

# **MINUTES**

**OF THE**

***Seventy-Ninth Annual Session***

**OF THE**

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

**CONVENED WITH**

***Fairview Free Will Baptist Church***

**Trussville, Route 2, Alabama**

***October 3rd, 4th and 5th, 1957***

### **OFFICERS**

Moderator \_\_\_\_\_ Elder Jack L. Rollins  
Route 3, Box 1248-D, Birmingham, Alabama

Assistant Moderator \_\_\_\_\_ Ed Goodwin  
Route 2, Trussville, Alabama

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

The 80th Session of the Cahaba River Association of Free Will Baptist will meet with the Mt. Pleasant Church at Sprott, Alabama on Thursday night before the first Sunday in October, 1958.



NAME OF CHURCH	Members	New Members	No. Baptized	No. Dismissed	No. Deceased	No. Ordained Ministers	Licensed Ministers	No. Ordained Deacons	Church Valuation	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	Foreign Mission	Home Mission	Superannuation	Children's Home	College	Auxiliary	League	Sunday School	United Program	Other Contributions	Association
Pleasant Valley	24	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	3000.00	555.00	310.00	120.00	120.00	10.00	120.00				35		15.00	
Mt. Pleasant	51	5	2	1	2	2	2	2	3000.00	400.00	25.00				215.00				25		17.00	15.00
Mt. Olive	30				1	2	1	1	5000.00	108.25	43.24								40		10.00	
Dillworth	72				1	2	3	3	3000.00	22.45					10.00				49		2.00	
Union Hill	158	3	3	2	2	2	9	18000.00	216.00		57.00				20.00			45			6.00	
Sylacauga	36	6	7	1	2	3	3	4000.00	1200.00		93.00	26.00			64.00		18	78	115		2655.00	21.10
Davis Chapel	69	14	8	1	1	1	1	2	8000.00	295.00	81.85	19.97	4.99		68.02			30	47		635.58	12.00
Bethel	65	5	5	4	1	2	1	2	5000.00	855.00	176.00	32.80	17.00		71.66			40	73		1226.73	15.00
Oak Grove	95	21	18			1	2	8000.00	800.00		75.75				106.13		11	48	74		104.94	5.00
Shady Grove	152	6	2	5	2	3	7	7000.00	1517.25		100.00			12.00	50.00		17	50	105		1304.95	10.00
Fairview	60	6	4	5		3	7	13000.00	1040.00		158.00				300.00		17	45	86		1201.00	15.90
East Birmingham	87	23	5			3	6	7000.00	1065.00		634.13	145.37	33.96		188.22		13		88		135.00	67.40
North Birmingham	13	4	3			1	2	7500.00	1300.00		322.88	158.67	29.88		278.08		35	51	12	42	495.00	69.41
Lindburgh	947	104	63	19	7	25	3	53	\$85500.00	600.00		28.00			180.00				33		100.00	
Totals	35	10	6		1	4			5000.00	\$9573.95	\$2123.85	\$822.82	\$100.83	\$1661.06	\$35.51	\$88	\$325	\$856			\$3378.25	\$263.81

## MINUTES

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### Seventy-Ninth Annual Session

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CONVENED WITH

### Fairview Free Will Baptist Church

Trussville, Route 2, Alabama

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The 80th Session of the Cahaba River Association of Free Will Baptist will meet with the Mt. Pleasant Church at Sprott, Alabama on Thursday night before the first Sunday in October, 1958.



**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3, 1957 — 7:30 P.M.**

After a good spiritual song service and welcome to the Seventy-Ninth Session of the Cahaba River Association of Free Will Baptist.

Devotion was conducted by Pastor, Elder W. H. Ryland.

The evening message was delivered by Elder J. M. Dutton, Pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Sylacauga, Alabama.

Scripture reading and Text: Matthew 26:40-41.

Subject: "Watch and Pray."

Benediction.

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1957 — 9:00 A.M.**

The Seventy-Ninth Session of the Cahaba River Association of the Free Will Baptist convened with the Fairview Church at Trussville, Route 2, Alabama.

Services began by singing "I'm Going That Way" and "Let Him Have His Way With You."

