

Paul Bettles

dup

24th Annual Session

of the

BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION

of the

ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST

Held at the

HARRIETT MEMORIAL F.W.B. CHURCH

Caroleen, N.C.

April 29, 30, 1977

CLERK _____ **Mrs. Patsy Rice**

MODERATOR _____ **Rev. Ted Reynolds**

MINUTES

24th ANNUAL SESSION

of the

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CLERK

Mrs. Patsy Rice

MODERATOR

Rev. Ted Reynolds

OFFICERS

MODERATOR - Rev. Ted Reynolds - P.O. Box 385, Caroleen, N.C. 28019
ASSISTANT - Rev. Roy Sheehan - Route 6, Box 74 - Morganton, N.C. 28655
CLERK - Mrs. Patsy Rice - 109 Kerlee Street - Black Mountain, N.C. 28711
ASSISTANT - Mrs. Grace Stafford - Route 1, Box 404 - Marion, N.C.
TREASURER - Miss Carrie Padgett - Route 2, Box 380 - Old Fort, N.C.
ASSISTANT - Bob Duckworth - Route 2, Box 256 - Asheville, N.C. 28805
HISTORIAN - Mrs. Lucille Lance - Larue Street - W. Asheville, N.C.
ASSISTANT - Miss Volena Wilson - 331 Montford Avenue - Asheville, N.C.

TRUSTEE BOARD

Rev. James C. Lynn, Rev. Elmer Keener, Bro. Cline Messer

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Frank Cantrell 1978 (Chair.), Rev. Larry Hughes 1978, Rev. Carl Cook 1981, Rev. Elmer Keener 1980, Rev. James Coffey 1982

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Milton Hollifield (Chair.) Rev. Carl Cook, Rev. W.S. Vaughn

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Ted Reynolds (Chair.), Rev. Roy Sheehan, Mrs. Patsy Rice, Rev. Howard Messer, Rev. Earl Bittle, Rev. Milton Hollifield

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Rev. Earl Bittle (Chair.), Rev. Jack Moses, Rev. James Coffey

YOUTH DIRECTOR

Rev. Mike Messer (Director), Bro. Mark Penley (Assistant)

YOUTH CAMP DIRECTOR

Rev. Frank Cantrell (Director), Rev. Howard Messer (Assistant), Bro. Bob Duckworth (Sec. & Treas.)

ASSOCIATIONAL CHURCHES AND PASTORS

Asheville	Rev. John Moore	Asheville, N.C.
Avery's Creek	Rev. R.J. Swann	Arden, N.C.
Beaverdam		Candler, N.C.
Calvary	Rev. Frank Cantrell	Swannanoa, N.C.
Canton	Rev. Larry Hughes	Canton, N.C.
Cedar Hill	Rev. J.C. Lynn, Sr.	W. Asheville, N.C.
Clayton Avenue	<i>NON-MEMBER</i>	W. Asheville, N.C.
East Fork	Rev. Garold Metcalf	Mars Hill, N.C.
Fairview	Rev. Sprinkles	Marion, N.C.
First Black Mountain	Rev. W.S. Vaughn	Black Mtn., N.C.
First Lenoir	Rev. Jack R. Moses	Lenoir, N.C.
First Marion		Marion, N.C.
First Spruce Pine	Rev. Arthur Buchanan	Spruce Pine, N.C.
Friendly		Morganton, N.C.
Harriett Memorial	Rev. Ted Reynolds	Caroleen, N.C.
Holly Grove	Rev. Carl Cook	Waynesville, N.C.
Homer's Chapel	Rev. Earl Bittle	Black Mtn., N.C.
Meadowbrook	Rev. Howard Messer	Black Mtn., N.C.
Meadow Fork	Rev. Elish Fish	Hot Springs, N.C.
Morganton	Rev. Paul Butler	Morganton, N.C.
Mt. Bethel	Rev. Robert Ballard	Weaverville, N.C.
Nowlings Chapel	Rev. Roy Sheehan	Morganton, N.C.
Pisgah	Rev. Talmadge Maynor	Canton, N.C.
Robertson Creek	Rev. Daniel Hensley	Bostic, N.C.
Shelby (Mission)	Rev. Jason Salyer	Shelby, N.C.
Swannanoa	Rev. Milton Hollifield	Swannanoa, N.C.
Sweeten Creek		Biltmore, N.C.
Union Valley	Rev. Jeff Capps	Weaverville, N.C.
Walnut		Walnut, N.C.
Zephyr Hills	Rev. Clemmet Heath	Asheville, N.C.

MINISTER'S NAMES AND ADDRESSES

Leonard Ball	1409 North Fork Road, Black Mountain, N.C. 28711
Robert Ballard	Rt. 1, Box 205 Swannanoa, N.C. 28778
Earl Bittle	124 Oakland Drive Black Mountain, N.C. 28711
Roger Dale Boone	Rt. 3, Box 622, Weaverville, N.C. 28787
Arthur Buchanan	Rt. 3, Box 488, Spruce Pine, N.C. 28777
Gorman Burgin	Rt. 1, Black Mountain, N.C. 28711
Paul Butler	Rt. 12, Box 100, Morganton, N.C. 28655
Bobby Cable	Rt. 5, Box 49, Marion, N.C. 28752
Frank Cantrell	316 Melody Circle, Swannanoa, N.C. 28778
Jeff Capps	Route 3, Weaverville, N.C. 28787
James C. Coffey	Rt. 2, Box 123-C, Forest City, N.C. 28043
Carl Cook	111 Ivey Hill Drive, Waynesville, N.C. 28786
Robert Cooper	108 Mills Avenue, Greenville, S.C. 29605
Lonnice Crawford	Rt. 2, Box 41, Weaverville, N.C. 28787
Al Davis	119 Myrtle Street, Morganton, N.C. 28655
Charles Davis	Rt. 1, Box 87, Swannanoa, N.C. 28778
Gary Michael Davis	
Roy Duckett	Rt. 1, Box 381-A, Supply, N.C.
Elmer Edwards	Route 3, Weaverville, N.C. 28787
Larry Edwards	8 Revonda Drive, Asheville, n.C. 28804
Phillip Elrod	P.O. Box 517, Old Fort, N.C. 28762
Elisha Fish	Route 1, Marion, N.C. 28752
Elish William Fish	Route 3, Box 82-A Candler, N.C. 28715
Bobby Fox	1011 Riverside, Asheville, N.C. 28804
Fred Freeman	Route 1, Nebo, N.C. 28761
Floyd Frisbee	107 Virginia Avenue, Hazelwood, N.C. 28738
David Gentry	Route 3, Weaverville, N.C. 28787
Calvin Grogan	Old Fort, N.C. 28762
Garland Green	Box 365, Caroleen, N.C. 28019
Clemmet Heath	283 Shelbourne Road, Asheville, N.C. 28806
Daniel Hensley	Route 1, Box 37A, Bostic, N.C. 28018
Elmer Hensley	24 Pisgah Avenue, Asheville, N.C. 28803
T.A. Holder	47 Elkmont Drive, Asheville, N.C. 28804
Milton Hollifield	P.O. Box 281, Swannanoa, N.C. 28778
Larry Hughes	P.O. Box 1346, Canton, N.C. 28716
Elmer Keener	134 N. Main Street, Canton, N.C. 28716
James C. Lynn	227 Johnston Blvd., W. Asheville, N.C. 28806

