

**THE
BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
ASSOCIATION**

OF

**FREE WILL BAPTISTS
1957**

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE
NINETEENTH ANNUAL SESSION**



**HELD WITH
LIBERTY CHURCH
LAWLEY, ALABAMA**

August 29, 30 and 31, 1957

MINUTES
OF THE
BIRMINGHAM DISTRICT
ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
HELD WITH
LIBERTY CHURCH
AT
Lawley, Alabama

OFFICERS

Moderator.....Rev. C. L. Finch, 2128 4th Ave., N., Leeds, Ala.
Assistant Moderator.....Rev. A. R. Barker, 822 Princeton Ave, B'ham, Ala.
Clerk.....Rev. R. W. Ritch, 724 12th Ave., W., B'ham, Ala.
Assistant Clerk.....Mrs. L. L. Gamel, 2203 7th St., W., B'ham, Ala.

The next sitting of this association will be held with the Belview Church, Leeds, Alabama, on Thursday night before the first Monday in September, 1958.

ORDER OF CHURCH CONFERENCE

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

PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY NIGHT

Proceedings of the 19th annual session of the Birmingham District Association of Free Will Baptist when convened with Liberty Church at Lawley, Alabama, August 29, 30 and 31, 1957.

Service began with the singing of several good songs. Bro. Terry led everyone in an alter prayer. Bro. Abney led the testimony service with many Christians taking part. Bro. Ritch brought the message using Judges 11:30 as his scripture reading. The message was enjoyed by all. Sis. Dorothy Foster dismissed us in prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING

We convened at 9:00 in the morning with the singing of several good songs led by Bro. Abney. Bro. Ed. Ledlow led in an alter of prayer. Bro. and Sis. Ledlow sang "Glad Reunion Day" and "Someone to Care". Bro. Finch led a couple of good songs. Bro. Abney led "I'll Live On". We had another alter of prayer led by Bro. Jim Drummonds. Bro. Abney took charge and welcomed everyone to the association. The body was declared ready for business.

Reading Committee.....Bro. Finch and Bro. Ledlow
Churches reporting at this time:

Riverview.....Sis. Enderfinger and Sis. Patterson

East Thomas.....Sis. Joyce Dill, Sis. C K Evans and
Sis. Willie Ray Harris.

Community.....Bro. Ace Northcutt, Sis. Cumi Morrell and
Sis. Emma Pardue.

Meadows Chapel.....Sis. Lillie Dutton, Sis. Ruby Gunter and
Sis. Mae Doss.

Liberty.....Bro. Ira Barnett, Bro. Victor Foster and
Bro. Jim Langford.

Mt. Zion.....Bro. Homer Howell, Bro. Gray and Sis. Barber.

Unity.....Bro. Charles Barnett, Bro. Preston Wyatt and
Sis. Minnie Brooks.

Alton.....Bro. and Sis. W. A. Bailey and Bro. A. H. Barnett.

Move and second to accept the letters and seat the delegates.

Move and second to accept the new church and seat the delegates.

Belview.....Bro. Wayne Spruiell, Bro. Amos Faulkner and Sis. C. L. Finch.

Devotional Committee.....Bro's. Foster, Williams and Pardue.

Move and second to elect officers for this sitting of the association.

Bro. C. L. Finch, Moderator.

Bro. A. R. Barker, Assistant Moderator.

Bro. R. W. Ritch, Clerk.

Sis. L. L. Gamel, Assistant Clerk.

Appointing of Committees.

Business Committee—Bro. Ledlow, Chairman; Bro. Fields, Bro. Charles
Barnett, Bro. Falkner and Bro. Evans.

Ordaining Committee—Bro. Abney, Chairman; Bro. Jessie Drummonds,
Bro. Hanks, Bro. Allen and Bro. Stewart.

Deceased Committee—Sis. Barber, Sis. Dill and Sis. Duckett.

Standing of Ministers—Bro. Terry, Bro. Ira Barnett and Bro. A. H. Barnett.

Temperance Committee—Sis. Gamel, Bro. Howell and Sis. Pardue.

Auditing Committee—Sis. Evans, Bro. Langford and Sis. Bailey.

Move and second to replace Bro. Snelling on the Executive Committee.

Executive Committee—Bro. Ritch, 1958; Bro. W. A. Fields, 1959; Bro. C. L.
Finch, 1960; Bro. J. A. Elmore, 1961; and Bro. I. L. Hanks, 1962.

