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THE  
Birmingham District Association  
OF  
FREE WILL BAPTIST  
1951

Proceedings Of The  
THIRTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION



Held With  
UNITY CHURCH, SYLACAUGA, ALA.  
August 30-31—Sept. 1, 1951

# MINUTES

## OF THE BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT ASSOCIATION Of FREE WILL BAPTIST

Unity Church at Sylacauga, Alabama

August 30-31—Sept. 1, 1950

### OFFICERS

Moderator: Rev. Ira Lee Hanks, Rt. 14, Box 288,  
Birmingham.

Asst. Moderator: Rev. John C. Baxley, Parrish,  
Alabama.

Clerk: Arthur Johnston, Rt. 3, Box 323, Sylacauga,  
Alabama.

The next setting of this Association will be held  
with Pleasant Hill Church, beginning Thursday  
night before the first Monday in September at 7:30  
p.m., 1952.

### ORDER OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

The body is declared ready for business:

1. Call for peace and fellowship of the Church.
2. Opportunity for members.
3. Invite visitors to seat with us.
4. Reading of minutes of last Conference.
5. Call for acknowledgements.
6. Deacons' report.
7. Unfinished business.
8. New business.
9. Report from sick committee.
10. Motion to adjourn.

## PROCEEDINGS

### THURSDAY NIGHT

Proceedings of the 13th Annual session of the Birmingham District Association of Free Will Baptist. Met with Unity Church of Sylacauga, Alabama, August 30, 1951.

Services began with singing of good songs.

Moderator reading from Romans 8:1-6.

Prayer by Rev. J. F. Williams.

Rev. O. L. Fields was in charge of the Devotional services, with many Christians taking part in the services.

Rev. Lovender, a visiting minister from the Mt. Mariah Association reading from Gal. 5:1, using for his text Lbeirty. This was a wonderful message and was highly enjoyed.

Prayer by Rev. McAdams.

Meeting adjourned.

### FRIDAY MORNING

The Association assembled promptly at 9:00 o'clock to enjoy the singing of many good songs.

A united prayer at the altar led by Rev. J. H. Whitlock.

Moderator reading Psalms 133.

Song, "When the Saints Go Marching In".

Ask for Peace and Fellowship of the body.

At this time the pastor of the Church gave a hardy welcome to all.

Body declared ready for business.

Call for letters.

1. Bank Street: Bro. Gerry Lee, Sister Pearl Ward, Sister Lelova Lee.

2. Fairview: Brother Ray Smith, Jr., Brother George Hinds, Brother Buddy Sims.

3. Dilworth: Brother George Lashum, Brother Z. D. Williams, Sister Geneva Pugh.

4. Shiloh: Pearlle Farley, Mae Tillery, Ester Layton.

5. Liberty: Brother Taylor Terry, Sister Mae Foster, Sister Delphia Langford.

6. Columbiana: Brother Rainey Hughes, Brother Jack Hughes, Sister Stella Shoemaker.

7. Unity: Brother Arcie Brown, Sister Martha McCain, Brother J. W. Gilmore.

8. Pell City: Brother Morris Hollis, Brother Ed Hollis, Brother Hubert Hewitt.

9. East Thomas: Brother George Cockran, Sister Eastes, Sister C. K. Evans.

10. Pleasant Hill: Sister Lula Rice, Cathleen Martin, Hazel Barks.

11. First District: Sister Pearly Tarley, Brother Carl Raspberry, Brother George Lashun.

12. Second District: Arthur Johnston, Brother J. W. Smith, Sister Elliose Drummond, Sister Lillie Hughes.

Letters read and delegates seated.

### ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moderator: Rev. Ira L. Hanks.

Assistant Moderator: Rev. John C. Baxley.

Clerk and treasurer: Brother Arthur Johnston.

Devotional Committee: Brother W. F. Johnston, Brother Claude Deason, Brother Ray Smith, Brother Clements Smith, Brother Raspberry.

Brother McAdams dismissed by prayer.

Recess for 10 minutes.

We assembled back with good singing.

Rev. C. D. Burrell conducted devotional.

Rev. J. W. Elmore brought the eleven o'clock message.

Dismissed for lunch. Prayer by Brother Hubert Hewitt.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON

We assembled back with good singing. Songs directed by Rev. O. L. Fields.

Devotional conducted by Rev. McAdams, which was enjoyed by all. Prayer by Rev. Ira C. Gow.

Move and second that Rev. Euel Johnson represent Dilworth Church as delegate.

