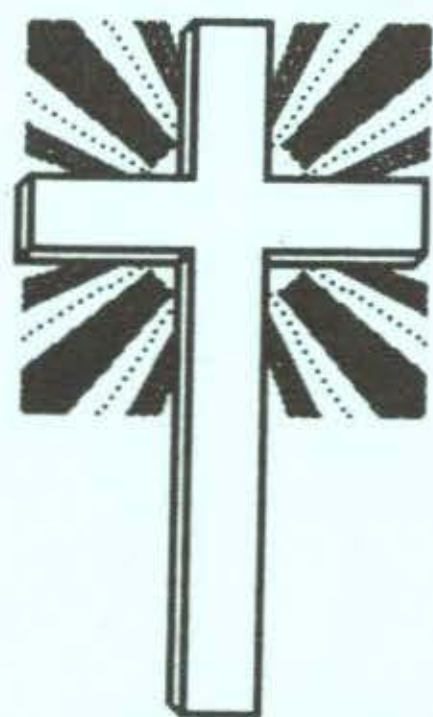


*Minutes
of the
118th Annual Sessions
of
Cahaba River District Association
of
Free Will Baptists*



*Convened at
Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church
Route 2, Box 662
Adamsville, AL 35005
March 2, 1996
&*

*Huffman Free Will Baptist Church
1400 Ware Boulevard
Birmingham, AL 35217
October 4-5, 1996*

THE
ONE-HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH SESSIONS
OF THE
CAHABA RIVER DISTRICT ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
AT
SHADY GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
ADAMSVILLE, AL MARCH 2, 1996
AND
HUFFMAN FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
BIRMINGHAM, AL OCTOBER 4-5, 1996

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[DATES TO REMEMBER]

MARCH 1,1997.....Semi-Annual Association
First FWB Church
Sylacauga,Al

OCTOBER 3-4,1997.....Annual Association
Mt.Zion FWB Church
Pell City,AL

APRIL 5,1997.....Woman's Auxiliary District
New Life FWB Church,Moody,AL

"OFFICERS"

[GENERAL]

Moderator:

Rev. Wayne Neely
P.O. Box 33
Trafford, AL 35172
205-647-2998

Asst. Moderator:

Rev. Rickey Patterson
2749 Moore Road
Adamsville, AL 35005
205-674-6750

Clerk-Treasurer:

Bro. Steve Day
P.O. Box 342
Moody, AL 35004
205-640-7470

Asst. Clerk-Treasurer:

Rev. Ray Ritch
717 Cedar Cone Road
Birmingham, AL 35214
205-798-5416

Moderator/Ministers
Deacons Conference:

Rev. E. B. Ledlow
810 Magnolia Drive
Sylacauga, AL 35150
205-245-0017

Asst. Moderator/
Ministers/Deac. Conf.:

Rev. Ernest Walker
1925 M. A. Lee Dr.
Moody, AL 35004
205-640-7222

[EXECUTIVE BOARD]

The following three names
are added to the general
officers list in order to
form the executive board
of nine members.

Rev. Maxwell Harper
Box 190 Hwy. 22
Montevallo, AL 35115
205-665-7254
(term expires 1998)

Rev. Wayne McDaniel
54 Twin Street
Sylacauga, AL 35150
205-245-4945
(term expires 1999)

Bro. John Ackerman
2816 Co. Rd. 84
Selma, AL 36701
334-872-8609
(term expires 1997)

"OFFICERS:"

[HOME MISSIONS]

Bro. James Tyus
P.O. Box 692
Pell City, AL 35125
205-338-7755 (term end '98)

Bro. Paul Hardwick
1601 Hardwick Road
Pell City, AL 35125
205-338-2537 (term ends '98)

Rev. Fred Jones
1139 Perrydale Loop
Prattville, AL 36067
334-361-2990 (term ends '97)

