, 2005

OFFICERS

Moderator.....Rev. Billy Robbins
Assistant Moderator.....Rev. Ronald Watson
Clerk.....Sis. Gina Yielding

The 108th session of the Association will meet with Adair Chapel on Friday and Saturday before the second Sunday in September, 2006. Friday Services will begin at 10:00 a.m. September 8th and Saturday Services will begin at 9:15 a.m. on September 9, 2006.

Address of Clerk:
Gina Yielding
7440 Herndon Rd.
Fairburn, GA 30213
Telephone: (770)964-4890

ROLL OF DECEASED CHARTERED MINISTERS

Rev. Porter Duboise

Rev. John Alexander

ROLL OF DECEASED MINISTERS

Rev. W. C. McComb

Rev. J. M. Haney

Rev. L. L. Nichols

Rev. R. P. Campbell

Rev. P. H. Drain

Rev. G. B. Haney

Rev. H. B. Foster

Rev. J. P. McVay

Rev. E. B. Pool

Rev. Alvin Frost

Rev. Zanas A. Frost

Rev. R. A. Sullivan

Rev. Ira D. Garrison

Rev. R. E. Moncrief

Rev. D. H. Henderson

Rev. D. H. Simmons

Rev. Ira Nix

Rev. James Orvil Tirey

Rev. Neri Frost

Rev. Danny Pierce

Rev. W. H. Pearce

Rev. J. N. Pace

Rev. G. R. Porter

Rev. Lonnie Kimbrough

Rev. Wyman James

Rev. Wiley Waldrep

Rev. Perry Box

Rev. Willard Mayhall

Rev. Garvin Page

Rev. Donald Keys

Rev. J. B. Sutherland

Rev. Dennis Borden

Rev. Billy Edwards

Rev. Dewey Pearce

Rev. Milton Pierce

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**Proceedings of the
BEAR CREEK
FREEWILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

Friday Morning

The 108th annual session of the Bear Creek Freewill Baptist Association convened at Andrew Chapel FreeWill Baptist Church on September 9, 2005. We began with the opening congregational songs "I'd Rather Be An Old Time Christian" & "Just One Way to the Gate" led by Bro. Ed Garrison.

The Association Moderator, Rev. Billy Robbins, took charge of the Service and welcomed everyone to the 108th Association. He thanked Andrew Chapel for Hosting the 108th Association and then recognized the former Association members & officers who have passed from this life with a moment of silent prayer. Rev. Ray Butler led prayer. Bro. Ed Garrison led the congregation in "Lord Lead Me On".

Devotional service for Friday morning was conducted by Bro. Bobby Moore of Haleyville FWB. Bro. Bobby testified and then turned the service over to the congregation for their testimonies. Devotional service was ended with an altar of prayer.

The following special songs followed: Rev. T.L Pierce, Rev. Orbie Pierce, Sis. Dorothy Vinson, Sis. Joan Hodges, Sis. Gerita Pierce and Rev. Billy Robbins - "While the Ages Roll ", Sis. Lois Bevan - "He Was Willing", Sis. Dorothy Vinson, Rev Orbie Pierce, Rev T. L. Pierce - "Stormy Waters" and Sis. Gina Yielding and Rev. Billy Robbins - "The Lights of Home".

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Ronald Watson. His scripture was from Psalms 42:1-5. His thought was "Are you thirsting for a living God? The invitational song, "Have Thine Own Way" was led by Bro. Ed Garrison.

The second sermon was preached by Rev. Billy Robbins after he sang "How Beautiful Heaven Must Be". His scripture was Romans 10:12-15. His thought was "What should we preach?" The invitational song, "Prepare To Meet Thy God" was led by Bro. Wayne Garrison.

The Moderator turned the service over to Rev. Jamie Suggs to explain the process for eating lunch and blessing of the food was led by Rev. Jamie Suggs.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Friday afternoon services convened at 1:30 p.m. The service was opened by a congregational song, "I've Been A Waitin" led by Bro. Ed Garrison.

The following special songs followed: Rev. Jerry Plott - "I Got Here As Fast As I Could", Bro. Lee Oliver - "I Can Only Imagine", and Sis. Barbara Butler - "My Lord's Gonna Stand For Me".

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- FIRST:** Appointed Reading Clerks:
Sis. Joan Hodges
Sis. Christy Jones
- SECOND:** Appointed Finance Committee
Bro. Willie Clark
Bro. Thomas Pierce
- THIRD:** Called for Letters from each Church:
Each church in the Association presented their letter and Association dues of \$75.00. They were all accepted and the delegates from each church were seated. We voted to add Amount Given to Missions to the Church letter.
- FOURTH:** Called for Petitionary Letters:
None
- FIFTH:** Reading Clerks were dismissed
- SIXTH:** Seated Visiting Delegates:
None
- SEVENTH:** Election of Officers: - none
In 2006 the following officers will be elected:
Moderator (2006) - Rev. Billy Robbins
Asst. Moderator (2006) - Rev. Ronald Watson
Clerk (2006): Sis. Gina Yielding

- EIGHTH: Dismissed the Credentials Committee
None to be reviewed at this time
- NINTH: Appointed Committee on Preaching and Devotion to
select a preacher for Friday night, two preachers for
Saturday morning, and someone to conduct devotion
for Saturday morning. As soon as the committee
was appointed, they were allowed to meet and make
their decisions.

