

Blue Ridge Association of the Original Free Will Baptists



Minutes of the 40th Annual Session

**Held at
*Harriett Memorial
Free Will Baptist Church
Caroleen, N.C.***

May 8, 1993

**Moderator
Rev. Howard Messer**

**Clerk
Mrs. Lucille Tatham**



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Mrs. Lucille Tatham**

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:	Mrs. Anita Messer	253-0369 227 Johnston Blvd., Asheville, N.C. 28806
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. Edward Hutchinson
Rev. Jack Ward
Rev. Roger Tripp

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Clyde Nations (1994)
Rev. Roy Shehan (1995)
Rev. Buddy Henry (1996)
Rev. Julius Hall (1997)
Rev. Benny Turner (1998)

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

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

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Jack Ward (Chmn.)
Rev. Clyde Nations
Rev. Jack Moses

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Rev. Johnny Hughes
Rev. Wayne Smith
Rev. Rocky Reese

TRUSTEE BOARD

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

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	(704) 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. Randy Skaggs	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. Norris A. Hawkins	298-7735
11. First Lenoir	Rev. Jack Moses	584-1863
12. First Marion	Rev. Jack Ward	652-4513
13. Gethsemane	Rev. Ralph Reep	738-4238
14. Harriett Memorial	Rev. Benny Turner	657-9446
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	Rev. Willard Pless	648-8145
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. Don Tindall	248-3811
24. Rocky Pass	Rev. Milton Hollifield, Sr.	652-5798
25. Shelby	Rev. Edward Hutchinson	481-9744
26. Southside	Rev. Roger Tripp	294-6757
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
Dwayne Cassida		
James Childers, Sr.	Rt. 5, Box 461, Marion, Virginia 24354	(703) 783-5957
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
Daren Dwyer		
Allen Fredell	4391 Bill Epley Rd., Morganton, NC 28655	584-2847
Fred Freeman	P.O. Box 1323, Marion, NC 28752	652-5674
Elisha Fish	Rt. 2, Box 212 Candler, NC 28715	667-5656
Dean Good	80 Wise Rd., Candler, NC 28715	667-2016
Norris A. Hawkins	32 Birchwood Lane, Asheville, NC 28805	299-9554
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 41-A, Candler, NC 28715	667-9902
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. 2, 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	14 Ridgeway Dr., Asheville, NC 28806	254-8744
Douglas Mathis	P.O. Box 607, Polkville, NC 28136	538-0112
Leroy Melton, Jr.	920 College Ave., Shelby, NC 28152	482-0263
Howard Messer	227 Johnston Blvd., Asheville, NC 28806	253-0369
Michael Metcalf	5609 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	2353 Conley Rd., 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	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
Ralph Reep	385 Arrowhead Trail, Marion, NC 28752	738-4238
Rocky Reese	5089 Reese Store Ave., Morganton, NC 28655	584-4849
Winfred Roland	106 Young St., Swannanoa, NC 28778	686-3509
Roy Shehan	3311 U.S. 64, Morganton, NC 28655	433-9623
Randy Skaggs	Holtzclow St., P.O. Box 1346, Canton, NC 28716	648-0753
Wayne Smith	314 Altamahaw Rd., Black Mt., NC 28711	669-2217
Richard Swann	29 McDonald Rd., Arden, N.C. 28704	684-7493
Don Tindoll	Rt. 1, Box 35, Bostic, NC 28018	248-3811
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

FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING
of the
BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION
meeting with
First F.W.B. Church, Lenoir, N.C.
August 1, 1992

The First Quarterly Meeting was opened by Rev. Howard Messer, Moderator.
Congregational Singing - *The Promised Land*. Led by Bro. James Cole.

Prayer - Rev. Jack Ward

Welcome - Rev. Jack Moses

Response - Rev. Edward Hutchinson

Devotion - Rev. Howard Pittman - I Acts 17:11 - "Some Values We Have Lost."

Roll Call of Churches, Ministers, and recognition of Visitors. 19 Churches represented, 22 Ministers, 25 Delegates, 7 Deacons, 3 Visitors - Bro. Don Reynolds, Mr. & Mrs. George Daymon, Jacksonville, Florida

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report - Sister Carrie Padgett.

Rev. Clyde Nations announced "College Day" at the Swannanoa Church September 12th at 6 P.M.

Youth Board Report - Rev. David Young:

Youth Camp - 106 in attendance, 17 Counselors, 26 Saved. 63 rededications.

Youth For The Master will meet August 15th at Zephyr Hills.

Rest Home Report - Rev. Ed Hill:

All bills paid. 25 Residents. Still need financial support for improvements.

Executive Committee Report - Sister Lucille Tatham:

M/S/C to adopt Report. M/S/C to accept Recc. #1 - Conference take care of all Board Member expenses for Associational work, including meals. If driving twenty miles or more, 22¢ per mile be paid. M/S/C to accept Recc. #2 - Receive a special love offering for Bro. Jack Ward to go to Russia (Offering - \$134.40), and Conference pay for twenty Bibles, to be taken from General Fund.