Committees appointed:

Business Committee: Brother W. F. Johnston, Brother Jim Drummond, Brother H. H. Robinson, Brother G. C. Smith, Brother Hutson Whitlock.

Ordaining Committee: Rev. J. F. Williams, Rev. Odell Harris, Rev. C. R. Allen, Rev. J. W. Elmore, Rev. Ira C. Gow.

Temperance Committee: Brother C. O. Goodwin, chairman, Sister Olan Rice, Brother J. W. Smith, Sister Leola Lee.

Deceased Committee: Brother Rufas Franklin, Sister J. F. Williams, Sister Hazel Barks, Sister Eva Mae Tillery.

Standing of Ministers: Brother G. W. Hines, Brother Taylor Terry, Brother J. W. Gilmore, Sister Joe Martin, Sister Pearl Ward.

Auditing Committee: Brother C. N. Deason, Brother G. W. Cockren, Sister Martha McCain, Sister Franklin, Sister C. R. Williams.

Executive Committee: Rev. A. R. Barker, Brother J. M. Hopkins, Rev. L. V. Pinson, Rev. Jim Drummond, Rev. James Elmore.

We recessed for about 10 minutes after which a short song service was held.

Move and second for ministers to leave off of their report the part they don't need.

Prayer by Brother Allred.

Meeting adourned.

### FRIDAY NIGHT

Assembled back for service at 7:00 p.m. with much good singing.

Free will offering for Minute Fund \$16.43.

Rev. J. H. Whitlock led a lively devotional service with many taking part in the service.

At this time Brother and Sister Joe Martin gave us a special in song.

The Ministers and Deacons Conference was held with the following taking part:

Ministers: Rev. Lee Hanks, Rev. J. F. Williams, Rev. John C. Baxley, Rev. James Elmore, Rev. J. H. Whitlock, Rev. C. O. Goodwin, Rev. Hubert Hewitt, Rev. Jim Drummond, Rev. C. D. Burell, Rev. H. M. Hollis, Rev. Dee Hollis, Rev. Odell Harris, Rev. Ira C. Gow, Rev. Joe Martin, Rev. Raymond Allred.

Deacons: H. H. Robinson, Coy Hughes, G. C. Smith, Virgie Foster, W. F. Johnston.

Moderator: Rev. J. F. Williams.

Clerk: Brother H. H. Roberson.

Meeting adjourned.

Prayer by Brother Cockran.

### SATURDAY MORNING

We met promptly at 9:00 o'clock with a good song service.

Devotional was led by Brother Joe Martin. Altar prayer was led by Brother Jim Drummonds.

The Body was declared ready for business by moderator. Report of Committees.

### BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Move and second to accept report and dispose of it item by item.

1. That Rev. Dee Hollis and Rev. Morris Hollis be examined and if found worthy be ordained to preach the Gospel.

2. Rev. Joe Martin be examined and if found worthy be ordained to preach. Rev. Raymond Allred be examined and if found worthy be licensed to preach.

3. Rev. Leroy Smith be examined and if found worthy be licensed to preach.

4. We recommend that the case of Rev. George Lashun be dropped.

5. That rule Number 7 in the rules of decorum be changed to read "a majority of members present shall rule in all cases".

6. That rule Number 9 decorum be changed to read "all business shall be brought before the body by a motion and second. And shall be disposed of by vote of body".

7. That the Association not elect the Evangelist but that each quarterly meeting take care of their own.

8. We recommend to withdraw fellowship from Parrish Church because of unchristian character.

9. We recommend that each minister turn in a report before receiving a certificate of standing.

10. We recommend that all ministers over 60 years of age be granted a certificate of standing for life as long as body deem worthy.

11. As Pleasant Hill requested the Association, we recommend it to go there.

12. We recommend we pay the clerk the sum of \$20.00.

13. We recommend that each church send an offering of a good amount to the clerk for expenses within the next two weeks.

—W. F. Johnston, Chairman

The Association wishes to express their heartfelt thanks to the Unity Church for their hospitality during the Association.

### STANDING OF MINISTRY

We recommend that the Certificate of Standing be withheld from the following until further investigation, Rev. Carl Presley, Rev. R. J. Sexton, Rev. W. A. Farley.

### AUDITING COMMITTEE

For the year of 1950-1951 we the Auditing Committee have examined the books of the Secretary and Treasurer of the Association and find them in perfect order and neatly kept.

Balance in treasure \$21.55.

—C. N. Deason, Chairman.

