

# **MINUTES**

**OF THE**

***Seventy-Eighth Annual Session***

**OF THE**

## **Cahaba River Free Will Baptist Association**

**CONVENED WITH**

***Union Hill Free Will Baptist Church***

**VANDIVER, ALABAMA**

***October 4th, 5th and 6th, 1956***

### **OFFICERS**

Moderator \_\_\_\_\_ Elder J. J. Staab  
2313 North 33rd Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama

Assistant Moderator \_\_\_\_\_ Elder Jack Rollins  
Route 1, Adamsville, Alabama

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ H. A. McSpadden  
Route 9, Box 231-F, Birmingham, Alabama

The 79th Session of the Cahaba River Association of Free Will Baptist will meet with Fairview Church on Thursday night before the first Sunday in October, 1957.

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
***Seventy-Eighth Annual Session***

**OF THE**  
**Cahaba River Free Will**  
**Baptist Association**

**CONVENED WITH**  
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**VANDIVER, ALABAMA**

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# THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1956 — 7:00 P.M.

Service opened by singing "Amazing Grace" and "I'm Facing the Cross."

Message by Elder J. W. Marlow.

Scripture—Esther 4:14.

Subject—And who knoweth whether thou art come to the Kingdom for such a time as this.

Benediction.

# FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1956 — 8:30 A.M.

9:00 A.M.

Service opened by singing "Amazing Grace" and "I'm Facing the Cross."

Invocation by Elder W. H. Ryland, Superintendent of Children's Home.

Devotion by Elder J. J. Staab, Moderator. Scripture read from Acts 15.

Talk by Moderator Elder J. J. Staab on Rules of the Association. Convention and rules were read.

Conference called to order by Association Clerk, H. A. McSpadden.

Prayer by Elder J. W. Marlow.

Church letters called for and received by Credential Committees. A good spiritual song service was enjoyed by all.

Two special songs by Sister Nathan Davis, "I Bowed on My Knees and Cried Holy" and "I Was There When It Happened." Credential Committee reported all letters in order and certified by churches.

Letters read and accepted.

Churches represented and delegates:

Oak Grove Church: Sister Flora Tubbs, Sister Leuna Sorenson, Sister Pleasie Long.

North Birmingham: Sister Billie Rollins, Sister Rumell Kimbrough, Sister Mary McSpadden.

Mount Olive: Sister Maggie Duckett, Sister Elva Mae Minor, Sister Esther Minor.

Union Hill: Brother Austin Parker, Brother Johnnie Isbell, Brother Johnnie Parker.

Pleasant Valley: Brother R. J. Hodgins, Sister Mary Shirley.

East Birmingham: Sister J. W. Marlow, Sister J. H. McCullough, Sister Harrison.

Bethel: Sister Bessie Lawley, Sister Myrtle Smitherman, Sister Bill Pickett.

Sylacauga: Brother Shelby Isbell, Brother Dan Jarrett, Sister Adgie Mae Deason.

Davis Chapel: Brother Ernest Calhoun, Sister Beatrice Howard, Sister Ola Howard, Sister Freda Stokes.

Fairview: Brother Charlie Smith, Brother Charlie Patton, Sister Louise Webb, Sister Nell Day.

Mount Pleasant: Brother Sid Dunkin, Sister Blannie Dunkin, Sister Annie Laura Rogers.

Shady Grove: Sister Ira Hulsey, Sister Edna Haskett, Sister Annie Mae Clayton.

Lindburgh: Sister Mae Powell, Sister Gladys Reeves.

Opelika: Brother Odell Harris, Sister Odell Harris.

Dilworth: Sister George LaShum, Sister Lively.

Delegates stood in fellowship and were seated by the Moderator.

Committees appointed.

Devotion by Sister Mary Mull.

11:00 A.M.

Message by Elder W. H. Ryland.

Scripture reading Job 31:14. When God Rises Up, What Shall Be My Answer?

Job 29:21. It is appointed unto man once to die and after that the Judgment.

## MINISTERS REPORT

Minister	Churches Pastored	Sermons Preached	Revivals	Baptized	Marriages	Funerals	Money Received	Expenses	Churches Organized	Miles Traveled
D. F. Colley	0	25	0	0	0	0	\$ 40.15	\$ 30.00	0	1000
M. D. Harper	2	150	4	7	0	1	1100.00	300.00	0	20000
H. H. Blanchard	1	160	2	10	2	1	1060.00	500.00	0	6000
H. O. Walton	0	75	2	0	0	1	60.00		0	1000
Dave Franks	1	120	2	8	1	1	1000.00	1100.00	0	3000
Robert Armstrong	0	35	0	0	0	0	65.00		0	1062
Geo. A. LaShum	1	106	0	0	0	0	260.00	240.00	0	4000
R. H. Howard	0	31	1	0	1	1	76.31	37.01	0	1500
J. W. Marlow	1	97	1	0	2	7	864.00	500.00	0	5000
Nathan Davis	1	160	7	1	2	0	1100.00	950.00	0	14000
Lonnie Goodwin	0	25								
J. J. Staab	0	85	0	0	0	0	90.00	50.00	0	1000
E. E. Isbell	0	14	0	0	1	0			0	
J. M. McKay	0	45	0	0	2	3	27.43	38.54	0	
Roy Johnson	1	80	0	0	1	0	600.00	600.00	0	
Jack Rollins	1	125	4	4	1	1	1407.60	1278.19	0	14815
A. M. Cagle										
Robert Parker	1	118	2	1	1	2	104.15		0	680
Howard Coshatt	0	25	0	0	0	0	10.00	25.00	0	500
Dewey Isbell	1	52	2	0	1	1			0	
J. M. Dutton, Jr.	1	98	0	5	5	3	1055.00	400.00	0	4500
Louie Bates	1	110	2	8	4	7	735.47	250.00	0	3715
Odell Harris										
Lyman Ogle	0	25	0	1	0	0	5.00	25.00	0	300

No Report

No Report



Matthew 24:4. Be ye also ready.