Committee members appointed were:

Bro. Charles Edwards

Bro. Orbie Harris

Bro. Ed Garrison

- TENTH: Appointment of Committees

1. Committee on Literature

Bro. Bobby Moore

Bro. Al Colburn

2. Committee on Sunday School

Sis. Christy Jones

Sis. Jessie Hilliard

3. Committee on Deceased Members

Bro. Jack Hilliard

Sis. Shirley Lawler

4. Committee on Ministers & Deacons

Rev. Orbie Pierce

Rev. Ray Butler

5. Committee on Documents & Order of Business

Rev. T. L. Pierce

Bro. Lee Oliver

Rev. Ronald Watson

FRIDAY NIGHT & SATURDAY MORNING PREACHERS

- 2003 Rev. Ray Butler - Friday Night
Rev. Jamie Suggs, - Saturday Morning
Rev. Billy Robbins - Saturday Morning
- 2004 Rev. Ronald Watson - Friday Night
Rev. Orbie Pierce - Saturday Morning
Rev. Billy Robbins - Saturday Morning

ROLL CALL OF MINISTERS, DEACONS & DELEGATES

Adair Chapel.....	0
Andrew Chapel.....	1
Botush.....	4
Edgar Chapel.....	5
First Free Will Baptist of Union City.....	3
Haleyville.....	4
Mt. Home.....	2
Piney Grove.....	<u>4</u>
TOTAL.....	23

ROLL CALL OF TOTAL ATTENDANCE FROM EACH CHURCH

Adair Chapel.....	0
Andrew Chapel.....	1
Botush.....	9
Edgar Chapel.....	6
First Free Will Baptist of Union City.....	12
Haleyville.....	7
Mt. Home.....	7
Piney Grove.....	<u>6</u>
TOTAL.....	48

REPORT OF PREACHING & DEVOTION COMMITTEE

Friday Night Preaching.....	Rev. Ray Butler
Saturday Devotion.....	Bro. Leonard Lawler
Saturday Morning Preaching.....	Rev. Abe Edwards & Rev. Jaime Suggs

The Moderator released the Committee on Preaching & Devotion.

The Moderator had the congregation stand for a moment of silence in memory of all the deceased members.

We, the Association, were dismissed until Friday night at 7:00 p.m. with a prayer led by Rev. Ray Butler.

FRIDAY NIGHT COMMUNION

The Association re-assembled Friday night at 7:00 p.m. with the opening song, "Where the Soul Never Dies" led by Bro. Ed Garrison. Two additional congregational songs, "He Knows How" & "I Will Meet You In the Morning" were led by Bro. Ed. Garrison.. Prayer was led by Rev. Raymond Bevan.

The Moderator welcomed everyone and turned the service over to Rev. Ray Butler who brought the sermon. His text was John 13:4-20. His thought was "Do unto others". The invitational song, "Are You Washed In the Blood" was led by Bro. Ed Garrison.

The sermon was followed by Communion and Feet Washing. Bro. Lee Oliver and Bro. Farris Hages served the Lord's Supper. There were 40 in total attendance and 33 rejoiced while taking part in the special service. We concluded with "God Be With You" and left until the Saturday Morning Service.

SATURDAY MORNING BUSINESS SESSION

The Moderator called the House to Order at 9:05 a.m. for the transaction of business. A song, "Grace For Every Need" was led by Bro. Scotty Jones. A prayer was led by Bro. Leonard Lawler.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

- | | |
|---------|---|
| FIRST: | Read and accepted the Letter from Adair Chapel |
| SECOND: | Dismissed the Credentials Committee to review ministers cards |
| THIRD: | Seated visiting delegates:
None |
| FOURTH: | Roll Call |

ROLL CALL OF MINISTERS, DEACONS & DELEGATES

Adair Chapel.....	6
Andrew Chapel.....	4
Botush.....	4
Edgar Chapel.....	5
First Free Will Baptist of Union City.....	3
Haleyville.....	4
Mt. Home.....	2
Piney Grove.....	<u>2</u>
TOTAL.....	30

ROLL CALL OF TOTAL ATTENDANCE FROM EACH CHURCH

Adair Chapel.....	8
Andrew Chapel.....	10
Botush.....	9
Edgar Chapel.....	5
First Free Will Baptist of Union City.....	12
Haleyville.....	7
Mt. Home.....	7
Piney Grove.....	<u>3</u>
TOTAL.....	55

FIFTH: Received Committee report as read

1. Committee on Literature

We, your committee, beg to report that we recommend the prayerful study of the Holy Bible and use of the Free Will Baptist Literature in our Sunday Schools. That parents and grandparents read the message of Christ to their children, that they bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord as in Ephesians 6:4 and Proverbs 22:6 - "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

The committee report was adopted and the Committee was released.

2. Committee on Sunday School

We, your committee, beg to report we find 8 Sunday Schools in our Association. Membership is as follows:

Adair Chapel.....	15
Andrew Chapel.....	11
Botush.....	30
Edgar Chapel.....	20
First Free Will Baptist of Union City.....	25
Haleyville.....	35
Mt. Home.....	35
Piney Grove.....	31
TOTAL.....	202

This is a decrease of 6 members in our Sunday School membership.