Devotional Committee reported that Bro. E. B. Ledlow was to bring the
morning message.

Move and second to accept the work of the Executive Committee and it
be entered into the minutes.

The Executive Committee met Oct. 6, 1956, at East Thomas Church, Birmingham, Alabama. Moved to go to Talladega, Alabama, and investigate
deeds of Brecon Free Will Baptist Church to see if the Free Will Baptist
Denomination could retain the property, and report back to the Birmingham
District Association at the next session. Moved and seconded to appoint
three trustees for the Birmingham District Association. Bro. Finch, Bro.
Hanks and Bro. Ledlow were appointed.

We had a short recess at this time.

We convened back with Bro. Finch leading the singing. Bro. Jim Drummonds
led in a short testimony service with many Christians taking part. Bro.
Ledlow brought a wonderful message using Hebrews 7:1-16 as his scripture
reading. The message was enjoyed by all. Bro. Abney invited everyone to
take part in the lunch hour. Bro. Jessie Drummonds dismissed us for lunch.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

After a wonderful lunch which was enjoyed by all, we convened back
with Bro. Abney leading "We Are Passing Away". Bro. Jessie Drummonds
led us in prayer. Bro. Finch read from I John 3:10-16. While the com-
mittees were out, Bro. Abney sung a solo. Bro. Jessie Drummonds led
"Heaven Hold All to Me". Bro. Wayne Spruiell spoke for a few minutes
from the 37th Psalms. Sis. Ledlow gave a special, "Hide Me in His Bosom".
Partial report of the Business Committee.

Move and second to accept report and dispose of same, item by item.

1. That the body adopt a rule for the assistant clerk to make a roll
call of the delegates marking the ordained. This list to be given to the
moderator as soon as letters are finished being read. This list to be used
for the appointing of the committees.

2. We recommend that item No. 3 in Rules of Decorum be amended
to read, The officers of the Association shall consist of a moderator, as-
sistant moderator, clerk and assistant clerk to be chosen from the members
present.

3. We recommend that Belview Church be accepted into the Associa-
tion on the forth coming of a letter, then in full fellowship.

4. We recommend that Rev. Wayne Spruiell be turned over to the
ordaining council and if found worthy, be ordained to preach the gospel.
That Bro. Jim Drummonds be turned over to the ordaining council and

if found worthy, his papers be exchanged. That Bro. E. J. Duck be ordained for a deacon, if found worthy.

5. We recommend that this body grant Unity Church a letter in good standing. Recommending them to the East Alabama Conference.

6. We recommend that both Quarterly Meeting be combined into one quarterly meeting.

We gave the Belview Church the right hand of Christian fellowship. Bro. Fields dismissed us for a short recess.

We convened back with Bro. Ritch leading "The Gloryland Way". Bro. and Sis. Ledlow sang a couple of specials. Bro. Ritch sang "Precious Memories".

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

1. We recommend that Bro. Jim Drummonds' ordination papers be exchanged.

2. We recommend that Bro. Wayne Spruiell be ordained.

3. We recommend that Bro. E. J. Duck be ordained as a deacon.

We were dismissed in prayer by Bro. Jim Drummonds.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Ministers and Deacons conference met at seven P.M. with the opening song of "All Alone". Bro. Finch took as his scripture reading James 1:12. Bro. Howell led in the alter prayer. Sis. Dorothy Foster was elected to serve as clerk in the absence of the former clerk. Rev. V. B. Abney was elected by the majority to serve as moderator and Bro. Jessie Drummonds to be the assistant.

Sis. Dorothy Foster was elected as clerk and Bro. Ritch was to serve as the assistant clerk.

The minutes of the last conference were read and adopted as they were written in the last conference.

A song was sung and an invitation for membership to the ministers and deacons conference was given. Deacons were Bro. J. U. Keeton and Bro. R. T. Stewart. Ministers were Bro. Jim Drummonds and Bro. Wayne Spruiell. By a proper move and second all four were voted in the conference. Move and second to amend Rule No. 3 was defeated.

Move and second to amend Rule No. 9 passed. The amendment reads Appointing of minister to bring the message an his subject.

