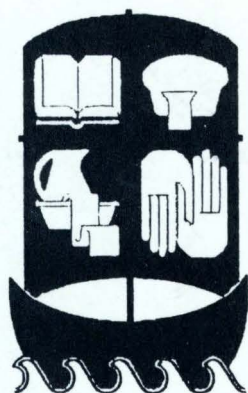


# *Blue Ridge Association of the Original Free Will Baptists*

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## **Minutes of the 39th Annual Session**

**Held at**

***Marion First Free Will Baptist Church  
Marion, N.C.***

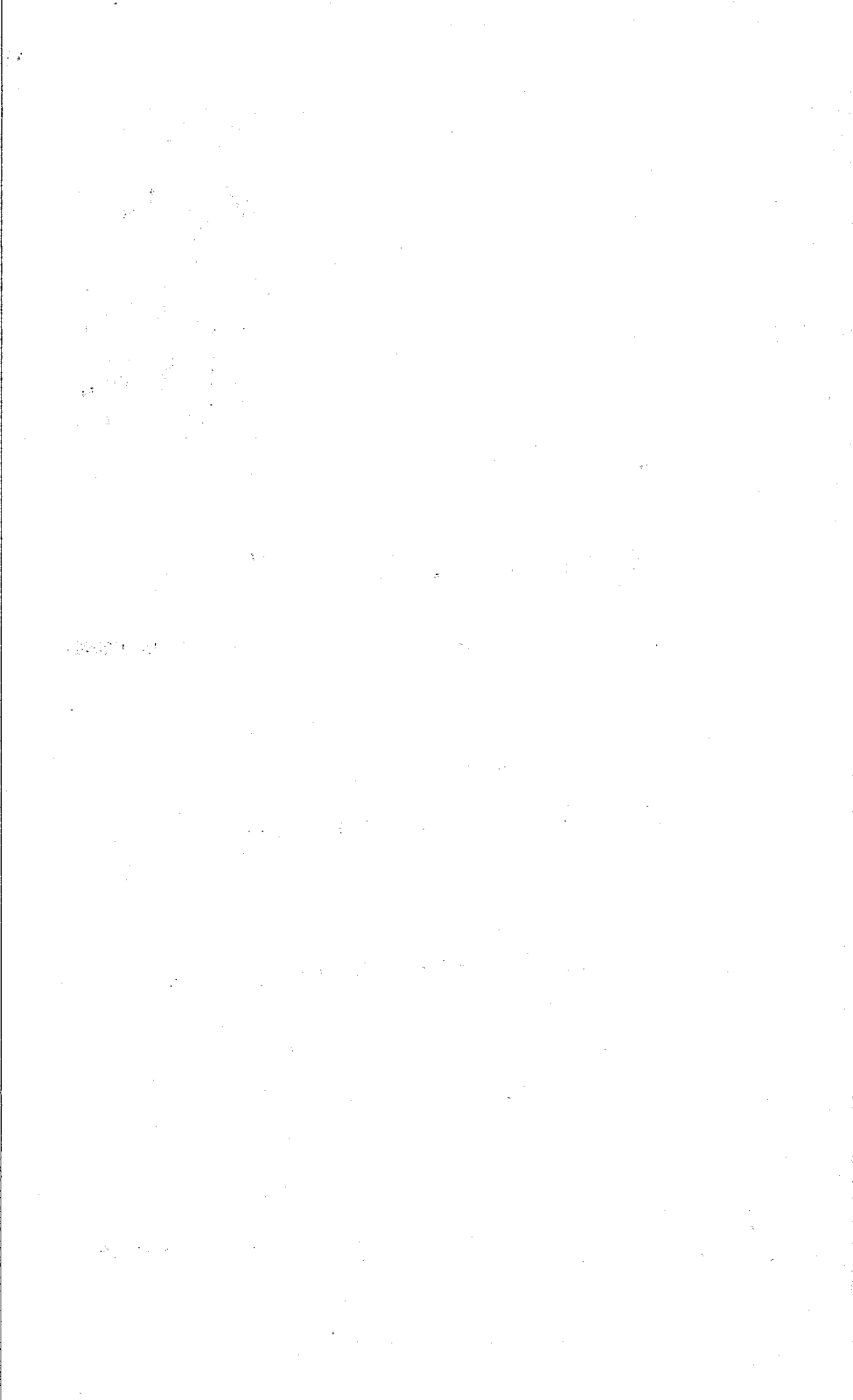
**May 9, 1992**

**Moderator**

**Rev. Howard Messer**

**Clerk**

**Mrs. Lucille Tatham**



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**Minutes of the  
39th Annual Session**

**Blue Ridge Association  
of the Original  
Free Will Baptists**

**Held at**  
***Marion First Free Will Baptist Church***  
**Marion, N.C.**

**May 9, 1992**

**Moderator**  
**Rev. Howard Messer**

**Clerk**  
**Mrs. Lucille Tatham**

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## OFFICERS

Moderator:	Rev. Howard Messer .....	(704)253-0369 227 Johnston Blvd., Asheville, N.C. 28806
Assistant	Rev. Talmadge Brown .....	669-2310 P.O.Box 566, Black Mountain, N.C. 28711
Clerk:	Mrs. Lucille Tatham .....	652-7588 Rt.1, Box 58, Marion, N.C.
Assistant:	Miss Volena Wilson .....	652-6625 Zeb Vance St., Marion, N.C. 28752
Treasurer:	Miss Carrie Padgett .....	668-4857 Rt. 2, Box 380, Old Fort, N.C. 28762
Historian:	Mrs. Etta Butler .....	584-4639 1310 Jamestown Rd., Morganton, N.C. 28655

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Howard Messer (Chmn.)  
Rev. Talmadge Brown  
Mrs. Lucille Tatham  
Miss Carrie Padgett  
Rev. Ed Hutchinson  
Rev. Jack Ward  
Rev. Roger Tripp

### CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Rev. Wayne Miller  
Rev. Jack Moses  
Rev. Eddie Kirkpatrick

### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Milton Hollifield (Chmn.)  
Rev. Roy Sheehan  
Rev. Larry Combs  
Rev. J. D. Wilson

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Rev. Johnny Hughes  
Rev. Wayne Smith  
Rev. Bill Robinson

### TRUSTEE BOARD

Rev. Ralph Reep  
Bro. Conway Tatham  
Rev. William Vaughn

### ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Benny Turner (1993)  
Rev. Clyde Nations (1994)  
Rev. Roy Shehan (1995)  
Rev. Buddy Henry (1996)  
Rev. Julius Hall (1997)

### YOUTH BOARD

Rev. Doug Mathis, Director  
Rev. Wayne Miller  
Bro. Junior Melton  
Rev. Rocky Reece  
Rev. Dean Good

### HOME MISSION BOARD

Rev. Wendell Walley  
Rev. Jack Ward  
Rev. Roger Tripp  
Rev. Milton Hollifield  
Rev. Edward Hutchinson  
Rev. David Young  
Rev. Earl Davis