3. Committee on Deceased Members

We, the Committee, beg to report that we had 8 deaths in our Association for the 2004-2005. They are as follows:

Adair Chapel.....	Bro. Jack Beck
Andrew Chapel.....	Sis. Exie Cauldwell & Sis. Joan Freese
Botush	Sis. Tillie Hicks
Edgar Chapel.....	Sis. Arizona Eberling
First Freewill Baptist of Union City.....	Sis. Edna Clark
Haleyville	Sis. Ruby Page & Sis. Martha Webb

We stood for a moment of silence. The committee report was adopted and the committee was released.

4. Committee on Ministers & Deacons

We, your committee, beg to report we have 14 ordained ministers and 11 active and 1 inactive ordained deacons in our Association. This is an increase of 3 ministers and decrease of 0 deacons.

The committee report was adopted and the committee was released.

5. Committee on Documents and Order of Business

DOCUMENTS AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. That we correspond with sister Associations.
2. That our deacons investigate the standing of ministers, unknown to them, who try to fill our pulpits.
3. That the Moderator be allowed \$50 for his service, and the he look after the destitute church and try to fill each with a pastor.
4. That the clerk be allowed \$100 for their services and the superintend the printing of the minutes.
5. That a church wishing to be organized shall call, to the assistance, an ordained minister by our denomination, who, being in good standing with the Association, shall call a presbytery consisting of not less than two minister or deacons and one clerk of our denomination in good standing. The Articles of Faith and Church Covenant shall be read and adopted.
6. That each church leave the minute funds up to the Association.
7. That we receive no baptism except it be by immersion, administered by a man ordained by a legal presbytery, and it be done in the Name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
8. That we shall not ordain any minister or deacon with more than one living wife, regardless of what the excuse may be.
9. That we investigate the standing of ordained ministers and deacons who present themselves for membership.
10. We recommend that we preach two preachers in the Association while in session, limited each to thirty minutes.
11. We recommend that we take the Lord's Supper and wash feet at every Association on Friday night.
12. We recommend that we read the rules of the church when taking in members, also that the church covenant be read every three months and wash feet.
13. That each minister make a report of his years' work, either in person or by letter to the Association.
14. That all ordained and licensing be done at the Association unless receiving the special permission from the Association; if he is called to pastor a church, let the church, with special permission from the Association, call a legal presbytery.
15. That the Presbytery elect or re-elect, while the Association is in session, the moderator of the presbytery every two years.

16. That this body will not license or ordain a woman to carry the gospel.
17. That our churches bring their tithes and offerings into the store houses on the first day of the week.
18. That each church has its own 5th Sunday meetings.
19. We recommend that our ministers be given a card of good standing each year and also recommend that they attend at least one or both meetings of the Association in a two year period.
20. We recommend any deacon coming from another church be left to the suffrage of the church as to whether they accept him as a deacon or not.
21. We recommend that no member not attending the stated meetings of his or her church be allowed to vote in the church unless he or she is providentially hindered from attending church.
22. In any case the evangelist is incapacitated, or unable to serve in his elective capacity, then the assistant evangelist shall become the active evangelist and remain so until otherwise directed by the Association Moderator.
23. That a Credential Committee, consisting of three members, regularly investigate those recommended for the office of deacon and those wishing to be ordained to carry the gospel. The Committee is also charged with overseeing the conduct of all standing ministers and deacons in the Association. The Committee shall serve on a rotating basis with one member leaving the Committee each Association and a replacement being elected by the Presbytery.
24. Ministers cards, showing their year work, shall be turned in to the Credentials Committee at the beginning of the Associational Meeting. The Credentials Committee will then turn the cards over to the Associational Clerk with recommendations to present or not present each minister a new card. The Credentials Committee will also report to the Associational Presbytery as to the standing of the ministers.
25. That we do not take homosexuals into our churches for membership or any office of the church nor the Association, as we view homosexual acts as an abomination to God. Leviticus 18:22, Leviticus 20:13 and Romans 1:17-32.
26. That we condemn abortion as murder, as all life is precious in the sight of God. Genesis 4:8 & Luke 1:41-42.

27. That each church helps in the expenses of meals for the association and the hosting church will decide the method of meals.

6. Released the Committee on Preaching and Devotion

7. Committee on Finance.

We, your committee, beg to report that the Association received from churches \$600 and there was a balance of \$52.84. This gives a total of \$652.84 to operate the finances of the Association.

TOTAL:	\$652.84
Moderators; Fee	50.00
Clerk's Fee	100.00
Printing Cost	Unknown
BALANCE	\$502.84

If there is a need for additional minutes by the churches, they should contact the clerk. If the finances for the Association should be depleted, then it will be the responsibility of the churches to share the additional expenses.

The Committee report was adopted and dismissed.

Special songs followed: Sis. Darlene Rogers - "I Can't Even Walk", Bro. Thad Gardner led "I'll Be A Friend to Jesus" & "When the Roll Is Called Up Yonder".

