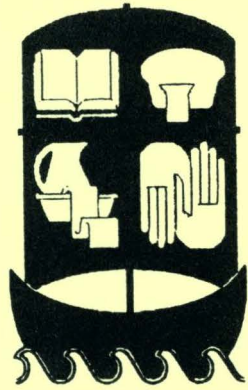


*Blue Ridge
Association
of the
Original
Free Will Baptists*



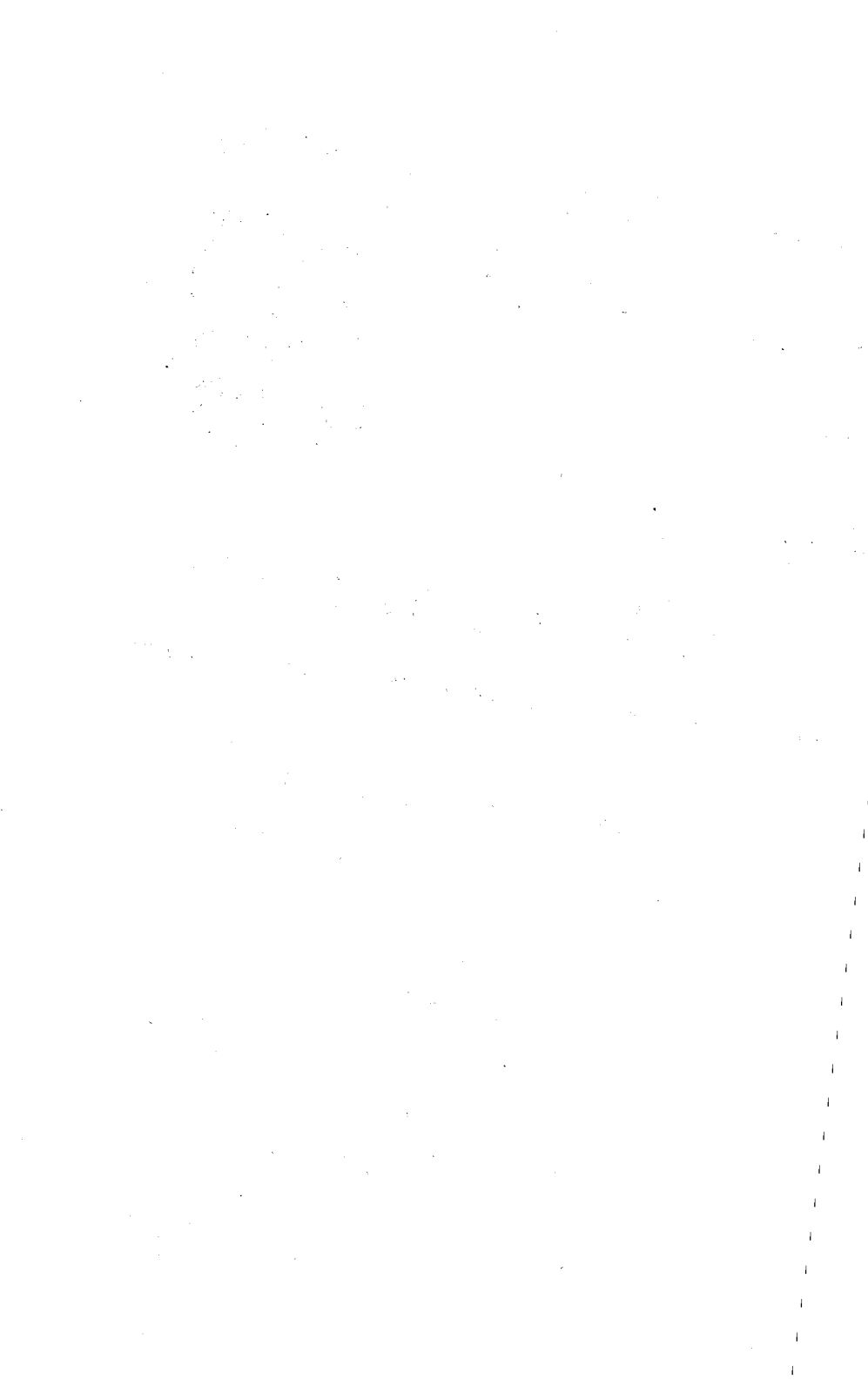
Minutes of the
44th Annual Session

Held at
Canton
Free Will Baptist Church
Canton, N.C.

May 3, 1997

Moderator
Rev. Edward Hutchinson

Clerk
Mrs. Lucille Tatham



**Minutes of the
44th Annual Session**

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

**Held at
Canton
Free Will Baptist Church
Canton, N.C.
May 3, 1997**

Moderator
Rev. Edward Hutchinson

Clerk
Mrs. Lucille Tatham

OFFICERS

Moderator:	Rev. Edward Hutchinson	(704) 481-1604 1003 High Wedge Rd., Shelby, NC 28152
Assistant	Rev. Wendell Walley	665-4538 13 Auburndale Dr., Asheville, NC 28806
Clerk:	Lucille Tatham	652-7588 1769 Hwy. 221 South, Marion, NC 28752
Assistant:	Etta Butler	584-4639 1310 Jamestown Rd., Morganton, NC 28655
Treasurer:	Carrie Padgett	668-4857 Rt. 2, Box 380, Old Fort, N.C. 28762
Historian:	Etta Butler	584-4639 1310 Jamestown Rd., Morganton, N.C. 28655

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Edward Hutchinson (Chmn.)
Rev. Wendell Walley
Mrs. Lucille Tatham
Miss Carrie Padgett
Rev. Julius Hall
Rev. David Young
Rev. Milton Hollifield

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Rev. Julius Hall
Rev. Alan Sailors
Rev. Terry McDaniel

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Rev. Milton Hollifield
Rev. David Young

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Rev. Wayne Miller
Rev. Reuben Cason
Rev. Eddie Kirkpatrick

TRUSTEE BOARD

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

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Jack Ward (1998)
Rev. Norris Hawkins (1999)
Rev. Roy Shehan (2000)
Rev. Talmadge Brown (2001)

YOUTH BOARD

Rev. Daren Dwyer, director
Rev. Wayne Miller
Bro. Junior Melton
Rev. Dean Good
Rev. Rocky Reese

HOME MISSION BOARD

Rev. Jack Ward
Rev. Milton Hollifield
Rev. Edward Hutchinson
Rev. Earl Davis
Rev. David Young
Rev. Julius Hall
Rev. Reuben Cason