Churches	Clerks	Pastors	Orphanage	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Building Repair	Home Mission	Members Died	Members Dismissed	Members Received	Sunday School	Number Ministers	Number Members	Publications	Foreign Missions
Mt. Zion East Thomas	Mae Barker 1565 Tuscaloosa Avenue B'ham, Ala.	Rev. James Elmore 2309 Ave. C Ensley, Ala.	\$640.84	\$780.00	\$ 95.00	116.66			2	14	50	8	132		
Liberty	Idell Smith Lawley, Ala.	Rev. A. R. Barker 1565 Tuscaloosa B'ham, Ala.		\$315.15	\$ 60.00		\$10.25		2	16	35		62	\$22.00	
Unity	Lanelle Logan 30 Maryland St. Sylacauga, Ala.	Rev. Odell Harris	\$253.31	\$1160.00	\$170.50			1	7	19	75	3	76	\$91.75	\$10.00
First Free Will Columbiana	Pauline Gow	Rev. Ira C. Gow		\$135.00		192.40				29	25	1	29		
Dilworth	Francis Lively Rt. 1 Empire, Ala.	Rev. Euel Johnson Rt. 1 Empire, Ala.				208.09				2		2	37		
Fairview	Alene Smith 710 Marshall St. Anniston, Ala.	Rev. J. A. Barrones Rt. 1 Box 180-F Anniston, Ala.	\$143.23	\$480.00	\$103.00	152.31		1		38	85	4	103	\$90.72	\$ 6.00
Bank Street	Alma D. Shields Parrish, Ala.	Rev. John C. Baxley Parrish, Ala.	\$ 21.71	\$ 20.00	\$ 19.60					14	27	1	26	\$ 25.52	
Pleasant Hill	Curtis Williams	Rev. Joe Martin Rt. 1 Jasper, Ala.						1		1	30	1	70		
Shiloh	Eva Mae Tillery Gardendale, Ala.	Rev. George Lashum 2313 Ave. C Ensley, Ala.	\$ 15.48	\$126.00	\$124.76				3	14	40	2	30		
Mt. Zion Pell City	Reed Waldrop	Rev. Jim Drummonds		\$780.00	\$ 55.47	656.05			6	6	45	14	69		

### DECEASED COMMITTEE

We, your Deceased Committee, regret to report that since our last Association we have lost the following beloved members:

Fairview: Sister Jackson.

Unity: Brother Haynie Sizemore.

Pleasant Hill: Brother W. T. Haywood.

—Brother Rufus Franklin, Chairman

### TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We believe in being temperant in all things, ruling the tongue, keepng our tongue bridled, trusting in the Lord, being led by the Holy Spirit.

— Rev. C. O. Goodwin, Chairman.

### ORDAINING COUNCIL

The following were examined by the Ordaining Council:

1. Rev. Dee Hollis and Morris Hollis of Pell City were both ordained for the ministry.

2. Rev. Joe Martin of Parrish, Ala. was ordained for the ministry.

3. Rev. Raymond Allred of Parrish, Ala. was licensed to preach the Gospel for one year.

4. Rev. LeRoy Smith of Gardendale Ala. was licensed to preach the Gospel for one year.

### TREASURER'S REPORT

August 30, 1950 through September 1, 1951

Amount brought forward .....	\$ 6.34
Quarterly Conference District No. 1 .....	28.50
Amount Received .....	101.41

Total .....	\$136.25
Amount Paid Out .....	114.70

Balance in treasure .....	\$ 21.55
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—Mrs. C. R. Williams Clerk and Treasurer

Adjourned until 11:00.

We met back with a good song which was enjoyed by all.

Devotional was conducted by Brother Jim Drummonds. The 11:00 message was brought by Rev. J. H. Whitlock. His message was "Building".

1:00

We meet back with good singing.

Brother Gow in charge of Devotional.

Prayer was led by Brother C. R. Allen.

Free will offering for the Children's Home was reported as \$62.25.

### LADIES AUXILIARY

Report from two churches were given. They gave the total amount collected in as \$1060.72. The total amount as spent out as \$1006.56. Total amount in Treasurer \$54.16.

Move and second that the Association go to Pleasant Hill Church. Next session Thursday night before the first Monday in September.

Rev. Odell Harris was appointed to preach the introductory sermon on Thursday night.

Move and second to adjourn.

### SATURDAY NIGHT

Service began with singing and prayer. Rev. Odell Harris brought the message. The Lord's Supper followed with feet washing which was a wonderful service with many taking part.