Woman's Auxiliary Report - Sister Betty Hill:

Membership - 148; 14 Auxiliaries

Projects: Calloways, Spain - \$600.00

Ron McMillan, Plymouth, Mass. - \$200.00

Bible College of Choice - \$300.00

WNAC Retreat - Sept. 17-19 - \$74.25 - \$122.25 at Ridgecrest. Deposit of \$23.60 required.

In lieu of the 5% Administrative fee, which has caused some disunity, it was resolved that we encourage each local to support WNAC with a minimum of \$10.00 per month.

Fall Meeting Tuesday, October 6, @ 7 P.M. at Shelby.

Mission Explosion Brunch August 22, 10 A.M. - 1 P.M. at Marion First Church. Featured Speaker, Tanya Hart, who has been a Summer Missionary in Brazil for several summers.

Home Mission Report – Bro. Edward Hutchinson: Two things are needful:

1. God to give us a man for this Ministry.
2. Permission to unite with the State Mission Board in pursuing this Project further.

Bro. Buddy Henry announced a Missions Board Meeting at the Western Steer Steak House in Black Mountain, August 28th at 12 Noon to discuss plans for Conference.

Credentials Report – Bro. Jack Moses:
M/S/C to adopt all Reports.

WORSHIP HOUR:

Song – *Send The Light*

Prayer – Bro. Hutchinson – Offering Received

Special Singing by the Host Church.

Message by Bro. Benny Turner – Jere. 20:9 - 2 Cor. 3:18.

Altar Prayer – Bro. Milton Hollifield

Dismissed by Bro. Talmadge Brown.

SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING of the BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION meeting with GETHSEMANE F.W.B. CHURCH, MARION, N.C. November 7, 1992

The Second Quarterly Meeting was opened by Rev. Howard Messer, Moderator
Congregational Singing – *Leaning On The Everlasting Arms.*

Welcome – Rev. Ralph Reep, Host Pastor

Response – Rev. Roger Tripp

Devotion – Rev. Jack Ward – Ezekiel 39: 1-6

Prayer – Rev. Milton Hollifield

Roll Call of Churches, Ministers, and Recognition of Visitors. 18 Churches represented, 28 Ministers, 34 Delegates, 8 Visitors. Visitors Recognized: Rev. Lewis & Mrs. Florine Coscia, Missionaries to Brazil; Bro. Daron Dwyer, Minister of Music at Meadowbrook Church; Rev. Norris Hawkins, Pastor of Fellowship Church; Rev. Allen Freedale, Foothills Association.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report – Sister Carrie Padgett.

Youth Board Report – Rev. Doug Mathis:

Youth For The Master meets with Rocky Pass Church, Nov. 21st.

Youth Camp Report – 150 Campers, 26 Young People saved, 54 rededications, and 10 Churches participating.

Rest Home Report – Bro. Edwin Hill.

Ordaining Council Report – Rev. Roy Shehan.

M/S/C to accept this Report and vote on each Recommendation.

Recommendations:

1. Bro. Daron Dwyer be received into the Blue Ridge Association. He has been ordained in full-time Christian Ministry and will be working with the Meadowbrook Church. M/S/C.
2. Rev. Norris Hawkins be received into this Association, pending a Letter from the Central Association in South Carolina. M/S/C.
3. Rev. Larry Combs' name be dropped from our Association, at his request. He has joined another Denomination.

Amendment: Ordaining Council check into this matter, and request that his Credentials be sent in. M/S/C. The original Recommendation was M/S/C.

Executive Committee Report – Sister Lucille Tatham

Credentials Report – Rev. Eddie Kirkpatrick

Woman's Auxiliary Report - Sister Betty Hill:

No. Auxiliaries in District – 14.

April 4th thru Sept. 30, 1992: Various Outside Causes including Foreign Mission, State & Home Mission, Memorial Student Loan Fund, WNAC Emphasis, Volena Wilson Retirement offering, Rest Home, FWBBC. Southeastern, Etc. — \$9,430.00

Love Offering for Louis and Florine Coscia in appreciation for 28 Years of Service in Brazil — \$1,220.00.

Local Auxiliaries have been asked to give the District Officers a list of those having various talents or abilities to assist Officers in planning Programs.

Home Mission Board Report – Bro. Jack Ward & Bro. Ed Hutchinson:

Mission Board is Meeting with State Mission Board November 11th. This is concerning the new Mission we would like to start in Boone, N.C.

The Blue Ridge Association, through October, had given \$12,237.17. We had given 27.6% of support needed.

We are planning the 20/20 project for the Lytles in Panama.

Bro. Brown gave a Report on Churches established through State Missions.

Bro. Buddy Henry gave a Report on Mission Conference, and discussed plans for having it again in March 1993.

M/S/C to Adopt all Reports.

BUSINESS ITEM:

Bro. Rocky Reese expressed a desire to become involved with External Bible Training Program at the F.W.B. Bible College. He needs \$500.00 from Student Loan Fund for which his Company will reimburse most of this. He will repay remaining portion. M/S/C to give Bro. Reese a \$500.00 loan from Student Loan Fund.