YOUTH CAMP DIRECTORS

Rev. Daren Dwyer, Director
Rev. Rocky Reese

ASSOCIATIONAL CHURCHES AND PASTORS

1	Avery's Creek	Rev. Bobby Fox	704) 253-0885
2	Beaverdam		
3	Calvary	Rev. Frank Cantrell	686-5794
4	Camp Branch	Rev. Ernest Messer	452-2755
5	Canton	Rev. Reuben Cason	648-0272
6	Cedar Hill	Rev. Cyrus Shoffner	253-0369
7	Fairview	Rev. Willie Sumerlin	652-6593
8	Faith	Rev. Rocky Reese	584-4849
9	Fellowship	Rev. Norris Hawkins	298-7735
10	First Lenoir	Rev. Jack Moses	584-1863
11	First Marion	Rev. Roger Haley	652-4513
12	Gethsemane	Rev. Ralph Reep	738-4238
13	Harriett Memorial	Rev. Troy Smith	657-9446
14	Homer's Chapel	Rev. David Young	669-2343
15	Lakeview	Rev. Howard Pittman	(910) 869-6312
16	Meadowbrook	Rev. Talmadge Brown	(704) 669-9150
17	Meadow Fork	Rev. Willard Pless	648-8145
18	Nowling's Chapel	Rev. Roy Shehan	584-1212
19	Oakley	Rev. Leonard Cutshaw	684-9670
20	Pisgah	Rev. Oliver Cagle	238-8568
21	Roaring Creek	Rev. J. D. Wilson	733-5389
22	Rocky Pass	Rev. Milton Hollifield, Sr.	652-5798
23	Shelby	Rev. Edward Hutchinson	482-9744
24	Southside	Rev. Larry Ball	294-6757
25	Sulphur Springs	Rev. Philip Wyatt	452-0870
26	Sweeten Creek		
27	Swannanoa	Rev. Clyde Nations	686-1333
28	The Way Of The Cross	Rev. Alan Sailors	487-1006
29	Zephyr Hills	Rev. Wendell Walley	253-5487

MINISTERS

Larry Ball	6253 Rocky Mt. Rd., Granite Falls, NC 28630 (704)	396-3519
Talmadge Brown	204 Blue Ridge Rd., Black Mtn., NC 28711	669-2310
Oliver Cagle	Rt. 3, Box 219, Canton, NC 28716	235-8568
Frank Cantrell	206 Eastwood Ave., Swannanoa, NC 28778	686-5794
Reuben Cason	P.O. Box 1346, Canton, NC 28716	648-0753
James Childers, Sr.	180 Riverbend Estate, Marion, NC 28752	652-2618
Leonard Cutshaw	P.O. Box 1281, Maxwell Rd., Fletcher, NC 28732	684-9670
Earl Davis	Rt. 1, Box 432, Marion, NC 28752	652-2370
Daren Dwyer	204 Blue Ridge Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711	669-9150
Elisha Fish	Rt. 3, Box 212, Candler, NC 28715	667-5656
Bobby Fox	1011 Riverside Dr., Asheville, NC 28804	253-0885
Dean Good	472 Buckeye Access Rd., Swannanoa, NC 28778	299-9387
Julius Hall	1304 Fieldbrook St., Lenoir, NC 28645	754-7854
Norris Hawkins	11 Williamsburg Place, Asheville, NC 28803	274-8604
Elmer Hensley	24 Pisgah Ave., Asheville, NC 28803	274-2803
Mark Hensley	3440 Arthur Mull Rd., Morganton, NC 28655	584-8372
T.A. Holder	47 Elkmont Dr., Asheville, NC 28804	254-8014
Milton Hollifield	Rt. 1, Box 244, Nebo, NC 28761	652-5798
Edward Hutchinson	1003 High Wedge Rd., Shelby, NC 28152	481-1604
Allen Jackson	Rt. 2, Box 243, Marion, NC 28752	738-3907
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
Terry McDaniel	1352 Hwy. 221-A, Forest City, NC 28043	657-6512
Ernest Messer	304 Smathers St., Waynesville, NC 28786	452-2755
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
Scot Patton	5169 Pea Ridge Rd., Morganton, NC 28655	584-0225
Howard Pittman, Sr.	1016 Lakecrest Ave., High Point, NC 27265 (910)	869-3450
Willard Pless	203 Academy St., Canton, NC 28716	648-8145
Ralph Reep	385 Arrowhead Trail, Marion, NC 28752	738-4238
Rocky Reese	1308 Jamestown Rd., Morganton, NC 28655	584-4849
Winfred Roland	106 Young St., Swannanoa, NC 28778	686-3509
Alan Sailors	101 Clearview Dr., Shelby, NC 28150	484-3842
Roy Shehan	3311 U.S. 64, Morganton, NC 28655	433-9623
Cyrus Shoffner	227 Johnston School Rd., Asheville, NC 28806	253-0369
Troy Smith	1938 Hwy. 221-A, Forest City, NC 28043	657-6062
Willie Sumerlin	Rt. 1, Box 445, Marion, NC 28752	652-6593
Dennis Tolley	670 Big Springs Church Rd., Ellenboro NC 28040	538-1476
William Vaughn	P.O. Box 117, Old Fort, NC 28762	668-4609
Wendell Walley	13 Auburndale Dr., Asheville, NC 28806	665-4538
Jack Ward	P.O. Box 2303, Candler, NC 28715	665-8559
J. D. Wilson	Rt. 1, Box 281, Newland, NC 28657	733-5389
Phillip Wyatt	Rt. 10, Box 658, Waynesville, NC 28786	452-0870
David Young	202 Chapel Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711	669-2343

**BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION
of the
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

**FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING
THE WAY OF THE CROSS CHURCH, POLKVILLE, N.C.
August 10, 1996**

The First Quarterly Meeting was opened by the Moderator, Rev. Edward Hutchinson.

Congregational Singing, *Victory In Jesus*. Led by Bro. Dennis Tolley

Prayer — Rev. Talmadge Brown

Welcome — Rev. Alan Sailors

Response — Rev. Ralph Reep

Devotion — Rev. Terry McDaniel — Col. 1:19.

Moderator's Remarks

M/S/C to seat Delegates.

Visitors Welcomes — Rev. and Mrs. Larry Ball, new Pastor at the Hickory Mission, and Rev. Troy Smith, new Pastor at the Harriett Memorial Church.

Roll Call of Churches and Ministers — 16 Churches represented, 31 Delegates, 15 Ministers, 1 Visitor.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report — Sister Carrie Padgett

Recommendation by Bro. Hollifield: The \$900.00 that has been given to Mrs. Benny Turner be transferred from the Mission fund to the Ministers Benevolent Fund. M/S/C.

M/S/C to give Rev. James Childers \$500.00 from the Minister's Benevolent Fund.

Youth Board Report — Rev. Rocky Reese (See Reports)

Rest Home Report — Rev. Norris Hawkins — Good Report — All rooms filled and a waiting list.

Ordaining Council Report — Bro. Norris Hawkins — Ordained 3 Ministers: Bro. Rocky Reese, Bro. Terry McDaniels, and Bro. Alan Sailors.