### MINISTERS' ROLL

Rev. J. F. Williams, Rt. 8 Box 640, Birmingham, 8, Ala.  
Rev. Ira Lee Hanks, Rt. 14 Box 288, Birmingham, Ala.  
Rev. Arthur Barker, 1565 Tuscaloosa Ave, Birmingham, Ala.  
Rev. James Elmore, 2309 Ave. C, Ensley, Ala.  
Rev. Roy Ritch, Birmingham, Ala.  
Rev. C. R. Allen, 6404 1st Court, N., Birmingham, Ala.  
Rev. J. H. Whitlock, Rt. 1, Quinton, Ala.  
Rev. Odell Harris, Rt. 3 Box 365,, Sylacauga, Ala.  
Rev. C. D. Burrell, Oakman, Ala.  
Rev. L. V. Pinson, Rt. 1, Atmore, Ala.  
Rev. Ira C. Gow, 205 Village Ct. Elyton Village, B'ham, Ala.  
Rev. George LaShum, Birmingham, Ala.  
Rev. C. O. Goodwin, 712 Ledbetter St., Anniston, Ala.  
Rev. Calvin Howell, 303 Pierce St., Anniston, Ala.  
Rev. C. B. Snelling, Birmingham, Ala.  
Rev. Billy Jones, Jefferson St., Anniston, Ala.  
Rev. Lester Lockridge, Rome, Ga.  
Rev. John C. Baxley, Parrish, Ala.  
Rev. Joe Martin, Route 1, Jasper, Ala.  
Rev. Raymond Allred, Rt. 1, Jasper, Ala.  
Rev. Roy Smith, Rt. 9, Birmingham, Ala.  
Rev. W. A. Farley, Gardendale, Ala.  
Rev. H. E. Hewitt, Pell City, Ala.  
Rev. Jim Drummonds, Pell City, Ala.  
Rev. J. E. Drummonds, Pell City, Ala.  
Rev. Tom Mitchell, Pell City, Ala.  
Rev. J. L. Spradley, Pell City, Ala.  
Rev. Dalton Ford, Pell City, Ala.  
Rev. Charlie Carlisle, Pell City, Ala.  
Rev. R. E. Drummonds, Anniston, Ala.  
Rev. C. M. Barber, Pell City, Ala.  
Rev. Percy Stewart, Pell City, Ala.

Rev. Willie Perry, Pell City, Ala.

Rev. Dee Hollis, Pell City, Ala.

Rev. Morris Hollis, Pell City, Ala.

Rev. W. E. Hollis, Pell City, Ala.

### MINISTERS' REPORT

No. sermons preached ..... 3  
Amount of offering received ..... \$3.00

Elder J. F. Williams

No. Sermons Preached ..... Unknown  
No. Funerals Conducted ..... 3  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 6  
No. Marriages Performed ..... 3

Elder C. R. Allen

No. Sermons Preached ..... 15  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 1  
No. Miles Traveled ..... 250  
Amount of Offering Received ..... \$ 1.00  
Expense of Ministerial Work ..... \$15.00

Elder Dee Hollis

No. Sermons Preached ..... 105  
No. Funerals Conducted ..... 3  
No. Baptized ..... 9  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 1  
No. Marriages Performed ..... 3  
Amount of Offering Received ..... \$45.25

Elder C. O. Goodwin

No. Churches Pastored ..... 1  
No. Sermons Preached ..... 98  
No. Funerals Conducted ..... 1  
No. Baptized ..... 6  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 1  
No. Miles Traveled ..... 6218  
Amount of Offering Received ..... \$153.25  
Expense of Ministerial Work ..... \$208.00

Elder Ira C. Gow

No. Churches Pastored ..... 2  
No. Sermons Preached ..... 116  
No. Baptized ..... 7  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 2  
Amount of Offering Received ..... \$865.52

Elder Odell Harris

No. Churches Pastored ..... 1  
No. Sermons Preached ..... 37  
No. Funerals Conducted ..... 1  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 1  
Amount of Offering Received ..... \$49.75

Elder Jim Drummond

No. Sermons Preached ..... 27  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 1  
No. Miles Traveled ..... 5000  
Amount of Offering Received ..... \$1.00  
Expense of Ministerial Work ..... \$30.00

Elder H. M. Hollis

No. Churches Pastored ..... 1 Mission  
No. Sermons Preached ..... 46  
No. Funerals Conducted ..... 1  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 1  
No. Miles Traveled ..... 1000  
Amount of Offering Received ..... \$55.75

Elder C. D. Burrell

No. Churches Pastored ..... 1  
No. Sermons Preached ..... 104  
No. Baptized ..... 7  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 2  
No. Miles Traveled ..... 300  
Amount of Offering Received ..... \$20.00  
Expense of Ministerial Work ..... \$115.00