## ASSOCIATIONAL CHURCHES AND PASTORS

1. Asheville	Rev. James C. Lynn	254-8744
2. Avery's Creek	Rev. Bob Fox	684-7493
3. Beaverdam	Rev. Dean Good	667-2016
4. Calvary	Rev. Frank Cantrell	298-0409
5. Canton	Rev. Bill Robinson	648-0272
6. Cedar Hill	Rev. Howard Messer	253-0369
7. Clyde	Rev. Carl Cook	926-1326
8. Fairview	Rev. David Young	652-6593
9. Faith	Rev. Julius Hall	584-7337
10. Fellowship	Rev. Wayne Smith (Interim)	669-2217
11. First Marion	Rev. Jack Ward	652-4513
12. First Lenoir	Rev. Jack Moses	584-1863
13. Gethsemane	Rev. Ralph Reep	738-4238
14. Harriett Memorial	Rev. Benny Turner	657-6062
15. Homer's Chapel	Rev. Buddy Henry	669-2343
16. Lakeview	Rev. Howard Pittman	(919) 869-3450
17. Meadowbrook	Rev. Talmadge Brown	669-9150
18. Meadow Fork		
19. Nowling's Chapel	Rev. Roy Shehan	433-9623
20. Oakley	Rev. Boyd Owenby	628-2019
21. Pisgah	Rev. Oliver Cagle	238-8568
22. Roaring Creek	Rev. J.D. Wilson	733-5389
23. Robertson Creek	Rev. Larry Combs	245-3291
24. Rocky Pass	Rev. Milton Hollifield, Sr.	652-5798
25. Shelby	Rev. Edward Hutchinson	481-1604
26. Southside	Rev. Roger Tripp	294-3485
27. Sulphur Springs	Rev. Elisha Fish	667-5656
28. Sweeten Creek	Rev. Johnny Hughes	274-5236
29. Swannanoa	Rev. Clyde Nations	686-5391
30. The Way Of The Cross	Rev. Doug Mathis	538-0112
31. Zephyr Hills	Rev. Wendell Walley	253-5487

## MINISTERS

Talmadge Brown	204 Blue Ridge Rd., Black Mtn., NC 28711	(704) 669-2310
Oliver Cagle	Rt. 3, Box 219, Canton, NC 28716	235-8568
Frank Cantrell	206 Eastwood Ave., Swannanoa, NC 28778	686-5794
James Childers, Sr.	Rt. 5, Box 461, Marion, Virginia 24354	(703) 783-5957
Larry Combs	Rt. 1, Box 35, Bostic, NC 28018	245-3291
Carl Cook	111 Ivey Hill Dr., Waynesville, NC 28786	926-1326
Joe Cutshaw	P.O. Box 1281, Fletcher, NC 28732	684-9670
Earl Davis	Rt. 1, Box 432, Marion, NC 28752	652-2370
Fred Freeman	P.O. Box 1323, Marion, NC 28752	652-5674
Elisha Fish	Rt. 3, Box 212 Candler, NC 28715	667-5656
Dean Good	80 Wise Rd., Candler, NC 28715	667-2016
Julius Hall	1308 Jamestown Rd., Morganton, NC 28655	584-7337
Buddy Henry	202 Chapel Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711	669-2343
Elmer Hensley	24 Pisgah Ave., Asheville, NC 28803	274-2803
Edwin Hill	Rt. 3, Box 42-A, Candler, NC 28715	667-5656
T.A. Holder	47 Elkmont Dr., Asheville, NC 28804	254-8014
Milton Hollifield, Sr.	Rt. 1, Box 244, Nebo, NC 28761	652-5798
Johnny Hughes	220 Rock Hill Rd., Asheville, NC 28803	274-5236
Edward Hutchinson	1003 High Wedge Rd., Shelby, NC 28150	481-1604
Allen Jackson	Rt. 1, Box 243, Marion, NC 28752	738-3097
Gordon Johnson	107 Dakar Drive, Shelby, NC 28150	482-1244
Eddie Kirkpatrick	Rt. 3, Box 100, Nebo, NC 28761	652-5229
James C. Lynn, Sr.	14 Ridgeway Dr., Asheville, NC 28806	254-8744
Doug Mathis	P.O. Box 607, Polkville, NC 28136	538-0112
Leroy Melton, Jr.	920 College Ave., Shelby, NC 28152	482-0263
E.E. McMillen	P.O. Box 966, Swannanoa, NC 28778	669-7665
Howard Messer	227 Johnston Blvd., Asheville, NC 28806	253-0369
Michael Metcalf	154 Rainhill Ch. Rd., Morganton, NC 28655	584-1387
Wayne Miller	Rt. 1, Box 473, Marion, NC 28752	652-3360
John Moore	13 Graham Rd., Marshall, NC 28753	683-9491
Jack Moses	Rt. 8, Box 559-C, Morganton, NC 28655	584-1863
Clyde Nations	202 Park St., Swannanoa, NC 28778	686-5391
Glen Newland	P.O. Box 675, Grover, NC 28073	937-9235
Boyd Owenby	86 Number Nine Rd., Fletcher, NC 28732	628-2019
Howard Pittman, Sr.	1016 Lakecrest Ave., High Point, NC 27265	(919) 869-3450
Willard Pless	203 Academy St., Canton, NC 28716	648-8145
Rocky Reese	5089 Reese Store Ave., Morganton, NC 28655	584-4849
Ralph Reep	385 Arrowhead Trail, Marion, NC 28752	738-4238
Bill Robinson	P.O. Box 1346, Canton, NC 28716	648-0272
Jeff Runnion	100 Aycock St., Black Mountain, NC 28711	669-4903
Winfred Roland	106 Young St., Swannanoa, NC 28778	686-3509
Roy Shehan	Rt. 6, Box 74, Morganton, NC 28655	433-9623
Clifford Shetley	Rt. 5, Box 259, Marshall, NC 28753	649-2410
Wayne Smith	314 Altamahaw Rd., Black Mt., NC 28711	669-2217
Richard Swann	29 McDonald Rd., Arden, N.C. 28704	684-7493
Roger Tripp	1010 Teakwood Rd., Hickory, NC 28602	294-3485
Benny Turner	Rt.1, Box 545, Forest City, NC 28043	657-6062
William Vaughn	P.O. Box 117, Old Fort, NC 28762	668-4609
Wendell Walley	283 Shelbourne Rd., Asheville, NC 28806	253-5487
Jack Ward	250 Baldwin Ave., Marion, NC 28752	652-4513
J.D. Wilson	Rt. 1, Box 281, Newland, NC 28657	733-5389
David Young	Rt. 1, Box 445, Marion, NC 28752	652-6593

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**FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING**  
**of the**  
**BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION .**  
**meeting with**  
**Sweeten Creek F.W.B. Church, Asheville, N.C.**  
**August 31, 1991**

The First Quarterly Meeting was opened by Rev. Howard Messer, Moderator.  
Congregational Singing - *Victory In Jesus*. Led by Rev. Bill Robinson.