Recommendations:

1. Bro. Jack Ward replace Bro. Benny Turner on Ordaining Council. M/S/C.
2. Bro. Julius Hall replace Bro. Chris Jackson on Mission Board. M/S/C.
3. Bro. Julius Hall replace Bro. Chris Jackson on the Executive Board. M/S/C.

Credentials Report — Rev. Alan Sailors

M/S/C to receive all Reports as given.

WORSHIP HOUR:

Congregational Song — *Stand Up For Jesus*

Offering \$68.00. M/S/C to increase this amount to \$150.00 and be given to Hickory Mission.

Special Singing Church Choir

Message by Rev. Larry Ball — Jude 20:25 — "God's Resque Squad"

BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION of the ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING ZEPHYR HILLS CHURCH, ASHEVILLE, N.C. November 2, 1996

The Second Quarterly Meeting was opened by the Assistant Moderator, Rev. Wendell Walley.

Congregational Singing — *Love Lifted Me* — Led by Bro. Daren Dwyer

Welcome & Prayer — Bro. Danny Gasperson

Response — Bro. David Young

Devotion — In the absence of Rev. Ernest Messer, Rev. Talmadge Brown read the Twenty-third Psalm and Testimonials were given.

Roll Call of Churches and Ministers: 18 Churches represented, 26 Ministers, 28 Delegates, 13 Visitors.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report — Sister Carrie Padgett. M/S/C to receive Report.

Youth Board Report — Rev. Rock Reese (See Reports). M/S/C to receive Report.

Rest Home Report — Rev. Jack Ward — 29 Residents. Plan to build a 30 by 60 building for office and storage space in the spring. Sold old station wagon and purchased a 4-wheel drive Subaru to transfer patients in winter. M/S/C to receive Report.

Executive Board Report: Sister Lucille Tatham (See Reports). M/S/C to receive Report.

Missions Report — Rev. Julius Hall (See Reports). M/S/C to receive Report.

Woman's Auxiliary Report — Sister Martha Taylor (See Reports). M/S/C to receive Report.

Credentials Report — Rev. Terry McDaniel

A Report on the Mexico Mission Bible Institute was given by Rev. Reuben Cason, Rev. Cyrus Shoffner, and Rev. Walley.

Bro. Brown gave a report on the Hannas — Missionaries to India.

BUSINESS SESSION:

Motion made by Rev. Shoffner — Executive Board inquire to the state Executive Board as to why we are not receiving the State Paper, *The Witness*. S/C.

WORSHIP HOUR:

Congregational Song — *He Lives*

Offering — \$145.52.

Recommendation: This money be sent to Mexico Mission. M/S/C.

Special Singing — *What A Day That Will Be* by Bro. Daren Dwyer, Bro. Talmadge Brown, Bro. Cason, Bro. Cole.

Message — Bro. Clyde Nations — "Some Examples of the Faithful." 1 Kings 22.

**BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION
of the
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

**THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING
CALVARY CHURCH, SWANNANOA, N.C.
February 1, 1997**

The Third Quarterly Meeting was opened by the Moderator, Rev. Edward Hutchinson.

Congregational Singing — *When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder* and *Blessed Assurance* —
Led by Rev. Daren Dwyer

Prayer — Rev. Milton Hollifield

Welcome — Rev. Frank Cantrell

Response — Rev. Talmadge Brown

Devotion — Rev. John Cannon — John 3:14, 15; Numbers 21: 4-9.

Moderator's Remarks

M/S/C to seat Delegates.

Visitors Welcomed — Revs. Tom Lilly, John Cannon, Thomas Bruner and 2 Children,
Eric Jones, Robert Elliott, Paul Childers and Tim Stout.

Roll Call of Ministers and Churches — 20 Churches represented, 48 Delegates, 23 Ministers, 8 Deacons, 9 Visitors — Total 88.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report — Sister Carrie Padgett.

Youth Board Report — Bro. Rocky Reese (See Reports).

Executive Board Report — Sister Lucille Tatham (See Reports).

Missions Report — Rev. Larry Ball gave a Report on Hickory Mission — Increase in Attendance, Increase in Finance, Good Report.

Woman's Auxiliary Report — Sister Martha Taylor.

Credentials Report — Rev. Julius Hall.

Rev. Tom Lilly, State Promotional Director, brought greetings from state department. He informed us that he is retiring this year.

Rev. Tim Stout, State Moderator, gave a report on our state Missions. M/S/C to accept all Reports.

WORSHIP HOUR:

Congregational Song — *Jesus Saves*.

Offertory Prayer — Bro. Daren Dwyer.

M/S/C to give Offering \$110.00 to Bro. Tom Lilly.

Special Song — Bro. Daren Dwyer, *Peace, Peace, Wonderful Peace*.

Message — Rev. Tim Stout, State Moderator. Second Timothy 3:1-5 — Amazing Grace

Closing Prayer — Altar Prayer, Bro. Julius Hall.

FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
BLUE RIDGE ASSOCIATION
meeting with
CANTON F.W.B. CHURCH, CANTON, N.C.
May 3, 1997

The Forty-Fourth Annual Session was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Edward Hutchinson

Congregational Singing — *Standing On The Promises.*

Prayer — Rev. Talmadge Brown.

Welcome — Rev. Reuben Cason, Host Pastor.

Response — Rev. Julius Hall.

Devotion. — Rev. Alan Sailors — Acts 12:5 — "The Church That Works"

Welcome and Recognition of Visitors by Moderator: Rev. Phillip Wyatt, Pastor of Sulphur Springs Church, and Rev. and Mrs. Walt Wilson.

Seating of Ministers, Delegates and Deacons.

Roll Call of Churches and Ministers by Clerk. Churches represented 23; Ministers 30; Deacons and Delegates 48; Visitors 19; Total 97.

REPORTS:

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

Youth Board Report — Rev. Rocky Reese (See Reports).

M/S/C/ to elect Bro. Daren Dwyer as Youth Board Director.

Rest Home Report — Rev. Jack Ward (See Reports).

Ordaining Council Report — Bro. Hawkins asked to be notified of any business item that needs to be taken care of.

Mission Report — Bro. Larry Ball gave a Report on Hickory Mission. Bro. Wendell Wally gave a Report on the Mexico Mission.

Women's Auxiliary Report — Sister Martha Taylor (See Reports).

Credentials Report — Rev. Terry McDaniel

Executive Committee Report — Lucille Tatham (See Reports). A Recommendation was made for the Association to adopt a project to raise \$25,000.00 for the Mexico work by the end of the year.

M/S/C to accept all reports.

In May 1996, the following move was made:

Churches who have not attended the Association nor paid their dues for the past year be placed on an inactive list. M/S/C to lay this item on the Table until the next Quarterly Meeting, however, this action was not taken until the Annual meeting. M/S/C to take this Item off the Table for discussion. A Letter was sent out to each Church in Association, notifying them of this action. (See Letter following). M/S/C Churches that have not attended the Meetings nor paid their Dues for the past year be put on an Inactive list.