After message a collection of \$41.41 was received for the Children's Home.

Benediction by Sister M. D. Harper.

Lunch Hour—Lunch was served by ladies of the church in grove near the church. Praise of Thanks to God and appreciation by Elder Johnny Burnham, Pastor of Union Hill Church, after which the food and a wonderful fellowship was enjoyed by all.

#### 1:00 P.M.

Song service conducted by Elder W. H. Ryland.

Invocation.

Moderator called for letters from various auxiliaries, so that letters could be put in minutes.

Letters read and monies turned over to annual Woman's Treasury.

NOTE to Woman's Auxiliary of all churches in Cahaba River Association: Send full year's report from April 1, 1956 to March 31, 1957 to Annual Woman's Auxiliary which meets at Fairview Church the first Saturday in April, 1957.

A talk by Brother Ed Goodwin: On the need of Home Mission work that needs to be done. Several churches to be organized. The need of finance for this work. All churches were asked to appoint committee to try and raise as much as \$2.00 per member per year to support this work.

Churches please cooperate in this cause as it is very needful.

Talk by Brother W. H. Ryland on possible help from State Association for this cause.

Report of Committees (See reports).

Announcements.

Adjourned business until Saturday morning.

Benediction.

#### 7:00 P.M.—MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

Thirty minutes of song service directed by Brother Johnnie Isbell.

Special song by Elder Jack Rollins, "How About Your Heart?"

By request, Sister Artie Frederick recited poem, "The Faithful Few."

Ministers' Conference was called to order by Clerk H. A. McSpadden.

Prayer by Elder Earl E. Isbell.

Elder Jack Rollins, Moderator.

Reading I Cor. 13; Psalms 133.

Talk on Fellowship. All ministers and deacons assembled at altar to pray for Unity of Fellowship.

A welcome was extended to Elder J. T. Windsor and Elder Johnnie Burnham.

Subject for discussion Unity of the Spirit, by Elder J. W. Marlow.

Precious anointing. Psalms 133.

Unity of Spirit and Bonds of Peace.

A wonderful message on the unity of the Spirit and Joy and Hope of people uniting their hearts together in Love.

Elder M. D. Harper, Unity of Service.

Phil. 3:15. Be ye followers together with me.

A very impressive message on serving together in unity of Spirit and unity of Purpose.

Elder J. J. Staab. Unity of Giving.

Let us first give ourselves to God. God loves a cheerful giver. Unity of giving can accomplish much toward missions, foreign and home. Remember the widow's mite.

Elder Dave Franks. Results of Unity.

Brother Franks brought a wonderful message on the Results of

a People united in one spirit, united in service and united in giving. Only through unity can we accomplish the Will of our Lord and Saviour.

Elder J. M. Dutton and Elder James Reed united with ministers and deacons' conference.

Elder J. M. Dutton elected Moderator.

Elder Nathan elected Assistant Moderator.

Benediction by Elder Johnnie Burnham.

#### SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 6, 1956

##### 9:00 A.M.

Several good songs were sung and enjoyed.

Prayer by Elder Earl E. Isbell.

Business.

Invocation by Elder Jack Rollins.

Moderator inquired as to Roanoke Church.

Appointed Annual Association executive committee to work with executive committee of second district to inquire and assist Roanoke Church in any way their service may be needed.

Oral report on home mission by Brother J. T. Kimbrough.

Report accepted.

A motion was passed to hold up business of all committees that they may be present to vote on Article 6 of business committee report.

Motion carried.

##### 11:00 A.M.

Song service and devotional.

Message by Elder J. W. Marlow.

Gen. 1:1. In the beginning God.

Heb. 2:1. That he by grace should taste death for every man.

A wonderful message in the Power of the Spirit and food to the souls of those who heard it.

Lunch Hour.

State delegates appointed.

Churches and delegates:

Sylacauga, Sister Adgie Mae Deason; Davis Chapel, Sister Beatrice Howard; Fairview, Brother Charlie Smith; Union Hill, Sister Slick; Bethel, Brother Charlie Booth; East Birmingham, Sister H. C. Mason; North Birmingham, Sister Billie Rollins; Dilworth, Sister W. W. Pugh; Lindburgh, Sister Mae Powell; Opelika, Brother Sandford Hale; Mount Olive, Sister Elva Mae Minor; Pleasant Valley, Sister Mary Shirley; Mount Pleasant, Sister H. T. Rogers; Oak Grove, Sister Flora Tubbs; Shady Grove; Roanoke.

Election of Officers:

Moderator, Elder Jack Rollins, Rt. 1, Adamsville, Alabama.

Assistant Moderator, Bro. Ed Goodwin, Rt. 2, Trussville, Ala.

Clerk, Bro. H. A. McSpadden, Rt. 9, Box 231-F, B'ham 7, Ala.

Treasurer, Elder M. D. Harper, Rt. 1, Marvel, Alabama.

Executive Committee: Elder Louie Bates, 1 year, chairman; Bro. Clarence A. Pickett, 2 years; Bro. Johnnie Parker, 3 years.

Home Mission Board:

Bro. Eugene Howard, 1 year, chairman; Elder Dave Franks, 2 years; Bro. Roy Hodgen, 3 years; Elder M. D. Harper, Promotional Secretary.

A motion to have elections on Saturday permanently at convenience of conference.

Next session of the association will meet with Fairview Church.

A vote of appreciation to Union Hill Church for the wonderful fellowship and hospitality shown to the delegates at this meeting of our association.

Announcements.

Adjournment.



## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**CREDENTIAL:** We find all the church letters in order and properly certified by the churches.—Bro. Ira Clay Gow, Chairman; Bro. Will Hodgens, Bro. Robert Parker.  
Report accepted.

**AUDITING:** We the auditing committee have examined the Treasurer's Books and have found that they are in order.—Bro. J. W. Isbell, Chairman; Bro. Dave Franks, Sister Elva Mae Minor.  
Report accepted.