Bro. Wayne Smith expressed a need for a Ministerial Association. M/S/C to appoint Bro. Smith to head up this Association effort.

Bro. Hollifield shared a Letter from Bro. Steve Lytle regarding support for the First Church in Panama.

Prayer – Bro. David Young.

WORSHIP HOUR:

Special Singing – Host Church, Sister Martha Barber and her two sons, Mark and Matthew.

Message by Bro. Buddy Henry – Matt. 26: 6-13 – “What Will You Be Remembered For?” Luke 17:32

Finance Committee Report: Bro. Bill Robinson and Bro. Wayne Smith. We recommend the entire offering (\$65.32) be given to the Coscias. M/S/C

Bro. Bill Robinson is retiring and Bro. Rocky Reese was nominated to replace him on the Finance Committee. S/C

Dismissed in Prayer by Bro. Norris Hawkins.

THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING of the BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION meeting with HOMER'S CHAPEL F.W.B. CHURCH, BLACK MOUNTAIN, N.C. February 6, 1993

The Third Quarterly Meeting was opened by Rev. Howard Messer, Moderator.
Congregational Singing - *The Lily Of The Valley*, Led by Bro. James Cole.

Prayer – Rev. Roger Tripp

Welcome – Rev. Buddy Henry

Response – Rev. Rocky Reese

Devotion – Rev. Norris Hawkins - Acts 27:21-25.

Moderator's Remarks by Rev. Howard Messer.

Three young Ministers from Faith Church were recognized: Scott Patton, Mark Hensley, and Allen Fredale.

Roll Call of Churches, Minister: 24 Churches
Represented, 32 Ministers, 66 Delegates, 12 Deacons, 5 Visitors
13.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report – Sister Carrie Padgett . M/S/C to grant Bro. Charles Wise a \$500.00 loan from the Student Loan Fund to attend the Free Will Baptist College.

Youth Board Report – Bro Doug Mathis:

Youth For The master meets February 20th at MeadowBrook Church at 6 P.M.

Youth V Camp – July 26-31.

Balance in Youth Fund Treasure: \$3,253.48.

Rest Home Report – Bro. Ed Hill:

27 Residents at this time. The Board has voted to purchase property adjoining Rest Home. Continue to pray for the Home, and visit the Home. Cost for Ambulatory patients – \$889.00; Semi-Ambulatory – \$928.00

Missions Report – Rev. Ed Hutchinson:

The Blue Ridge Association Mission Board went to Boone the second week in November, and went to the Board of Trade there. We spent the day looking around for available property.

Revs. Hutchinson, Ward, Young, and Brown met in Raleigh with the State Mission Board in November, concerning the Mission in Boone. They are willing to help us in this work, providing there is a man available for this work.

Bro. Buddy Henry announced the Missionary Conference will be postponed this year for lack of support.

Ordaining Council Report – Bro. Clyde Nations:

Recommendations:

1. The Ordaining Council recommends adding G to Article 10 to read as following: Any Minister uniting with another denomination, his Credentials become null and void, and he is asked to return his Credentials to the Association.
M/S/C to place on Table until the Annual Meeting.
2. A Letter of good standing be sent to the White River Association of Free Will Baptist of Indiana for Bro. Jeff Runion. M/S/C.
3. Bro. Larry Combs is no longer a member of our Association, and has turned in his Credentials since joining a Baptist Church.
4. That we request Bro. E.E. McMillian to turn in his Credentials since he has joined the Merrimon Ave. Baptist Church.

Executive Committee Report – Sister Lucille Tatham:

Two Recommendations were made:

1. We recommend the Youth Camp and Youth For The Master adhere to the present guide lines concerning the dress code. M/S/C.

2. We recommend the Blue Ridge Association reaffirm our position that we do not License or Ordain any man who, either he or his wife, have two living spouses. M/S/C.

M/S/C. Brother Howard Messer send a copy of the recommendation concerning the Dress Code to the National Youth Board, and send a copy also to the State Youth Board.

Woman's Auxiliary Report – Sister Betty Hill"

148 Members – Mission Project for Callaways: Goal \$600 – Received to date \$685.00

National Home Mission Project for Ron McMillen: Goal \$200 – Received to date \$265.00.

College of Choice: Goal \$300 – Received \$275 for F.W.B.B.C.; \$50.00 for Southeastern College.

Fall Project for WNAC: Goal \$1000.00 – Received to date \$455.00. State Retreat being planned for November 5 & 6 at YMCA Blue Ridge Assembly. Remind Auxiliaries to send in a list of their talents to District Secretary, Paula McKinney.

Encourage prayer for our Nation and Leaders, and for the Church.
Spring Annual Meeting to be April 3rd.

Credentials Committee Report – Bro. Wayne Miller

Ordaining Council Report given by Bro. Jack Boses.

Bro. Brown announced Ministers Fellowship Feb. 15th at Meadowbrook Church. M/S/C to adopt all Reports.