WORSHIP SERVICE:

Congregational Song — *Heavenly Sunlight.*

Offering

Special Singing — Rev. Reuben Cason

Message by Rev. Jack Moses — Luke 23: 32-34 "Calvary."

Dismissed by Rev. Cason

Blue Ridge Association Of Free Will Baptist
c/o Lucille Tatham
1769 Hwy. 221 South
Marion, N.C. 29872

April 8, 1997

To: All Sister Free Will Baptist Churches
Of The Blue Ridge Association

From: Executive Committee
Blue Ridge Association Of Free Will Baptist
C/O Lucille Tatham, (Clerk)
1769 Hwy. 221 South
Marion, N.C. 29872

Subject: Active Membership With Blue Ridge Association Of Free Will Baptists

Dear Pastor:

We are writing this letter in concern of all of our sister Free Will Baptist Churches in the Blue Ridge Association. Each year we have to pay state and national dues in line with how many active churches we have in the association. For many years we paid the dues for inactive members. The Executive Committee has recommended that any church that has not reported in the past year, in person or by letter, and has not paid at least the State and National dues, be dropped from the active list of our membership. If we do not do this, then our association is responsible for paying the dues of the inactive churches.

The Constitution And By-Laws of the Blue Ridge Association states in Article 10 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 based upon report, either to drop them from the roll, or to continue to labor with them in love."*

We are asking that each church report at the May conference in person or by letter. The conference will be at the Canton Free Will Baptist Church, May 3 at 9:30 a.m. If there are any questions concerning this letter please phone the moderator, Rev. Ed Hutchinson at (704) 482-9744.

Rev. Ed Hutchinson — Moderator

Board Members — Rev. Wendell Walley	Rev. Julius Hall	Rev. David Young
Rev. Milton Hollifield	Carrie Padgett	Lucille Tatham

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETINGS

The Executive Board met at the Western Steer Steak House October 1, 1996.

Present: Rev. Edward Hutchinson, Rev. Wendell Walley, Rev. Milton Hollifield, Rev. Julius Hall, Sister Carrie Padgett, Sister Lucille Tatham.

Prayer — Rev. Milton Hollifield

The following Recommendations were made:

1. Each Quarterly Meeting convene the first Saturday in each Quarter
2. Rev. Larry Ball has assumed the Mission work in Hickory and we recommend the Association pay him \$200.00 per week as we did Bro. Benny Turner, beginning October first, 1996.

Adjourned.

The Executive Board met at the Western Steer Steak House January 13, 1997, with the Youth Camp Directors.

Present: Rev. Edward Hutchinson, Rev. Wendell Walley, Rev. Milton Hollifield, Rev. David Young, Rev. Rocky Reese, Bro. Daren Dwyer, Miss Carrie Padgett, Mrs. Lucille Tatham.

Prayer — Rev. Milton Hollifield.

The February Program was planned.

Rev. Rocky Reese gave a report on the Youth Camp:

1. The Youth Camp Fees will be increased to \$75.00 at least, per Camper.
2. The Youth Camp will be at "The Oaks" Camp in Greenville, Tenn. this year.

The Executive Board met at the Western Steer Steak House April 7, 1997.

Present: Rev. Edward Hutchinson, Moderator; Rev. Julius Hall, Rev. David Young, Rev. Milton Hollifield, Rev. Wendell Walley, Sister Carrie Padgett, Sister Lucille Tatham.

Prayer by Rev. Wendell Walley.

The Annual Program was planned for May 3, 1997 at the Canton Church.

Recommendation: Association adopt a project to raise \$25,000.00 for the Mexico work by the end of 1997.

Dismissed by Rev. David Young.

REPORTS:

SOUTHSIDE FREE WILL BAPTIST MISSION REPORT:

Sunday School Average Attendance	26
Sunday Worship Average Attendance.....	36
Sunday Night Average Attendance	22
Thursday Night Prayer Average Attendance	18

Finance Report for October	\$4384.47
Debit	4609.24
Paid out for Missions	370.00
Building Fund	\$16,826.33

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Julius Hall

WESTERN FREE WILL BAPTIST REST HOME REPORT

1. PRAYER REQUEST:

- a. Pray for 2 residents, we have 28 currently and we need 30.
- b. Pray for a special need at the home. Ms. Francisca Varao is 101 yrs. old and not a U.S. citizen. We have been informed by the Social Security Administration that she will no longer be receiving her SSI check. In order to keep this lady we need some churches to pick up the difference, which is \$484.00 per month.
2. The Rest Home needs monthly support from more of our churches.
3. We have just come through the audit that was required by the Department of Facility Services, and this was the most trying thing we have been through to date. The cost will be about \$3,500.00 and to date we have received \$893.00 from the 164 churches we sent letters to.
4. We plan to have a work day on May 12, 1997 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. We will be painting.
5. Thanks for all you do for the home.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Jack Ward

YOUTH BOARD REPORT: August 10, 1996

We had a great Youth Camp this year. We had 78 youth and 24 Adults registered for a total of 102 Campers. The great news is about 15 precious souls were saved and many rededicated their lives to Christ. The Camp cost this year was \$6188.91 and Camp receipts were \$5110.18 leaving a deficit of \$1078.91. Our Youth fund stands as follows:

Balance 5/11/96.....	\$891.95
Camp Receipts	5110.18
Camp Cost (not counting \$200.00 deposits)	5988.91
Postage	23.90
Interest for Quarter	5.11
Receipts for Quarter from Blue Ridge Assn.	154.83
Received from General Fund for Camp	1000.00
Check wrote to Sysco Inc. (to be refunded)	61.60
Balance 8/10/96.....	1087.66

Our next Blue Ridge Youth for the Master Meeting is next Saturday at Nowling's Chapel. This is the one we call our camp reunion. Our special guest this time will be the "SNAZZY CLOWN MINISTRIES" from Morganton. They love Jesus and have won many to the Lord. The offering received at the meeting will go to Alan and Betty Campbell, members of Nowling's Chapel. SCM chose to do this themselves. The Offering was going to go to them for coming to the Meeting.

Please encourage all to attend. There is something for everyone. You will be sure to receive a blessing.

Respectfully Submitted

Rev. Rocky Reese

YOUTH FUND REPORT: November 11, 1996

Balance in Youth Fund	\$1087.66
Refund to Meadowbrook Church for Movie	
Rentals for camp	18.00
Long Distance Phone Calls — March-July to line	
up summer camp	61.55
Postage	9.60
Interest for Quarter	9.04
Quarterly Receipts from Blue Ridge Assoc.	20.50
Balance 11/2/96.....	\$1028.05

The next Youth for the Master meeting is Saturday, 11/9/96 at the Shelby Church. There will be Bible and Music practice competition at 6:00 p.m. and Worship Service at 7:00 p.m.