**STANDING OF THE MINISTRY:** We your committee on the Standing of the Ministry recommend the following ministers for a certificate of standing: Elder George LaShum, Elder Dewey Isbell, Elder Dave Franks, Elder V. E. Calvert, License; Elder Lyman Ogle, Elder James M. McKay, Elder R. H. Howard, Elder James G. Reed, Elder Robert Parker, Elder Louie Bates, Elder L. A. Lively, Elder Ed Aycock, Elder Roy O'Donnell, Elder Odell Harris, Elder H. H. Blanchard, Elder Nathan Davis, Elder Lonnie Goodwin, Elder Roy R. Johnston, Elder Maxwell Harper, Elder James W. Marlow, Elder J. J. Staab, Elder Howard Coshatt, Elder J. M. Dutton, Elder Robert Armstrong, Elder Jack Rollins, Elder H. O. Walton, Elder Dewey Colley, Elder W. R. Parker, Elder I. C. Gow.

We recommend the following deacons for a certificate of standing: Bro. Joe T. Kimbrough, Bro. J. L. Garner, Bro. H. A. McSpadden, Bro. Austin Hodges, Bro. Artie Frederick, Bro. J. W. Isbell, Bro. C. C. Isbell, Bro. A. L. Harmon, Bro. Clarence Pickett, Bro. Bennie Isbell, Bro. Felix Smith, Bro. T. A. Armstrong, Bro. M. O. Kendrick, Bro. Roy L. Hodgen, Bro. H. T. Rodgers, Bro. C. C. Stone, Bro. J. W. Wise, Bro. Lonnie Howard, Bro. Coy Crocker, Bro. J. H. McCullough, Bro. V. R. Ewing, Bro. W. N. Hodgens, Bro. Norman Shirley, Bro. C. G. Kendrick, Bro. James Kitchens, Bro. Frank Pickett, Bro. Henry Pickett, Bro. Bill Pickett, Bro. John Boothe, Bro. C. B. Boothe, Bro. W. H. Powell, Bro. R. R. Kuykendall, Bro. Oscar Gamel, Bro. Walker Isbell, Bro. V. D. Sollie, Bro. G. G. King, Bro. Ed Goodwin, Bro. R. R. Pratt, Bro. Mason Giles, Bro. Huey Lacy, Bro. W. W. Pugh, Bro. William Smith, Bro. Clay Moseley, Bro. Joe Click, Jr., Bro. Austin Parker, Bro. Johnny Isbell, Bro. Johnny Parker, Bro. Eugene Howard, Bro. Percy Stokes, Bro. A. E. Franklin, Bro. O. J. Alexander, Bro. Frank Minor, Bro. Chester Isbell.

We the committee on Standing of the Ministry recommend that Brother Narvel Franklin make complete satisfaction concerning papers and any other matter that may be presented before being granted a certificate of standing.

Item Two: We further recommend that a certificate of standing be withheld from Brother Billie Britton because he insists on speaking the Unknown Tongue which is contrary to our faith and practice.—Bro. Roy Hodgens, Chairman; Bro. Joe T. Kimbrough, Bro. Eugene Howard.  
Report accepted.

**DEVOTIONAL:** Bro. W. H. Ryland, eleven o'clock message Friday morning; Sister Mary Mull, devotional. Bro. Jack Rollins, message Friday evening; Bro. Jiggs Stokes, devotional. Bro. J. W. Marlow, eleven o'clock message Saturday morning; Bro. Gene Howard, devotional. Bro. Johnnie Burnham, message Saturday evening; Bro. Gene Howard devotional.—Bro. Johnny Parker, Chairman; Bro. Johnny Isbell, Bro. Austin Parker, Sister Claude Deason, Sister H. A. McSpadden.  
Report accepted.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AND LEAGUE:** The Sunday School is the teaching department of the church and gives great opportunities to bring the Word of God to its members. Qualified teachers, dedicated to the Lord, are the answer to get messages out to the lost. The League is the training service of our church. Let it put into

action what we have learned from our Sunday School.—Mrs. Mae Powell, Chairman; Mrs. V. D. Sollie, Bro. Dave Franks.  
Report accepted.

**FAMILY RELIGION:** We your committee on Family Religion advocate that all homes have Family Altars and that parents teach their children by living before them a dedicated life. "Parents that pray together stay together."—Sister Flora Tubbs, Chairman; Sister Mary Shirley, Sister Leuna Sorenson.  
Report accepted.

**TEMPERANCE:** Temperance is one of the graces we are taught to add to our lives in II Peter 1:6. It gives power to avoid the appearances of evil—not only to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating beverages but be temperant in our every day life, in our conversations and in our finances as God has prospered us.—Bro. I. C. Howard, Chairman; Sister Beatrice Howard, Sister Mary Mull.  
Report accepted.

**DECEASED:** We wish to extend our love and sympathy to the friends and loved ones of those who have departed this life to go on to their Heavenly reward: Mrs. Ella Hulsey, Miss Myra Sue Hulsey and Mrs. Lana Hicks from Shady Grove; Sister Lula Weldon and Bro. Marlon Weldon from Union Hill; Sister Fannie Presley and Bro. Claude Deason from Sylacauga; Brother Webb from East Birmingham.—Sister Louise Webb, Chairman; Sister Effie Mae Harrison, Sister J. H. McCullough.  
Report accepted.

**BUSINESS:** Item 1. We recommend that each ordained minister and deacon send the one dollar (\$1.00) registration fee with their home church letter, along with itemized report of other contributions to the association.

Item 2. We recommend request from first district that a League and Sunday School meet in conjunction with the annual Woman's Auxiliary. Officers elected are Elder Dave Franks, President; Sister Lessie Holt, Vice President; and Sister Louie Bates, Secretary and Treasurer.