Steve Lytle	
Charles Lowery	
Carl Mann	819 Juniper Street, Kannapolis, N.C. 28018
Talmadge Maynor	Route 2, Canton, N.C. 28716
Leon McBride	Bull Mountain Road, Asheville, N.C. 28805
W.J. McDaniel	P.O. Box 312, Rutherford College, N.C. 28671
Ralph McKinney	Morganton, N.C.
Douglas Melton	Swannanoa, N.C. 28778
Howard Messer	106 Kerlee Street, Black Mountain, N.C. 28711
Mike Messer	106 Kerlee Street, Black Mountain, N.C. 28711
Garold Metcalf	Route 2, Box 87, Mars Hill, N.C. 28754
Wayne Miller	Route 1, Box 403 Marion, N.C. 28752
John Moore	P.O. Box 176, Fairview, N.C. 28730
Jack Moses	Route 8, Box 559, Morganton, N.C. 28655
Harold O'Dear	Route 1, Marion, N.C. 28752
Charles Owensby	314 Fountain Way, Swannanoa, N.C. 28778
Cecil Parker	Route 1, Box 141, Old Fort, N.C. 28762
Thomas Parrish	501 E. Simon Street, Glennville, Ga. 30427
Warren Reece	220 Virginia Avenue, Asheville, N.C. 28804
Ted Reynolds	P.O. Box 385, Caroleen, N.C. 28019
George Reynolds	111 Kerlee Street, Black Mountain, N.C. 28711
Robert J. Robinson	Route 3, Box 622, Weaverville, N.C. 28787
Winfred Roland	106 Young Street, Swannanoa, N.C. 28778
Jason Salyer	Route 9, Box 122, Shelby, N.C. 28105
Roy Sheehan	Route 6, Box 74, Morganton, N.C. 28655
Clifford Shetley	Route 5, Box 152, Marshall, N.C. 28753
Ronnie Smith	109 Harrison Street, Swannanoa, N.C. 28778
Troy Smith	Route 1, Box 390B, Marion, N.C. 28752
Richard Swann	84 Rosman Highway, Brevard, N.C. 28712
Bill Thomas	Route 1, Ellenboro, N.C.
Ray Thomas	205 Morrison Street, Shelby, N.C. 28105
Carl Thorpe	211 Beaverdam Road, Asheville, N.C. 28804
Gay Tweed	Route 1, Box 396, Weaverville, N.C. 28787
William S. Vaughn	P.O. Box 17, Old Fort, N.C. 28762
James Waldrop	Route 1, Box 169, Asheville, N.C. 28804
Gordon Walker	Bat Cave Road, Old Fort, N.C. 28762
Leroy Walker	P.O. Box 548, Old Fort, N.C. 28762
Gary West	Route 8, Box 694, Asheville, N.C. 28806
Ray Wiseman	820 Craigmont Road, Black Mountain, N.C. 28711

CHURCH DELEGATES

BEAVERDAM - Avalee Gasperson, T.W. Gasperson, Helen Ingle
 CANTON - Hoyle Harkins, Paul L. Hamlett
 CEDAR HILL - Mrs. J.C. Lynn
 FAIRVIEW - Mrs. Grace Stafford, Janice Hollifield, Mrs. Mae Miller
 FIRST MARION - Kitty Buchanan, Doss Buchanan, Ella Reynolds, Martha Taylor, Edgar White, Ellen Browning
 FIRST SPRUCE PINE - Annette Buchanan, John Chandler, Elizabeth Chandler, Mrs. Lynn Hughes, Ronnie Buchanan, Linda Buchanan, Anita Buchanan, Mary Buchanan, Tammy Buchanan
 HARRIETT MEMORIAL - Virginia Churchwell, Lilliree Tipton, Linda Johnson, Mrs. Dystart, Hugh Biggerstaff, Eugene Deyton, Barry Turner, Elizabeth Turner, Mary Amos, Hubert Deyton, Alton Conner, Beatrice Coffey, Garland Hamrich, Joyce Shires, Terry McDaniel, Barbara Fowler, Eloise Deyton, Wed Pittman
 HOMER'S CHAPEL - Mrs. Beulah Pittman, Mrs. Dixie Bittle, Mrs. Patsy Rice
 MORGANTON - Etta Butler, Mary Bland
 ROBERTSON CREEK - Burley Thomas, Mrs. Burley Thomas, Peggy Green

MINISTERS WHO REGISTERED

Earl Bittle, Arthur Buchanan, Frank Cantrell, James Coffey, Carl W. Cook, Garland Greene, Clem Heath, Daniel Hensley, Milton Hollifield, Sr., Larry D. Hughes, J.C. Lynn, Howard Messer, Wayne Miller, Jack Moses, Ted Reynolds, Jason Salyer, Roy Shehan, Richard Swann, William S. Vaughn, Ray Wiseman, Leroy Walker, Cecil Parker, Gordon Walker, Elmer Hensley, Mike Messer

MINISTERS WHO REPORTED TO ROLL CALL BUT DID NOT REGISTER

Elish Fish, Elmer Keener, Leon McBride

VISITORS WHO REGISTERED

Noreen McDaniel, Helen Hamlett, Mrs. Hoyle Harkins, Betty Deyton, B.J. Head, David L. Leigh, Herbert Scruggs, Phillip H. Hardin, Jack Edwards, Candy Hicks, Georgia Phillips, John Cantrell, William Burnette, Gene Walker, David Lowery, Douglas Clemmons, Mrs. Douglas Clemmons, Donald Fisher, Jeff Fisher, Mrs. Pam Clemmons, Jack Clemmons, Jackson Clemmons, Miss Robin Clemmons

1ST QUARTERLY MEETING
of the
BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION
Meeting With
CALVARY F.W.B. CHURCH
August 7, 1976

Congregation singing led by Bro. J.C. Lynn
Morning Devotion Bro. Allen Jackson
Welcome Bro. Frank Cantrell
Response Bro. Elisha W. Fish
Roll call of churches, ministers, recognition of visitors
33 ministers, 6 visitors, 18 delegates registered, Visiting ministers were Bro.
Ronald Creech, Bro. Ralph McKinney
Bro. R.J. Reynolds gave a report from the National Association
Report of the ordaining council by Bro. Larry Hughes
M.S.C. to accept report of the ordaining council
Youth report given by Bro. Mike Messer
Report on Rest Home by Bro. J.C. Lynn
M.S.C. to give Bro. Earl Davis a letter of recommendation to the Jacks
Creek Association
M.S.C. that Bro. Frank Cantrell be elected to serve on the ordaining council
to fill the term of Bro. Jerry Williams
Bro. Ronald gave a report on our State Work
M.S.C. That we the Blue Ridge Association buy a car for Bro. Steve Lytle to
use on the Mission Field, and that the Executive Committee meet and plan
how to raise the money and make recommendation to the body at our next
meeting
Worship Hour
Song "Send the Light" led by Bro. J.C. Lynn
Message Bro. Steve Lytle from Matt: 28:16-20
(Why is Missions Biblical)

**2ND QUARTERLY MEETING
of the
BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION
Meeting With
CANTON F.W.B. CHURCH
November 6, 1976**

Congregation singing led by Bro. J.C. Lynn

Prayer Bro. Larry Hughes

Morning Devotion Bro. Daniel Hensley (Jeremiah 6:15)

Welcome Bro. Larry Hughes

Response Bro. Bobby Ballard

Roll call of churches, ministers and recognition of visitors, 26 churches, 35 ministers, 23 delegates, 13 visitors registered

Visiting ministers were Bros. Earl Bittle, Ronald Creech, Ralph McKinney

Visiting churches were Homers Chapel of Black Mtn., N.C. Friendly F.W.B. Church of Morganton, N.C.