Invocation by Elder M. D. Harper.

Welcome by Elder Jack Rollins, Moderator.

Devotion. Scripture: Psalm 133:1-3, Phil. 2:3-5.

Part of church covenant read and presented as rules for each delegate a covenant to dwell in unity and fellowship.

Prayer by Elder Jack Rollins.

Business session of conference called to order by the clerk, H. A. McSpadden.

Prayer by Brother Eugene Howard.

Church letters received and examined by the Credential Committee.

The moderator read from the discipline the rules and general order of business that governs the conference delegates and committees.

Song "Everybody Will Be Happy Over There."

Special song "It's A Highway to Heaven" by Sister Betty Davis.

Report of Credential Committee. (See reports of Committee.)

Church letters read and delegates seated.

Appointment of Committees. (See reports.)

Song services led by Sister Louise Webb.

Devotion by Sister Mary McSpadden and several good testimonies.

Song "Stand Up for Jesus."

Prayer by Brother Howard.

**11:00 A.M.**

Message by Elder M. D. Harper.

Scripture reading Exodus 25:1-8.

Subject: Verse 8—"And let them make a sanctuary that I may dwell among them." Text: Verse 1—"Bring me an offering of every man that giveth it willingly with his heart."

This indeed was a timely and inspired message and one that is fitting for our present day.

Announcements by the Pastor, Elder W. H. Ryland.

Benediction by Elder Louie Bates.

Lunch Hour—Lunch was served on tables in the grove beside the church. A bountiful supply of food which the ladies received the praise of being the best cooks in the world was thoroughly enjoyed by all and a wonderful fellowship among delegates and visitors.

**1:00 P.M.**

Services began with songs "Oh I Want to See Him," "I Choose Jesus," and "Come On Let's All Go Home."

Prayer by Brother Ed Goodwin.

Womna's Auxiliary—a report of Woman's Auxiliary Annual Day, the first Saturday in April, 1957. A motion to receive this report.

Mrs. W. H. Ryland, field secretary, gave good talk on field work of the auxiliary.

The next annual Woman's Auxiliary Day will meet at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Sylacauga, Alabama the first Saturday in April, 1958.

Notice—The State Woman's Auxiliary Day. Sunday School and League will meet on Thursday before the second (2nd) Sunday in June, 1958 at Ashford, Alabama.

Elder W. H. Ryland, past Superintendent of the Children's Home gave an oral report of the Children's Home. An offering of one hundred and ten dollars and no cents (\$110.00) was received for the home.

Elder Lyman Ogle wants to clothe one of the children at the home as his contribution to the home.

Reports of Committees:

Auditing — Family Religion

Sunday School and League — Deceased Members

Business Committee — Home Mission.

These reports read and accepted.

Benediction.

**7:30 P.M.**

Ministers Conference.

Registration of Ministers and Deacons.

Songs "When We All Get to Heaven" and "He Bore It All."

Prayer by Elder Lonnie Goodwin.

Devotion by Elder J. J. Staab. Reading Psalm 1:1-6. "Blessed is the man that has his delight in the law of the Lord."

Special songs by Sister Betty Davis, "I Fell on My Knees and Cried Holy" and "Take Up Thy Cross."

Ministers of other bodies recognized and invited to seats with us.

New members to join conference, Bro. J. E. Harris and Frank Tomlinson.

Song: "Come on Let's All Go Home" as members shook hands in fellowship nad received delegates. After this the ministers and deacons met at altar in prayer of unison for request and the furtherance of God's Kingdom through this body.

Special song "Where No One Stands Alone" by Elder Jack Rollins, accompanied by his wife, Sister Billie Rollins at the piano.

Message by Elder Jack Rollins. Scripture—Genesis 22. Subject—Abraham gave the best he had. Text—Romans 12:1 "That ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, 'holy' and acceptable unto God."

Closing message with a prayer.

Moderator for 1958, Elder J. M. Dutton, Assistant Elder J. W. Marlow.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1957 — 9:00 A.M.

Songs "I Will Sing of My Redeemer" and "Standing on the Promises."

Invocation by Elder J. J. Staab.