Item 3. We recommend that each church send as soon as possible their contribution quota to National Association Convention to Elder J. J. Staab, 2313 North 33rd Avenue, Birmingham 7, Alabama.

Item 4. We find two churches have ask for next association, Fairview Church and North Birmingham Church. We recommend vote of body to decide which place it shall go.

Item 5. We request that the candidates whose churches have asked that they be licensed and ordained, be referred to ordaining council for examination.

Item 6. We recommend that this conference pass a resolution that no council or committee hold any act of sin committed by any person prior to his or her conversion against them, nor refuse to grant them all the rights and privileges of this conference for any act of sin thus committed.

Item 7. We recommend sixty-two dollars (\$62.00) be paid out of home mission treasury to Elder J. J. Staab on tape recorder for Radio work.

Item 8. We recommend that this association pay Elder J. J. Staab one hundred dollars (\$100.00) no expense of National Association Convention to meet in Birmingham, Alabama, July, 1957. Elder J. W. Marlow, Chairman; Elder H. T. Rogers, Elder Shelby Isbell.

Complete business report accepted.

**ORDAINING COUNCIL:** Recommended exchange of license with Elder James Galbreath; recommended ordination of Bro. Cecil Hodgens a deacon of Pleasant Valley Church; recommended service by ordaining council.—Elder R. H. Howard, Ed Goodwin, Joe Kimbrough.



## NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PASTORS

Note: to Ministers and Deacons—\$1.00 is for registration fee.  
(Send fee with Church Letters)

Mount Pleasant—M. D. Harper, Rt. 1, Marvel, Alabama.  
Lindburgh—Roy Johnson, Graysville, Alabama.  
Union Hill—John Burnham, Pell City, Alabama.  
Shady Grove—Nathan Davis, Rt. 11, Birmingham, Alabama.  
Opelika—Odell Harris, 1903 3rd Avenue, Opelika, Alabama.  
Dilworth—George A. LaShum, Phone 57-6035, 4313 4th Avenue,  
Wylam, Birmingham, Alabama.  
Fairview—H. H. Blanchard, Rt. 11, Birmingham, Alabama.  
Pleasant Valley—Dave Franks, Guin, Alabama.  
North Birmingham—Jack Rollins, Rt. 1, Adamsville, Alabama.  
Bethel—M. D. Harper, Rt. 1, Marvel, Alabama.  
Sylacauga—J. M. Dutton, 400 North 25th Street, Leeds, Alabama.  
Davis Chapel—John Burnham, Pell City, Alabama.  
East Birmingham—J. W. Marlow, Phone 4-3097,  
700 24th Avenue, West, Birmingham, Alabama.  
Mount Olive—Roy Isbell, Rt. 1, Box 45, Sterrett, Alabama.  
Oak Grove—Louie Bates, Alden, Alabama.

## NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF CLERKS

Mount Pleasant—J. W. Barnett, Sprott, Alabama.  
Lindburgh—Flora Kuykendall, Rt. 1, Graysville, Alabama.  
Union Hill—Mrs. Mignon Howard, Vandiver, Alabama.  
Shady Grove—Mrs. Joe Click, Jr., Rt. 2, Box 283, Adamsville, Ala.  
Opelika—Mrs. Lizzie Mae Giles, Phone 5-2429,  
1900 3rd Avenue, Opelika, Alabama.  
Dilworth—Mrs. L. A. Lively, Rt. 1, Empire, Alabama.  
Fairview—Ed Goodwin, Rt. 2, Trussville, Alabama.  
Pleasant Valley—Mrs. Cecil Hodgins, Rt. 1, Chelsea, Alabama.  
North Birmingham—Mrs. Mary McSpadden, Phone 51-3-8642,  
Rt. 9, Box 231-F, Birmingham, Alabama.  
Bethel—Mrs. Minnie Pickett, Rt. 1, Marvel, Alabama.  
Sylacauga—Mrs. Adgie Mae Deason,  
603 Oakland Avenue, Sylacauga, Alabama.  
Davis Chapel—Mrs. Freda Stokes, Rt. 1, Leeds, Alabama.  
East Birmingham—Mrs. Dean McCullough,  
1148 North 44th Street, Birmingham, Alabama.  
Mount Olive—Mrs. Lottie K. Isbell, Rt., Dunnivant, Alabama.  
Oak Grove—Mrs. Flora Tubbs, Rt. 2, Box 449, Gardendale, Ala.  
J. J. Staab, 2313 North 33rd Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama.  
Phone AL-1-6004—Radio Broadcast—6:30 A.M. Sundays—WLBS,  
Birmingham and WJRD, Tuscaloosa.

## WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

Number of Auxiliaries—8	Members—125
Church improvements	\$971.52
Children's Home	110.84
Missions	15.00
Annual Convention Dues	25.50
Miscellaneous	460.57
State and National Dues	11.90

Next annual meeting is the first Saturday in April, 1957, at 9:00 A.M. at Fairview Church. Bring full year's report from March 31, 1956 to March 31, 1957.—Mrs. Louie Bates, Alden, Ala., President; Mrs. Mary E. McSpadden, Phone (51) 3-8642 (Rt. 9, Box 231-F, Birmingham, Alabama), Secretary and Treasurer.