Prayer - Rev. Don Worrell

Welcome - Rev. Johnny Hughes

Response - Rev. Don Worrell

Devotion - Rev. Larry Combs - Isa. 42:6

Roll Call of Churches, Ministers, and recognition of Visitors. 19 Churches represented, 29 Ministers, 29 Delegates, 4 Deacons, 1 Visitor Rev. Scott Cabiness, Valley Falls F.W.B. Church, Spartanburg, S. C .

M/S/C Ordaining Council contact Ministers who are not attending Conferences and why they are unable to attend Conference.

**REPORTS:**

Treasurer's Report - Sister Carrie Padgett. M/S/C to accept Report  
Executive Committee Report - Sister Lucille Tatham. M/S/C to accept Report.

Youth Board Report - Bro. Don Worrell:

Approx. 75 attended Camp  
15 First time Decisions  
45 Rededications  
Good Services, Good Spirit, Good Weather.  
Walk-A-Thon, October 12. M/S/C to accept Report.

Rest Home Report - By Rev. Ed Hill: Good Report - 29 Residents - All Beds filled, Pray for Staff and Residents. Continue to keep us in your Budget.

Woman's Auxiliary Report By Sister Betty Hill M/S/C to adopt Report  
Credentials Report by Rev. Eddie Kirkpatrick M/S/C to adopt Report.

M/S/C To comply with Resolution passed by National Association on handling of deceased Ministers. This is one of the duties of the Historian.

Home Mission Report by Rev. Wendell Walley.

## Recommendations:

1. Evangelism Conference by the National Home Mission Staff, and ask the Conference to designate a location for it.
2. The Conference to adopt a \$5,000 goal as an offering to be raised for the National Home Mission in conjunction with the Evangelism Conference and Benjamin Randall Day.
3. Each Church bring an Offering to the Conference.

Bro. Walley also announced that Rev. Ed Hutchinson was elected as new Board Chairman. He reported plans, by the Board, to explore possibilities of starting a church in Boone, N.C.

The Evangelism Conference is to be November 22 and 23rd at the Rocky Pass Church. M/S/C to accept Report.

Bro. Carl Cook resigned from the Ordaining Council, due to some controversy over the Ordination of Rev. Glen Newland. M/S/C to accept his Resignation. Because the Ordaining Council was not present at the time of the Ordination, a Move was made and seconded to refer this matter back to the Ordaining Council. An Amendment to this Motion: The Ordaining Council meet with Bro. Glen Newland and bring back Clarification today. Both Motion and Amendment were defeated. It was agreed to accept the previous recommendation of the Ordaining Council that Bro. Glen Newland be Ordained.

A proposal was made by Bro. Buddy Henry to have a Foreign Missionary Conference to be held in late March.

Bro. Nations made mention of College Day, September 13th. He encouraged all Pastors and Churches to participate in this.

Bro. Swann reported on his Resignation of Avery's Creek Church. He pastored there 19 years. He was replaced by Bro. Bob Fox.

Moved to adjourn for Recess.

## WORSHIP HOUR:

Song - *Revive Us Again*

Special Music by Bro. Gordon Johnson

Message by Bro. Julius Hall, Sr. Zechariah 4: 1-7

Offering \$46.00 to go to Bro. Clint Morgan, Missionary.



## SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING

of the

## BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION

meeting with

THE WAY OF THE CROSS CHURCH, POLKVILLE, N.C.

November 2, 1991

The Second Quarterly Meeting was opened by Rev. Howard Messer, Moderator  
Congregational Singing - *Love Lifted Me*. Led by Bro. Jeff Runion

Prayer - Rev. Don Worrell

Welcome - Rev. Doug Mathis

Response - Rev. Don Worrell

Devotion - Rev. Benny Turner - Col.1:19 and Col.2:7-15

Roll Call of Churches, Ministers, and Recognition of Visitors. 21 Churches represented (2 by Letter), 27 Ministers (3 called in), 31 Delegates, 5 Deacons, 11 Visitors. Rev. Carlie Lloyd and Family, Missionary Appointees to Madison, Wisconsin, were recognized.

### REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report - Sister Carrie Padgett

Youth Board Report - Bro. Jeff Runion:

1. Youth Camp went very well. We did well financially, finishing in the Black. Several Decisions were made for the Lord.
2. October 12 was our State-wide Youth Walk-A-Thon for Home Missionaries, Randy Stone and Gene Hales in Fayetteville and Mathews, N.C. Meadowbrook and Cedar Hill were the only two participating Churches. Plan next October to get your young people involved.
3. The next Youth For The Master Meeting will be Nov. 16, 7 P.M. at the Meadowbrook Church. A group from F.W.B. Bible College will be there.

Rest Home Report: - Bro. Ed Hill: 28 Residents. Good Bond Program, some repairs are being done by Bro. Jack Ward. Pray for the Rest Home and also the Board for God's directions. Thanks for your support. Visit us anytime.

Ordaining Council Report - No Report. Bro. Nations asked for anyone with any business matter to contact either him or someone on the Board.

Home Mission Report - Bro. Ed Hutchinson:

1. Rev's Ed Hutchinson, Don Worrell, Jack Ward and Earl Davis went to Boone, N.C. August 8th to check out the possibility of starting a new F.W.B. Mission. We spent all afternoon looking for a place to hold Services. We found one place on Main Street, near the University. Pray with us that a place may be procured, and a Missionary be hired. There

- is an open Field for us in Boone. We want to be there within two years.
2. The Evangelism Conference (Old Fashion Camp Meeting) will be at the Rocky Pass Church, November 22 and 23rd.

Everyone is encouraged to attend these Services. The Board has set a goal – \$5000.00 to be raised for the Home Mission Board.

Bro. Buddy Henry gave a Report on the Foreign Missionary Conference to be March 22-24 on the West side of the Mountain, and March 25-29 on the East Side of the Mountain.

#### Executive Board Report - Sister Lucille Tatham

M/S/C Bro. Larry Combs replace Bro. Carl Cook on the Ordaining Council.

The Executive Board Recommended that Article 10-C in the Constitution & By Laws be deleted. M/S/C to table this item until the Annual Meeting.

M/S/C - Ordaining Council meet and draw up a set of Questions for Ministers who are coming in for License and Ordination and local Churches use the same guide lines in Licensing and Ordaining new Ministers coming in.

#### Woman's Auxiliary Report - Sister Martha Taylor:

1. Rocky Pass hosted our Fall Meeting with Judy Lytle as our Guest Speaker.
2. When the Reports were given, we had exceeded all our goals.
3. Adopted a new project for the new Mission the Blue Ridge is to begin in the near future with \$1000 being the goal
4. We had two Auxiliaries to unite with us as this Meeting Robertson Creek and Shelby, bringing our Membership to 14 Auxiliaries.
5. The N.C. State Retreat at the Y.M.C.A. Blue Ridge Assembly is being well responded to - Having to request more rooms. Pray for this Retreat - meeting November 15 & 16.

Credentials Report was given by Bro. Eddie Kirkpatrick.

Rev. Carlie Lloyd gave a report on his work in Madison, Wisconsin.