Talk by Moderator, Elder Jack Rollins. Welcome and praise for the wonderful fellowship among the delegates and by the church in this association.

All committees that have unfinished business requested to have reports ready by 1:00 P.M.

Elder J. J. Staab gave report on radio program, explaining its aim, progress and needs.

10:30 A.M.

Song service and devotional by Elder Robert Armstrong. Psalms 126:1, 2, 3.

Testimonies and song "I Am Resolved."

11:00 A.M. Message by Elder J. W. Marlow. Scripture reading Phil. 3:1-15. Subject—Verse 8—"I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord."

Text verse 10—"That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection."

Closing with prayer.

Benediction by Calvin McCreless.

Lunch hour.

Songs and prayer.

Final reports of Committees (See reports)

Appointments of delegates to state association.

Financial report of 1956-1957 read and accepted.

Mt. Pleasant Church voted as next place for meeting of annual association.

Election of officers, a motion was passed to keep same moderator, assistant, secretary and treasurer. Moderator—Elder Jack Rollins; Assistant—Bro. Ed Goodwin; Clerk—H. A. McSpadden; and Treasurer—Elder M. D. Harper.

Home Mission Board—

Chairman—Clarence Pickett, 1 year

Roy Hodgens, 2 years

Eugene Howard, 3 years

Elder J. J. Staab elected as candidate to be recommended to state association as Trustee to Children's Home.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**CREDENTIAL:** We find all the church letters in order and properly certified by the churches—Bro. H. O. Walton, Chairman; Bro. E. E. Isbell and Bro. Percy Stokes.

**AUDITING:** We the Auditing Committee have examined the treasurer's books and have found that they are in order. Elder Earl Isbell, Chairman; Sister Pearl Byrd and Sister Dewey Colley.

**STANDING OF THE MINISTRY:** We your committee on the standing of the ministry recommend the following ministers and deacons for certificate of standing: (See Minister and Deacons roll and registration). We further recommend that a certificate of standing be withheld from Elder J. M. McCoy for failure to report to the yearly conference. Respectfully, Elder R. H. Howard, Elder Lyman Ogle, and Elder Roy Hodgens.

**DEVOTIONAL:** Friday, 10:30 Devotional services, Sister Mary McSpadden; 11:00 A.M. message by Elder M. D. Harper; Saturday, 10:30 devotional by Elder Robert Armstrong; 11:00 A.M. message by Elder J. W. Marlow. Chairman. Sister Louise Webb, Sister Betty Harris and Sister Mary Evelyn Sollie.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL AND LEAGUE:** We believe the Sunday School and League offer the greatest opportunity for the teaching and training of young people as well as older people who need instruction in God's Word. We believe that the teachers should be dedicated Christians, qualified through the study of the Bible and capable of teaching and training young people in the ways of our Lord. Chairman C. E. Stafford, Genie B. Lowe and Sister Flora Tubbs.

Report Accepted.

**FAMILY RELIGION:** We, your committee of Family Religion, continue in the belief that parents have family devotion and that we must live dedicated lives before our children at all times. Our conversations before the lost should always be for lifting up Jesus and humanity. "Let them make me a sanctuary; that I may dwell among them" Exodus 25:8. Chairman Sister Jeanette Harper, Sister Beatrice Howard and Sister Ruby Price. Carried.

**TEMPERANCE:** After careful consideration of the study of temperance and the promises of 2nd Peter 1, verses 2, 3, 4, and 8—sanctification through the graces of verses 5, 6, and 7, we recommend and adopt the temperance report of 1956 of 2nd Peter 1:6 as our temperance report. Temperance is one of the graces we are taught to add to our lives in 2nd Peter 1:6. It gives power to avoid the appearances of evil and to abstain from the sanction and use of intoxicating beverages, to be temperate in our everyday lives, in our acts, conversation and our finances as God has prospered us. Chairman Alber L. Pickett; Elder H. T. Rogers, and Elder Billy Britton.