Elder John C. Baxley

No. Sermons Preached ..... 62  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 4

Elder James H. Whitlock

No. Sermons Preached ..... 75  
No. Funerals Conducted ..... 1  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 3  
No. Marriages Performed ..... 2  
Amount of Offering Received ..... \$88.00

Elder Ira L. Hanks

No. Sermons Preached ..... 89  
No. Funerals Conducted ..... 1  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 2  
No. Marriages Performed ..... 1

Elder James Elmore

No. Churches Pastored ..... 1  
No. Sermons Preached ..... 120  
No. Baptized ..... 10  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 2  
No. Miles Traveled ..... 1708  
Amount of Offering Received ..... \$523.50

Elder James A. Barrones

No. Sermons Preached ..... 93  
No. Miles Traveled ..... 1868  
Amount of Offering Received ..... \$27.46  
Expense of Ministerial Work ..... \$59.08

Elder H. E. Hewitt

No. Churches Pastored, Assistant In ..... 1  
No. Sermons Preached ..... 70  
No. Revivals Assisted In ..... 2

Elder George LaShum

## RULES OF DECORUM

1. After an introductory sermon is preached the association shall be called together by the Moderator who presided at the last session. In case of his absence, the assistant Moderator shall call the body together, the former clerk also officiating until organized.

2. The association when assembled shall be composed of all the Ministers and Ordained Deacons, and Delegates chosen by the different churches composing the body.

3. The officers of the association shall consist of a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, and a Clerk to be chosen from the members present.

4. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over the body during the session at which he is elected, to call the next session to order and preside until reorganization and the elections and installation of his successor. It shall be his duty to keep order, enforce the Rules of Decorum, decide all questions, discipline, and in case of a tie vote to cast the deciding ballot. He may speak on any subject but must call on the Assistant Moderator to preside while he is speaking.

5. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep the minutes of the proceedings and to read the same when called upon by the body, and shall prepare the minutes for publication.

6. Each church is entitled to three delegates.

7. A majority of the members shall rule in all cases.

8. No member shall absent himself from the house without leave from the Moderator.

9. All business shall be brought before the body by a motion and second and shall be disposed of by vote of body.

10. No person shall be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject, nor more than ten minutes each time, without permission of the Moderator.

11. No brother shall be interrupted while speaking unless he departs from the subject under discussion or uses words of personal reflection.

12. Only one person shall be allowed to speak at a time, and he must arise and address the Moderator.

13. That no business be voted on without the whole delegation be present.

14. This decorum may be altered, amended or abridged if any session of the association by a majority of the number present.

15. The minister that receives the most votes shall be elected Moderator, and the next highest, Assistant Moderator.

16. We recommend that preachers coming from other associations have a certificate of standing, or a recommendation from their association.

17. We recommend that we correspond and ask correspondence with other associations.

## FREE WILL BAPTIST ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **THE BIBLE**—The Scriptures of the Old Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2 Timothy 3:16.

2. **GOD**—There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe, and in the Scriptures as the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

1 Cor. 8:6; 28:19.

3. **CHRIST**—Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified. He is now risen and glorified and is our ever present Savior and Lord.

St. John 1:1-12.

4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT**—The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men.

St. John 16:7-8; Acts 2:4; Eph. 4:46.

5. **THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD**—God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

Psalms 22:28; 97:2.

6. **THE SINFULNESS OF MAN**—Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.

Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

7. **THE WORK OF CHRIST**—The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection affected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

1 John 2:2

8. **THE TERMS OF SALVATION**—The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed

from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

2 Cor. 7:10; Pro. 28:13.

9. **ELECTION**—God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. **FREEDOM OF WILL**—The human will is free and self controlled having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit and live, or to resist them and perish. Joshua 24:15.

11. **SALVATION FREE**—God desires the salvation of all the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of Life freely.

12. **PERSEVERANCE**—All believers in Christ, who through grace, persevere in holiness to end of life, have the promise of eternal salvation.

Rev. 22:17.

St. John 15:6; Peter 2:20-22.

13. **GOSPEL ORDINANCES**—Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel: Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

St. John 15:6; Peter 2:20-22.

Mark 16:15; Cor. 4:5; St. John 13:14.

14. **THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH**—The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employment and amusement, for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.

Gen. 2:3. Exodus 20:8-11.

15. **RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT, AND FINAL RETRIBUTION**—The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked shall "go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

John 5:29; Matt. 25:46.

### **CHURCH COVENANT**

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ and adjoining 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 will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conference.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness and watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, to strengthen the weak and admonish the erring. We, everyone, hold Christian principles sacred.