The business session adjourned until after the morning worship services. Rev. Abe Edwards dismissed with prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

We, the Association reassembled after a 15 minute break. Congregational song, "I've Seen the Light" was led by Bro. Thad Gardner. Sis. Lois Bevan sang "I'm Free At Last". Sis Lois Bevan and Rev. Ronald Watson sang "Who Am I"

Devotional Service was conducted by Bro. Leonard Lawler who read Matthew 5:1-12. He gave his testimony and turned the service over to the congregation for their testimonies. Sis. Fuson sang "The Old Ship of Zion".

A number of special songs followed: Rev. Ronald Watson - "Thanks for What You Took From Me", Rev. Jaime Suggs - "The Longer I Serve Him", Sis. Sharon Adair - "Is My Lord Satisfied With Me", Sis. Dorothy Vinson - "Flight Without an Airplane", and Bro. Thad Gardner - "What Would You Do".

Rev. Abe Edwards brought the first sermon. His main text was Haggie 1:5-7. His thought was "Consider your ways and get your house in order". The invitation song, "Will You Meet Me Over Yonder" was led by Bro. Thad Gardner. The second sermon was brought by Bro. T. L. Pierce. His text was Luke 8:5 The invitation song, "Glad Reunion Day" was sang by the Choir from Mt. Home.

Rev. Jamie Suggs addressed the Association and explained where lunch would be served. Bro. Willie Clark led the dismissal prayer and the blessing for lunch.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The Association Moderator reconvened the Association at 1:40 p.m. and welcomed everyone back for the business session.

The Moderator read the Roll of Deceased Ministers. Everyone stood for a moment of silence in remembrance of the deceased members of the Association.

A number of special songs followed: Bro. Lee Oliver - "I Believe", Sis Gina Yielding - "God Is Good All the Time", Rev. Ronald Watson - "Through the Fire" and Rev. Billy Robbins - "Thanks To Calvary".

The Association Moderator called the House to order for the transaction of business. Discussion was made on the 2006 hosting church for the Association. Adair Chapel Free Will Baptist Church was voted on to host the 109th Session of the Bear Creek Free Will Baptist Association.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Seating of visiting delegates: None

2. Roll Call

ROLL CALL OF MINISTERS, DEACONS & DELEGATES

Adair Chapel.....	6
Andrew Chapel.....	1
Botush.....	3
Edgar Chapel.....	5
First Free Will Baptist of Union City.....	3
Haleyville.....	5
Mt. Home.....	2
Piney Grove.....	<u>3</u>
TOTAL.....	28

ROLL CALL OF TOTAL ATTENDANCE FROM EACH CHURCH

Adair Chapel.....	8
Andrew Chapel.....	10
Botush.....	9
Edgar Chapel.....	5
First Free Will Baptist of Union City.....	12
Haleyville.....	9
Mt. Home.....	7
Piney Grove.....	<u>4</u>
TOTAL.....	64

3. The Association Moderator turned the chair over to the Moderator of the Presbytery, Rev. Ronald Watson.

THE PRESBYTERY

The Presbytery Moderator, Rev. Ronald Watson (2006), took charge of the service and proceeded by seating the ministers and deacons in the front pews. The Moderator then declared the Presbytery in order for the transaction of business.

A) The congregation stood for a moment of silence for Rev. Dewey Pearce and Rev. Milton Pierce.

B) Recommended granting new ministers cards to all ministers who turned in cards to the Association. Motion carried.

C) Presbytery Moderator: (2006) Rev. Doug Swann, Jr.

D) Credentials Committee: Rev. Jerry Plott (2006), Bro. Ed Garrison (2006), and Rev. Orbie Pierce (2007).

E) Botush was granted the authority to ordain Bro. Scotty Jones as a Deacon when his time was completed in June.

The Presbytery was dismissed with Prayer led by Bro. Al Colburn.

THE ASSOCIATION

Rev. Billy Robbins thanked Andrew Chapel for hosting the 108th Association meeting. Rev. Jamie Suggs thanked all of the churches for coming to Andrew Chapel for the Association meetings. The 108th meeting of the Bear Creek Free Will Baptist Association was the dismissal prayer led by Rev. T. L. Pierce.

ROLL OF DELEGATES FROM EACH CHURCH

ADAIR CHAPEL: Sis. Sharon Adair, Sis. Virginia Crumpton, Bro. Earl Crumpton

ANDREW CHAPEL: Bro. Farris Hughes, Bro. Edward Morris, Sis. Candy Morris

BOTUSH: Bro. Scottie Jones, Sis. Kristie Jones

EDGAR CHAPEL: Sis. Shirley Lawler, Sis. Jessie Hilliard, Bro. Jack Hilliard, Alternate: Sis. Vanessa Raper

FIRST FREEWILL BAPTIST: Bro. Lee Oliver, Bro. Oliver Carey

HALEYVILLE: Bro. Bobby Moore, Bro. Jerry Hambrick, Bro.
 Willie Clark
 MT. HOME: None Listed
 PINEY GROVE: Bro. Thomas Pierce