**DECEASED:** We your deceased committee 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: Sister Susan Lynn from Union Hill; Sister Dorothy Long from Oak Grove; Sister Mary Ann Harris from Bethel; Bros. Charlie Ragsdale and Clarence Blackwood from Fairview; Bro. R. W. Taylor from Sprott and Bro. W. W. Pugh from Dilworth. I. C. Howard; Sister Shellie Isbell and Sister Edna Click.

**BUSINESS:** We recommend the Eightieth Annual Session of this association convene with the Mt. Pleasant Church, Sprott, Alabama in October, 1958. Accepted by unanimous vote.

We your business committee recommend that we pay out of association treasure \$100.00 to the Children's Home and \$50.00 to the Dave Franks Missionary Fund and \$50.00 to the Nashville College Building Fund. A motion to accept recommendation and pay as so ordered. Carried.

We also recommend that the decorum rules of the 1st district along with rule 6 of last year's business committee report be discontinued and national treatise be used as our Faith and Practice. Motion passed by majority 27 to 5.

Chairman, Louie Bates, Clarence Pickett, Eugene Howard, J. T. Kimbrough and M. D. Harper.



## CHURCH DELEGATES

Pleasant Valley—L. M. Lovelady, Glenn Kendrick, R. J. Hodgens.  
 Mount Olive—Harold Duckett, Louie Harris, Elva Mae Minor.  
 Oak Grove—Sisters Pearl Byrd, Flora Tubbs, Genie Lowe.  
 Linburgh—Mrs. Mae Powell.  
 Shady Grove—Sisters Betty Davis and Edna Click, Bro. R. L. Woodard.  
 Fairview—Bro. Charlie Smith, Sisters Louise Webb, Mary E. Solie and Ruth Harris.  
 East Birmingham—Sisters J. W. Wise, Coy Crocker, Willie Mae Colley, Sister Harrison.  
 Union Hill—Bro. R. H. Howard, A. B. Vickers, I. C. Howard.  
 Bethel—Bro. Albert Pickett, Sisters Cherry Pickett and Janett Harper.  
 Davis Chapel—Bro. Percy Stokes, Sisters Freda Stokes and Beatrice Howard.  
 First Church Sylacauga—Sisters Larrane Daugherty, Myrtle Isbel and Ruth Strickland.  
 Dilworth—Bro. L. A. Lively and George La Shum.  
 Mount Pleasant—Bro. Bentley Dunkin, Sister Blannie Dunkin and Annie Laura Rogers.  
 First Church North Birmingham—Sisters Rumell Kimbrough, Mary McSadden and Ruby Price.

## NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PASTORS AND CLERKS

Mount Pleasant—M. D. Harper, Route 1, Marvel, Alabama  
 Mr. J. W. Barnett, Sprott, Alaabma, Clerk  
 Linburgh—Roy Johnson, Graysville, Alabama  
 Mrs. Flora Kuykendall, Graysville, Alabama, Clerk  
 First Church North Birmingham—Jask Rollins,  
 Route 3, Box 1248-D,  
 Birmingham, Alabama  
 Mrs. Mary McSpadden, Rt. 9, Box 231-F,  
 Birmingham, Alabama  
 Dilworth—W. M. Smith  
 Mrs. Frances Lively, Empire, Route 1, Alabama  
 First Church Sylacauga—J. M. Dutton, Jr., 40 N. 25th St., Leeds, Ala.  
 Mrs. Mary Mull, 604 Oakland Ave., Sylacauga, Ala.  
 Davis Chapel—Johnny Burnham, Pell City, Alabama  
 Mrs. Freda Stokes, Route 1, Leeds, Alabama  
 Bethel—Maxwell Harper, Marvel, Route 1, Alabama  
 Mr. Owen Boothe, Marvel, Route 1, Alabama  
 Union Hill—J. W. Burnhma, Pell City, Alabama  
 Mrs. Mignon Howard, Vandiver, Alabama  
 East Birmingham—J. W. Marlow, 700 24th Ave., W., Birmingham, Ala.  
 Mrs. Dean McCollough, 305 N. 86th St., Birmingham, Ala.  
 Fairview—Elder W. H. Ryland  
 Mr. Ed Goodwin, Route 2, Box 185, Trussville, Alabama  
 Shady Grove—Elder Nathan Davis, Route 11, Birmingham, Alabama  
 Mrs. Joe Click, Jr., Route, Adamasville, Alabama  
 Oak Grove—Elder Louie Bates, Alden, Alabama  
 Mrs. Flora Tubbs, Rt. 2, Box 449, Gardendale, Alabama  
 Mt. Olive—Elder Roy Isbell, Route 1, Box 45, Sterrett, Alabama  
 Mrs. Lottie K. Isbell, Dunnavant, Alabama  
 Pleasant Valley—Elder H. W. Coshatt  
 Mrs. Cecl Hodgins, Route 1, Chelsea, Alabama