Please be praying about the camp location next year due to the changes taking place at the usual location.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Rocky Reese

YOUTH FUND REPORT: Feb. 1, 1997

Balance in Youth Fund 11/2/96	\$1028.05
Receipts from Blue Ridge Association	409.19
Interest for Quarter	7.72
Offering from Youth for Master Meeting	45.23
Refund from Sysco Foods.....	61.60
Deposit for Youth Camp.....	200.00
Balance 2/1/97.....	\$1351.79

At our last meeting, I asked you to help me pray about the Camp location for this year's summer youth camp. We were looking at changing camp locations due to the changes taking place at our usual location at "The Oaks" in Greenville, TN, but after speaking with Bro. Allen Brown, Director at "The Oaks" camp, the expected changes will not be taking place until next year. So this enables us to remain at our present camp location one more summer. But please continue to pray and give me any information you might have on a suitable camp site for next year.

The cost this year for youth camp is expected to be around \$75.00 per camper. You will be receiving more details and registration forms in the mail in the next couple of months.

Our next Youth for the Master meeting is 2 weeks from today. Saturday 2/15/97 at Meadowbrook F.W.B. Church in Black Mountain. We will have Bible & Music practice competition at 6:00 p.m. and Worship service at 7:00 p.m.

Bro. Jon Cannon will be bringing the message and the Youth Choir from Mt. Vernon FWB Church will be coming to sing. So please encourage your church to come out and support the youth. I'm sure you will receive a blessing.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Rocky Reese

YOUTH FUND REPORT: May 3, 1997

Balance in Youth Fund 2/1997	\$1351.79
Receipts from Blue Ridge Association	152.92
Interest for Quarter	8.17
Offering from Youth for Master Meeting	50.50
Quick Copies for Certificates	3.26
Carolina Ribbon for Trophies	99.11
Cost for Envelopes and Labels	24.32
Postmaster	16.00
Balance 5/3/97	\$1400.69

Discuss Youth Camp Packet. Please promote and support our Youth Camp at "The Oaks" July 28 – August 2. *Forbid not the little children*, Matt. 19:13-14. Sometimes our omission forbids as much as our commission. So please, promote Youth Camp.

NC State Youth Conference and Competition will be at the Sheraton Park FWB Church May 16th and 17th. Also our next Youth for the Master Meeting will be held at Cedar Hill FWB Church in Asheville on August 16th. We hope to get Bro. Ken Sausedo to present his "Song of Moses" presentation, this not yet confirmed but hopefully it will be before long.

Pastoring and working a public job is about all one can do. So I ask not to be renominated this year for the Director of the Youth Board. I am willing to serve on the Youth Board but ask for another to be elected a Director. I'm willing to serve as director through this year's Youth Camp, but ask the Conference to elect someone to take the position at the end of Youth Camp. I've truly enjoyed serving as Director this past couple of years. I couldn't have done it, first of all, without the Lord, or without the great help of my assistant Bro. Daren Dwyer. I would highly recommend him to the Conference as my replacement.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rev. Rocky Reese

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY REPORT:

The Blue Ridge Woman's Auxiliary met October 5, 1996 at the Rocky Pass Church with 37 in attendance. The guest speaker was Mrs. Joanne King, State Auxiliary President from Cramerton, N.C.

Our Foreign Mission project was Bobby and Sue Aycock. The goal was \$600.00 and we have \$475.00. The Home Mission project was moving the Mexican Institute. The goal was \$200.00 and we have met this goal. The Bible college of your choice was \$300.00 and we raised \$437.50. We thank God for this.

Our District meeting will be at the Swannanoa Church. The N.C. State Auxiliary will meet with the First Church in Marion May 6, 1997.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sister Martha Taylor

The Blue Ridge District Woman's Auxiliary met April 5th at Swannanoa FWB Church with 33 members attending. We heard from Karen Cowart, Missionary to Brazil. She gave a wonderful message on "Seeking God's Will" for our lives. We also planned our State Meeting which will be held May 5th and 6th at the First FWB Church in Marion. We would like to encourage each of the Ladies from our District to attend. The Banquet will be Monday evening at 6:00 p.m. The cost will be \$7.50 per person. On Tuesday the meeting will begin at 9:30 with registration at 9:00 a.m.

Our Special Speaker will be Annette Aycock. Please pray that God will pour out His Blessings on this meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sister Martha Taylor

Blue Ridge Free Will Baptist Association

Annual meeting – May 3, 1997

FINANCIAL REPORT

GENERAL FUND

Fund Balance – May 11, 1996	\$3,586.43
Total Receipts	<u>4,401.40</u>
Sub-Total	\$7,987.83

Disbursements:

Clerk's Salary	125.00
Clerk's Expenses	77.74
Dues – State & National Assoc.	1,100.00
Blk. Mtn. Printing (Minutes)	983.68
Steak House (Exec. Board)	151.39
Copy Paper (Treas.)	3.70
U.S. Postal Service	32.00
Board of Foreign Missions	225.52
B & H Florist (B. Turner Service)	47.70
Meals, Ordaining Council	56.25
Youth Camp	1,000.00
Southside Church (Spec. Offering)	68.00
Rev. Larry Ball	150.00
Service Charge (Bank)	12.00
Bible Book Store (Certificates)	41.76
Rev. Tim Stout	155.78
Dues (1997)	<u>315.00</u>
Total	\$4,545.52

- 4,545.52

FUND BALANCE

\$3,442.31

YOUTH BOARD

TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 905.64
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LOCAL MISSIONS FUND

Fund Balance – May 11, 1996	\$ 9,109.05
Total Receipts	5,655.60
Interest Added	231.41
Transfer from Minister's Fund (Acct. Error)	<u>900.00</u>
Sub-Total	\$15,896.06
Southside Church	-10,967.77
Rocky Pass Church (Mission Work)	- 50.00
Rev. Ed Hutchinson (Meals for Ball Family)	- 33.20
Rev. Norris Hawksins (Mileage)	- 35.20
Moving Expenses for Ball Family	<u>- 304.22</u>
FUND BALANCE	\$4,505.67

(continued)

MINISTER'S BENEVOLENT FUND

Fund Balance – May 11, 1996	\$ 7,994.97
Total Receipts	517.51
Interest Added	<u>127.51</u>
Sub-Total	\$ 8639.99
Transfer to Missions Fund (Acct. error)	- 900.00
Rev. James Childers	- 500.00
Mrs. Benny Turner	<u>- 800.00</u>

FUND BALANCE **\$ 6,439.99**

FWB BIBLE COLLEGE LOAN FUND

Fund Balance – May 11, 1997	\$6,433.46
Total Receipts	161.74
Interest Added	<u>66.13</u>

FUND BALANCE **\$6,661.33**

SOUTHEASTERN BIBLE COLLEGE LOAN FUND

Fund Balance – May 11, 1996	\$1,886.45
Total Receipts	161.72
Interest Added	<u>47.23</u>

FUND BALANCE **\$2,095.40**

(continued)