Motion to adopt all Reports S/C.

M/S/C to give Bro. Carlie Lloyd \$200 Mission Offering.

Sister Volena Wilson gave a Report on the work in India.

#### Announcements:

Bro. Walley - Week-end Revival at Zephyr Hills Church with Dr. Johnson.

Bro. Jack Ward - Thanksgiving Jubilee

Bro. Roger Tripp - Revival with Rev. Bronco West.  
Bro. Larry Combs - Revival at Robertson Creek with Bro. Roy Shehan  
Bro. Rocky Reece - Walk-A-Thon for Handicapped Child at Faith Church in Morganton.

Recess

**WORSHIP HOUR:**

Congregational Singing - Bro. Jeff Runion

Special Singing - *Way Of The Cross* Duet

Prayer by Bro. Eddie Kirkpatrick

Message by Rev. J.D. Wilson - Second Kings 7:9 - "We do not well, We hold our peace.

Dismissed in Prayer.

**THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING**  
**of the**  
**BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION meeting with**  
**SWANNANOA F.W.B. CHURCH, SWANNANOA, N.C.**  
**February 1, 1992**

The Third Quarterly Meeting was opened by Rev. Howard Messer, Moderator.

Congregational Singing - *Stand Up For Jesus*, Led by Bro. James Cole

Prayer - Rev. Buddy Henry

Welcome - Rev. Clyde Nations

Response - Bro. James Cole

Devotion - Rev. Eddie Kirkpatrick - James 5:8; Matt. 24:27

Roll Call of Churches, Ministers, and Recognition of Visitors. 23 Churches

Represented, Ministers 26, Delegates 50, Deacons 1, Visitors

13. Visitors Recognized - Rev. Steve Lytle, Missionary, and

Rev. Howard Pittman, Lake View F.W.B. Church. High Point, N.C.

BUSINESS: Motion/Second/ Carried to seat all Delegates.

Annual Meeting, May 9, 1992 at the First Church in Marion, Bro. Tom Lilly to be our guest Speaker.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Bro Milton Hollifield, Chmn.

Bro. Roy Shehan

Bro. Larry Combs

Bro. J.D. Wilson

## REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report - Sister Carrie Padgett

Youth Board Report - Bro Doug Mathis

1. Youth For The Master will meet at Faith Church in Morganton, February 15th. Competition starts at 6:00 P.M. Worship at 7:00 P.M. Bro. Larry Combs, Jr. will be the Speaker.
2. Youth Camp will be July 27 to August 1, 1992..
3. We encourage each Church and Pastor to help.

Respectfully submitted

Rev. Doug Mathis

Rest Home Report - Bro. Ed Hill

Executive Board Report - Clerk

Sister Kelly Cope Missionary to Ivory Coast spoke briefly. She will be working with the Clint Morgans during the Summer.

Home Missions Report - Bro. Buddy Henry -He gave a report on his trip to Brazil. He spent 18 days there, building a Church. He announced the Mission Conference March 22 to March 29, 1992, in our Blue Ridge District.

Woman's Auxiliary Report - Sister Betty Hill

1. Spring Meeting will be April 4th, at 9:30 A.M. at Robertson Creek Church
2. State Auxiliary will convene in Washington, N.C. May 5th.
3. The National Retreat will be at Ridgcrest, N.C. September 19th.

Credentials Committee Report - Bro. Wayne Miller

Ordaining Council Report - Bro. Clyde Nations:

1. The Ordaining Council is working on a Questionnaire for Ministers coming into the Blue Ridge Association.
2. Granted a Letter of good standing to the Southern Cumberland Conference for Rev. Don Worrell. Motion/ Second/ Carried to adopt all Reports

Recess

## WORSHIP HOUR:

Song - *Amazing Grace*

Prayer - Bro. Talmadge Brown - Offering Received

Choir Singing: *Lift Him Up* and *King of Kings*.

Message - Bro. Steve Lytle 1st Tim. 4:13-16; 1 Sam. 4:4-5; 2:12, 22-24 Take Heed.

Finance Committee Report - Bro. Bill Robinson:

Received in Offering \$91.67

The Finance Committee recommend we send \$91.67 to the Account of Bro. Steve Lytle

Bro. Bill Robinson  
Bro. Wayne Smith

Moved/ Second/ Carried to make Offering \$100.00.

Prayer - Bro. Talmadge Brown

**39th ANNUAL SESSION**  
**of the**  
**BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION**  
**meeting with**  
**FIRST F.W.B. CHURCH, MARION, N.C.**  
**May 9, 1992**

The Thirty-Ninth Annual Session was called to order by the Moderator,  
Rev. Howard Messer.

Bro. Glen Cole led the congregation in singing *Heavenly Sunlight*.

Prayer - Bro. Richard Swann

Welcome - Bro. Jack Ward

Response - Bro. Talmadge Brown Devotion - Bro. David Young - Hebrews 12:1-3  
"Reasons not to give up".

Roll Call of Churches and Ministers. Churches represented 22, Ministers 28, Delegates 58, Visitors 8. Visitors recognized - Rev. Eugene Waddell, General Director of Foreign Missions, and Rev. Tom Lilly, State Promotional Director.

**BUSINESS SESSION:** M/S/C to seat all Delegates

**REPORTS:**

Treasurer's Report - Sister Carrie Padgett (See Reports).

Youth Report - Bro. Doug Mathis:

1. Several of our young people participated in the State Competition. We did have some second-place winners.
2. The Youth Camp dates are July 27th thru August 1st.
3. See Bro. Rocky Reece or Doug Mathis for further details.

Rest Home Report - Bro. Edwin Hill - 27 Residents - New Tile replacement by Bro. Jack Ward and Bro. Howard Messer - Need Prayer and Financial support. Ordaining Council Report - Bro. Clyde Nations: Recommendations:

1. That we receive Rev. David Young of Salem Association of F.W.B. of Marianna, Florida into our Association. He brought a letter of good standing with him. M/S/C
2. That we receive Rev. Harold Pittman and the Lakeview F.W.B. Church of High Point, N.C. into our Association. M/S/C Executive Board Report - Sister Lucille Tatham (See Reports).

Mission Report by Bro. Eugene Waddell (See Reports)

Woman's Auxiliary Report - Sister Betty Hill (See Reports).

Credentials Report by Bro. Eddie Kirkpatrick

M/S/C to adopt all Reports.

Nominating Committee Report - Bro. Milton Hollifield:

1. Bro. Julius Hall replace Bro Carl Cook on the Ordaining Council.
2. Bro. Jack Ward replace Bro. Don Worrell on the Executive Board.
3. Bro. Doug Mathis replace Bro. Jeff Runnion as Director of Youth Board.
4. Bro. Junior Melton replace Bro. Doug Mathis on Youth Board.
5. Bro. David Young replace Bro. Don Worrell on the Home Mission Board.