ROLL OF ORDAINED MINISTERS & DEACONS

ADAIR CHAPEL:	Ministers: Rev. Raymond Bevan Rev. Bobby Wayne Fuson Deacons: Bro. Wayne Adair
ANDREW CHAPEL:	Ministers: Rev. Jamie Suggs Deacons: Bro. Farris Hughes
BOTUSH:	Ministers: Rev. Ronald Watson Deacons: Bro. Edward Garrison
EDGAR CHAPEL:	Ministers: Rev. Orbie Pierce Rev. Douglas Swann, Jr. Deacons: Bro. I. J. Borden Bro. Leonard Lawler
FIRST FREEWILL BAPTIST:	Ministers: Rev. Rayford Butler Rev. Jamie Dinger Deacons: None
HALEYVILLE:	Ministers: Rev. Billy Robbins Rev. Wiley Brown Deacons: Bro. Charles Edwards Bro. Thad Gardner
MT. HOME:	Ministers: Rev. T. L. Pierce Rev. Abe Edwards Deacons: None
PINEY GROVE:	Ministers: Rev. Jerry Plott Rev. Donald Colburn Deacons: Bro. Alton Colburn Bro. Orbie Harris Bro. Charles Hill Bro. Philip Sensing - Inactive

DISABLED MINISTERS

None

MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES

Raymond Beavans: 224 Bluffway Drive, Jasper, AL 35503
(205)384-9478

Ray Butler: 6825 Roosevelt Hwy, Fairburn, GA 30213
(770)964-6750

Jamie Dingler: 5434 Stonewall Tell Rd, College Park, GA 30349
(770-)306-7173

Orbie Pierce: 1001 Highway 243 South, Haleyville, AL 35565
(205) 486-3350

Thomas L. Pierce: 6001 Highway 34, Russellville, AL 35654
(256)332-1022

Jerry Plott: 111 Poplar Street, Fairburn, GA 30213
(770)964-5522

Billy Robbins: 11774 State Hwy 253, Brilliant, AL 35548
(205)468-3083

Jamie Suggs: 543 County Road 514, Trinity, AL 35673
(256)353-7265

Doug Swann, Jr: 1978 County Highway 90, Hamilton, AL 35570
(205)921-5245

Ronald Watson: 2646 Edgar Chapel Road, Phil Campbell, AL 35581
(205)993-4692

FORMER LOCATIONS OF ASSOCIATIONS

Haleyville.....	1986
Piney Grove.....	1988
Adair Chapel.....	1991
Haleyville.....	1992
First Free Will Baptist of Union City.....	1994
Piney Grove.....	1995
Haleyville.....	1996
Adair Chapel.....	1998
Botush.....	1999
Edgar Chapel.....	2000
First Free Will Baptist of Union City.....	2001
Haleyville.....	2002
Adair Chapel.....	2003
Botush.....	2004
Andrew Chapel.....	2005

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought as we humble trust, by Divine Grace, to embrace the Lord Jesus as our Savior and having ordained justification by faith in His name as members of the Free Will Church _____ agree:

1. To watch over each other in love, and to pray for each other as members of a common faith, even striving to keep the unity of the spirit in the bonds of peace.
2. We will not speak evil of another, nor will we prosecute or expose the faults of the weak members of our church, but we will endeavor to be governed by Paul's instructions to Timothy: "That we will reprove, rebuke, and exhort each other as members of a common brotherhood."
3. We are commanded to do good unto all men, especially to those who are of the household of faith. But we should remember that our relations to each other are closer and the obligations more binding when we become as a family assume in Christian sense the care and responsibility that members of a family should feel for each other.
4. We will attend the stated meetings of our church unless we are providentially hindered or uncontrolled circumstances prevent us. And we will contribute to our means as the Lord has prospered us for the support of our pastor and other necessary expenses of our church, and will prefer the services of our church to that of any other and will pray for our pastor while he is preaching the word to us.
5. We will occupy seats near the pulpit and use the natural powers which the Lord has given us to praise His Holy Name. We will sing with those who sing and pray with those who pray.
6. We will not be guilty of the sin of Sabbath breaking by making Sunday visits to our neighbors which is double sin against the law of God, for in so doing we fail to attend the house of the Lord and hinder others who might wish to do so. Let us remember the laws of Moses which condemn Sabbath breaking, and the words of the inspired apostle which says, "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is."
7. We will not neglect secret and public prayers, and those of us who are heads of families will strive to dedicate our household to the service of God by teaching our children the great necessity of the Christian religion as the only hope of happiness after death. We will adopt the covenant of Joshua, the servant of the Lord, and say: "But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord".

CONSTITUTION

1. This Association shall be known as the Bear Creek Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama, being composed of ministers, deacons and delegates from the different churches, forming the same, each church shall be entitled three delegates and their ministers and deacons.
2. This body shall be considered as an advisory council, but having no authority over the affairs of the churches authority over the affairs of the churches.
3. Each church in this Association shall be considered an advisory body and shall control its own internal affairs and all matters of discipline, etc. It may however, in extreme cases, call for aid from sister churches.
4. All. Questions of doctrine and matters of general interest shall be settled by a two-thirds votes of the Association and the decision shall be final.
5. The officers of this Association shall be moderator, assistant moderator, evangelist, assistant evangelist, presbytery moderator and clerk. All officers including the clerk shall be elected at each session of the Association with no limit on numbers they can serve.
6. This Association shall meet annually at such times and places as may be agreed upon by a previous session and shall not adjourn until the business is transacted.
7. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt its Articles of Faith and conform to its usages.
8. We agree as churches of this Association to use our best influence to promote the interest of all moral and benevolent institutions, such as the temperance cause, Sabbath Schools, missionary work, etc.
9. No member of the Association shall be eligible for the office of moderator more than one successive term (2) years.
10. Any church of this Association failing to be represented for two years in succession shall be dropped from our minutes.
11. The Moderator shall appoint all committees.
12. All business coming before the body shall be recommended, if constitutional. If the committee refuses any query brought before them, the one who presented it shall have a right to bring it before the Association committee standing during the session.