Moderators Message from 1 Sam. 3:20

Business:

Bros. Ted Reynolds, Carl Cook, J.C. Lynn were appointed to serve on the nominating committee

M.S.C. to withdraw our support from the Shelby Mission

M.S.C. to withdraw our support from Sister Josephine Stevens

M.S.C. to have our Annual meeting at the Harriett Memorial Church in May
M.S.C. Since it is in our constitution and By-Laws that this association may withdraw fellowship from any church that does not abide by said constitution and By-Laws. This association directs all members to make a report of any church not in accord with our association to the ordaining council for investigation.

The ordaining council is directed to meet with said church and find out their desires in regards to keeping in accord with our association. To inform said church that unless they do desire to be in full accord with our association that a recommendation will be made at the next quarterly meeting to withdraw fellowship with said church.

Reports:

Treasurer report was given by Sister Carrie Padgett M.S.C. to Accept report

Bro. Ronald Creech gave a report on state work

Report on Rest Home by Bro. J.C. Lynn

M.S.C. to accept report of ordaining council by Bro. Larry Hughes

M.S.C. to accept report of Nominating committee

Bro. Joe Helms to serve on ordaining council to fill the term of Bro. James Childers who moved to another association (1977)

Bro. Frank Cantrell to serve as Youth Camp Director, Bro. Howard Messer Assistant Youth Camp Director

Bro. Bob Duckworth Treasurer, Bro. Roy Sheehan Assistant Treasurer
The Executive Committee met and discussed plans to raise money for the
Steve Lytle

The Executive Committee met and discussed plans to raise money for the
Steve Lytle car fund, The following is their recommendations: As to how
contact should be made, we find the personal contact to be the best
approach, rather than expressing a need in written material by mail, we
suggest that Bo. Mike Messer for the west side of the mountain and Bro.
Dannie Castle for the east side visit all churches, preach, and tell of Steve's
need, and take an offering. Then climax the whole event by having a Steve
Lytle Day in all churches on August 14, 1977. We suggest that both men be
reimbursed for travel at 10 cents per mile. The price for the car had been
quoted between \$8-10,000. bought on the field. M.S.C. to accept report
Worship Hour: Message by Bro. Talmadge Maynor, Pastor of Pisgah
F.W.B. Church

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Earl Bittle

24th ANNUAL SESSION**of the****BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION****Meeting with****HARRIETT MEMORIAL F.W.B. CHURCH****April 29, 30, 1977****THEME - ROOTED AND BUILT UP IN HIM (Colossians 2:7)**

The 24th annual session opened with the presentation of the American and Christian flags. Bro. Ted Rynolds also paid tribute to honest law enforcement with six officers from Rutherford County representing honest law enforcement.

Prayer by Bro. Howard Messer

Welcome by host pastor, Bro. Ted Reynolds

Response by Bro. Roy Shehan

Bro. J.C. Lynn led by the congregation in the opening hymn "Victory in Jesus."

Devotions by Bro. Clemmet Heath (Col. 2:6 & 7)

Roll call of churches, ministers, and recognition of visitors.

Vistors were Rev. Homer Arrowood and Rev. Douglas Mathis.

BUSINESS SESSION

Appointment of Committees

Nominating Committee - Rev. Milton Hollifield (Chair.), Rev. Carl Cook, Rev. W.S. Vaughn

Resolution Committee - Rev. Larry Hughes (Chair.), Rev. Clemmet Heath, Rev. Roy Shehan.

Credentials Committee - Rev. Earl Bittle (Chair.), Rev. James Coffey, Rev. Jason Salyer.

The following letter was presented from the Foothills Association asking for a letter of good standing for their churches and ministers from the Blue Ridge Association.

M.S.C. to give them their letters.

**FOOTHILLS FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION
WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA**

**BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST
MEETING AT HARRIETT MEMORIAL CHURCH, CAROLEEN, N.C.**

Dear Fellow Christians:

The Foothills Association of Free Will Baptists of western North Carolina was organized April 2, 1977 at the Bethel Free Will Baptist church in Marion, North Carolina.

This organization came about as a result of much prayer and searching for something to create a closer communion and fellowship among our local churches in this area. We believe this will give more people in our area and local churches a work to do in our great denomination.

Through the past years each church involved has enjoyed a close fellowship with the Blue Ridge Association. Each church and minister involved would like to take this opportunity to let each one know that no differences in opinions either Spiritual or Doctrinal are involved. This move is being made only after prayerful consideration and for the up-building of Gods kingdom. We believe that the Foothills and the Blue Ridge Associations working together can accomplish a great work for our Lord. We look forward with anticipation to working closely together.

The following churches and ministers would like for a letter of good standing to be sent to the Foothills Association.

BETHEL	REV. R.J. REYNOLDS	MARION, N.C.
MT. CALVARY	REV. ALLAN JACKSON	MARION, N.C.
ROCKY PASS	REV. A.C. TRULUCK	MARION, N.C.
SALEM	REV. JOE HELMS	OLD FORT, N.C.
OLD FORT	REV. LATTIE SLAGLE	OLD FORT, N.C.
TRINITY HILL	REV. CARL ROLAND	NEBO, N.C.
	REV. BILLY ALLEN	
	REV. WADE PARKER	
	REV. HASKEL DAVIS	
	REV. TOMMY HENSLEY	
	REV. RALPH REEP	
	REV. RONALD LOFTIS	
	REV. WILLIAM FREAL	
	REV. PATRICK BUCHANAN	
	REV. BOBBY PARKER	

Again let us say, may God bless and be with each one of you. Let us pray together and work together until the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We feel sure that as we continue our fellowship that our lives will touch again.

YOURS IN CHRIST

James E Suttles, CLERK

Rev. R.J. Reynolds, MODERATOR

M.S.C. that a six man study committee be elected to plan for a Bible Institute for the Blue Ridge Association. The following were elected to serve on the committee: Rev. Howard Messer, Rev. Ted Reynolds, Rev. Larry Hughes, Rev. Frank Cantrell, Rev. W.S. Vaughn, and Rev. Elish Fish.

Rev. Homer Arrowood gave a report on state work.

Paul Butler

Worship Hour:

Rev. J.C. Lynn led the congregation in "The Lily of the Valley."

Message by Rev. Homer Arrowood, State Moderator, from Acts 27.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Rev. J.C. Lynn led opening hymn "Revive Us Again."

Devotion by Rev. Milton Hollifield (Eph. 4:13, Ps. 133)

Rev. J.C. Lynn gave a report on rest home.