Bro. Jim Drummonds was appointed to speak on "Don't move the old land mark" at the next Association. "Amazing Grace" was sung. Bro. and Sis. Ledlow sang a special. Bro. Fields and Bro. Ritch called for a song and a collection of \$56.00 was received for the children's home.

Bro. Fields and Bro. Spruiell brought two great messages using the scriptures, Isaiah, Genesis and Matthew. Their subjects were "Divine Government" and "Providence and Creation and Faith". We were dismissed in prayer.

RULES OF THE CONFERENCE

1. That this be known as the Ministers and Deacons Conference of the Birmingham District Association.

2. That all Ministers coming from other associations bring a letter of recommendation from his association along with his certificate of standing.

3. That all ministers coming from other denominations be investigated before being accepted into our conference. That they also preach for one year under the watchcare of the church.

4. That a questionnaire be drawn up for all Ministers and Deacons wishing to be licensed or ordained fill it out.

5. That all Ministers and Deacons coming to be licensed or ordained fill out a questionnaire before being accepted.

OUTLINE FOR THE MODERATOR

1. Singing of four or five good songs.

2. Prayer.

3. Moderator turns the meeting over to the Ministers and Deacons conference.

4. Reading of the minutes of the last conference.

5. Invitation for new members.

6. Election of officers.

7. Old business.

8. New business.

9. Appointing of minister to bring the message and his subject.

10. Hearing the message.

11. Lord's Supper and Feet Washing.

12. Adjourn.

MINISTERS ROLL

HONOR ROLL

Rev. J. F. Williams, Rt. 8, Box 640, Birmingham, Ala.

Rev. C. R. Allen, 1019 Cahaba, Birmingham, Alabama.

Rev. V. B. Abney, Pell City, Alabama.

Rev. Ira L. Hanks, Rt. 15, Box 1142, Birmingham, Alabama.

Rev. E. O. Morris, Rt. 1, Talladega, Alabama.

Rev. Harvel Patterson, Rt. 6, Talladega, Alabama.

Rev. Jessie E. Drummonds, 3327 9th Ave., No., Pell City, Alabama.

Rev. Dee Hollis, Rt. 1, Box 98D, Pell City, Alabama.

Rev. Donnie Layton, Rt. 7, Box 585H, Birmingham, Alabama.

Rev. M. C. Isbell, 2225 3rd Ave., No., Leeds, Alabama.

Rev. Odra Davis, Rt. 11, Box 312, Birmingham 10, Alabama.

Rev. Dewey Isbell, Box 235, Leeds, Alabama.

Rev. W. A. Fields, Rt. 2, Box 468, Gardendale, Alabama.

Rev. Abraham Samples, Rt. 5, Box 457, Birmingham, Alabama.

Rev. Ray W. Ritch, 724 12th Ave., West, Birmingham 4, Alabama.

Rev. C. D. Burrell, Box 611, Oakman, Alabama.

Rev. James A. Elmore, 4304 10th Ave., No., Birmingham, Alabama.

Rev. Chester L. Finch, 2128 4th Ave., No., Leeds, Alabama.

Rev. L. B. Hallmark, Rt. 2, Box 438, Gardendale, Alabama.
 Rev. C. B. Snelling, 1616 Oxmoor Road, Birmingham, Alabama.
 Rev. James T. Baker, Rt. 1, Lawley, Alabama.
 Rev. Arthur Barker, 822 Princeton Ave., Birmingham, Alabama.
 Rev. Lamar Smith, 808 Ledbetter, Anniston, Alabama.
 Rev. James A. Thomas, Leeds, Alabama.
 Rev. Raymond Alred, Rt. 1, Jasper, Alabama.
 Rev. C. W. Haynes, 7208 1st Ave., No., Birmingham, Alabama.
 Rev. Gene Dawson, P. O. Box 123, Vincent, Alabama.
 Rev. A. L. Venable, Rt. 2, Box 134, Trussville, Alabama.
 Rev. Wayne Spruiell, Rt. 2, Box 52, Leeds, Alabama.
 Rev. Carl Leon Pressley, 710 Marshall St., Anniston, Alabama.
 Rev. Roscoe Gardner.