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association shall be called to order by the Moderator who presided at the last session, the former clerk also officiating until the body is fully organized.
2. The Association will be opened with singing and prayer.
3. The Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Evangelist, Assistant Evangelist, Moderator of the Presbytery, and the Clerk shall be chosen at every other session.
4. The name of the delegates from the church shall be enrolled and called as often as is necessary during the session.'
5. A majority of delegates shall rule in all cases except in the reception of churches, then it shall be unanimous.
6. The Moderator shall not be entitled to vote except in case of a tie, then he shall give the deciding vote. He shall be entitled to speak on any question after others have spoken provided he appoints someone else to the chair while he is speaking.
7. Only one person shall speak at a time, who shall arise and address the Moderator.
8. No one person will be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association.
9. Not less than three officiating officers shall compose a legal Presbytery.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. GOD. We believe that here is one and only one true and living God. Who is in personality the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, equal and harmonious in every divine perfection. I Corinthians 8:6 & Matthew 28:19.
2. THE HOLY SCRIPTURE. We believe that God is the author of the Holy Bible, and its teachings constitutes the only infallible doctrines for government of His church. II Timothy 3:16.
3. ORIGINAL APOSTASY. We believe that Adam was created Holy but by voluntary transgression fell into depravity and consequently involved his posterity in sin. Genesis 2:17 and 3:3.
4. FREE GRACE. We believe that Grace of God comprehends all spiritual blessings, that the Gospel is the power of God unto Salvation, that the Holy Spirit not only reproves the word of sin, but it's means whereby sinners are converted and made wise into Salvation. Romans 10:12 & Romans 1:16

5. CHRISTIAN FAITH. We believe the Christian Faith is the belief in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, the Redeemer of the World, and in the Divinity of the Holy Scriptures, that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. Romans 10:17.

6. REPENTANCE. We believe that repentance is sorrow for sin, and the kind of sorrow which produces Godly repentance being preceded by effectual conviction of sin. Romans 2:4 and II Corinthians 7:10.

7. FREE AGENCY. We believe that the human will is free and that men have the ability to accept or reject the conditions of salvation as they are revealed in the Holy Scriptures. Joshua 24:15.

8. PERSEVERANCE. We do not believe under gospel dispensation the soul is elected to eternal life unconditionally, but that those who by faith persevere to the end will be saved; that it is possible for men who have been converted to make shipwrecks of their faith, turn again to sin and be lost. II Peter 2:20 and John 15:6.

9. OF GOOD WORKS. We believe that good works is the result of faith and not of necessity, that those who haven't faith cannot do anything pleasing unto God. Matthew 7:18-20 and James 2:14-18.

10. OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM. We believe that Christian Baptism is the immersion in water of a believer in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. That Baptism cannot be scripturally administered without faith in the subject who receives it. Romans 6:4 and Acts 8:36-37.

11. OF THE LORD'S SUPPER. We believe that the Supper was instituted by our Savior as a commemorative ordinance: that the bread and fruit of the vine represents His body and blood; that it is instituted for Christians and all Christians should unite in observing that sacred service, regardless of name or denominational distinction: we also believe the Saints should wash each other's feet. I Corinthians 11:23-26 and St John 13:14.

12. OF THE SOUL. We believe that a man is a living soul, that the body will die, but the soul is immortal, that death is the separation of mortal and immortal parts of the human body. Genesis 2:7 and I Corinthians 15.

13. OF SANCTIFICATION. We believe in holiness and sanctification in this life by the power and gift of God. Romans 12:1.

14. OF RESURRECTION. We believe in the resurrection of the dead; when the Resurrection shall take place the soul and body will

unite and form an immortal being; that the righteous will be received into a state of everlasting happiness to reign with God forever and ever, “but the wicked are driven away in their wickedness, but the righteous have hope in their death.” St. John 5:28-29 and Proverbs 14:32.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Invite visiting brethren and sisters to seat with us.
2. Reading minutes of the last meeting
3. Call for references
4. Call for peace and fellowship.
5. Open the door of church for the reception of members
6. Call for contributions for church expenses.
7. Call for acknowledgments
8. Call for new miscellaneous business.
9. Motion for adjournment.

RULES FOR TAKING MEMBERS INTO THE CHURCH

Q Do you believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God, and do you accept Him as your personal Savior?

A: I do.

Q: You found yourself a sinner in the sight of God?

A: I did

Q: And you feel that God for Christ's sake has forgiven you for all your sin?

A: I do.