Treasurer's report was given

Partial report from the Credentials Committee.

M.S.C. that Section H under Article 6 about the Home Mission Board be deleted from our constitution.

M.S.C. to table until next day.

Youth Camp Report given by Rev. Frank Cantrell.

M.S.C. to adjourn until next morning.

FRIDAY NIGHT YOUTH SERVICE

Rev. Ronald Creech brought the evening message

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION:

Congregational singing led by Rev. James Coffey "When We all Get to Heaven"

Morning Devotion by Rev. Elmer Keener (Romans 14:10)

Prayer by Rev. Leon McBride

M.S.C. to take from table Section H under Article 6 about the Home Mission

Board being deleted from our Constitution. M.S.C. to delete from minutes.
 M.S.C. to increase clerk's salary from \$100 per year to \$125 per year.
 M.S.C. to delete amount of clerk's salary from constitution. M.S.C. to table
 until next meeting.

REPORTS:

Rev. Larry Hughes, State Home Missions
 Rev. Larry Hughes, Resolution Committee report (see reports)
 Rev. Earl Bittle, Credentials Committee report (see reports)
 Rev. Mike Messer, Youth Department
 Rev. Milton Hollifield, Nominating Committee (see reports)
 M.S.C. to accept reports.

M.S.C. that the next quarterly business meeting be held at the Fairview
 F.W.B. Church, Marion, N.C., August 6, 1977

M.S.C. that recognition, presentation, and pledging of allegiance of both
 American and Christian flags be standard procedure at annual conferences.

M.S.C. that the Blue Ridge Association go on record as being in agreement
 with the Harriett Memorial F.W.B. Church in upholding our honest law
 enforcement.

M.S.C. that next annual meeting be held at Marion First F.W.B. Church,
 Marion, N.C., May 5,6,1978.

M.S.C. to adjourn.

REPORTS

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The Credentials Committee submit the following report:

Friday Morning, April 29, 1977

Churches reported by letter	20
Offerings from churches	\$376.81
Offering received in service	25.00
Ministers reported	34
Ministers Offering	34.00
Total Offering	\$435.81
Registered Delegates	53
Registered Visitors	17
Youth Service, Friday Evening, April 29, 1977	
Youth's registered	198
Visitors registered	95
Total for Youth Service	293

Grand total attending Association 397

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Earl Bittle
 Rev. Jack Moses
 Rev. James Coffey

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Moderator	Rev. Ted Reynolds
Assistant Moderator	Rev. Roy Sheehan
Clerk	Mrs. Patsy Rice
Assistant Clerk	Mrs. Grace Stafford
Treasurer	Miss Carrie Padgett
Assistant Treasurer	Mr. Bob Duckworth
Historian	Mrs. Lucille Lance
Assistant Historian	Miss Volena Wilson
Ordaining Council	Rev. Elmer Keener (1980)
	Rev. James Coffey (1982)
Executive Board	Rev. Howard Messer
	Rev. Earl Bittle
	Rev. Milton Hollifield
Youth Director	Rev. Mike Messer
Assistant Youth Director	Mr. Mark Penley
Youth Camp Director	Rev. Frank Cantrell
Assistant Youth Camp Director	Rev. Howard Messer
Secretary & Treasurer - Youth Camp	Mr. Bob Duckworth

Respectfully Submitted

Rev. Milton Hollifield
Rev. Carl Cook
Rev. W.S. Vaughn

TREASURER'S REPORT - MAY, 1977

Amount in Treasury - April 30, 1976 \$801.30

Amount Received This Year 2,588.75

Disbursements:

Free Will Baptist Home for Children	80.62
Rev. Jonathan Thigpen (Speaker, Youth Night)	100.00
Clerk's Salary and Expenses	164.25
Rev. W.L. Kell (Speaker, Annual Meeting)	39.01
Committee for Justice (Mrs. Sandra Dupree)	351.22
U.S. Postal Service (Stamps)	5.98
Home Mission Board (Shelby Mission)	520.00
Foreign Mission Board (Mrs. Josephine Stevens).	210.00
Taylor's Office Machines	20.58
N.C. Free Will Baptist Rest Home	576.11
Travel Expenses:	251.20

Rev. James K. Childers, Rev. Larry Hughes, Rev. Howard Messer, Rev. Ted Reynolds, and Rev. Carl Cook	
Sullins Printing Company (Minutes)	425.00
Free Will Baptist "WITNESS"	48.36
Riddle's Flower Shop (Flowers for Mrs. Charles Owensby)	10.40
Rev. Mike Messer (To reimburse, phone expense)	19.81
Total Disbursements	\$2,822.54
Balance in Treasury - April 28, 1977	\$567.51
Amount in Student Loan Fund (March 31, 1977)	\$643.42
Amount in Steve Lytle Auto Fund	\$149.51

REPORT OF THE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, The Lord has richly blessed us in our sessions with wonderful preaching, singing, testimonies, etc.

WHEREAS, The Lord has favored us with His presence for which we give Him all glory and praise, THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, that we give a rising vote of thanks for the fine work of our Moderator and officers for their work for the past year, and

RESOLVED, that we give a rising vote of thanks to the host Church and Pastor for the fine welcome given us here during our meetings, and

RESOLVED, that we pledge our prayerful support to our new officers for the coming year, and that we pledge to serve and pray for one another as we labor together to advance the cause of Christ, and win precious souls to Him by His grace.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Larry D. Hughes

Rev. Roy Shehan

Rev. Clemmet Heath

REPORTS OF THE ORDAINING COUNCIL

August 7, 1976

We the ordaining council of the Blue Ridge Association of Free Will Baptist make the following recommendations to this body:

1. We recommend that Bro. Mike Messer be licensed to preach the gospel
2. We recommend that Bro. Bill Freel's license be renewed for another year
3. We recommend that Bro. Earl Davis be given a letter to the Jacks Creek Association upon his request

November 6, 1976

1. Recommend that the Friendly F.W.B. Church be accepted into our fellowship (Bro. Garland Green, Pastor)

2. Recommend that Homer's Chapel F.W.B. Church be accepted into our fellowship. (Bro. Earl Bittle, Pastor)

3. Recommend that Bro. Earl Bittle be accepted into the Blue Ridge Association upon receiving a letter from the Western Piedmont Association

4. Recommend that Bro. Clemmet Heath, having been called to pastor the Zepher Hills F.W.B. Church, be accepted into the Blue Ridge Association upon receiving a letter from the New Mexico State Association

5. Recommend that Bro. Garland Green be ordained to preach the gospel, having been called to pastor the Friendly F.W.B. church

6. Recommend that Bro. Robert J. Robinson be licensed to preach the gospel

7. Recommend that Bro. Roger Dale Boone be licensed to preach the gospel

8. Recommend that we give Bro. James Childers a letter to the Western Piedmont Association

9. Recommend that Bro. A.C. Truluck be accepted into full fellowship

January 29, 1977

Recommend issuing Rev. Jerry Williams a letter of recommendation to his present association in Georgia pending a letter of request

Recommend that the following be given license:

Rev. Leonard Ball

Rev. Ray Wiseman

Rev. Doug Melton

The council voted to accept the credentials of Rev. Ernest Messer, who voluntarily turned them in

The council voted to accept Rev. Ralph McKinney into our fellowship pending a letter of recommendation from Mt. Zion Independent F.W.B. Ministers Conference, Johnson City, Tennessee. He is a member of the First F.W.B. Church, Morganton, N.C.