Nominating Committee appointed by Moderator as following:

Bro. Jack Ward, Chairman

Bro. Clyde Nations

Bro. Jack Moses

M/S/C Bro. Hutchinson send a letter to Bro. Eugene Waddell, commending him and his handling of present conflict pertaining to the Missionaries in Spain.

M/S/C to give Sister Volena Wilson \$350.00 in addition to offering received today. (\$162.05).

WORSHIP HOUR:

Prayer – Bro. Ed Hill

Special Music – Trio from host Church – *My Hope Is In The Blood* and *The Old Ship Of Zion*.

Message by Bro. Wendell Walley – Mark 10:13-16.

The Annual Meeting will be May 8th at the Harriett Memorial Church.

FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION
meeting with
HARRIETT MEMORIAL F.W.B. CHURCH,
CAROLEEN, N.C.
May 8, 1993

The Fortieth Annual Session was called to order by the Moderator,
Rev. Howard Messer.

Congregational Singing – *When We All Get To Heaven*

Prayer – Rev. Allen Jackson

Welcome – Rev. Benny Turner, Host Pastor

Response – Rev. Roy Shehan

Devotion – Rev. Wayne Smith – John 10: 3-5, 14-17, 25-27

Roll Call of Churches and Ministers. Churches represented 20, Ministers 25, Deacons 7, Delegates 26, Visitors 8. Visitors recognized: Rev. Tom Lilly, Rev. Bob Shockey, Rev. Randy Stone, Rev. Allen Fredale and Rev. Wayne Cassada.

Bro. Tom Lilly brought greetings and updated the Blue Ridge Association on his work as State Promotional Director.

Rev. Bob Shockey brought greetings from the Free Will Baptist Bible College. The Association voted to sponsor a College Day, September 11, and encouraged all the Churches to support this endeavor.

M/S/C to send flowers to the Rev. Ermine Butler Family, Johnson City, Tenn. The Association expressed deep appreciation for this wonderful Saint of God who went home to be with the Lord May 6, 1993. He is Bro. Jack Ward's Father-in-Law.

REPORTS:

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

Youth For The Master – Rev. Doug Mathes:

The Youth Camp will be July 26-31. Every Church is encouraged to send their Youth to this Camp.

Rest Home Report given by the Moderator in the absence of Rev. Edwin Hill.

There are currently 28 Residents, and we have room for 2 more. Bro. Hill asked Church to pray for the Home, and place the Home in their Budget.

Ordaining Council Report – Rev. Buddy Henry:

Recommendations:

1. Bro. Allen Freedale be received into the Blue Ridge Association, having been Licensed into the Ministry by the Faith Church.

2. Bro. Dwayne Cassida be received into the Blue Ridge Association, pending a letter from the Zephyr Hills Church.

Auxiliary Report – Given by Sister Anita Messer in the absence of Sister Betty Hill, President: No. Members: 169. No. Auxiliaries: 14. Amount contributed to Foreign Mission – \$7483.50. Love Offering for Sister Florine Coscia in recognition of 28 years of service in Brazil – \$1320.00. National Home Mission – \$1597.51. Children's Home in Tennessee – \$165.00. Free Will Baptist Bible College – \$575.00. Southeaster College – \$50.00. Love Offering and Retirement for Sister Volena Wilson – \$888.00. WNAC – \$1980.00. Western Free Will Baptist Rest Home – \$345.00. N.C. State Home Missions – \$594.00. Leah Waddell Scholarship Fund – \$215.00. Memorial Student Loan Fund – \$225.00. Auxiliary with largest number of members – First Marion with 20 members. Zephyr Hills runs a close second with 18 members.

Credentials Report – Bro. Wayne Miller

Nominating Committee Report – M/S/C to adopt Report.

M/S/C Bro. Benny Turner be reinstated on Ordaining Council another term.

Sister Volena Wilson resigned as Assistant Clerk. Sister Anita Messer was elected to this position.

M/S/C to adopt all Reports.

BUSINESS SESSION:

Bro. Buddy Henry gave a Report on Foreign Mission.

CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE:

A motion carried to take from the Table the Recommendation of the Ordaining Council to add G to Article 10 to read as following:

Any Minister uniting with another Denomination, his Credentials become null and void, and his Ordination papers shall be called for.

A motion carried to adopt this Recommendation.

The next Quarterly Meeting will be at the Lakeview Church in High Point.

WORSHIP HOUR:

Congregational Song - *Heavens Jubilee*

Prayer – Bro. Milton Hollifield

Special Singing – Host Church – *Oh! Come Angel Band.*

Because He Lives

Offering Received for Bro. Randy Stone

Message – Rev. Randy Stone – Mark 10:46-52 "He Would Not Be Denied."

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

July 10, 1992

The Executive Board of the Blue Ridge Association met at the Western Steer Steak House on Friday, July 10, 1992.

Present: Revs. Howard Messer, Moderator, Talmadge Brown, Jack Ward, Edward Hutchinson, Leroy Melton, Miss Carrie Padgett, Mrs. Lucille Tatham.

Prayer by Bro. Talmadge Brown.