Q: And now you want to become a member of this Free Will Baptist Church at this place?

A: I do

Q: Are you willing to support the church with your finances as God prospers you?

A: I am

Q: Do you believe the whole Bible, and will you take it for your guide and live accordingly to its teachings?

A: I will.

Q: Do you believe in free and open communion? Let a man examine himself according to I Corinthians 11:28. Also in washing the Saints' feet according to St. John 13th Chapter?

A: I do.:

CHURCH RULES

1. We agree to meet in conference quarterly, or more often if necessary, to transact the business of the church.
2. The Moderator shall be chosen by the suffrage of the church in the absence of the pastor. The Moderator shall preserve order and explain all questions before he takes the voice of the church on them, and shall have the liberty of speech as any other, but no vote less there be a tie, which he shall have the casting vote.
3. It shall be the duty of all members to fill their seats in conference and bear his part of the church's expenses.
4. No member shall leave their seats during the conference without permission of the Moderator.
5. No member shall arraign another before the church or any grievance without first taking gospel steps.
6. All business brought before the church by motion and seconded in gospel-like order shall be attended to by the church unless withdrawn by the mover.
7. Any person wishing to speak shall arise from his seat and address the Moderator, and if two arise at the same time the Moderator shall decide who shall speak first, and no member while speaking shall cast any reflection on any person, but shall adhere strictly to the subject under consideration.
8. No member shall speak more than twice on any subject without permission from the church.
9. It shall be the duty of all church members to be present at any church meeting to vote on all questions before the church called on by the Moderator or any member of the church who may desire to obtain the mind of the whole church.
10. If any member shall remain silent during the transaction of any business of the church and afterward complain of what was done, he shall be dealt with accordingly.
11. The members of the church shall not talk about another slanderously, and shall not give any report of circulation that may arise against the church member, but shall make it known to the one the report is against accordingly.
12. We agree to do all business by majority of the members present at the time, except touching Fellowship which must be unanimous.
13. We agree after taking the Lord's Supper to also wash each others feet

FORM OF LETTER

State of _____

County of _____

This is to certify that our beloved (Brother, Sister) _____

is in full fellowship with us the Free Will Baptist Church of
Christ at _____

and is hereby dismissed by us when joined to some other
church within twelve months.

This done in order of Church Conference this _____ day of
_____, 20__.

Rev. _____ Moderator

_____ Clerk

CHURCH LETTER TO THE ASSOCIATION

STATE OF _____ COUNTY OF _____

We, the Church of Christ at _____
of the Free Will Baptist order send greetings to the Ministers,
Deacons, and Delegates, composing the _____ annual session of
the Bear Creek Free Will Baptist Association.

We send Delegates: _____
_____ whom we deem worthy of seats with you.

OUR STATISTICS ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Received by Baptism: _____, By Letter: _____, Be Restoration:
_____, By Recommendation: _____, Dismissed by Letter: _____,
Died: _____, Excluded: _____, Names dropped that joined other
faiths: _____, Members Active: _____, Members in Sunday School:
_____, Days of Meeting: _____

Names of Ordained Ministers: _____

Names of Deacons to be Ordained: _____

Names of Licentiates: _____

Names of Deacons: _____

Church Expenses: _____

Amount Given to Pastor: _____

Amount Given to Evangelists: _____

Amount Given to Charity: _____

Amount Given to Missions: _____

Amount Given to Orphanage: _____

Value of Church Property: _____

Now in Treasury: _____

Minutes & Associational Funds: _____

Clerk Address & Telephone Number: _____

Paster Address & Telephone Number: _____

We petition for the Association to meet with us at _____
_____. This done by order of Church in
conference (date): _____.

Rev. _____ Moderator

Clerk

Names of Deceased Members: _____

	Adair Chapel	Andrew Chapel	Botush	Edgar Chapel
Value of Church Property	\$60,000	\$85,000	\$80,000	\$80,000
Church Expense	\$5,267.29	\$3,597.00	\$3,894.13	\$5,901.54
Now In Treasury	\$3,419.06	\$797.86	\$39,450.43	\$12,686.07
Members in Sunday School	15	11	30	20
Amount Given to Charity	\$78.00	\$100.00	\$0	\$675.00
Amount Given to Missions				
Amount Given to Orphanage	\$450.00	\$0	\$425.00	\$100.00
Amount Given to Evangelist	\$1,400.00	\$200.00	\$300.00	\$500.00
Days of Meeting	Full Time	Full Time	Full Time	Full Time
Amount Given to Pastor	\$3,100.00	\$3,565.42	\$9,100.00	\$9,478.56
Died	1	2	1	1
Dismissed By Letter	0	0	0	0
Received by Recommendation	0	0	0	0
Received By Restoration	0	0	0	0
Received by Letter	0	0	0	0
Received By Baptism	0	0	0	0
Excluded	0	0	0	0
Dropped/Joined Other Faith	0	0	0	0