STATISTICS OF CHURCHES

EVERY'S CREEK, Arden, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Richard Swann, 84 Rosman Highway, Brevard, N.C. Clerk: Carolyn Swann, 4 Mildred Apts., Mildred Avenue, Asheville, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Thorton Coy, Route 1, Avery's Creek Road, Arden, N.C. Church membership 61, members added 7, S.S. attendance 35, No. classes 4, Total offerings \$5,032.00, Pastor's salary \$1,305.00, total local expenditures \$2,586.00, foreign missions \$174.00, Worthy causes \$611.50, total outside causes \$785.50, value of all church property \$17,000.00

BEAVERDAM, Candler, N.C.

Pastor:

Clerk: Mrs. Wiley Smith, Route 2, Box 511, Candler, N.C. S.S. Supt.: Timothy Ingle, Route 5, Box 57D, Candler, N.C. W.A. President: Mrs. Katie Henson, Route 2, Candler, N.C. Church membership 40, No. added 2, No. lost 4, S.S. attendance 35, No. classes 6, value of church property \$100,000.00

CALVARY, Swannanoa, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Frank Cantrell, 316 Melody Circle, Swannanoa, N.C. Clerk: Genevieve Robertson, 15 Sunset Drive, Swannanoa, N.C. S.S. Supt.: David Ray, Route 1, Box 336, Swannanoa, N.C. C.T.S. Director: Warren Reese, 310 Roger Avenue, Sherwood Forest, Swannanoa, N.C. W.A. President: Genevieve Robertson, 15 Sunset Drive, Swannanoa, N.C. Master's Men President: Paul Gragg, 101 N. Cotton Avenue, Black Mountain, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: James Brotherton, 125 Stone Drive, Swannanoa, N.C. Church membership 288, members added 81, no. baptisms 12, no. lost 6, average S.S. attendance 170, no. classes 11, Total income \$206,157.52, pastors salary \$9,150.00, other salaries \$1,130.00, remodeling & new construction \$53,952.02, local expenditures \$73,333.12, foreign missions \$3,693.95, Bible College \$1,035.05, home missions \$899.67, designated district or state ministries \$1,552.84, total spent for outside causes \$7,781.51, Blue Ridge Association \$25.00, value of all church property \$300,000.00

CANTON, Canton, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Larry Hughes, P.O. Box 1346, Canton, N.C. Clerk: Mrs. Helen Hamlett, 26 Flint Street, Canton, N.C. S.S. Supt.: Kenneth Cope, 91 Wesley Street, Canton, N.C. C.T.S. Director: Duane Cassida, 17 Elizabeth Street, Canton, N.C. W.A. President: Mrs. Marcia Cope, 91 Wesley Street, Canton, N.C. Master's Men President: Roy Lee Stephenson, Route 4, Box 481, Canton, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Collie Clark, P.O. Box 116, Clyde, N.C. Church membership 200, No. baptisms 10, members added 10, No. lost 11, average S.S. attendance 158, pastor's salary \$7,800.00, other salaries \$1,128.58, total local expenditures \$43,623.63, foreign missions \$2,833.00 Bible College \$6,617.00, home missions \$776.51, designated district or state ministries \$1,857.77, Blue Ridge Association \$25.00, value of all church property \$225,000.00

CEDAR HILL, Asheville, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. J.C. Lynn, 227 Johnston Blvd., Asheville, N.C. Clerk: Maude King, 405 Deaver View Road, Asheville, N.C. S.S. Supt.: Clyde Davis, Route 3, Box 1092, Asheville, N.C. C.T.S. Director: James Cole, Route 1, Brooks Branch Road, Leicester, N.C. Church membership 147, members lost 3, average S.S. attendance 60, total income \$26,257.98, pastor's salary \$5,200.00, local expenditures \$10,968.61, foreign missions \$540.53, Bible College \$142.72, home missions \$447.97, designated district or state ministries \$2,460.42, Blue Ridge Association \$11.81, value of all church property \$150,000.00

EAST FORK, Mars Hill, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Garold Metcalf, Route 2, Box 87, Mars Hill, N.C. Clerk: Mrs. Vera Metcalf, Route 2, Box 91-A, Mars Hill, N.C. S.S. Supt: Kenneth Eatmon, Route 2, Mars Hill, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Vaughn C. Metcalf, Route 2, Box 91-A, Mars Hill, N.C. Church membership 67, No. baptisms 6, members added 7, No. lost 3, average S.S. attendance 45, No. classes 4, total income \$3,200.00, Pastor's salary \$1,000.00, total local expenditures \$650.00, value of all church property \$7,000.00

FAIRVIEW, Marion, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Sprinkles

Clerk: Mrs. Mae Miller, Route 1, Box 403, Marion, N.C. S.S. Supt: Danny Forbes, Route 1, Marion, N.C. CTS Director: Wayne Miller, Route 1, Box 403, Marion, N.C. W.A. President: Mrs. Bonnie Lavendar, Route 1, Box 3, Marion, N.C. Master's Men President: Cyrus Hensley, Route 1, Nebo, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Herman Wall, Route 6, Marion, N.C. Church membership 63, No. baptisms 2, members added 2, No. lost 19, average S.S. attendance 78, total income \$24,310.55, Pastor's salary \$6,500.00, other salaries \$2,280.40, total expenditures \$14,006.33, foreign missions \$1,431.90, Bible College \$672.53, home missions \$1,737.53, designated district or state ministries \$1,743.36, total spent for outside causes \$6,117.28, value of all church property \$126,000.00

FIRST, Black Mountain, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. W.S. Vaughn, P.O. Box 117, Old Fort, N.C. Clerk: Juanita Byrd, 608 Black Mtn., Avenue, Black Mountain, N.C. S.S. Supt: William Burnette, Black Mountain, N.C. W.A. President: Mrs. Edith Haney, Black Mountain, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Cline Jordan, Black Mountain, N.C. Church membership 24, members added 10, average S.S. attendance 34, No. classes 3, value of all church property \$70,000.00

FIRST, Marion, N.C.

Pastor:

Clerk: Joseph Loftis, Route 6, Box 362, Marion, N.C. S.S. Supt: Wade Fox, Route 1, Box 307, Marion, N.C. C.T.S. Director: Johnny Hughes, 24 Hankins Road, Marion, N.C. W.A. President: Martha Taylor, 725 Morris Street, Marion, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Wade Fox, Route 1, Box 307, Marion, N.C. church membership 176, members added 3, No. lost 3, S.S. enrollment 175, No. classes 14, total income \$30,591.99, pastor's salary \$6,280.00, total local expenditures \$30,849.84, foreign missions \$1,200.00, home missions \$998.23, designated district or state ministries \$535.00, Blue Ridge Association \$40.00, value of all church property \$180,000.00

Executive Board

FIRST, Lenoir, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Jack Moses, Route 8, Box 559, Morganton, N.C. Clerk: Mrs. Barbara Watson, Route 11, Box 126, Lenoir, N.C. S.S. Supt: Bill Bollinger, Lenoir, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Robert Crane, Morganton, N.C.