Respectfully Submitted,

Milton Hollifield, Chmn.  
Roy Shehan  
J.D. Wilson  
Larry Combs

A rising vote of thanks and appreciation was given to three Ministers wives, whose Husbands have deceased, and they have continued to support the Blue Ridge Association. Mrs. Elmer Keener, Mrs. Margie Condrey, and Mrs. Etta Butler. Prayer was given by Bro. Bud Fish for them and for the family of Rev. Lee Roy Walker who passed away this week.

M/S/C to bring from the Table the recommendation to delete Article 10-C in the Constitution and By Laws. M/S/C to delete Article 10-C from the Constitution and By-Laws.

M/S/C to adopt project of each Church supporting Steve Lytle - 50% support from the Blue Ridge Association.

Recess

## WORSHIP HOUR:

Congregational Song - *Oh! How Sweet to Trust in Jesus*

Special Song - Sister Kim Ward

Message - Bro Tom Lilly - Mark 2:1-2 - "When Jesus is in the House".

Song - *Have Thine Own Way*

Adjourned

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board of the Blue Ridge Association met at the Western Steer Steak House on Tuesday, July 16, 1991.

Present: Revs. Howard Messer, Moderator, Talmadge Brown, Don Worrell, Ed Hutchinson, Roger Tripp, Miss Carrie Padgett, Lucille Tatham, Bro. Lee Roy Melton, Mrs. Sybol Tripp, Jessica Tripp.

Prayer - Bro. Don Worrell

The Program for the August Meeting was planned.

Adjourned - Prayer by Bro. Roger Tripp

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board, Ministers and Wives met at the Western Steer Steak House in Marion Tuesday, October 15, 1991.

Present: Rev. & Mrs. Howard Messer, Rev. & Mrs. Milton Hollifield, Rev. & Mrs. Jack Ward, Rev. & Mrs. Ralph Reep, Rev. & Mrs. Jack Moses, Rev. & Mrs. Wendell Walley, Rev. & Mrs. Don Worrell, Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Melton, Jr., Rev. & Mrs. Ed Hutchinson, Rev. & Mrs. Julius Hall, Rev. & Mrs. Larry Combs, Mr. & Mrs. Conway Tatham, Mrs. Etta Butler, Rev. Eddie Kirkpatrick, Miss Carrie Padgett.

The Program for the November Meeting was planned,

The following Recommendations were made:

1. Rev. Larry Combs fill out unexpired term of Rev. Carl Cook on the Ordaining Council.
2. Delete Article 10-C in the Constitution and By Laws.
3. Ordaining Council meet and draw up a set of Questions for Ministers who are coming in for License and Ordination.

The November Meeting will be with the Way Of The Cross Church near Polkville.

The February Meeting will be with the Swannanoa Church.

Announcement: There will be an Old Time Camp Meeting at the Rocky Pass Church (Evangelism Conference) November 22-23.

Adjourned with Prayer.

## EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board of the Blue Ridge Association met at the Western Steer Steak House on Tuesday, January 14, 1992.

Present: Revs. Howard Messer, Moderator, Talmadge Brown, Jack Ward, Edward Hutchinson, Lee Roy Melton, Roger Tripp, Sis. Carrie Padgett, Lucille Tatham

The Program for the February Meeting was planned.

The following Recommendations were made:

1. The Annual Meeting be held at the First Church in Marion, May 9, 1992. Bro. Tom Lilly, Guest Speaker.
2. The Executive Board meet the second Tuesday night of the Month prior to each Quarterly Meeting.
3. Bro. Jack Ward appointed to fill the unexpired term of Bro. Don Worrell on the Executive Board

Dismissed in Prayer by Bro. Roger Tripp



**Blue Ridge Free Will Baptist Association**  
**Annual meeting – May 9, 1992**  
**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**GENERAL FUND**

Fund Balance – May 11, 1991	\$1,668.55
Received this Year	<u>3,133.20</u>
Sub-Total	\$4,801.75

**Disbursements:**

Clerk's Salary	\$ 125.00	
Clerk's Expense	123.05	
Rev. & Mrs. Wayne Smith	50.00	
Blue Ridge Dues (State)	50.00	
State Assoc. Dues	650.00	
National Assoc. Dues	260.00	
Service Charges (Bank)	62.32	
Printing Charge (Bank)	7.25	
Foreign Missions (Morgan)	46.00	
Professional Images (Min.)	1,033.50	
Rev. Carlie Lloyd	200.00	
Foreign Missions (Lytle)	<u>100.00</u>	
	2,707.12	<u>- 2,707.12</u>

<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$2,094.63</b>
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**YOUTH BOARD**

<b>TOTAL FUNDS THIS YEAR</b>	<b>\$830.87</b>
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**LOCAL MISSIONS FUND**

Fund Balance – May 11, 1991	\$5,607.00
Received this Year	2,950.25 *
Interest Added	<u>330.47</u>

Sub-Total	\$8,887.72
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NC State Home Missions (Fayetteville)	-1,127.61
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National Home Missions	<u>-1,000.00</u>
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<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$6,760.11</b>
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\* \$695.00 of this amount donated by Blue Ridge District Woman's Auxiliary.

**MINISTER'S BENEVOLENT FUND**

Fund Balance – May 11, 1991	\$2,466.23
Received this Year	474.80
Interest Added	<u>69.13</u>

<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$3,010.16</b>
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(continued)

**FWB BIBLE COLLEGE LOAN FUND**

Fund Balance – May 11, 1991	\$1,650.18
Received this Year	148.38
Interest Added	<u>31.69</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$1,830.25</b>

**SOUTHEASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE LOAN FUND**

Fund Balance – May 11, 1991	\$ 898.38
Received this Year	148.37
Interest Added	<u>31.69</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	<b>\$1,078.44</b>

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May 9, 1992

	<u>AMOUNT THIS QUARTER</u>	<u>AMOUNT THIS YEAR</u>
Asheville		
Avery Creek	\$ 34.99	\$ 264.35
Beaverdam	35.00	95.00
Calvary	228.11	565.32
Canton		130.97
Cedar Hill	205.39	554.97
Clyde		35.00
Fairview	189.46	577.18
Faith	100.00	483.00
First – Marion	80.00	355.00
Gethsemane	49.55	270.43
Harriett Memorial	200.00	485.00
Homer's Chapel		35.00
Lenoir	121.00	358.80
Meadowbrook	140.00	275.00
Meadow Fork		20.00
Nowling Chapel	231.08	1,051.76
Oakley	217.03	217.03
Pisgah		233.00
Roaring Creek	84.02	408.10
Robinson Creek		106.43
Rocky Pass	150.00	950.00
Shelby	30.00	155.00
Southside		100.00
Sulphur Springs		
Swannanoa		
Sweeten Creek		
The Way of the Cross		127.00
Zephyr Hills	<u>70.00</u>	<u>329.25</u>
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$2,165.63</b>	<b>\$8,182.59</b>

Respectfully submitted,  
Carrie Padgett, Treasurer

## REPORTS

### Blue Ridge District Woman's Auxiliary Report - Sister Betty Hill

Total Membership - 148 Top 3 Auxiliaries in the District Membership:

1. First Marion -20 Members
2. Nowlings Chapel & Zephyr Hills - (tied - 16)
3. Meadowbrook - 15

Top 3 Auxiliaries in the District in giving:

1. Rocky Pass - (\$256.50)
2. Fairview - (\$201.00)
3. Cedar Hill - (\$123.86)

The Blue Ridge averaged #1 in giving across the State, with an average of \$61.03 per member. Ranked 3rd. in State Membership - 148

Total amount given by the District to all Ministries \$13,438.25.