May 11, 1996

	<u>TOTAL THIS QUARTER</u>	<u>TOTAL FOR YEAR</u>
Avery Creek	\$ 30.00	\$ 40.00
Beaverdam	50.00	50.00
Calvary		
Camp Branch		250.00
Canton	200.00	550.00
Cedar Hill	145.31	553.96
Fairview	178.87	588.99
Faith	100.00	450.00
Fellowship	279.00	1,545.10
First - Marion	100.00	280.00
Gethsemane	66.26	240.99
Harriett Memorial		200.00
Homer's Chapel		110.00
Lakeview	70.36	217.10
Lenoir		198.83
Meadowbrook	350.84	1,303.51
Meadow Fork		
Nowling Chapel	305.43	1,071.98
Oakley	86.84	295.54
Pisgah	273.00	345.00
Roaring Creek	83.63	349.20
Rocky Pass	440.00	1,260.00
Shelby	42.50	182.50
Southside	200.00	260.00
Sulphur Springs		50.00
Swannanoa	50.00	200.00
Sweeten Creek		
Way of the Cross	1,076.43	1,494.96
Zephyr Hills		92.47
TOTALS	<u>\$4,128.47</u>	<u>\$12,180.13</u>

Respectfully Submitted,
Carrie Padgett, Treasurer

Suggestions For Guidelines For
The Blue Ridge Association Youth Camp

1. Girls are allowed to wear slacks, but are asked to wear dresses to the Worship Services.
2. Items listed below may not be worn to Youth Camp:
 - (a) No clothes advertising rock personalities, albums, songs, or etc.; beer advertisements; suggestive remarks; tobacco advertisements; or country western singers.
 - (b) No jams, shorts, mini-skirts, walking shorts, tank tops, shirts leaving the midsection exposed, or made of mesh material, permitted by boys or girls.
 - (c) No low-cut apparel should be worn. All clothes should be loose fitting. No tight pants on boys or girls. No tight dresses, skirts, or blouses on girls. Clothing on girls must come to the knee or below.
3. Physical contact will not be allowed. This policy will be strictly adhered to. (Some examples to be avoided are: handholding, heads on shoulders, back rubs, sitting on laps, arms around shoulders or waists, and kissing). The Bible is clear concerning physical contact prior to marriage. In Thess. 4:3-7, God outlines the principles of defrauding and stealing one's honor and respect through physical contact.
4. No tobacco is to be used while at camp.
5. We ask that campers treat each other with respect. Food fights or throwing of items will not be tolerated.
6. No one is to go off alone. Dating couples must stay with a group at all times.

Minister's Report

Rev. Larry Ball:	6253 Rocky Mount Rd., Granite Falls, NC 28630. Caldwell County. Pastor, Southside Mission. (704) 396-3519.
Rev. Talmadge Brown:	204 Blue Ridge Rd., Black Mtn., N.C., 28711. Buncombe County. Pastor, Meadowbrook Church. 669-2310.
Rev. Oliver Cagle:	Rt. 3, Box 219, Canton, NC 28716. Haywood Co. Pastor, Pisgah Church. 235-8568.
Rev. Frank Cantrell:	206 Eastwood Ave., Swannanoa, NC 28778. Buncombe county. Pastor, Calvary Church. 686-5794.
Rev. Reuben Cason:	P.O. Box 1346, Canton, NC 28716. Haywood County. Pastor, Canton Church. 648-0753.
Rev. James Childers Sr.:	180 River Bend Estates, Marion, NC 28752. McDowell Co. Affiliated with Rocky Pass Church. 652-2618.
Rev. Leonard Cutshaw:	P.O. Box 1281, Maxwell Dr., Fletcher, NC 28732. Henderson Co. Pastor, Oakley Church. 684-9670.
Rev. Earl Daves:	Route 1, Box 432, Marion, NC 28752. 652-2370.
Rev. Daren Dwyer:	204 Blue Ridge Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711. Buncombe County. Affiliated with Meadowbrook Church. 669-9150.
Rev. Elisha W. Fish:	Rt. 3, Box 212, Candler, NC 28715. Buncombe County. Affiliated with Cedar Hill Church. 667-5656.
Rev. Bobby Fox	1011 Riverside Drive, Asheville, NC 28804. Buncombe County. Pastor, Avery's Creek Church. 253-0885.
Rev. Dean Good:	472 Buckeye Access Rd., Swannanoa, NC 28778. Buncombe County. Affiliated with Flat Rock Church. 299-9387.
Rev. Julius Hall:	1304 Fieldbrook St., Lenoir, NC 28645. Caldwell County. 754-7854.
Rev. Norris Hawkins:	11 Williamsburg Place, Asheville, NC 28803. Buncombe County. Pastor, Fellowship Church. 274-8604.
Rev. Elmer C. Hensley:	24 Pisgah View Ave., Asheville, NC 28803. Buncombe County. 274-2803.
Rev. Mark Hensley:	3440 Arthur Mill Rd., Morganton, NC 28655. Burke County. Affiliated with Faith Church. 584-8372.

Rev. T. A. Holder:	47 Elkmont Dr., Asheville, NC 28804. Buncombe County. 254-8014.
Rev. Milton A. Hollifield, Sr.:	Rt. 1, Box 244, Nebo, NC 28761. McDowell County. Pastor, Rocky Pass Church. 652-5798.
Rev. Edward Hutchinson:	1003 High Wedge Rd. Shelby, N.C. 28152. Cleveland County. Pastor, Shelby Church. 481-1604.
Rev. Allen Jackson:	Rt. 2, Box 243, Marion, NC 28752. McDowell County. Pastor, Hillcrest Church. Will be leaving the Church in August due to health reasons. 738-3907.
Rev. Gordon Johnson:	107 Dakar Dr., Shelby, NC 28150. Cleveland County. Affiliated with Shelby Church. 482-1244.
Rev. Eddie Kirkpatrick:	Rt. 3, Box 100, Nebo, NC 28761, McDowell Co. Affiliated with First FWB Church. 652-5229.
Rev. J. C. Lynn, Sr.:	14 Ridgeway Dr., Asheville, NC 28806. Buncombe County. Affiliated with Cedar Hill Church. 254-8744. Chaplain of the American Legion, Post #2 of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3040. Chaplain of Buncombe Co. Memorial Team. Chaplain of 280th. Combat Bh. Engineers.
Rev. Terry McDaniel:	1352 Hwy. 221-A, Forest City, NC 28043. Rutherford County. Affiliated with Shelby Church. 657-6512.
Rev. Ernest Messer:	304 Smathers St., Waynesville, NC 28786. Haywood County. Pastor, Camp Branch Church. 452-2755.
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. 683-9491.
Rev. Jack Moses:	2353 Conley Rd., Morganton, NC 28655. Burke County. Pastor, First FWB Church in Lenoir. 584-1863.
Rev. Clyde Nations:	202 Park St., Swannanoa, NC 28778. Buncombe County. Pastor, Swannanoa Church. 686-5391.
Rev. Scottie Lee Patton:	5169 Pea Ridge Road, Morganton, NC 28655. Burke County. Church Affiliation, Faith Church. 584-0225.
Rev. Howard Pittman, Sr:	1016 Lakecrest Ave., High Point, NC 27265. Guilford County. Pastor, Lakeview Church. (910) 869-3450.
Rev. Willard Pless:	203 Academy St., Canton, NC 28716. Haywood County. Pastor, Meadow Fork Church. 648-8145.