## REGISTRATION FOR MINISTERS

Elders	Address	Fee
H. O. Walton,	3924 Fairmont Way, Birmingham, Ph. AL-2-3577	1.00
H. H. Blanchard,	Rt. 11, Birmingham, Alabama	1.00
Louie Bates,	Alden, Alabama	
Dewey F. Isbell,	Calera, Alabama	1.00
Odell Harris,	1903 3rd Avenue, Opelika, Alabama	1.00
Robert Armstrong,	50 Georgia Avenue, Sylacauga, Alabama	1.00
George LaShum,	4313 5th Ave., Wylam, B'ham, Ala. 57-6035	1.00
J. M. Dutton, Jr.,	Leeds, Alabama	1.00
J. W. Marlow,	700 24th Ave., W., Birmingham, Ala. Ph. 4-3097	1.00
Robert Parker,	Vandiver, Alabama	1.00
Lyman Ogle,	Rt. 1, Sterrett, Alabama	1.00
J. M. McKay,	Rt. 1, Sterrett, Alabama	1.00
Jack Rollins,	Rt. 1, Adamsville, Alabama	1.00
M. D. Harper,	Rt. 1, Marvel, Alabama	1.00
Lonnie Goodwin,	2307 1st Avenue, North, Leeds, Alabama	1.00
Roy Johnson,	Graysville, Alabama	1.00
Dewey Colley,	1212 North 44th Place, Birmingham, Alabama	1.00
E. E. Isbell,	Dunnivant, Alabama	1.00
J. J. Staab,	2313 North 33rd Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama	1.00
Dave Franks,	Guin, Alabama	1.00
Nathan Davis,	Rt. 11, Birmingham, Alabama	1.00
R. H. Howard,	Rt. 1, Sterrett, Alabama	1.00
V. E. Calvert		Licensed
James Galbreath		Licensed

## REGISTRATION FOR DEACONS

James Kitchens	1.00	J. W. Isbell	\$1.00
Frank Minor	1.00	Russell Kuykendall	1.00
A. E. Franklin	1.00	Chester Isbell	1.00
J. O. Gamel	1.00	Walker Isbell	1.00
Henry Pickett	1.00	Bill Pickett	1.00
Frank Pickett	1.00	Artie Frederick	1.00
Joe Kimbrough	1.00	W. H. Powell	1.00
J. W. Wise	1.00	J. H. McCullough	1.00
Coy Crocker	1.00	Lonnie Howard	1.00
V. R. Ewing	1.00	James G. Reed	1.00
Garfield King	1.00	Felix Smith	1.00
A. L. Harman	1.00	Cecil Hodgins	1.00
H. A. McSpadden	1.00	C. C. Stone	1.00
W. T. Wolfe		V. D. Sollie	1.00
J. D. Garner	1.00	Mason Giles	1.00
R. R. Pratt	1.00	Huey Lacey	1.00
Joe Click, Jr.	1.00	T. A. Armstrong	1.00
Norman Shirley	1.00	W. W. Pugh	1.00
Clarence Pickett	1.00	Ed Goodwin	1.00
C. C. Isbell	1.00	Percy B. Stokes	1.00
Eugene Howard	1.00	H. T. Rogers	1.00
W. N. Hodgins	1.00	Roy Hodgins	2.00
William Smith	1.00	John W. Isbell	1.00
John Parker	1.00	W. A. Parker	1.00
W. R. Parker	1.00		



### MONIES RECEIVED

Pleasant Valley	\$	\$ 29.62	\$29.62	\$17.78	\$11.77
Mount Pleasant		16.00			
Mount Olive		8.00			
Dilworth		5.00			
Opelika	15.00	5.00			
Union Hill		10.00			
Sylacauga		25.00			
Davis Chapel		12.00			
Bethel		11.02	6.98	4.00	3.00
Fairview	15.00	15.00			
Shady Grove	15.00	10.00			
North Birmingham		53.94			
East Birmingham		62.79			
Lindburgh		5.00			
Oak Grove		5.00			
Ministers		21.00			
Deacons		49.00			
		\$45.00	\$343.37	\$36.60	\$21.78
					\$14.77

### TREASURY REPORT

October 1, 1955 Brought Forward	\$ 21.12
October 1, 1955 From Churches,	
Minister and Deacons	324.03
Davis Chapel Church	17.87
Offering at 1955 Session	33.00
	\$396.02
Paid Out	
Children's Home	\$50.00
J. J. Staab	25.00
H. A. McSpadden	25.00
Minutes	116.00
State Association	15.00
National Association	5.00
State Unified Program	32.40
	\$268.40
Balance in Treasury	\$127.62
Elder M. D. Harper, Treasurer	

### HOME MISSION REPORT

October 1, 1955 Brought Forward	\$ 742.60
Davis Chapel Church	17.90
Lindburgh Church	10.00
North Birmingham Church	44.06
East Birmingham Church	62.79
Mount Pleasant Church	49.00
Dilworth Church	14.00
First District Meeting	12.64
Shady Grove Church	10.00
Bethel Church	11.78
Fairview Church	25.00
Payments Received on Loan	98.00
	\$1097.77
Paid Out	
National Home Mission	\$25.00
National Foreign Mission	25.00
Lindburgh Church	100.00
Loan	160.00
	\$310.00
Balance	\$ 787.77
Elder M. D. Harper, Treasurer	

### BY-LAWS OF MINISTERS AND DEACONS CONFERENCE OF CAHABA RIVER ASSOCIATION

- (1) The clerk or assistant clerk, or the Senior Minister in years, may call the meeting to order and shall have charge until moderator assumes his place.
- (2) It shall be the duty of the clerk to enroll all ministers present who are in good standing. If there are questionable characters they shall be referred to an appointed credential committee for advice but not for trial. They may be seated if found worthy, if not they are referred to their church.
- (3) Each meeting shall be opened with scripture reading and prayer.
- (4) By a two-thirds vote any decision of the moderator may be overruled.
- (5) This meeting shall sit with open doors unless it goes into a committee as a whole.
- (6) Any person, not a member of the body shall be allowed to take part in discussion, with moderator's permission, but shall have no vote.
- (7) All members of the body are expected to be present throughout the session unless excused by moderator.
- (8) No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one officer or committeeman if his nomination is elected.
- (9) The moderator must not allow any discussion to be carried on in an unchristian spirit.
- (10) The person who desires to speak, must first rise and address the moderator and when recognized shall proceed.
- (11) The votes on any question must be counted upon request of one-fifth of members present.
- (12) No member shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes, nor twice on the same subject unless given permission by moderator.
- (13) All ministers belonging to this body are required to support all committees and boards elected or appointed by Association, (such as Home Mission Board, Building Committee, etc.).
- (14) This body ordains no one until he has carried license for one year and proved himself worthy of ordination.

### CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by Faith in Christ, and adopting the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves one to another by the will of God, in this solemn Covenant.

We promise, by His Grace, to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid confirmity of the world; from all sanction of 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 Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions and social worship, and by self-denial, faith and good works, endeavor to grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for Church conference, public worship, and the observances of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the purpose of the Church and its poor and benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reprove with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the spirit" in the bond of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring and, as far as we are able, promote the success of the church 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 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 education and denominational enterprises, the evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly and preserve us blameless until the coming of our Lord Jesus.

## CONSTITUTION

### Article I

The Association shall be known as The Cahaba River Association of the Free Will Baptist.

### Article II

The Association shall be composed of Ministers, Deacons, and Delegates of different churches forming the same.

### Article III

All ministers and churches wishing to become members of this body must willingly submit to the articles of constitution and all rules of same.

### Article IV

Each church composing this Association shall be entitled to three (3) delegates of the first one hundred members and one (1) for each additional fifty (50) or fraction thereof.

### Article V

This body shall have a standing Credentials Committee composed of three (3) members. Two ordained ministers or deacons and one (1) layman, whose duty shall be to examine all church letters and applications for membership of churches and ministers and make a report of the same to the body.

### Article VI

The officers of the Association shall be composed of Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk, Treasurer. They shall be elected by body each year, at the end of each session. The Treasurer shall serve for a term of two (2) years. He shall handle all money of the Association and shall be bonded.

### Article VII

The committees of this body shall be composed of standing members to alternate each session. They shall be composed of three to five members each. The committees are as follows: Credentials, Executive, Ordaining Council, Standing of Ministry, Business, Education, Sabbath School, Family Religion, Literature, Resolutions, Temperance, Deceased Members, Home Missions and Auditing. The Ordaining Council and Standing of Ministry to be composed of ordained men. Any committeemen absent for two (2) consecutive years to be filled by new members.

### Article VIII

The General Board shall be composed of the officers of the Association and chairman of each committee. The Moderator to be chairman of this board. The duties of this board will be found in our Treatise, page 61, Section No. 3, 4, 5.

### Article IX

This Association shall meet on Thursday night before the first Sunday in October of each year.

### Article X

Each church shall pay tithes of their income thus: 25 per cent of

tithes to Children's Home, 25 per cent of tithes to Annual Association, 25 per cent of tithes to Home Mission, 15 per cent of tithes to Foreign Mission, 10 per cent of tithes to Superannuation.

### Article XI

Each minister and deacon belonging to this body shall pay an annual fee of \$1.00.

### Article XII

The clerk shall be paid the sum of \$25.00 annually. The Moderator shall be paid the sum of \$25.00 annually. All other expenditures not specified herein shall be by decision of the body.

### Article XIII

This Constitution may be amended or altered at any regular session of the Association by two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present, provided proposed amendment or alteration be presented in writing to the body one day in advance.

### Ministers' Report to Association

No. of Churches Pastored	No. of Sermons Preached
No. Baptized	No. of Funerals Conducted
Performed	No. of Marriages
No. of Revivals	No. of Miles Traveled
Amount of Offerings	Expense
Elder	
Address	

## TREATISE ARTICLES OF FAITH

### Chapter I—The Holy Scriptures

These are the Old and the New Testaments! They are written by holy men, inspired by the Holy Spirit and are God's revealed word to man. They are a sufficient and infallible rule and guide to Salvation and all Christian worship and service.

### Chapter II—Being and Attributes of God

The Scriptures teach that there is only one true and living God, who is Spirit, self-existent, eternal, immutable, omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent, independent, good, wise, holy, just, and merciful, the Creator, Preserver, and Governor of the universe; the Redeemer, Savior, Sanctifier, and Judge of men; and the only proper object of worship.

The mode of His existence, however, is a subject far above the understanding of man—finite beings cannot comprehend Him. There is nothing in the universe that can justly represent Him, for there is none like Him. He is the fountain of all perfection and happiness. He is glorified by the whole creation, and worthy to be loved and served by all intelligence.

### Chapter III—Divine Government and Providence

1. God exercises a providential care and superintendence over all His creatures, and governs the world in wisdom and mercy, according to the testimony of His Word.

2. God has endowed man with power of free choice, and governs him by moral laws and motives; and this power of free choice is the exact measure of man's responsibility.

3. All events are present with God from everlasting to everlasting; but His knowledge of them does not in any sense cause them, nor does He decree all events which He knows will occur.



## Chapter IV—Creation, Primitive State of Man and His Fall

### Section I—Creation

1. **OF THE WORLD.** God created the world, and all things that it contains, for His own pleasure and glory and the enjoyment of His creatures.

2. **OF THE ANGELS.** The angels were created by God to glorify Him and obey His commandments. Those who have kept their first estate He employs in ministering blessings to the heirs of salvation and in executing His judgments upon the world.

3. **OF MAN.** God created man, consisting of a material body and a thinking, rational soul. He was made in the image of God, to glorify his Maker.

### Section II—Primitive Man and His Fall

Our first parents, in their original state, were upright. They naturally preferred and desired to obey their Creator, and had no preference or desire to transgress His will until they were influenced and inclined by the tempter to disobey God's commands. Previous to this, the only tendency of their nature was to do righteousness. In consequence of the first transgression, the state under which the posterity of Adam came into the world is so different from that of Adam that they have not that righteousness and purity which Adam had before the fall; they are not willing to obey God, but are inclined to evil. Hence none, by virtue of any natural goodness and mere work of their own; can become the children of God, but they are all dependent for salvation upon the redemption effected, through the blood of Christ, and upon being created anew unto obedience through the operation of the Spirit, both of which are freely provided for every descendent of Adam.