Next Meeting will be our District Brunch on Saturday, August 22. We will have a "Mission Explosion" to encourage prayer & financial support for our Missionaries.

New Projects for 1992:

1. Ron & Linda Callaway - \$600.00
2. Ron McMillan, Plymouth, Mass. - \$200.00
3. Bible College of choice - \$300.00

Foreign Mission Report by Bro. Eugene Wadell

Greetings to our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Blue Ridge Association of Free Will Baptists: Free Will Baptist Foreign Missions appreciates your loyal support through the years. You have helped us spread the gospel around the world so that we can truthfully say, the "Sun never sets on the Free Will Baptist Witness." Steve Lytle, one of your own young Preachers has an outstanding Ministry in Panama. I have watched him preach, witness and work with our Panamanian leaders. He has been instrumental in winning many souls, and helping plant new Free Will Baptists Churches in that needy Roman Catholic country.

When he returns to Panama this summer, Steve will be devoting more time to training Panamanian Preachers than he has in the past. He will also give more time to assisting Panamanian Church planters. I know you praise God that he is an extension of the Blue Ridge Association as he labors for the Lord in Panama.

In 1990, the last full year that the Lytles spent in Panama, you all provided 20 percent of their support. Last year, you provided 14 percent of their income. Without your help, Steve could not have carried on his work there.

If your Church would officially consider the Lytles as your representatives and encourage every Free Will Baptist in the Blue Ridge Association to commit yourselves to provide half of the Lytles support, they would not have to travel as much when they are on furlough or worry as much about where the funds will come from to keep them on the field. I will be praying for you as you consider this matter.

Your Servant for Jesus' sake

R. Eugene Wadell

An old time Camp Meeting was sponsored by the Blue Ridge Association with services held at the Rocky Pass F.W.B. Church.

Good old-fashioned preaching was brought to us on the evening of November 22, 1991 and all day on November 23, 1991, by the Home Missions Department team consisting of:

General Director, Roy Thomas

Associate Director, Trymon Messer

Director of Development, Richard Adams.

Music was furnished by the Rocky Pass Church and the Meadowbrook Church, as well as Mrs. Carolyn Adams, wife of Richard Adams.

The Home Mission team was available for the area Churches on November 24, with each member of the team preaching in a different church on Sunday morning and Sunday night.

Offerings for this week end of meetings totaled \$1,674.02.

## STATISTICS OF CHURCHES

<b>Canton</b>	Pastor: Rev. Bill Robinson, P.O. Box 1346, Canton, N.C. 28716. Clerk: Mrs. Helen Hamlett, 26 Flint St., Canton, N.C. 28716. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 4. S.S. Enrollment 74, Total Membership 93, Total Members lost 3. C.T.S. Enrollment 15.
<b>Cedar Hill</b>	Pastor: Rev. Howard Messer, 227 Johnston Blvd., Asheville, NC. 28806. Clerk: Nancy Cole, Rt.1, Box 84, Leicester, N.C. 28748. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 4, No. Baptisms 6, No. Members added 10, No. Members lost 3, Total Membership 174. Total S.S. Enrollment 110. C.T.S. Enrollment 32. Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 20.
<b>Fairview</b>	Pastor: Rev. David Young, Rt.1, Box 445, Marion, NC 28752. Clerk: Mrs. Betty Miller, Rt.1, Box 473, Marion, NC 28752. No. Ordained Ministers 3, No. Licensed Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 5. No. Baptisms 4, No. members added 10, No. Members lost 13, Total Membership 76. S.S. Enrollment 117, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 10. Master's Men Enrollment 9.
<b>Faith</b>	Pastor: Rev. Julius Hall, 1308 Jamestown Rd., Morganton NC 28655. Clerk: Mrs. Shirley Patton, 315 Golf Course Rd., 501 Woodbridge Apt., Morganton, N.C. 28655. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 1, No. Licensed Deacons 2. No. Baptisms 12, No. Members added 13, No. Members lost 4, Total Membership 83. S.S. Enrollment 60, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 15. Master's Men Enrollment 9.
<b>First Lenoir</b>	Pastor: Rev. Jack Moses, Rt. 8, Box 559-C, Morganton, NC 28655. Clerk: Mrs. Olene Hutchings, 220 Mt. Herman Rd., Lenoir, NC 28645. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 1. No. Baptisms 5, No. Members added 17 Total Membership 57. C.T.S. Enrollment 35.
<b>First Marion</b>	Pastor: Rev. Jack Ward, 250 Baldwin Ave., Marion, NC 28752. Clerk: Mr. Hank Taylor, P.O. Box 784, Marion, N.C. 28752. No. Ordained Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 8. No. Baptisms 11, No. Members added 14, No. Members lost 17, Total Membership 208. C.T.S. Enrollment 73, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 23.
<b>Gethsemane</b>	Pastor: Rev. Ralph Reep, 385 Arrowhead Trail, Marion, NC 28752. Clerk: Mrs. Linda Reep 385 Arrowhead Trail, Marion, NC 28752. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 2. No. Baptisms 2, No. Members added 7, No. Members lost 7, Total Membership 40 S.S. Enrollment 50.
<b>Harriett Memorial</b>	Pastor: Rev. Benny Turner, Rt.1, Box 545, Forest City, NC 28043. Clerk: Mrs. Barbara Fowler, Caroleen, N.C. 28019.