DEACONS ROLL

Fairview

Bro. C. E. Smith
 Bro. Alvin Hennegar
 Bro. R. W. Williams
 Bro. Richard Torrance

Jefferson Park

Bro. John L. Poe
 Bro. Ellis Dodson

Highpoint

Bro. George Cline

Community

Bro. Junior Gibson
 Bro. Curtis Trussell
 Bro. Leroy Pardue

Riverview

Bro. Henry Endfinger

East Thomas

Bro. C. K. Evans
 Bro. T. V. Evans
 Bro. F. S. Higdon
 Bro. J. D. Shackford
 Bro. L. E. Layton
 Bro. Dillard Key

Meadows Chapel

Bro. Alfred Dutton
 Bro. Irkle Gunter
 Bro. Harlon Upton

Liberty

Bro. Virgil Foster
 Bro. Buddy Terry
 Bro. J. W. Keeton

Mt Zion

Bro. Homer Howell
 Bro. Grady Hollis
 Bro. Willie Harris
 Bro. Fate Gossett

Alton

Bro. A. H. Barnett

Unity

Bro. Durwood Garrett
 Bro. Walter Gentry
 Bro. Gaines Henry
 Bro. J. H. Williams
 Bro. E. J. Duck

Belview

Bro. Richard Stewart
 Bro. A. B. Lee
 Bro. Mardis Minor

SATURDAY MORNING

We convened at 9 with Bro. Ledlow leading "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand". Bro. Lamar Smith led an alter prayer.

Jefferson Park, Highpoint and Fairview Churches reported at this time. It was moved and seconded to accept the letters and seat the delegates. Fairview—Bro. Richard Torrance, Sis. Dorothy Torrance and Sis. Shirley Hennegar.

Jefferson Park—Sis. Nora Isbell, Sis. Dolly Davis and Sis. Maudie Dodson. Highpoint—Bro. and Sis. George Cline.

The ordaining council took charge and layed hands on Bro. Spruiell and Bro. Duck.

Partial report of Business Committee.

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

7. We recommend that this body elect by nomination an assistant field Evangelist to assist the Field Evangelist.

8. We recommend that this body decide by vote where the Quarterly meeting shall meet. Voted to go to East Thomas.

9. We recommend that each church in this Association pay \$5.00 a month into the Home Mission Treasury to be used to pay the expense of the field evangelist or his assistant when working in new fields. This to be added to the amount now in the treasury.

We had a ten minute recess.

Bro. Wayne Spruiell was elected as the assistant Field Evangelist.

Bro. Hanks brought a wonderful message using Psalms 46:4 as his scripture reading. His text was Spiritual River. The message was enjoyed by all. Bro. Davis dismissed us in prayer.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

After a wonderful lunch which was enjoyed by all we convened back with the singing of "Bringing in the Sheaves".

Report of Auditing Committee—We, the auditing committee, have examined the clerks books and found them in order.

Report of Devotional Committee—We, the devotional committee, have chosen Bro. Barker to bring the message tonight.

Report of the Field Evangelist—I have visited most of our churches this year and received a warm welcome from everyone. Some of our churches seem to be going forward in strength and harmony. Let us pray that all of our churches will go forward in 1958. Let us pray for the Field Evangelist and his assistant that God will lead and direct them as they go in the coming year. I traveled 3,673 miles and received \$50.50 in offerings. Let us pray one for the other this year.

Bro. W. A. Fields was elected as the Field Evangelist for the coming year. Bro. Finch read from I Corinthians 3:6. Move and second for the moderator to appoint a Home Mission Board.

Home Mission Board Chairman Rev. Ray W. Ritch, 724 12th Ave., West, Birmingham 4, Alabama, Phone FA 4-9662; Bro. A. W. Dutton, Treasurer, Rt. 3, Box 1130A, Birmingham, Ala., Phone ST 6-3843; Mrs. L. L. Gamel, Secretary, 2203 7th St., W., Birmingham, Ala., Phone AL 1-6754.