## Chapter V—Of Christ

### Section I

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, possesses all divine perfections. As He and the Father are one, He in His divine nature, filled all the offices and performed the works of God to His creatures that have been the subjects of revelations to us. As man, he performed all the duties toward God that we are required to perform, repentance of sin excepted.

His divinity is proved from His titles, His attributes, and His works.

1. **HIS TITLES.** The Bible ascribes to Christ the titles of Savior, Jehovah, Lord of hosts, the first and the last, God, true God, Great God over all, mighty God, and the everlasting Father.

2. **HIS ATTRIBUTES.** He is eternal, unchangeable, omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent, holy, and is to be worshipped.

3. **HIS WORKS.** By Christ the world was created. He preserves, and governs it; He has provided redemption for all men and He will be their final judge.

### Section II—The Incarnation of Christ

The Word, which in the beginning was with God and which was God, by whom all things were made condescended to a state of humiliation in being united with human nature and becoming like us, pollution and sin excepted. In this state, as a subject of the law, He was liable to the infirmities of our nature, was tempted as we are, but lived our example, perfect obedience to the divine requirements.

As Christ was made of the seed of David according to the flesh, He is "the Son of man," and as the divine existence is the fountain from which He proceeded, and was the only agency by which He was begotten, He is "the Son of God," being the only begotten of the Father, and the only incarnation of the Divine Being.

## Chapter VI—The Atonement and Mediation of Christ

1. **THE ATONEMENT.** As sin cannot be pardoned without a sacrifice, and the blood of beasts could never wash away sin, Christ gave Himself a sacrifice for the sins of the world, and thus made salvation possible for all men. He died for us, suffering in our stead, to make known the righteousness of God, that He might be just in justifying sinners who believe in His Son. Through the redemption effected by Christ salvation is actually enjoyed in this world, and will be enjoyed in the next by all who do not in this life refuse obedience to the known requirements of God. The atonement for sin was necessary. For present and future obedience can no more blot out our past sins than past obedience can remove the guilt of present and future sins. If God pardoned the sins of men without satisfaction for the violation of His law it would follow that transgression might go on with impunity; government would be abrogated, and the obligation of obedience to God would be, in effect, removed.

2. **MEDIATION OF CHRIST.** Our Lord not only died for our sins, but He arose for our justification, and ascended up to heaven, where, as the only Mediator between God and man, He makes intercession for us, until He comes again.

3. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons are only subject to the first death which was brought on by the fall of the first Adam, and not that any one of them dying in that state shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin for of such is the Kingdom of God.

## Chapter VII—The Holy Spirit

1. The Scriptures ascribe to the Holy Spirit the acts and attributes of an intelligent being. He guides, knows, moves, gives information, commands, forbids, sends forth, reproves, and can be sinned against.

2. The attributes of God are ascribed to the Holy Spirit.

3. The works of God are ascribed to the Holy Spirit; creation, inspiration, giving of life, and sanctification.

4. The apostles assert that the Holy Spirit is Lord and God.

From the foregoing the conclusion is that the Holy Spirit, is in reality God, and one with the Father in divine perfections. It has also been shown that Jesus Christ is God—one with the Father. Then these three: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, are one God.

The truth of this doctrine is also proved from the fact that the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost are united in the authority by which believers are baptized; and in the benedictions pronounced by the apostles, which are acts of the highest religious worship.

## Chapter VIII—The Gospel Call

The call of the Gospel is co-extensive with the atonement to all men, both by the word and strivings of the Spirit, so that salvation is rendered equally possible to all, and, if any fail of eternal life, the fault is wholly his own.

## Chapter IX—Repentance

The repentance which the Gospel requires includes a deep conviction, a penitential sorrow, an open confession, a decided hatred and an entire forsaking all sin. This repentance God has enjoined on all men, and without it in this life the sinner must perish eternally.

## Chapter X—Faith

Saving faith is an assent of the mind to the fundamental truths of revelation, an acceptance of the Gospel, through the influence of the Holy Spirit, and a firm confidence and trust in Christ. The



fruit of faith is obedience to the Gospel. The power to believe is the gift of God, but believing is an act of the creature, which is required as a condition of pardon, and without which the sinner cannot obtain salvation. All men are required to believe in Christ; and those who yield obedience to this requirement become the children of God by faith.

#### Chapter XI—Regeneration

As man is a fallen and sinful being, he must be regenerated in order to obtain salvation. This change is an instantaneous renewal of the heart by the Holy Spirit, whereby the penitent sinner receives new life, becomes a child of God, and is disposed to serve Him. This is called in Scripture being born again — born of the Spirit, being quickened, passing from death unto life, and a partaking of the divine nature.

#### Chapter XII—Justification and Sanctification

1. **JUSTIFICATION.** Personal justification implies that the person justified has been guilty before God, and in consideration of the atonement of Christ, accepted by faith, the sinner is pardoned and absolved from the guilt of sin and restored to the divine favor. Christ's atonement is the foundation of the sinner's redemption, yet, without repentance and faith, it can never give him justification and peace with God.

2. **SANCTIFICATION** is the continuing of God's grace by which the Christian man constantly grows in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

#### Chapter XIII—Perseverance of the Saints

There are strong grounds to hope that the truly regenerate will persevere unto the end, and be saved, through the power of divine grace which is pledged for their support, but their future obedience and final salvation are neither determined nor certain, since through infirmity and manifold temptations they are in danger of falling; and they ought therefore to watch and pray, lest they make shipwreck of their faith and be lost.

#### Chapter XIV—The Sabbath

This is one day in seven, which from the creation of the world God has set apart for sacred rest and holy service. Under the former dispensation, the seventh day of the week as commemorative of the work of creation, was set apart for the Sabbath. Under the Gospel, the first day of the week, in commemoration of the resurrection of Christ, and by authority of Christ and the apostles, is observed as the Christian Sabbath. On this day all men are required to refrain from secular labor and devote themselves to the worship and service of God.