Church membership 95, No. baptisms 7, Members added 11, Members lost 11, average S.S. attendance 77, No. classes 9, total income \$16,956.50, pastor's salary \$8,110.00, other salaries \$180.00, total local expenditures \$14,530.57, value of all church property \$85,000.00

FIRST, Spruce Pine, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Arthur Buchanan, Route 3, Box 488, Spruce Pine, N.C. Clerk: Evelyn Ollis, Route 2, Box 176, Spruce Pine, N.C. S.S. Supt: Robert Lee Jones, P.O. Box 771, Spruce Pine, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Lynn Hughes, Route 3, Spruce Pine, N.C. Church membership 123, No. baptisms 17, members added 33, No. lost 5, average S.S. attendance 78, No. classes 5, total income \$9,966.00, pastor's salary \$2,600.00, other salaries \$780.00, total local expenditures \$6,114.00, Blue Ridge Association \$25.00, value of all church property \$40,000.00

FRIENDLY, Morganton, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Garland Green, Box 365, Caroleen, N.C. Clerk: Mrs. Ruth Rector, Route 4, Box 365, Morganton, N.C. S.S. Supt: Stewart Lovelace, Route 12, Box 652, Morganton, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Randolph Patton, Route 1, Box 681, Morganton, N.C. Church membership 30, total income \$6,387.00, total local expenditures \$6,058.00, Blue Ridge Association \$25.00

HARRIETT MEMORIAL, Caroleen, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Ted Reynolds, P.O. Box 385, Caroleen, N.C. Clerk: Mrs. Barbara Fowler, Box 601, Caroleen, N.C. S.S. Supt.: Frank Turner, Caroleen, N.C. W.A. President: Mrs. Ann Reynolds, P.O. Box 385, Caroleen, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Alton Conner, Route 1, Forest City, N.C. Church membership 195, No. baptisms 12, members added 21, No. lost 6, average S.S. attendance 122, No. classes 11, total income \$50,693.70, pastor's salary \$9,860.00, other salaries \$360.00, total local expenditures \$45,293.00, foreign missions \$953.21, Bible College \$803.21, Blue Ridge Association \$25.00,

HOMER'S CHAPEL, Black Mountain, N.C. Pastor: Rev. Earl Bittle, 124 Oakland Drive, Black Mountain, N.C. Clerk: Mrs. Glenda Mundy, Rainbow Lane, Black Mountain, N.C. S.S. Supt: John Mundy, Rainbow Lane, Black Mountain, N.C. C.T.S. Director: Ricky Mundy, Lake Eden Road, Black Mountain, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Hubert Hudgins, 818 Occoneechee, Black Mountain, N.C. Church membership 169, No. baptisms 12, members added 22, No. lost 3, S.S. enrollment 140, No. classes 8, Total income \$29,233.31, pastor's salary \$7,949.48, foreign missions \$325.00, Blue Rige Association \$50.00, value of all church property \$80,000.00

MEADOWBROOK, Black Mountain, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Howard Messer, 106 Kerlee Street, Black Mountain, N.C.

Clerk: Mrs. Helen Shook, 135 Fountain Way, Swannanoa, N.C. S.S. Supt.: Mark Penley, 103½ First Street, Black Mountain, N.C.C.T.S. Director: Lewis Melton, Jr., Route 1, Old Toll Road, Black Mtn., N.C. W.A. President: Mary Gregory, 110 Kerlee Street, Black Mtn., N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Oval Shook, 135 Fountain Way, Swannanoa, N.C. Church membership 141, members added 25, No. lost 6, total local expenditures \$31,444.00, pastor's salary \$7,900.00, other salaries \$480.00, total local expenditures \$31,299.08, foreign missions \$423.05, Bible College \$50.00, Home missions \$150.00, total spent for outside causes \$623.05, value of all church property \$90,000.00

MORGANTON, Morganton, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Paul Butler, Route 12, Box 100 Morganton, N.C. Clerk: Ann Thompson, 206 Phillip Street, Morganton, N.C. S.S. Supt: Otis Thompson 206 Phillips Street, Morganton, N.C. W.A. President: Etta Butler, Route 12, Box 100, Morganton, N.C. Master's Men President: Rev. Ralph McKinney, Route 7, Box 299F, Morganton, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Otis Thompson, 206 Phillips Street, Morganton, N.C. Church membership 73, No. baptisms 11, Members added 15, No. lost 2, average S.S. attendance 70, No. classes 7, total income \$19,177.36, pastor's salary \$8,320.00, other salaries \$307.50, total local expenditures \$18,443.12, foreign missions \$128.28, home missions \$128.28, home for aged \$876.56, other nat. ministries \$59.44, total spent for outside causes \$270.00, Blue Ridge Association \$25.00, value of all church property \$94,000.00

MT. BETHEL, Weaverville, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Robert G. Ballard, Route 1, Box 205, Swannanoa, N.C. Clerk: W.B. Edwards, Route 1, Box 128, Weaverville, N.C. S.S. Supt: Phillip Fender, Route 3, Weaverville, N.C. C.T.S. Director: Rev Larry Edwards, 8 Revonda Drive, Asheville, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: W.B. Edwards, Route 1, Box 128, Weaverville, N.C. Church membership 232, members added 15, No. lost 7, average S.S. attendance 217, No. classes 13, total income \$31,057.60, pastor's salary \$5,400.00, other salaries \$2,411.00, total local expenditures \$20,635.94, foreign missions \$1,820.00, Retirement & Ins. Bd. \$700.00, home missions \$3,722.58, designated district or state ministries \$2,610.00, total spent for outside causes \$8,852.58, Blue Ridge Association \$50.00, value of all church property \$80,000.00.

NOWLINGS CHAPEL, Morganton, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Roy Shehan, Route 6, Box 74, Morganton, N.C. Clerk: Beulah Norville, 108 Logan Street, Morganton, N.C. S.S. Supt: Charles Davis, Route 8, Box 506, Morganton, N.C. W.A. President: Jerry Ann Shehan, Route 6, Box 74, Morganton, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Charles Davis, Route 8, Box 506, Morganton, N.C. Church membership 137, No. baptisms 15, members added 28, No. lost 4, average S.S. attendance 95, No. classes 8, value of all church property \$100,000.00

ROBERTSON CREEK, Bostic, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Daniel Hensley, Route 1, Box 37A, Bostic, N.C. Clerk: Colene Melton, Route 2, Bostic, N.C. S.S. Supt: Steve Newton, 206 Poplar Street, Forest City, N.C. W.A. President: Helen Ingle, Morgan Street, Forest City, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: B.A. Thomas, Route 2, Bostic, N.C. Church membership 83, members added 6, No. lost 4, average S.S. attendance 67, No. classes 7, total income \$20,400.00, pastor's salary \$7,085.00, total local expenditures \$19,315.00, value of all church property \$100,000.00.

SWANNANOVA, Swannanoa, N.C.