Rev. Charlie Weaver
305 Reeves Lane S.W.
Bessemer, AL 35023
205-428-8243 (term ends '97)

Rev. Mike Wydemon
19700 Hwy. 55 N.
Sterret, AL 35147
205-672-9825 (term ends '97)

Rev. Jim Martin *Guy Wales*
2902 N. Broad St.
Selma, AL 36701
334-872-5521 (term ends '99)

Bro. Paul Nichols
Route 1 Box 269-A
Centreville, AL 35042
Phone N/A (term ends '98)

[WOMAN'S AUXILIARY]

President: Carolyn Wilson
6610 McDuffie Road
Pinson, AL 35126
205-681-2671 (term '96-97)

Vice-Pres.: Christine Whilder
9746 Silley Dean Road
Pinson, AL 35126
205-681-5634 (term '96-97)

Sec./Treas.: Bettie Wade
5116 Martin Drive
Adamsville, AL 35005
205-674-6224 (term '96-97)

Miss. Study: Pearl Schultz
2095 Kelly Creek Rd.
Odenville, AL 35120
205-640-6838 (term '96-97)

Miss. Act.: Jobie Hardwick
1601 Hardwick Road
Pell City, AL 35125
205-338-2537 (term '96-97)

Miss. Prayer: Rosalee Phillips
P.O. Box 494
Leeds, AL 35094
205-699-8297 (term '96-97)

Field Work.: Polly Roberson
413 Poole Street
Leeds, AL 35094
205-699-6907 ('96-97)

"OFFICERS"

[ORDAINING COUNCIL]

Rev. Eugene Howard
15481 Hwy. 43
Vandiver, AL 35176
205-672-9520 (term ends '97)

Rev. Jimmy Youngblood
206 Tucker Drive
Cropwell, AL 35054
205-525-5065 (term ends '98)

Rev. J.D. Wales
238 Hazelwood Drive
Pell City, AL 35125
205-884-3245 (term ends '99)

Rev. E.B. Ledlow
801 Magnolia Dr.
Sylacauga, AL 35150
205-245-0017 (term ends '2000)

Rev. Maxwell Harper
Box 190 Hwy. 22
Montevallo, AL 35115
205-665-7254 (term ends '2001)

Floyd Barber 2003

Marshall (Leford) 2002

[CHRISTIAN ED. BOARD]

Bro. Jim Martin
5416 Storey Dr.
Adamsville, AL 35005
205-674-3028 (term ends '97)

Rev. Glenn Hood
113-13th Ave. N.W.
Birmingham, AL 35215
205-854-0394 (term ends '98)

Bro. Guy Wales
357 Castleberry Drive
Cropwell, AL 35054
205-338-9720 (term ends '99)

Bro. Steve Day
P.O. Box 342
Moody, AL 35004
205-640-7470 (term ends '2000)

Rev. Ernest Walker
1925 M.A. Lee Dr.
Moody, AL 35004
205-640-7222 (term ends '2001)

Wayne Tuckey 2002

"CHURCHES DIRECTORY:"