The moderator appointed the following to represent at the State Associa-

NAME	ADDRESS	No. Churches Pastored	No. Sermons Preached	No. Funerals Conducted	No. Baptized	No. Revivals Assisted In	No. Marriages Performed	No. Members Received	No. Sick Calls	No. Miles Traveled	Amount of Offering Received	Expense of Ministerial Work
Rev. O. A. Davis	Rt. 11, Box 312, Birmingham 10, Ala.	1	160	1	1	3	1	11	92		190.00	250.00
Rev. Lamar Smith	808 Ledbetter, Anniston, Ala.	1	150	1	17	1	2	45	200			600.00
Rev. W. A. Fields	Rt. 2, Box 468, Gardendale, Ala.	1	125	1	1	2	1	7			228.00	
Rev. R. W. Ritch	724 12th Ave., West, Birmingham 4, Ala.	1	84					1	125	3,673	50.50	78.85
Rev. Lee Hanks	Rt. 15, Box 1142, Birmingham, Ala.	1	84	9	3	1	2	10			590.20	
Rev. A. R. Barker	822 Princeton Ave., Birmingham, Ala.	1	90	5	6	2	1	19	85		1,400.00	
Rev. Wayne Spruiell	Rt. 2, Box 52, Leeds, Ala.		50			3			25	8,000	100.00	80.00
Rev. Gene Dawson	P. O. Box 123, Vincent, Ala.	1	208	1	10	2		7	8	2,000	220.00	400.00
Rev. J. A. Elmore	4304 10th Ave., No., Birmingham, Ala.		52	2		2						
Rev. C. L. Finch	2128 4th Ave., No., Leeds, Ala.	1	88	3	2	2	3	4	300		550.00	727.97
Rev. E. B. Ledlow	804 W. Pine St., Sylacauga, Ala.	1	152	3	15	4	2	17	210		1,420.00	
Rev. C. D. Burrell	Box 611, Oakman, Ala.		58	2		1			64		84.74	268.19
Rev. C. R. Allen	1019 Cahaba, Birmingham, Ala.		3	1		1						
Rev. J. T. Baker	Route One, Lawley, Ala.		30						50	1,500	168.75	
Rev. J. E. Drummonds	3327 9th Ave., N., Pell City, Ala.	1	50				2					
Rev. C. W. Haynes	7208 1st Ave., N., Birmingham, Ala.		57	1	3	3	1		35	5,000	185.00	250.00
Rev. J. A. Thomas	Leeds, Ala.		10			2			150	200	4.00	30.00
Rev. C. L. Pressley	710 Marshall St., Anniston, Ala.		5			1			25			50.00
Rev. A. L. Venable	Rt. 2, Box 134, Trussville, Ala.		9						15	150		15.00
Rev. Roscoe Gardner	Birmingham, Ala.		2			1			50	375	36.00	100.00

tion: Sis. Barber, Mt. Zion; Sis. Foster, Liberty; Bro. R. R. Smith, Fairview; Sis. Pardue, Community; Sis. Barker, East Thomas; Sis. Dutton, Meadows Chapel; Bro. Venable, Highpoint; Sis. Dodson, Jefferson Park, Sis. Bessie Drummonds, Riverview; Belview, Sis. Finch; Sis. A. H. Barnett, Alton; E. M. McDaniel, Birmingham District Association.

Report on Camp Ground Fund:

Balance on hand.....	\$616.00
Interest on money.....	30.00
Gifts	4.00
Total	\$650.00

Move and second for the moderator to appoint a Camp Ground Committee. Rev. Lamar Smith, Chairman; Rev. Wayne Spruiell, and Bro. C. K. Evans. Report of the Temperance Committee: We, your temperance committee, believe in abstaining from all appearance of evil, keeping ourselves unspotted from the world and loving our neighbors as ourselves.

Report of the Deceased Committee—We, the Deceased Committee, find the following have passed away during the past year. Community, Bro. T. J. Kelly; East Thomas, Bro. J. C. Swinney; Belview, Bro. Jim Finch, Bro. Doug Isbell, Sis. Annie Isbell; Liberty, Sis. Gertrude Duncan.

We extend our greatest sympathy to the families of these beloved ones. But we know that our loss is Heaven's gain.

We had a short recess at this time.

We convened back with the singing of "Standing on the Promises of God". Bro. and Sis. Ledlow sung "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow".

We gave the Church and Community a rising vote of thanks for their kind hospitality.

Report of the Sanding of Ministers Committee — We, your standing of ministers committee, recommend that all ministers that turned in their work report be given their certificate of standing.

Move and second to change the Feet washing service from Saturday night to Friday night passed.

Move and second to leave the next meeting of the Association up to the moderator and the clerk. Next meeting will be at Belview Church, Leeds, Alabama.

Move and second to release the Business Committee.

Bro. and Sis. Ledlow sung "If I Can Just Make It In".

Bro. Baker dismissed us in prayer.