#### Chapter XV—The Church

A **CHRISTIAN CHURCH** is an organized body of believers in Christ, who statedly assemble to worship God, and who sustain the ordinances of the Gospel according to the Scriptures. Believers in Christ are admitted to this church on giving evidence of faith in Christ, obtaining consent of the body, being baptized, and receiving the right hand of fellowship.

The Church of God, or members of the body of Christ, is the whole body of Christians throughout the whole world, and none but the regenerate are its members.

#### Chapter XVI—Tithing

Both the Old and New Scriptures teach Tithing as God's financial plan for the support of His work.

#### Chapter XVII—The Gospel Ministry

1. **QUALIFICATION OF MINISTERS.** They must possess good, natural and acquired abilities, deep and ardent piety, be especially called of God to the work, and ordained by prayer and the laying on of hands.

2. **DUTIES OF MINISTERS.** These are to preach the Word, administer the ordinances of the Gospel, visit their people, and otherwise perform the work of faithful ministers.

#### Chapter XVIII—Ordinances of the Gospel

1. **CHRISTIAN BAPTISM.** This is the immersion of believers in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, in which are represented the burial and resurrection of Christ, the death of Christ, the death of Christians to the world, the washing of their souls from the pollution of sin, their rising to newness of life, their engagement to serve God, and their resurrection at the last day.

2. **THE LORD'S SUPPER.** This is a commemoration of the death of Christ for our sins, in the use of bread which He made the emblem of His broken body, and the cup, the emblem of His shed blood, and by it the believer expresses his love for Christ, his faith and hope in Him and pledges to Him perpetual fidelity.

It is the privilege and duty of all who have spiritual union with Christ to commemorate His death; and no man has a right to forbid these tokens to the least of His disciples.

3. **WASHING THE SAINTS FEET.** This is a sacred ordinance, which teaches humility, and reminds the believer of the necessity of a daily cleansing from all sin. It was instituted by the Lord Jesus Christ, and called an "example" on the night of His betrayal, and in connection with the institution of the Lord's Supper. It is the duty and happy prerogative of every believer to observe this sacred ordinance.

#### Chapter XIX—Death

1. **DEATH**—As a result of sin, all mankind, is subject to the death of the body. The soul does not die with the body; but immediately after death enters into a conscious state of happiness or misery, according to the character here possessed.

#### Chapter XX—Second Coming of Christ

The Lord Jesus, who ascended on high, and sits at the right hand of God, will come again, to close the Gospel dispensation, glorify His saints, and judge the world.

#### Chapter XXI—The Resurrection

The Scriptures teach the resurrection of the bodies of all men, each in its own order; they have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil to the resurrection of damnation.

#### Chapter XXII—The Final Judgment and Final Retribution

1. **THE FINAL JUDGMENT.** There will be a final judgment, when time and man's probation will close forever. Then all men will be judged according to their works.

2. **FINAL RETRIBUTION.** Immediately after the final judgment, the righteous will enter into eternal life, and the wicked will go into a state of endless punishment.



NAME OF CHURCH	Members								Church Valuation	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Foreign Mission	Home Mission	Superannuation	Children's Home	College	Auxiliary	League	Sunday School	Unified Program	Other Contributions	Association
		New Members	No. Baptized	No. Dismissed	No. Deceased	No. Ordained Ministers	Licensed Ministers	No. Ordained Deacons														
Pleasant Valley	26	4	4	0	0	0	0	4	\$ 4000.00	\$ 675.00	\$ 150.00	\$ 17.78	\$ 29.62	\$11.85	\$ 120.00	\$	0	0	30	\$	\$ 60.00	\$ 29.62
Mt. Pleasant.....	24	1	1	0	1	0	0	3	3500.00	280.00	75.00		46.00		210.00		0	0	0		56.00	16.00
Mt. Olive	47	5	0	4	0	2	2	2	4500.00	85.00							13	0	40			8.00
Dilworth.....	30	0	0	20	0	3	0	3	5000.00	104.00	16.00				118.00		0	0	20			
Opelika	24	9	0	4	0	2	0	3		553.00	70.00		8.51		75.12		10		26	127.52	35.70	20.00
Union Hill.....	75	2	1	0	2	2	0	3	3000.00	104.15	60.00				20.00		0	0	60			10.00
Sylacauga	144	14	5	4	2	3	1	8	18000.00	1055.00	165.50				42.11		23	78	125		624.05	25.00
Davis Chapel.....	36	5	3	0	0	2	0	3	3000.00	400.00	103.00	3.73	14.55	14.55	5.82		5	52	58		351.00	14.55
Bethel	61	3	1	2	0	1	0	6	7000.00	797.00	65.00	23.01	11.85		69.55		0	0	39		339.92	11.02
Oak Grove.....	62	14	7	0	0	3	1	2	7500.00	785.20	232.25	39.22	19.14	10.07	65.22	29.22	11	30	68		10.11	5.00
Shady Grove	66	5	5	0	3	1	0	1	7000.00	635.47	50.00		14.00	31.50	60.00		12	30	102		215.47	25.00
Fairview.....	159	15	10	3	0	3	0	9	7000.00	935.00	95.00		25.00		298.63		13	50	87		678.49	30.00
Roanoke	No Report																					
East Birmingham.....	61	9	0	6	1	3	0	5	6000.00	795.00	160.00	33.19	62.79	24.63	62.79		15	0	76			62.79
North Birmingham	69	7	4	0	0	3	0	6	13000.00	1300.00	30.00	31.29	53.94		195.40		13	42	86			53.94
Lindburgh.....	8	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2500.00	600.00		10.00	10.00		180.00		0	0	33		20.00	5.00
Totals Churches—16	852	93	41	43	9	29	4	60	\$91000.00	\$9102.82	\$1271.75	\$163.22	\$284.40	\$92.60	\$1512.44	\$29.22	115	282	850	\$127.52	\$2392.74	\$309.92