Rev. Ralph Reep:	385 Arrowhead Trail, Marion, NC 28752. McDowell County. Pastor, Gethsemane Church. 738-4238.
Rev. Rocky Reese:	1308 Jamestown Rd., Morganton, NC 28655. Burke County. Pastor, Faith Church. 584-4849.
Rev. Winfred Roland:	106 Young St., Swannanoa, NC 28778. Buncombe County. 686-3509.
Rev. Roy Shehan:	3311 US 64, Morganton, NC 28655. Burke County. Pastor, Nowlings Chapel Church. 433-9623.
Rev. Alan Sailors:	101 Clearview Dr., Shelby, NC 28150. Cleveland County. Pastor, The Way Of The Cross Church. 484-3842.
Rev. Cyrus Shoffner:	227 Johnston School Rd., Asheville, NC 28806. Buncombe County. Pastor Cedar Hill Church. 253-0369.
Rev. Troy Smith:	1938 Hwy. 221-A, Forest City, NC 28043. Rutherford County. Pastor, Harriett Memorial Church. 657-6062.
Rev. Willie Sumerlin:	Rt. 1, Box 445, Marion, NC 28752. McDowell County. Pastor, Fairview Church. 652-6593.
Rev. Dennis Tolley:	670 Big Springs Church Rd.,Ellenboro, NC 28040. Rutherford County. Youth Pastor, The Way Of The Cross Church. 538-1476.
Rev. William Vaughn:	P.O. Box 117, Old Fort, NC 28762. McDowell County. Affiliated with First FWB Church, Black Mountain. 668-4609.
Rev. Wendell Walley:	13 Auburndale Dr., Asheville, NC 28806. Buncombe County. Pastor, Zephyr Hills Church. 665-4538.
Rev. Jack Ward	P.O. Box 2303, Candler, NC 28715. Buncombe County. Administrator of Western FWB Rest Home. 665-8559.
Rev. J. D. Wilson	Rt. 1, Box 281, Newland, NC 28657. Avery County. Pastor, Roaring Creek Church. 733-5389.
Rev. Phillip Wyatt:	Rt. 10, Box 658, Waynesville, NC 28786. Haywood County. Pastor, Sulphur Springs Church. 452-0870.
Rev. David Young:	202 Chapel Road, Black Mountain, NC 28711. Buncombe County. Pastor, Homer's Chapel Church. 669-2343.

STATISTICS OF CHURCHES

- Avery's Creek:** Pastor: Rev. Bobby Fox, 1011 Riverside Drive, Asheville, NC 28804. Clerk: Mrs. Carolyn Swann, 21 Oteen Park Place, Asheville, NC 28805. No. Ordained Ministers 1, Total Membership 43. S.S. Enrollment 15.
- Calvary:** Pastor: Rev. Frank Cantrell, 206 Eastwood Ave., Swannanoa, NC 28778. Clerk: Mrs. Genevieve Robertson, 15 Sunset Dr., Swannanoa, NC 28778. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Members lost 9. Women's Auxiliary Enrollment 10.
- Canton:** Pastor: Rev. Reuben Cason, P.O. Box 1346, Canton, NC 28716. Clerk: Mrs. Helen Hamlett, 26 Flint St., Canton, NC 28716. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 3, No. Baptisms 2, No. Members added 1, No. Members lost 1, Total Membership 89, Total S.S. Enrollment 69.
- Cedar Hill:** Pastor: Rev. Cyrus Shoffner, 227 Johnston School Rd., Asheville, NC 28806. Clerk: Mrs. Nancy Cole, 36 Brook Branch Rd., Leicester, NC 28748. No. Ordained Ministers 4, No. Ordained Deacons 4, No. Baptisms 5, No. Members added 7, No. Members lost 2, Total Membership 174. Total S.S. Enrollment 75. C.T.S. Enrollment 25, Women's Auxiliary Enrollment 12.
- Fairview:** Pastor: Rev. Willie Sumerlin, 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 5, No. Baptisms 4, No. Members added 4, No. Members lost 3, Total Membership 75, S.S. Enrollment 85. Women's Auxiliary Enrollment 9.
- Faith:** Pastor: Rev. Rocky Reese, 1308 Jamestown Rd., Morganton, NC 28655. Clerk: Mrs. Renee Campbell, 602 E. Meeting St., Morganton, NC 28655. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 3, No. Baptisms 6, No. Members added 9, No. Members lost 5, Total Membership 150, S.S. Enrollment 75, C.T.S. Enrollment 15, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 12, Master's Men Enrollment 10.
- Fellowship:** Pastor: Rev. Norris Hawkins, 11 Williamsburg Pl., Asheville, NC 28803. Clerk: Mrs. Mildred Southern, 1 Waters St., Asheville, NC 28805. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 1, No. Baptisms 8, No. Members added 12, No. Members lost 8, Total Membership 70, S.S. Enrollment 49, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 12, Master's Men Enrollment 10.
- First Lenoir:** Pastor: Rev. Jack Moses, 2353 Conley Rd., Morganton, NC 28655. Clerk: Mrs. Gwendolyn Kily, 705 Prospect St., Lenoir, NC 28645. No. Ordained Ministers 3, No. Licensed Ministers 3, No. Ordained Deacons 2, No. Baptisms 4, No. Members Added 6, Total Membership 96.