## REGISTRATION OF MINISTERS

Elders	Address	Fee
Jack Rollins	Rt. 3, Box 1248-D, Birmingham, Ala. ST 6-2714	\$1.00
H. O. Walton	3924 Fairmont Way, Birmingham, Ala. AL 2-3577	1.00
W. R. Parker		1.00
M. D. Harper	Route 1, Marvel, Alabama	1.00
Louie Bates	Alden, Alabama	1.00
J. W. Marlow	700 W. 24th Ave., Birmingham, Ala. FA 2-3097	1.00
Dewey F. Colley	1212 N. 44th Pl., Birmingham, Ala.	1.00
Roy Johnson	Graysville, Alabama	1.00
George A. LaShum	3915 9th Ave., Wylam, Ala., ST 7-6035	1.00
Leonard Lively	Emprie, Route 1, Alabama	
J. M. Dutton	400 N. 25th St., Leeds, Ala., RA 6-3633	1.00
Robert Armstrong	Sylacauga, Alabama	1.00
R. H. Howard	Sterrett, Alabama	1.00
Lyman B. Ogle	Rt. 4, Box 77, Sylacauga, Ala., CH 5-3396	1.00
Nathan Davis	Rt. 11, Box 236, Birmingham, Ala., WO 1-8765	1.00
Earle E. Isbell	Dunnavant, Alabama	1.00
Robert Parker	Vandiver, Alabama	1.00
James Galbreth		1.00
V. E. Calvert	(Licensed)	1.00
Lonnie Godwin	2307 N. 1st Ave., Leeds, Ala., PH 6-3302	1.00
J. J. Staab	2313 N. 33rd Ave., Birmingham, Ala., AL 1-6004	1.00
W. H. Ryland	833 7th St., W., Birmingham, Ala., AL 1-9755	1.00

## REGISTRATION OF DEACONS

J. M. Kimbrough	\$1.00	J. W. Isbell	1.00
Artie Fredrick	1.00	T. A. Armstrong	1.00
H. A. McSpadden	1.00	Frank Tomlinson	1.00
Austin Hodges	1.00	Felix Smith	1.00
O. J. Alexander	1.00	A. L. Harmon	1.00
A. E. Franklin	1.00	C. C. Isbell	1.00
James Harris	1.00	Shelly Isbell	1.00
James Reed	1.00	J. O. Gamel	1.00
Walker Isbell	1.00	C. S. Kendrick	1.00
Garfield King	1.00	Percy Stokes	1.00
Ed Goodwin	1.00	Roy Hodgins	1.00
L. T. Howard	1.00	Billie Britton	1.00
Coy Crocker	1.00	Chester Isbell	1.00
J. H. McCollough	1.00	W. N. Hodgins	1.00
J. W. Wise	1.00	Johnnie W. Isbell	1.00
V. R. Ewing	1.00	W. A. Parker	1.00
W. H. Powell	1.00	C. F. McCreless	1.00
R. R. Kuykendall	1.00	Frank Minor	1.00
Frank Pickett	1.00	Eugene Howard	1.00
John Boothe	1.00	Ira Hulsey	1.00
Marshall Kendrick	1.00	Joe Click, Jr.	1.00
Clarence Pickett	1.00	Johnnie Parker	1.00



## LADIES ANNUAL AUXILIARY DAY REPORT

Number Auxiliaries	Letters Received	5
Number Members		48
Church Improvement		\$ 490.77
Children's Home		124.59
Mission Home		13.00
Foreign Mission		28.54
Convention Fees		25.00
Miscellaneous and Charity		520.81
Paid Out		1209.81
Total in Treasure		361.32

Next annual meeting first Saturday in April, 1958 at Sylacauga Free Will Baptist Church, Sylacauga, Alabama. President for the day—Mrs. Rumell Kimbrough. A **Hearty Welcome** awaits you. Please bring full year's report of your Auxiliary work (March 31st, 1957 to March 31st, 1958), also five dollars and 60/100 (\$5.60) with each letter for expense of the conference.