The following recommendations were made:

1. Conference take care of all Board Members' expenses for Associational work, including meals. If driving twenty miles or more, 22¢ per mile be paid.
2. Receive a special Love Offering for Bro. Jack Ward to go to Russia, and Conference pay for twenty Bibles, to be taken from General Fund.

The program for the August Meeting was planned.

Dismissed in Prayer by Bro. Ed Hutchinson.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

October 22, 1992

The Executive Board The Executive Board of the Blue Ridge Free Will Baptist Association met at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, October 22, 1992, at the Western Steer Steakhouse, Marion, N.C.

Members present: Rev. Howard Meser; Rev. Edward Hutchinson; Rev. Jack Ward; Rev. Roger Tripp; Rev. Leroy melton; Sister Carrie Padgett. Also present was Sister Anita Messer.

The purpose of the meeting was to plan the program for the second quarterly meeting to be held at the Gethsemane Church on Saturday, November 7, 1992.

The Moderator, Rev. Howard Messer, addressed the need for all churches in the Blue Ridge Association to make a special effort in support of the Steve Lytles, Missionaries to Panama. He recommended Bro. Jack Ward and Bro. Edward Hutchinson as Co-Chairmen in this benefit project, which will be a matter for discussion at the next quarterly meeting. M/S/C.

The February meeting of the Association will be held at the Harriett Memorial Church, Caroleen, on February 6, 1993.

Bro. Hutchinson dismissed in prayer.

Carrie Padgett, Substituting for
Lucille Tatham, Clerk

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

January 21, 1993

The Executive Board of the Blue Ridge Association met at 7:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 21, 1993, at the Western Steer Steakhouse, Marion, N.C.

Members present: Rev. Howard Messer, Chmn.; Rev. Edward Hutchinson; Rev. Jack Ward; Rev. Roger Tripp; Rev. Talmadge Brown; Miss Carrie Padgett; Mrs. Lucille Tatham.

Visitors: Rev. & Mrs. Leeroy Melton; Mrs. Velma Brown; Mrs. Anita Meser; Mrs. Edward Hutchinson; Mr. Conway Tatham.

Prayer by Rev. Talmadge Brown.

The purpose of the meeting was to plan the program for the third quarterly meeting to be held at the Homer's Chapel Church on Saturday, February 6, 1993.

The Annual Meeting will be May 8, 1993, at the Harriett Memorial Church. The Speaker will be Rev. Ronald Creech. Alternate, Rev. Randy Stone.

Two Recommendations were made:

1. We recommend the Youth Camp and Youth For The Master adhere to the present guide lines concerning the dress code. M/S/C.
2. We Recommend the Blue Ridge Association reaffirm our position that we do not License or Ordain any man who, either he or his wife, have two living spouses. M/S/C.

Adjourned in Prayer by Bro. Messer.

Blue Ridge Free Will Baptist Association

Annual meeting – May 8, 1993

FINANCIAL REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Fund Balance – May 9, 1992	\$2,094.63
Received this Year	<u>3,753.46</u>
Sub-Total	\$5,848.09

Disbursements:

Clerk's Salary	\$ 125.00	
Clerk's Expense	114.50	
Blue Ridge Dues (State)	50.00	
State Assoc. Dues	800.00	
National Assoc. Dues	320.00	
Service Charges (Bank)	84.81	
Rev. Tom Lilly	100.00	
Elsie's Florist (Walker Serv.)	37.10	
Printing of Minutes	987.60	
Rev. Jack Ward (Russia Trip)	167.25	
Bibles Bought	134.40	
Copy Paper (Treas.)	4.23	
Miss Volena Wilson (Off.)	162.05	
Bd. of For. Missions (Wilson)	<u>350.00</u>	
	\$3,436.64	<u>- 3,436.64</u>
FUND BALANCE		\$2,411.45

YOUTH BOARD

TOTAL FUNDS THIS YEAR	\$802.34
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LOCAL MISSIONS FUND

Fund Balance – May 9, 1992	\$6,760.11
Received this Year	2,177.81
Interest Added	<u>249.70</u>
Sub-Total	\$9,187.62
NC State Home Missions (Fayetteville)	-1,088.89
Rev. Ed. Hutchinson (Travel, Boone Proj.)	-52.81
Rev. Jack Ward (Travel, Boone Project)	<u>-24.20</u>
FUND BALANCE	\$8,021.73

(continued)

MINISTER'S BENEVOLENT FUND

Fund Balance – May 9, 1992	\$3,010.16
Received this Year	463.48
Interest Added	<u>54.71</u>
Sub-Total	\$3,528.35
Mrs. Lee Roy Walker	<u>-200.00</u>
FUND BALANCE	\$3,328.35

FWB BIBLE COLLEGE LOAN FUND

Fund Balance – May 9, 1992	\$1,830.25
Received this Year	143.30
Interest Added	<u>24.73</u>
Sub-Total	\$1,998.28
Loan for Rev. Rocky Reese	<u>-500.00</u>
FUND BALANCE	\$1,830.25

SOUTHEASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE LOAN FUND

Fund Balance – May 9, 1992	\$1,078.44
Received this Year	143.26
Interest Added	<u>24.72</u>
FUND BALANCE	\$1,246.42

May 8, 1993

	<u>AMOUNT THIS QUARTER</u>	<u>AMOUNT THIS YEAR</u>
Asheville	\$ 26.00	\$ 26.00
Avery Creek	10.00	64.33
Beaverdam	35.00	35.00
Calvary	58.90	273.05
Canton		135.46
Cedar Hill	109.24	425.97
Clyde		
Fairview	132.51	522.79
Faith	400.00	725.00
Fellowship	292.80	317.80
First – Marion	60.00	675.00
Gethsemane	66.64	232.69
Harriett Memorial	250.00	450.00
Homer's Chapel	37.50	150.00
Lakeview	101.39	315.85
Lenoir	90.00	276.00
Meadowbrook	90.00	240.00

(continued)

	<u>AMOUNT THIS QUARTER</u>	<u>AMOUNT THIS YEAR</u>
Meadow Fork		
Nowling Chapel	214.23	948.70
Oakley	81.69	278.84
Pisgah	68.00	207.00
Roaring Creek	78.78	237.48
Robinson Creek		365.77
Rocky Pass	150.00	600.00
Shelby		205.00
Southside	25.00	50.00
Sulphur Springs		35.00
Swannanoa		
Sweeten Creek		
The Way of the Cross	80.37	204.85
Zephyr Hills	<u>55.00</u>	<u>224.00</u>
TOTALS	\$2,513.05	\$8,221.58

The following churches and individuals contributed to the 20/20 Project (Steve & Judy Lytle):

Cedar Hill	\$480.00 *
First-Marion	400.00
Shelby	65.00
Lakeview	500.00*
Fairview	360.00
Fellowship	190.00
Faith	300.00
Frank & Bonnie Lavender	20.00
Frances M. Lowdermilk	<u>40.00</u>
TOTAL	\$2,355.00

*These amounts are not reflected in the overall report of churches above.

Respectfully submitted,
Carrie Padgett, Treasurer

STATISTICS OF CHURCHES

- Asheville** Pastor: Rev. James C. Lynn, 14 Ridgeway Dr., Asheville, NC 28806. Clerk: Mrs. Charlene Marlowe, 31 Success Avenue, Asheville, NC 28806. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 3, Total Members Lost 1, Total Membership 39, S.S. Enrollment 25.
- Canton** Pastor: Rev. Randy Skaggs, 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, No. Members Lost 3, Total Membership 90, S.S. Enrollment 68, C.T.S. Enrollment 14.
- Cedar Hill** Pastor: Rev. Howard Messer, 227 Johnston Blvd., Asheville, NC. 28806. Clerk: Mrs. Nancy Cole, Rt.1, Box 84, Leicester, N.C. 28748. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 4, No. Baptisms 10, No. Members added 12, Total Membership 186, S.S. Enrollment 120. C.T.S. Enrollment 35. Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 20.
- Fairview** 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 2, No. Licensed Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 11, No. members added 10, Total Membership 77, S.S. Enrollment 102, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 8, Master's Men Enrollment 8.
- Faith** Pastor: Rev. Julius Hall, 1310 Jamestown Rd., Morganton NC 28655. Clerk: Mrs. Renee Campbell, 5197 Reese Store Avenue, Morganton, NC 28655. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 3, No. Baptisms 2, No. Members Added 10, No. Members Lost 2, Total Membership 75. SS Enrollment 40, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 15. Master's Men Enrollment 8.
- Fellowship:** Pastor: Rev. Norris A. Hawkins, 32 Birchwood Lane, Asheville, NC 28805. Clerk: Mrs. Sharon Metcalf, 201 Creek Circle Rd., Fairview, NC 28730. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Baptisms 7, No. Members Added 15, No. Members Lost 4, Total Membership 65, S.S. Enrollment 52. C.T.S. Enrollment 8, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 16. Master's Men Enrollment 8.
- First Lenoir** Pastor: Rev. Jack Moses, 2353 Conley Rd., 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 2, No. Members Added 5, No. Members Lost 2, Total Membership 52.
- First Marion** 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 6.

No. Baptisms 6, No. Members added 8, No. Members lost 6, Total Membership 210, S.S. Enrollment 188, C.T.S Enrollment 73, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 23.

Gethsemane

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 5, No. Members added 11, Total Membership 47, S.S. Enrollment 50.

Harriett Memorial

Pastor: Rev. Benny Turner, Rt.1, Box 545, Forest City, NC 28043. Clerk: Mrs. Barbara Fowler, Caroleen, N.C. 28019. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 6, No. Members lost 4, C.T.S. Enrollment 42, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 18.

Homer's Chapel

Pastor: Rev. Buddy Henry, 202 Chapel Rd., Black Mountain NC 28711. Clerk: Miss Teresa Stone, Rt. 1, Box 306-A, Black Mountain, NC 28711. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 3, No. Members Added 2, Total Membership 102. Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 15.