Pastor: Rev. Milton Hollifield, Sr., P.O. Box 281, Swannanoa, N.C. Clerk: Clara Mae Ogle, 133 Dellwood Avenue, Swannanoa, N.C. S.S. Supt: J.D. Lewis, 405 Roger Road, Swannanoa, N.C. C.T.S. Director: James Hall, Sr., Riceville Road, Asheville, N.C. W.A. President: Mrs. Jerry Sugg, 21 Tipperary Drive, Asheville, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: John Ogle, Jr., 133 Dellwood Ave., Swannanoa, N.C. Church membership 601, No. baptisms 13, members added 32, No. lost 76, average S.S. attendance 204, No. classes 24, total income \$42,335.01, pastor's salary \$8,000.00, other salaries \$1,450.00, total local expenditures \$41,549.35, Cooperative plan \$600.00, foreign missions \$2,877.06, Bible College \$237.35, home missions \$134.00, total spent for outside causes \$3,728.41, value of all church property \$300,000.00

WALNUT, Marshall, N.C.

Clerk: Barbara Shelton, Route 5, Marshall, N.C. S.S. Supt: Allen Stines, Route 7, Marshall, N.C. Deacon Board Chairman: Gordon Treadway, Route 5, Marshall, N.C. Church membership 87, No. baptisms 2, members added 2, Total income \$4,247.00, pastor's salary \$1,025.00, other salaries \$326.00, total local expenditures \$2,329.00, foreign missions \$200.00, home missions \$772.00, total spent for outside causes \$972.00, value of all church property \$30,000.00.

MINISTER'S REPORTS

Rev. Robert G. Ballard: Churches pastored 1, Revivals conducted 1, conversions 6, communion and footwashing services 2, No. baptisms 20, No. marriages 6, No. funerals 8, amount received for pastoral duties \$5,400.00, amount received for revivals \$125.00

Rev. Earl Bittle: Churches pastored 1, revivals conducted 8, conversions 30, communion and footwashing services 1, No. baptisms 18, No. marriages 2, No. funerals 7, amount received for pastoral duties \$9,697.00

Rev. Arthur Buchanan: Churches pastored 1, revivals conducted 1, conversions 44, communion and footwashing services 1, No. baptisms 17, No. marriages 2, No. funerals 2, amount received for pastoral duties \$2,600.00

Rev. Paul Butler: Churches pastored 1, revivals conducted 1, conversions 27, communion and footwashing services 1, No. baptisms 11, No. marriages 2, No. funerals 2, amount received for pastoral duties \$8,320.00

Rev. Frank Cantrell: Churches pastored 1, communion and footwashing services 2, No. baptisms 12, amount received for pastoral duties \$9,150.00

Rev. Carl W. Cook: Churches pastored 1, revivals conducted 4, communion and footwashing services 1, No. baptisms 6, No. funerals 10

Rev. Garland Green: Churches pastored 1, conversions 2, communion and footwashing services 1, amount received for pastoral duties \$500.00

Rev. Daniel Hensley: Churches pastored 1, revivals conducted 1, conversions 15, No. baptisms 7, No. marriages 1, amount received for pastoral duties \$4,660.00, amount received for revivals \$150.00

Rev. Elmer Hensley: Churches pastored 1, conversions 5, No. funerals 1.

Rev. Milton Hollifield: Churches pastored 1, revivals conducted 3, conversions 34, communion and footwashing services 1, No. baptisms 13, No. marriages 1, No. funerals 24, amount received for pastoral duties \$8,000.00

Rev. J.C. Lynn: Churches pastored 1, revivals conducted 2, conversions 15, communion and footwashing services 4, No. marriages 6, No. funerals 6.

Rev. Garold Metcalf: Churches pastored 1, communion and footwashing services 1, No. baptisms 6, revivals conducted 1, amount received for pastoral duties \$1,000.00

Rev. Jack Moses: Churches pastored 1, conversions 11, communion and footwashing services 1, No. baptisms 5, No. funerals 4, Amount received for pastoral duties \$2,300.00

Rev. Cecil Parker: Revivals conducted 1, communion and footwashing services 2, amount received for revivals \$50.00, amount received for other ministerial duties \$15.00

Rev. Warren Reece: Churches pastored 1, No. funerals 1.

Rev. Ted Reynolds: Churches pastored 1, revivals conducted 2, communion and footwashing services 1, No. baptisms 14, No. marriages 1, No. funerals 10, amount received for pastoral duties \$9,860.00, Amount received for revivals \$300.00

Rev. Roy Shehan: Churches pastored 1, communion and footwashing services 1, No. baptisms 15, No. marriages 4, No. funerals 3, amount received for pastoral duties \$6,500.00

Rev. Richard Swann: Churches pastored 1, communion and footwashing services 3, No. marriages 2, No. funerals 2, amount received for pastoral duties \$1,050.00

Rev. W.S. Vaughn: Churches pastored 1, revivals conducted 2, conversions 6, communion and footwashing services 1, No. marriages 4, No. funerals 5.

Rev. Gordon Walker: Churches pastored 1, revivals conducted 3, conversions 28, communion and footwashing services 4, No. baptisms 8, No. marriages 1, No. funerals 3, amount received for pastoral duties \$5,000.00, amount received for revivals \$200.00

Rev. Lee Roy Walker: Churches pastored 1, revivals conducted 1, amount received for pastoral duties \$100.00, amount received for revivals \$50.00

- 1- Roy -- moderator 9-27-77.
Earl Bittle - assist
- 2- Executive Board Roy Shehan chairman
Gordon Walker
Jeth Mores
Carrie Padgett.
- 3- Youth Director - Mark Penley
Youth assist Clemmett Heath
- 4- Bible Institute Study Committee
Larry Hughes
Frank Cantrell
Abel Butler
Earl Bittle
Elisha Fish

CONSTITUTION AND BY LAWS
of the
BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION
of
NORTH CAROLINA

Affiliated with

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

Article 1

This Association shall be known as the Blue Ridge Association of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina.

Article 2

A. The purpose of this Association shall be: To promote unity, fraternity, fellowship, and co-operation: To encourage and engage in larger Christian enterprises which cannot be carried on by a single church: and to combine and direct the energies of the Free Will Baptist within its bounds in one sacred effort to encourage and promote the general spread of the gospel and the causes of the National Association. B. This Association shall encourage a sound ministry, which presents Christ as an all - sufficient Savior, having made salvation possible to every human being on the terms of the gospel, which is freely offered to all.

Article 3

This Association shall be composed of all ordained Ministers, Deacons, and Delegates, chosen and sent by each church in its bounds, who are duly recommended by the church to which they belong. Each church shall be entitled to at least (6) six delegates.

Article 4

A. This Association disclaims the right to exercise lordship over the churches, or to have any power which would entitle it to infringe upon the internal affairs or rights of any of the churches of which it is composed. Each church shall consider its internal affairs to be its own business, but it shall not disrespect the Association and those who are placed in authority by the proper process.

B. An accused church shall have the same right as an individual in the church, namely: Specific charges must be presented in writing: a fair opportunity shall be given for defense: and the accused shall be considered innocent until proven guilty.

C. This Association may withdraw from any church which becomes disorderly, or refuses to be represented by letter or delegate.

Article 5

Churches coming from another denomination shall be carefully and satisfactorily examined as to doctrine before being received as members.