SATURDAY NIGHT

We convened at 7:00 with Bro. Wayne Spruiell leading several good songs. Bro. Ritch led in an alter prayer. Bro. Baker led the testimony service with many Christians taking part. Bro. Finch led "When Our Lord Shall Come Again". Bro. Barker brought a wonderful message using "The Soul of Man" as his text and using Mark 8:33 as his scripture reading. Bro. Ritch too charge and spoke concerning the communion and feet washing, inviting everyone to take part. Bro. Fields took charge of the communion with many Christians taking part. Everyone enjoyed the feet washing service. Bro. Spruiell dismissed us in prayer.

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 present chosen by the different churches and quarterly meetings.

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

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

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

16. We recommend that all preachers and churches coming from other associations or denominations be examined by a committee before being received into the body.

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 Testament were given by inspiration of God and our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. **GOD**—There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe, and 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. I 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. 4:14.

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.

6. **THE SINFULNESS OF MAN**—Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. He 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. I John 2:2.

8. **THE TERMS OF SALVATION**—The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance of sincere sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved of one 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 domination of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death. 2 Cor. 7:10; Prov. 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; Mark 16:15; or 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 communication 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 5:9; Matt. 25:46.

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 conformity to the world from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight on 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 work 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 the ordinance of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church of its poor, and all its 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 success of the church and of the gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprise supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend 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 enterprise, the support of Missions, the success of Sunday School, 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.

Church	Clerk	Pastor	Orphanage	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Building Repair	Home Mission	Members Baptized	Members Died	M. Dismissed	Members Rec'd.	Sunday School	Ministers	No. Members	Publication	Value of Church Property
East Thomas	Mrs. L. D. Dill Rt. 15, Box 1135 Birmingham, Ala.	Rev. A. R. Barker 822 Princeton Birmingham, Ala.	166.51	1,040.00	110.00	245.87		5	1	3	19	35	8	148		11,000.00
Fairview	Mrs. Alene Smith Rt. 3, Box 413 C1 Anniston, Ala.	Rev. Lamar Smith 808 Ledbetter Anniston, Ala.	18.50	1,100.20	50.00	3,169.01		17	2	2	45	102	3	102	72.63	
Jefferson Park	Mrs. Alma Duckett 415 S. 23rd St. Irondale 10, Ala.	Rev. Buddy Galbreath Birmingham, Ala.	45.00	165.49	98.72	849.56				2	6	30	2	22		850.00
Highpoint	Mrs. Nettie Cline Route 2 Trussville, Ala.	Rev. Odra Davis Rt. 11, Box 312 Birmingham, Ala.		20.00		669.74				9	13	20	3	36		
Community	Mrs. Grace Thomas Rt. 1, Vincent, Ala.	Rev. Jim Drummonds Pell City, Ala.		240.00	57.75			7	1	2	7	55	3	56		1,350.00
Riverview	Mrs. Dessie Endfinger Rt. 5 Talladega, Ala.	Rev. J. E. Drummonds 3327 9th Ave. Pell City, Ala.		140.00							2	25	3	15		
Meadows Chapel	Mrs. Janette Franklin Blossburg, Ala.	Rev. Merle Cagle Gardendale, Ala.	29.50	228.85	70.00	120.85		1	1		7	35	5	44	33.33	4,000.00
Liberty	Mrs. Dorothy Foster Lawley, Ala.	Rev. James Baker Lawley, Ala.	10.00	504.77	198.71	860.00			1			40	2	71		
Mt. Zion	Mrs. Ethel Burdett Pell City, Ala.	Rev. Clyde Willis Pell City, Ala.	27.00	240.00	35.00	50.00		1		5	3	35	4	54	30.00	5,000.00
Alton	Mrs. Louise Barnett Box 306 Alton, Ala.	Rev. Lee Hanks Rt. 15, Box 1142 Birmingham, Ala.	29.10	475.00	96.00	332.44		3			9	17	1	16	22.34	
Belview	Mrs. Frances Kieth Leeds, Ala.	Rev. C. L. Finch 2128 4th Ave., No. Leeds, Ala.		425.00	5.00	200.00	15.00		3	4		50	5	40		
Unity	Mrs. Linda Nelson	Rev. E. B. Ledlow 804 West Pine St. Sylacauga, Ala.	100.69	1,420.00	385.00	298.41		15	1	8	17	94	1	105		50,000.00