Lakeview

Pastor: Rev. Howard Pittman, 1016 Lakecrest Ave., High Point, NC 27265. Clerk: Mrs. Betty Draughn, Rt. 2, Box 472, High Point, NC 27265-9226. Total No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Members Added 1, No. Members Lost 1, Total Membership 27.

Meadowbrook

Pastor: Rev. Talmadge Brown, P.O. Box 566, Black Mountain, NC 28711. Clerk: Mrs. Wanda Norton, P.O. Box 1505, Black Mountain, NC 28711. No. Ordained Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 9, No. Baptisms 13, No. Members added 20, No. Members Lost 4, Total Membership 381. S.S. Enrollment 270, Youth For the Master (including adults) 110, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 15.

Meadow Fork

Pastor: Rev. Willard Pless, 203 Academy St., Canton, NC. Clerk: Mrs. Jean Massie, 1581 Meadow Fork Rd., Hot Springs, NC 28743. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Members added 4, Total Membership 25, S.S. Enrollment 20.

Nowlings Chapel

Pastor Rev. Roy Shehan, 3311 US 64, Morganton, NC 28655. Clerk: Mrs. Shirley Davis, 5835 Fisher Davis Rd., Morganton, NC 28655. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 5, No. Baptisms 23, No. Members Added 30, No. Members Lost 4, Total Membership 165. S.S. Enrollment 165, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 15.

Oakley

Pastor: Rev. Boyd Owenby, 86 Number Nine Rd., Fletcher NC 28732. Clerk: Mr. Carroll Sams, 25 First St., Asheville, NC 28803. No. Ordained Ministers 3, No. Ordained Deacons 4, No. Baptisms 4, Total Membership 69. S.S. Enrollment 20. Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 15.

Roaring Creek

Pastor: Rev. J.D. Wilson, Rt.1, Box 281, Newland, NC. 28657. Clerk: Mrs. Deborah Ward, P.O. Box 43, Plumtree, NC 28664. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 1,

No. Ordained Deacons 4, No. Members Added 3, No. Members lost 3, Total Membership 80. S.S. Enrollment 80, Woman's Auxiliary 8.

Robertson Creek

Pastor: Rev. Don Tinsale, Rt. 1, Box 35, Bostic, NC 28018. Clerk: Mrs. Patsy Poteat, 203 Orchard St., Forest City, NC, 28043. No. Ordained Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 4, No. Baptisms 1, No. Members added 7, No. Members Lost 4, Total Membership 57. S.S. Enrollment 67, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 6.

Rocky Pass

Pastor: Rev. Milton Hollifield, Rt.1, Box 244, Nebo, NC 28651. Clerk: Mrs. Betty McKinney, Rt. 6, Marion, NC 28752. No. Ordained Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 8, No. Baptisms 7, No. Members added 9, No. Members Lost 1, Total Membership 352. S.S. Enrollment 237, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 12, C.T.S. Enrollment 85.

Shelby

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 9, No. Members added 18, No. Members lost 3, Total Membership 151 (Active). S.S. Enrollment 110, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 15.

Southside

Pastor: Rev. Roger Tripp. 1010 Teakwood Rd., Hickory, NC 28602. Clerk: Mrs. Wanda Davidson, Hickory, NC 28602. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Baptisms 3, No. Members added 3, No. Members Lost 4, Total Membership 25. S.S. Enrollment 33, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 5.

Swannanoa

Pastor: Rev. Clyde Nations, 202 Park St., Swannanoa, NC 28778. Clerk: Mrs. Beth Mayton, Old Access Rd., Swannanoa, NC 28778. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 7, No. Baptisms 11, No. Members added 7, No. Members Lost 4, Total Membership 117. S.S. Enrollment 107, C.T.S. Enrollment 72, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 12.

**The Way of
The Cross**

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 15, No. Members added 22, No. Members lost 20, Total Membership 50. S.S. Enrollment 35.