Article 6

A. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer, who shall be elected for a term of two years, entering upon their said duties of said offices at the close of the current session, A Historian shall be elected for an indefinite period.

B. The Moderator and Assistant Moderator shall not succeed themselves in election, However, the Assistant Moderator may be elected Moderator.

C. It shall be the duty of the Moderator to preside over all the meetings of the Association.

D. It shall be the duty of the Assistant Moderator to preside in the absence of the Moderator.

E. It shall be duty of the Clerk to keep a faithful and accurate record of the proceedings of the Association in a business-like manner: to superintend the printing of the minutes and the distribution of same: and to give all properties belonging to his or her office to his or her duly elected successor. The Clerk shall be paid a fee of \$125.00 for services rendered - amount fixed by the Association. Minutes of the Association shall be sent to all visiting Free Will Baptist Ministers.

F. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive all funds belonging to the Association and to disburse same as directed by the Association. The Treasurer shall be bonded by an amount sufficient to cover all money coming into their hands.

G. It shall be the duty of the Historian to keep a record of such items of interest as may be useful in the future, and to preserve the same items of interest as may be useful in the future, and to preserve the same in a book. He or she shall keep a file of the minutes. All materials and property shall be given to his or her duly elected successor in office.

Article 7

At each annual session, the Moderator shall appoint such committees as the Association may direct. It shall be the duty of these committees to report at the appointed time.

Article 8

A Youth Director shall be elected annually. This Director shall be responsible for promoting youth work in the Association, in cooperation with the church training service.

Article 9

The Executive Board of this Association shall consist of the Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, and three (3) members elected from the floor annually. It shall be the duty of the Executive Board to have the supervision of the work of the Association between sessions. The Moderator and Clerk, by virtue of their office, shall be Chairman and Secretary, Respectively, of the Board. Five members of the Executive Board shall constitute a quorum.

Article 10

A. This Association shall maintain an Ordaining Council elected from the ordained authority, preferably ministers, five (5) in number' whose tenure of office shall be from one (1) to five (5) years. The Association shall elect annually to supply the vacancies as they occur.

B. The Ordaining Council shall act as an Advisory Council and an investigating committee, under the authority and recommendations of the local Church in this Association, issuing license, prescribing qualifications for the Ministry, conducting examinations, and Ordaining Ministers, and at all times working for the most harmonious and effective ministry. The local church should use close scrutiny in recommending anyone for license, and the church should be thoroughly convinced of the candidate's calling and moral integrity. He shall preach under license until he is called to pastor or to full time Christian Service requiring ordination.

C. This Association deems it necessary for the protection of the gospel not to accept anyone as a minister who has two living wives. Each minister must maintain a Christian character, and clean habits, and shall not have a tolerant attitude toward liberalism, modernism, communism, catholicism, etc.

D. Each minister shall be required to practice, preach, and teach tithing as the means of church support.

E. Each Preacher or pastor who fails to attend or report by letter to the associational meetings of the Blue Ridge Association for a period of one years shall be granted a letter of dismissal from the said association roll of ministers.

F. Any church who fails to report by letter or delegate to the associational meetings for a period of nine months shall be contacted by the executive committee, then if they fail to report at the next meeting they shall be dropped from the roll.

Article 11

Any church seeking membership in this Association shall furnish evidence that there is a deed, or record, made to the Trustee of said Free Will Baptist Church and their successors in office.

Article 12

This Association shall have a quarterly meeting on the first Saturday of each quarter after the annual meeting for the furtherance of every phase of work of the Association. Each minister shall report in person or by letter at each meeting with a donation of \$1.00, and shall submit a report at each annual meeting.

Article 13

This Association deems the Treatise of the Faith and Practice of the Original Free Will Baptists as adopted by the National Association of Free Will Baptists as its rule of faith and practice.

Article 14

This Association shall be governed by the rules laid down in Robert's or Hasting's Rules of Order.

Article 15

This Association shall meet annually on Friday and Saturday before the first Sunday in May.

Article 16

This Association recommends that each church pay one percent of their income for the support of this Association, either monthly or quarterly.

Article 17

The Ordaining Council will meet on Saturday before the Association meetings.

Article 18

This Constitution may be amended by a two - thirds vote of those present at any annual meeting of this Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **GOD:** We believe that there is only true and living God who is personally the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal and harmonious in every divine perfection. There is one God and one mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus who gave Himself a ransom for all to be testified in due time. 1 Timothy 2:5

2. **THE HOLY SCRIPTURE:** We believe that God is the author of the Holy Bible, and its teachings constitute the only infallible doctrine for the government of his church. All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for re-proof, for correction and instruction in righteousness.

3. **ORIGINAL APOSTASY:** We believe that Adam was created holy but by voluntary transgression fell into reprobity and consequently involved his posterity in sin. "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took the fruit thereof and did eat, gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat." (Genesis 3:6)

4. **A, FREE GRACE:** We believe that the 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 world of sin but is the means whereby sinners are converted and made wise unto salvation. "For there is no difference between Jews and Greeks: for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him." (Romans 10:12)

5. **CHRISTIAN FAITH:** We believe that Christian faith is the belief in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God and redeemer of the world and in the divinity of the Holy Scripture, that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not on the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth in him." (John 3:36)

6. **REPENTANCE:** We believe that repentance is sorrow for sin and the kind of sorrow which produces Godly repentance must be preceded by effectual conviction of sin. "Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but ye sorrowed to repentance: for ye were made sorry after a Godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. For Godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death." (2 Corinthians 7:9-10)

7. **FREE GRACE:** We believe that the human will is free and that men have ability to reject the conditions of salvation as they are revealed in the Holy Scripture. "He that shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?" (Micah 6:8)

8. **PERSERVERENCE:** We do not believe, under gospel dispensation, any soul is elected to eternal life unconditionally, but that those who by faith perservere to the end will be saved; that it is possible for men who have been converted to make shipwreck of their faith and turn again to sin and finally be lost. "And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough and looking back, is fit for the Kingdom of God." (luke 8:62)

9. **GOOD WORKS:** We believe that good works are the results of faith and not necessity; that those who have faith will do works of righteousness while those who have not faith cannot do anything pleasant, or acceptable to God. "Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." (Matthew 7:19-20)

10. **CHRISTIAN BAPTISM:** We believe that Christian baptism is the immersions of a believer in water in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost; that baptism cannot be Scripturally administered without faith in the Subject who receives it. "Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." (Romans 6:4)

11. **THE LORD'S SUPPER:** We believe the supper was instituted by our Savior as a commemorative ordinance, that it was instituted regardless of name or denomination. "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup. For he that eateth and drinketh unworthly, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body." (1 Corinthians 11:28-29)

12. **FEET WASHING:** We believe that washing the saint's feet was a command of our Savior and that His followers ought to practice the same. WE urge the pastors of all churches to encourage the practical obedience of this command, especially among the members of our churches. "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet." (John 13:14)

13. **THE GOSPEL:** We believe it to be the duty of all churches to support the gospel. "Even so hath the Lord ordained that they which preach the gospel live of the gospel." (1 Corinthians 9:14)

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 the 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 amusement 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 of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations, in reference to the study of the Scripture, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ."

We shall not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences; public worship, and the observance of the ordinances 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 to 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 principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises 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 enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world, And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