- First Marion:** Pastor: Rev. Roger Haley, 250 Baldwin Ave., Marion, NC 28752. Clerk: Mrs. Cindy Berryhill, 95 Pleasant Hill Rd., Marion, NC 28752. No. Ordained Ministers 2, No. Licensed Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 5, No. Baptisms 8, No. Members added 10, No. Members lost 5, Total Membership 215, S.S. Enrollment 203, C.T.S. Enrollment 60, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 15.
- 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 1, No. Baptisms 1, No. Members added 4, No. Members Lost 2, Total Membership 56, S.S. Enrollment 50.
- Harriett Memorial:** Pastor: Rev. Troy Smith, 1938 Hwy. 221-A, Forest City, NC 28043. Clerk: Mrs. Ellen Robertson, 931 US Hwy. 221-A, Forest City, NC 28043. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 7, No. Baptisms 8, No. Members added 13, No. Members lost 6, Total Membership 150.
- Homer's Chapel:** Pastor: Rev. David Young, 202 Chapel Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711. Clerk: Mrs. Midge Rollins, 828 Cherokee Ave., Black Mountain, NC 28711. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 3, No. Baptisms 5, No. Members added 11, No. Members lost 4, Total Membership 97, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 18.
- Lakeview:** Pastor: Rev. Howard Pittman, 1016 Lakecrest Ave., High Point, NC 27265. Clerk: Mrs. Betty Draghn, Rt. 2, Box 472, Old Greensboro Rd., High Point, NC 27265. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Baptisms 1, Total Membership 40, S.S. Enrollment 40.
- Meadowbrook:** Pastor: Rev. Talmadge Brown, 204 Blue Ridge Rd., Black Mountain, NC 28711. Clerk: Mrs. Kelli Conner, P.O. Box 1123, Black Mountain, NC 28711. No. Ordained Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 10 (6 Active), No. Baptisms 8, No. Members added 12, No. Members lost 4, Total Membership 225, Total S.S. Enrollment 250, Youth Training Program Enrollment 75, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 18.
- Meadow Fork:** Pastor: Rev. Willard Pless, 203 Academy St., Canton, NC 28716. No. Ordained Ministers 1, Total Membership 25, Master's Men Enrollment 15.
- Nowling's Chapel:** Pastor: Rev. Roy Shehan, 3311 US 64, Morganton, NC 28655. Clerk: Mrs. Shirley Davis, Fisher Davis Rd., Morganton, NC 28655. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 3, No. Baptisms 12, No. Members added 7, Total Membership 168. S.S. Enrollment 168, Women's Auxiliary Enrollment 20.

- Oakley:** Pastor: Rev. Leonard Cutshaw, P.O. Box 1281, Fletcher, NC 28732. Clerk: Michael Lollis, 741 Old US70 Hwy., Swannanoa, NC 28778. No. Ordained Ministers 3, No. Ordained Deacons 4, No. Members added 6, No. Members lost 2, Total Membership 65, S.S. Enrollment 25, Women'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 lost 5, Total Membership 75, S.S. Enrollment 80, Women's Auxiliary Enrollment 8.
- Rocky Pass:** Pastor: Rev. Milton Hollifield, Sr., Rt. 1, Box 244, Nebo, NC 28761. Clerk: Mrs. Betty McKinney, Rt. 5, Box 666, Marion, NC 28752. No. Ordained Ministers 2, No. Ordained Deacons 15, No. Baptisms 4, No. Members added 17, No. Members lost 2, Total Membership 375, S.S. Enrollment 163, C.T.S. Enrollment 60, Women's Auxiliary Enrollment 12.
- Shelby:** Pastor: Rev. Edward Hutchinson, 1003 High Wedge Rd., Shelby, NC 28152. Clerk: Mrs. Denise Scruggs, P.O. Box 506, Henrietta, NC 28076. No. Ordained Ministers 3, No. Ordained Deacons 3, No. Baptisms 9, No. Members added 18, Total Membership 211 (Active), S.S. Enrollment 125, C.T.S. Enrollment 25, Women's Auxiliary Enrollment 15.
- Southside:** Rev. Larry Ball, 6253 Rocky Mount Rd., Granite Falls, NC 28630. Clerk: Mrs. Trudy Caldwell, 127 Hillside Court, Hickory, NC 28602. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Baptisms 3, No. Members added 12, Total Membership 29, Total S.S. Enrollment 27, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 7.
- Sulphur Springs:** Pastor: Rev. Phillip Wyatt, Rt. 10, Box 658, Waynesville, NC 28786. Clerk: Mrs. Mary Lanning, 28 Dolphin Dr., Waynesville, NC 28786. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 3, No. Baptisms 1, No. Members added 6, No. Members lost 2, Total Membership 30, Total S.S. Enrollment 25, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 10.
- Swannanoa:** Pastor: Rev. Clyde Nations, 202 Park St., Swannanoa, NC 28778. Clerk: Mrs. Pam Burns, Scenic View Dr., Swannanoa, NC 28778. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 8, No. Baptisms 2, No. Members added 4, No. Members lost 2, Total Membership 123, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 12.

**The Way Of
The Cross**

Pastor: Rev. Alan Sailors, 101 Clearview Dr., Shelby, NC 28150. Clerk: Mrs. Barbara Mayhue, Monica Dr., Shelby, NC 28150. No. Ordained Ministers 1; No. Licensed Ministers 2, No. Baptisms 30, No. Members added 32, No. Members lost 5, Total Membership 98, Total S.S. Enrollment 65, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 25.

Zephyr Hills:

Pastor: Rev. Wendell Walley, 13 Auburndale Dr., Asheville, NC 28806. Clerk: Mrs. Lucille Lance, 93 English Place, Enka, NC 28715. No. Ordained Ministers 1, No. Licensed Ministers 1, No. Ordained Deacons 5, No. Baptisms 4, No. Members added 1; Total Membership 185, Total S.S. Enrollment 80, Woman's Auxiliary Enrollment 20.

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 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 it is possible for men who have been converted to make shipwreck of their faith and turn again to sin and finally be lost. "And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough and looking back, is fit for the Kingdom of God." (Luke 8:62).

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

10. Christian Baptism: We believe that Christian baptism is the 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.

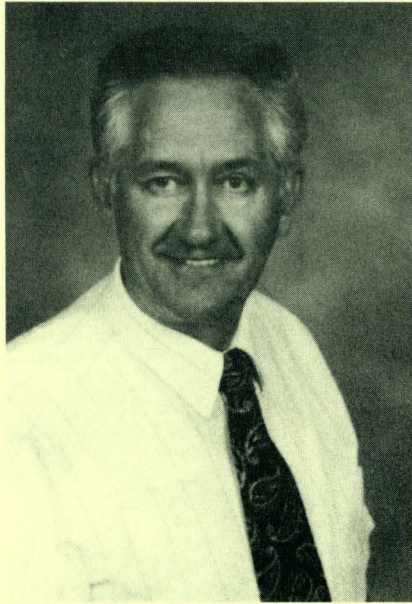
We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

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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We dedicate this 1997 Minute book to the memory of Rev. Benny Turner who went on to be with the Lord on May 15, 1996.

Brother Benny was born and raised in Asheville, N.C. He was saved at the age of 16 and at the age of 17, he was called to preach. He went on to graduate from the Free Will Baptist College in Nashville, Tennessee. Bro. Turner pastored churches for over 40 years in North Carolina and Tennessee. The last church he pastored was the Mission Church in Hickory. He had such a great burden for mission work. He held many revivals across America and won many souls to Christ.

Brother Benny served on many boards during the times he was in the Blue Ridge Association. He was a Free Will Baptist to his very heart. His favorite scripture was Matthew 6:33 "But seek ye first the kingdom of God and these things shall be added unto you."

He is survived by his wife Cora Mae Turner and three sons, Steve, Tom and Tim Turner.

Written by a Brother in Christ who loved
Brother Benny like my own flesh and blood.

Edward Hutchinson