Zephyr Hills

Pastor: Rev. Wendell Walley, 13 Auburndale Drive, Asheville, NC 28806. Clerk: Mrs. Lucille Lance, 93 English Place, Candler, NC 28715. No. Ordained Ministers 3, No. Licensed Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 5. No. Baptisms 5, No. Members added 10, No. Members lost 8, Total Membership 175. S.S. Enrollment 110, 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 Childers Sr.:** Rt. 5, Box 461, Marion, Va., 24354. Telephone (703) 783-5957. Smyth County. Pastor Adwolf Church. *Remarks:* "Seems I am never able to attend the Meetings. I appreciate you allowing me to be a member of the Blue Ridge Association."
- Rev. Allen Lee Fredell :** 4391 Bill Epley Ave., Morganton, NC 28655. Telephone 584-2847. Burke County. Affiliated with Faith Church.
- Rev. Julius Hall, Sr.:** 1308 Jamestown Rd., Morganton, NC 28655. Telephone 584-7337. Pastor Faith Church.
- Rev. Norris Hawkins:** 32 Birchwood Lane, Asheville, NC 28805. Telephone 299-9554. Buncombe County. Pastor Fellowship Church.
- Rev. Buddy Henry:** 202 Chapel Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711. Telephone 669-2343. Buncombe County. Pastor, Homer's Chapel Church.
- Rev. Edwin L. Hill:** Rt. 3, Box 41-A, Candler, NC 28715. Telephone (704) 667-9902. Buncombe County. Affiliated with Zephyr Hills Church.
- Rev. Milton A. Hollifield, Sr.:** Rt. 1, Box 244, Nebo, NC 28761. Telephone 652-5798. McDowell County. Pastor, Rocky Pass Church. Funerals 18, Baptisms 7, Members added 9, Weddings 5, Revivals 2.
- Rev. Edward Hutchinson:** 1003 High Wedge Rd. Shelby, N.C. 28152. Telephone (704) 481-1604. Cleveland County. Pastor, Shelby Church.
- Rev. James C. Lynn:** 14 Ridgeway Dr., Asheville, NC 28806. Telephone 254-8744. Buncombe County. Pastor, Asheville Church. *Remarks:* "Sorry I will not be able to attend the Blue Ridge Association May 8, 1993, have to work. Praying you have a wonderful Association."
- Rev. Doug Mathis:** P.O. Box 607, Polkville, N.C., 28136. Telephone 538-0112. Cleveland County. Pastor, The Way of The Cross.
- Rev. Leroy Melton, Jr.:** 920 College Ave., Shelby, NC 28152. Telephone 482-0263. Cleveland County. Affiliated with Shelby Church.

- Rev. Howard Messer:** 227 Johnston Blvd., Asheville, NC 28806. Telephone 253-0369. Buncombe County. Pastor, Cedar Hill Church. *Remarks:* "Glad to be alive."
- Rev. Michael Metcalf:** 5609 Rainhill Church Rd., Morganton, NC 28655. Telephone 584-1387. Burke County. Affiliated with Faith Church.
- Rev. Wayne Miller:** Rt.1, Box 473, Marion, NC 28752. Telephone 652-3360. McDowell County. Affiliated with Fairview Church.
- Rev. Jack Moses:** 2353 Conley Rd., Morganton, NC 28655. Telephone 584-1863. Burke County. Pastor, Lenoir Church.
- Rev. Boyd Owenby:** 86 Number Nine Rd., Fletcher, NC 28732. Telephone 628-2019. Pastor, Oakley Church.
- Rev. Howard Pittman, Sr:** 1016 Lakecrest Ave., High Point, NC 27265. Telephone 919-869-3450. Pastor, Lakeview Church.
- Rev. Willard Pless:** 203 Academy St., Canton, NC 28716. Telephone 648-8145. Haywood County. Pastor, Meadow Fork Church.
- Rev. Ralph Reep:** 385 Arrowhead Trail, Marion, NC 28752. Telephone 738-4238. McDowell County. Pastor, Gethsemane Church.
- Rev. Rocky Reese:** 5089 Reese Store Ave., Morganton, NC 28655. Telephone 584-4849. Burke County. Affiliated with Faith Church.
- Rev. Roy A. Shehan:** 3311 US 64, Morganton, NC 28655. Telephone 433-9623. Burke County. Pastor, Nowlings Chapel Church.
- Rev. Randy Skaggs:** Holtzclaw St., P.O. Box 1346, Canton, NC 28716. Telephone (704) 648-0753. Haywood County. Pastor, Canton Church.
- Wayne W. Smith:** 314 Altamahaw Ave., Black Mountain, NC 28711. Telephone 669-2217. Buncombe County. Affiliated with Meadowbrook Church. *Remarks:* I have been Interim Pastor and doing fill-in work for different Pastors."
- Rev. Don Tindall:** Rt. 1, Box 35, Bostic, NC 28018. Telephone 248-3811. Rutherford County. Affiliated with Robertson Creek Church. *Remarks:* "I would like to join the Blue Ridge Association, but I work 10 hours a day and 5 hours on Saturday."

- Rev. Roger Tripp:** 1010 Teakwood Rd., Hickory, NC 28602. Telephone 294-3485. Catawba County. Pastor, Southside Church. *Remarks:* "We have a great Association and let's keep it this way by Praying and Attending it every time it meets."
- Rev. Benny Turner:** Rt.1, Box 545, Forest City, NC 28043. Telephone 657-6062. Rutherford County. Pastor, Harriett Memorial Church.
- Rev. William Vaughn:** P.O. Box 117, Old Fort, NC.28762. Telephone 668-4609. McDowell County. Pastor, New Home Church. *Remarks:* "Good Year."
- Rev. Jack Ward** 250 Baldwin Ave., Marion, NC 28752. Telephone 652-4513. McDowell County. Pastor, Marion First Church.
- Rev. J.D.Wilson** Rt.1, Box 281, Newland, NC 28657. Telephone (704) 733-5389. Avery County. Pastor, Roaring Creek Church.
- Rev. David Young:** Rt.1, Box 445, Marion, NC 28752. Telephone 652-6593. McDowell County. Pastor, Fairview Church

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.

G. Any Minister uniting with another Denomination, his Credentials become null and void, and his Ordination papers shall be called for.

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 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 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."

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.

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