	First FreeWill	Haleyville	Mt. Home	Piney Grove
Value of Church Property	\$295,000	\$180,000	\$65,000	\$300,000
Church Expense	\$15,052.72	\$7,641.80	\$3,441.01	\$27,735.42
Now In Treasury	\$15,263.00	\$40,673.44	\$3,516.04	\$54,457.36
Members in Sunday School	25	35	35	31
Amount Given to Charity	\$150.00	\$500.00	\$150.00	\$12,000.00
Amount Given to Missions				\$1,033.00
Amount Given to Orphanage	\$0	\$500.00	\$0	\$1,314.49
Amount Given to Evangelist	\$1,149.44	\$600.00	\$0	\$1,000.00
Days of Meeting	Full Time	Full Time	Full Time	Full Time
Amount Given to Pastor	\$7,000.00	\$11,550	\$7,800	\$25,600
Died	1	2	0	0
Dismissed By Letter	0	1	2	0
Received by Recommendation	1	2	0	1
Received By Restoration	0	0	0	0
Received by Letter	1	0	0	0
Received By Baptism	1	2	0	0
Excluded	0	0	0	0
Dropped/Joined Other Faith	0	7	0	0

CHURCH	COUNTY	PASTER & ADDRESS	CLERK & ADDRESS
Adair Chapel	Winston	Rev. Bobby W.Fuson 733 McHann Rd. Addison, AL 35540 (256)747-1873	Sharon Adair 212 County Rd. 73 Double Springs, AL 35553 (205)489-5414
Andrew Chapel	Morgan	Rev. Jamie Suggs 757 Strange Rd. Boaz, AL 35957 (256)593-1691	Candy Morris 268 County Rd 200 Danville, AL 35619 (256)462-3950
Botush	Winston	Rev. Ronald Watson 2646 Edgar Chapel Rd. Phil Campbell, AL 35581 (205)993-4692	Martha Smith 384 Co. Rd 3418 Haleyville, AL 35565 (205)486-9430
Edgar Chapel	Franklin	Rev. Orbie Pierce 1001 Hwy 243 S. Haleyville, AL 35565 (205)486-3350	Shirley Lawler 103 Stone Rd. Phil Campbell, AL 355 (205)993-4147
First Free Will Baptist of Union City	Fulton, GA	Rev. Ray Butler 6825 Roosevelt Hwy Fairburn, GA 30213 (770)964-6750	Sandra Glaze 521 Grittith Dr. Palmetto, GA 30268 (770)463-9027
Haleyville Free Will Baptist	Winston	Rev. Billy Robbins 11774 St Hwy 253 Brilliant, AL 35548 (205)468-3083	Brenda Clark 2791 County Rd 3459 Haleyville, AL 35565 (205)486-2164
Mt. Home	Marion	Rev. T. L. Pierce 6001 Hwy 34 Russellville, AL 35654 (256)332-1022	Connie Morrison 443 County Hwy 137 Phil Campbell, AL 355 (205)486-4829
Piney Grove	Fulton, GA	Rev. Jerry Plott 111 Poplar St Fairburn, GA 30213 (770)964-5522	Anita B. Smith 7140 Hobgood Rd Fairburn, GA 30213 (770)964-2674

MINISTERS REPORT

MINISTERS REPORT	RAYMOND BEVAN	RAYFORD BUTLER	JAMIE DINGLER
Sermons Preached	60	57	43
Professions Witnessed	3	3	5
Received in Church	0	2	0
Baptized	3	1	0
Visited Sick Homes		83	10
Funerals Conducted	1	7	3
Pastored Churches	1	1	0
Held Communion		2	0
Conducted Prayer Meeting		0	0
Attended Sunday School		52	50
Held Revivals	0	0	0
Married Couples	0	0	1
Money Received	\$	\$7,300	\$0
Amount Given to Charity	Unknown	\$150	\$0
Tithes	\$2,600	\$4,700	\$2,800

MINISTERS REPORT

MINISTERS REPORT	ORBIE PIERCE	T. L. PIERCE	JERRY PLOTT	Billy Robbins
Sermons Preached	65	38	50	64
Professions Witnessed	0	0	1	2
Received in Church	0	2	1	2
Baptized	0	0	1	0
Visited Sick Homes	11	0	75	25
Funerals Conducted	2	3	2	2
Pastored Churches	1	1	1	1
Held Communion	1	0	2	1
Conducted Prayer Meeting	5	3	10	3
Attended Sunday School	48	48	48	51
Held Revivals	1	0	0	2
Married Couples	0	0	1	0
Money Received	\$9,806.70	\$7,800	\$20,800	\$11,000
Amount Given to Charity	\$112	\$350	Unknown	Unknown
Tithes	\$1,406.32	\$2,360	\$2,850	\$2,400

MINISTERS REPORT

MINISTERS REPORT	JAMIE SUGGS	DOUG SWANN JR	RONALD WATSON
Sermons Preached	80	30	65
Professions Witnessed	2	0	0
Received in Church	0	0	0
Baptized	1	0	0
Visited Sick Homes	Unknown	Unkown	25
Funerals Conducted	3	0	3
Pastored Churches	0	0	1
Held Communion	0	1	2
Conducted Prayer Meeting	0	0	0
Attended Sunday School	50	36	50
Held Revivals	3	2	1
Married Couples	0	0	0
Money Received	\$5,465	\$600	\$9,100
Amount Given to Charity	\$250	\$350	Unknown
Tithes	\$2,970	\$4,700	\$2,700