President—Mrs. Mary Mull      Sec.-Treas.—Mrs. Mary McSpadden

### Report Second District

Treasure	Monies Received	\$84.49
Paid Out	Children's Home	\$16.15
	Foreign Mission	35.00
	Balance	\$33.34
	Mrs. Mary Mull, Sec.-Treas.	

### HOME MISSION REPORT

FORWARD, October 5, 1956	\$787.77
North Birmingham	35.60
East Birmingham	74.58
Lindburgh	10.00
Davis Chapel	27.14
Rev. Charles Craddock	25.64
First District	4.00
Total	\$964.73

Elder M. D. Harper

## ASSOCIATION TREASURE

FORWARD, October 5, 1956	\$127.62
Received at 1956 Session	343.37
Received for National Association	45.00
Received for National Association	237.50
Union Hill	10.00

### PAID OUT

	Total	\$763.49
Moderator	\$ 25.00	
Clerk	25.00	
National Association	5.00	
State Association	15.00	
State Association	15.00	
National Association Expense	205.00	
State U. F. Program	34.34	
Minutes	116.00	
Printing Certificates	11.18	
Total	\$451.52	

Balance \$311.97

Elder M. D. Harper

### MONEY RECEIVED OCTOBER 5, 1957

Church	Assoc.	Missions	Super annuation	Ministers and Deacons
Oak Grove	5.00			3.00
Fairview	15.90			6.00
Mt. Olive	10.00			
North Birmingham	69.41			5.00
Mt. Pleasant	15.00			
Davis Chapel	12.00			
1st Church Sylacauga	21.10			15.00
Linburgh				3.00
Bethel	15.00			3.00
Dilworth	2.00			
Shady Grove	10.00			3.00
Pleasant Valley	15.00	25.00	10.00	
Union Hill	6.00			
East Birmingham	67.40			9.00
	\$263.81	\$25.00	\$10.00	\$47.00
Collection for Children's Home	\$110.00			
Ministers and Deacons Total	62.00			
Mission	25.00			
Superannuation	10.00			
Total	\$470.81			

H. A. McSpadden, Clerk



## 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 all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements 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 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 forsake 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 support of the Church and 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 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 \_\_\_\_\_ No. of Marriages  
Performed \_\_\_\_\_ 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.

## MINISTERS REPORT

Minister	Churches Pastored	Sermons Preached	Revivals	Baptized	Marriages	Funerals	Money Received	Expenses	Miles Traveled
<b>Elders</b>									
D. F. Colley		33				1	\$ 43.00	75.00	2128
M. D. Harper	2	145	3	9		3	1215.00	330.00	6500
H. H. Blanchard						No Report			
H. O. Walton		35	1			No Report			
Robert Armstrong						No Report			
Geo. A. LaShum	1	110	2			2	164.00		3000
R. H. Howard		24				1	7.55	8.50	338
J. W. Marlow	1	86		7	1	7	1168.00	600.00	10000
Nathan Davis		20							
Lonnie Goodwin	1	170	3	28	1	2	1567.00	1200.00	12000
J. J. Staab		20							
E. E. Isbell	Radio	90	1		1		100.00	25.00	2000
J. M. McKay						No Report			
Roy Johnson						No Report			
Jack Rollins	1		1				670.00	670.00	
Robert Parker	1	130	2			1	1419.00	1079.00	13871
Howard Coshatt	1					No Report			
J. M. Dutton, Jr.	1	148		4	1	1	1300.00	650.00	1500
Lyman Ogle		52	2	4			75.00	87.50	1500