- No. Ordained Deacons 6, No. Baptisms 15, No. Members added 25. No. Members Lost 2, Total Membership 245. S.S. Enrollment 185, C.T.S. Enrollment 50, Woman's Auxiliary 16.
- Homer's Chapel** Pastor: Rev. Buddy Henry, 202 Chapel Rd., Black Mountain NC 28711. Clerk: Miss Debbie Rhinehart, Swannanoa, N.C. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 3. No. Baptisms 3, No. Members added 3, No. Members lost 4, Total Membership 99.
- Lakeview** 3855 Johnson Street, High Point, NC 27260. Pastor: Rev. Howard Pittman, Sr., 1016 Lakecrest Ave., High Point, NC 27265. Clerk: Mrs. Betty Draughn. Average S. S. attendance 40. Membership 26.
- Meadowbrook** Pastor: Rev. Talmadge Brown, 204 Blue Ridge Rd., Black Mtn., NC 28711. Clerk: Mrs. Anna Townsend, 92 Beech Glen Dr., Black Mtn., NC 28711. No. Ordained Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 7, No. Baptisms 12, No. Members added 20, No. Members lost 6, Total Membership 307. S.S. Enrollment 265, Average Attendance 184. C.T.S. Enrollment 100, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 15.
- Nowlings Chapel** Pastor Rev. Roy Shehan, Rt. 6, Box 74, Morganton, NC 28655. Clerk Mrs. Shirley Davis, Rt. 8, Box 506, Morganton, NC 28655. No. Ordained Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 5, No. Baptisms 30, No. Members added 45, No. Members lost 19, Total Membership 181, S.S. Enrollment 179, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 25.
- Oakley** Pastor: Rev. Boyd Owenby, 86 Number Nine Rd., Fletcher NC 28732. Clerk: Carroll Sams, 25 First St., Asheville, NC 28803. No. Ordained Ministers 3, No. Ordained Deacons 4, No. Members added 5, Total Membership 62. S.S. Enrollment 25, C.T.S. Enrollment 15, Woman's Auxiliary 13.
- Roaring Creek** Pastor: Rev. J.D. Wilson, Rt.1, Box 281, Newland, NC. 28657. Clerk: Mrs. Deborah O. Ward, P.O. Box 43, Plumtree, NC 28766. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 4. No. Members lost 2, Total Membership 80. S.S. Enrollment 60, Woman's Auxiliary 9.
- Robertson Creek** Pastor: Rev. Larry Combs, Rt. 1, Box 35, Bostic, N.C. 28018. Clerk Mrs. Patsy Poteat, 203 Orchard St., Forest City, NC 28043. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 3, No. Ordained Deacons 5. No. Baptisms 10, No. Members added 17, No. Members lost 3, Total Membership 70. S.S. Enrollment 71, Woman's Auxiliary 12.
- Rocky Pass** Pastor: Rev. Milton Hollifield, Sr., Rt.1, Box 244, Nebo, NC 28651. Clerk: Mrs. Lucille Tatham, Rt.1, Box 58, Marion, NC 28751. No. Ordained Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 8. No. Baptisms 8, No. Members added 16, No. Members lost 3, Total Membership 350. S.S. Enrollment 237. C.T.S. 81, Woman's Auxiliary 12.

<b>Shelby</b>	Pastor: Rev. Edward Hutchinson, 1003 High Wedge Rd., Shelby, NC 28152. Clerk: Mrs. Deborah Melton, 920 College Ave., Shelby N.C. 28152. No. Ordained Ministers 3, No. Ordained Deacons 3. No. Baptisms 7, No. Members added 10, No. Members lost 1, Total Membership 137. S.S. Enrollment 110, Woman's Auxiliary 14.
<b>Southside</b>	Pastor: Rev. Roger Tripp. 1010 Teakwood Rd., Hickory, NC 28602. Clerk: Mrs. Paula Herman, 1010 Teakwood Rd., Hickory, NC 28602. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Baptisms 3, No. Members added 8, No. Members lost 2, Total Membership 40. Woman's Auxiliary 10.
<b>Sulphur Springs</b>	Pastor: Rev. Elisha Fish, Rt. 3, Box 212, Candler, NC 28715. Clerk: Mrs. Mary Lanning, P.O. Box 413. Sulphur Springs Rd., Hazelwood, N.C. 28738. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 4
<b>Swannanoa</b>	Pastor: Rev. Clyde Nations, 202 Park St., Swannanoa, NC 28778. Clerk: Mrs. Charlotte Bright, 400 Melody Circle, Swannanoa, NC 28778. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 7. No. Members added 3, No. Members lost 1, Total Membership 107. S.S. Enrollment 97, C.T.S. Enrollment 75, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 12.
<b>The Way of The Cross</b>	Pastor: Rev. Douglas Mathis, P.O. Box 607, Polkville, NC 28136. Clerk: Mrs. Sandra Sailors, 510 Christopher Rd., Shelby, N.C. 28152. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Baptisms 3, No. Members added 15, No. Members lost 4, Total Membership 62. S.S. Enrollment 27, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 18.
<b>Zephyr Hills</b>	Pastor: Rev. Wendell Walley, 13 Auburndale Drive, Asheville, NC 28806. Clerk: Mrs. Lucille Lance, 93 English Place, Candler, NC 28715. No. Ordained Ministers 2, No. Licensed Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 5. No. Baptisms 6, No. Members added 9, No. Members lost 2, Total Membership 173. S.S. Enrollment 107 Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 24.

## Minister's Report

- Rev. Talmadge Brown:** 204 Blue Ridge Rd., Black Mtn., N.C., 28711. Buncombe County. Pastor, Meadowbrook Church. 669-2310.
- Rev. James K. Childers Sr.:** Rt. 5, Box 461, Marion, Va., 24354. Smyth County. Pastor Adwolf Church. 703-783-5957. *Remarks:* I do not seem to be able to attend any of the meetings, as I wish I could I do appreciate your allowing me to remain a member of the Blue Ridge Association. Please pray for our work here in Virginia.
- Rev. Larry R. Combs, Sr. :** Rt. 1, Box 35, Bostic, N.C., 28018. Rutherford County. Pastor, Robertson Creek Church. 245-3291.
- Rev. Elisha W. Fish:** Rt. 3, Box 212, Candler, N.C., 28775, Buncombe County. Pastor, Sulphur Springs Church. 667-5656.
- Rev. Julius R. Hall, Sr.:** 1308 Jamestown Rd., Morganton, N.C., Burke County. Pastor, Faith Church. 584-7337.
- Rev. Buddy T. Henry:** 202 Chapel Rd., Buncombe County. Pastor, Homer's Chapel Church. 669-2343. *Remarks:* Churches Pastored 1, Conversions 4, Funerals Conducted 4, No. Marriages 2.
- Rev. Milton A. Hollifield, Sr.:** Rt. 1, Box 244, Nebo. N.C. 28761. McDowell County. Pastor, Rocky Pass Church. 652-5798. *Remarks:* 16 Members received, 8 baptisms, 20 Funerals, 2 Marriages.
- Rev. Edward Hutchinson:** 1003 High Wedge Rd. Shelby, N.C. 28152. Cleveland County. 481-1604. Pastor, Shelby Church.
- Rev. Gordon Johnson:** 107 Dakar Drive, Shelby, N.C., 28150. Cleveland County. Affiliated with Shelby Church. 482-1244.
- Rev. Eddie Kirkpatrick:** Rt. 3, Box 100, Nebo, N.C., 28761. McDowell County. Affiliated with First Church in Marion. 652-5229.
- Rev. Doug Mathis:** P.O. Box 607, Polkville, N.C., 28136. Cleveland County. Pastor, Way of the Cross Church. 538-0112. *Remarks:* We praise the Lord to be a part of the Blue Ridge Association.
- Rev. Howard Messer:** 227 Johnston Blvd., Asheville, NC 28806. Buncombe County. Pastor, Cedar Hill Church. 253-0369.



- Rev. Wayne Miller:** Rt.1, Box 473, Marion, NC 28752. McDowell County, Affiliated with Fairview Church 652-3360.
- Rev. John Moore:** 13 Graham Rd., Marshall, NC 28753. Madison County. Affiliated with Laurel Fork Church, 683-949. *Remarks:* "I am retired for medical reasons and shut-in much time. I hope to be more active soon. Please remember me in your prayers.
- Rev. Jack Moses:** Rt.8, Box 559-C, Morganton, NC 28655. Burke County. Pastor, Lenoir First Church. 584-1863.
- Rev. Clyde Nations:** 202 Park St., Swannanoa, NC 28778. Buncombe County. 686-5391. Pastor, Swannanoa Church.
- Rev. Glen Newland:** P.O. Box 675, Grover, NC. 28073. Cleveland County, 937-9235. Affiliated with Shelby Church.
- Rev. Boyd Owenby:** 86 Number Nine Rd., Fletcher, NC 28732. 628-2019. Pastor, Oakley Church.
- Rev. Howard Pittman, Sr:** 1016 Lakecrest Ave., High Point, NC 27265. 919-869-3450. Pastor, Lakeview Church.
- Rev. Ralph Reep:** 385 Arrowhead Trail, Marion, NC 28752. McDowell County. 738-4238. Pastor, Gethsemane Church.
- Rev. Rocky Reese:** 5089 Reese Store Ave., Morganton, NC 28655. Burke County, 584-4849. Affiliated with Faith Church.
- Rev. Bill Robinson:** P.O. Box 1346, Canton, NC 28716. Haywood County. 648-0272. Pastor, Canton Church.
- Rev. Roy Shehan:** Rt. 6, Box 74, Morganton, NC 28655. Burke County. 433-9623. Pastor, Nowlings Chapel Church.
- Wayne W. Smith:** 314 Altamahaw Ave., Black Mountain, NC 28711. Buncombe County, 669-2217. Affiliated with Meadowbrook Church. Serving Fellowship Church as Interim Pastor.
- Rev. Richard Swann:** 29 McDonald Rd., Arden, NC 28704. Buncombe County, 684-7493. Affiliated with Avery's Creek Church. *Remarks:* As I am no longer Pastoring, I am free for engagements elsewhere.
- Rev. Roger Tripp:** 1010 Teakwood Rd., Hickory, NC 28602. Catawba County, 294-3485. Pastor, Southside Church. *Remarks:* "Our Missionary Conference was the greatest Blessing to our Church that we have had this year."
- Rev. Benny Turner:** Rt.1, Box 545, Forest City, NC 28043. Rutherford County. 657-6062. Pastor, Harriett Memorial Church.

**Rev. William Vaughn:**

P.O. Box 117, Old Fort, NC.28762. McDowell County, 668-4609. Pastor, New Home Church.  
*Remarks:* "Please forgive me for being out so much."

**Rev. Jack Ward**

250 Baldwin Ave., Marion, NC 28752. McDowell County, 652-4513. Pastor, First Marion Church.

**Rev. J.D.Wilson**

Rt.1, Box 281, Newland, NC 28657. Avery County, 733-5389. Pastor, Roaring Creek Church.

**Rev. David Young:**

Rt.1, Box 445, Marion, NC 28752. McDowell County, 652-6593. Pastor, Fairview Church.  
*Remarks:* "We have seen the work prosper since we've been here 3 months, and we are looking forward to a good Church year, as we trust in the Lord".

**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, and all Ministers who are in good standing and of sound doctrine of the Free Will Baptist faith, who are not affiliated with the Blue Ridge Associational Churches, contribute \$1.00 at each meeting for the support of the Benevolent Fund. 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 rights 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 the 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 the duty of the Clerk to keep a faithful and accurate record of the proceedings of the Association in a businesslike 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 for services rendered – an 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 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, except the Nominating Committee which shall be appointed at the third quarterly meeting. 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. If business deems it necessary, the Executive Board will meet, otherwise, the Moderator and the Assistant Moderator will plan the quarterly programs. 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 for Ministers and Churches under the authority and recommendations of the local church in this Association, 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 licensing anyone for the Ministry, 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, at which time he may be Ordained at the request of the Church of Organization which he is serving.

C. This Association deems it necessary for the protection of the gospel not to accept anyone as a minister who had 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 Minister or Pastor belonging to the Blue Ridge Association, who fails to attend the Associational meetings without just cause, such as sickness, death, or any emergency for a period of one year shall be granted a letter of dismissal.

a. However, if there is just cause for his absence, he may report by Letter.

b. If, however, he does not report or give a justifiable reason for absenteeism, the Ordaining Council will ask for his permission to meet with him in a conciliatory meeting. After said meeting, the Ordaining Council will make report to the Quarterly meeting of the Blue Ridge Association, along with recommendations, etc.

F. Any Church belonging to the Blue Ridge Association who fails deliberately or by neglect to report either by delegation or letter for a period of one year, and does not support the Association financially will be contacted by the Executive Board, after which a report will be made to the next session of the Blue Ridge Association, and action will be taken based upon report, either to drop them from the roll, or to continue to labor with them in love.

#### **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 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 the second Saturday in May.

### **Article 16**

This Association recommends that each Church pay quarterly one percent of their income for the support of this Association, to be designated as follows: General Fund 35%, Missions 38%, Education 5%, Youth Board 14%, Minister's Benevolent 8%.

### **Article 17**

The Ordaining Council will meet, as duty demands, one week prior to the Associational meetings.

### **Article 18**

Anyone who wishes to present any grievance, or any matter that pertains to any person or personality, or persons, first be presented in writing and signed, to the proper committee (Executive or Ordaining Council), whichever the matter concerns.

### **Article 19**

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

## **Rules of Decorum**

**Article 1** — This Association shall be opened and closed with suitable devotions.

**Article 2** — There shall be no conversation by members, one with another, so as to interrupt business while in session.

**Article 3** — Every person wishing to speak shall first arise and address the Moderator, and be recognized before speaking.

**Article 4** — No member shall interrupt another while speaking.

**Article 5** — Every member speaking shall attend the subject under consideration.

**Article 6** — No member shall speak on any one subject more than twice, except by permission of the Moderator.

**Article 7** — Every motion made and seconded shall be acted upon unless withdrawn by the person who made it.

**Article 8** — A motion before the house must be acted upon before another motion can be made.

**Article 9** — On all motions acted upon, the majority vote shall prevail.

**Article 10** — The Moderator shall have the privilege to speak on any subject as any other member, provided the chair is filled.

**Article 11** — This Association shall admit no other title while in session but that of Brother or Sister.

**Article 12** — No member shall absent himself from the body without the permission of the Moderator.

**Article 13** — Any person transgressing these By-Laws shall be admonished by the Moderator.

**Article 14** — No less than twenty (20) members shall constitute a quorum.

**Article 15** — An offering shall be received at the annual meeting as is necessary. The necessity will be determined by the Moderator.

**Article 16** — These By-Laws may be amended at any regular annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present.

## Articles of Faith

**1. God:** We believe there is only one 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 depravity and consequently involved his prosperity 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 are 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. Perseverance:** We do not believe, under gospel dispensation, any soul is elected to eternal life unconditionally, but that those who by faith persevere to the end will be saved: that 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 immersion 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 unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body." (I 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." (I 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."



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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 our selves 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.

## NOTES