1. ADAMSVILLE

PASTOR:
REV. KENDALL SMITH
117 CO. RD. 9
BREMEN, AL 35062
ph. N/A

CLERK:
BILLY HILL
7834 BANKHEAD HWY.
DORA, AL 35062
205-648-5227

CHURCH LOCATION:
4800 HAZELWOOD RD.
ADAMSVILLE AL 35005
PH N/A

3. BETHEL

PASTOR:
REV. ALBERT PICKETT
4226 HWY. 10
MONTEVALLO, AL 35115
205-665-7473

CLERK:
CINDY ROSS
321 SPRINGBROOK LN.
MONTEVALLO, AL 35115
PH N/A

CHURCH LOCATION:
ROUTE 4 BOX 216
MONTEVALLO, AL 35115
NO PHONE

2. BELVIEW

PASTOR:
REV. MIKE WYDEMON
19700 HWY. 55 N.
STERRETT, AL 35147
205-672-9825

CLERK:
MIKE ROPER
1025 BRYANT AVE.
LEEDS, AL 35094
205-699-5478

CHURCH LOCATION:
600 DORROUGH ST.
LEEDS, AL 35094
205-699-4646

4. CALVARY

PASTOR:
REV. CHARLES WEAVER
305 REEVES LN. S.W.
BESSEMER, AL 35023
205-428-8243

CLERK:
NELL WEAVER
305 REEVES LN. S.W.
BESSEMER, AL 35023
205-428-8243

CHURCH LOCATION:
305 REEVES LN. S.W.
BESSEMER, AL 35023
NO PHONE

"CHURCHES DIRECTORY"

5. CENTERPOINT

PASTOR:
REV. GLENN HOOD
113-13th AVE. N.W.
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35215
205-854-0394

CLERK:
CAROLYN WILSON
6610 MCDUFFIE RD.
PINSON, AL 35126
205-681-2671

CHURCH LOCATION:
831 MARY VANN LANE
P.O. BOX 9741
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35215

7. DAVIS' CHAPEL

PASTOR:
REV. EUGENE HOWARD
15481 HWY. 43
VANDIVER, AL 35176
205-672-9520

CLERK:
CAROLYN ALEXANDER
P.O. BOX 5
STERRETT, AL 35147
205-672-7579

CHURCH LOCATION:
CO. HWY. 43
VANDIVER, AL 35176
NO PHONE

6. CORNERSTONE

PASTOR:
REV. TIM TRIMBLE
604 KING VALLEY CIRCLE
PELHAM, AL 35124
205-664-4022

CLERK:
LORETTA CHAMPION
329 11th ST. N.W.
ALABASTER, AL 35007
PHONE N/A

CHURCH LOCATION:
2694 CO. HWY 58
HELENA, AL 35080
NO PHONE

8. FAIRVIEW

PASTOR:
REV. BRUCE DAMRON
3826 VALLEY BEND RD.
MOODY, AL 35004
205-640-7981

CLERK:
ROSALEE PHILLIPS
1216 LEWIS AVE.
LEEDS, AL 35094
205-699-8297

CHURCH LOCATION:
1804 PARK AV. (CO. RD. 10)
MOODY, AL 35004
205-640-5003

"CHURCHES DIRECTORY"

9. FORESTDALE

PASTOR:
REV. JACK ROLLINS
920 MEEHAN AVE.
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35214
205-798-1508

CLERK:
GENEVA MARTIN
5416 STOREY DRIVE
ADAMSVILLE, AL 35005
205-674-9334

CHURCH LOCATION:
2615 ADAMSVILLE PWKY. HWY. 78
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35214
205-798-1724

10. FRIENDSHIP

PASTOR:
REV. WAYNE NEELY
P.O. BOX 33
TRAFFORD, AL 35172
205-647-2998

CLERK:
TRINA NEELY
P.O. BOX 33
TRAFFORD, AL 35172
205-647-2998

CHURCH LOCATION:
HWY. 79
REMLAP, AL 35133
NO PHONE

11. FULTONDALE

PASTOR:
REV. RON WOODARD
112 PARKWOOD CIRCLE
GARDENDALE, AL 35071
205-631-8494

CLERK:
DONNA BRITT
P.O. BOX 374
KIMBERLY, AL 35091
205-631-8494

CHURCH LOCATION:
3112 NEWCASTLE RD.
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35217
NO PHONE

12. HUFFMAN

PASTOR:
REV. RAY RITCH
717 CEDAR CONE CIRCLE
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35214
205-798-5416

CLERK:
SUE RITCH
717 CEDAR CONE CIRCLE
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35214
205-798-5416

CHURCH LOCATION:
1400 WARE BOULEVARD
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35217
205-854-6801

"CHURCHES DIRECTORY"

13. LIGHTHOUSE

PASTOR:
REV. MICKEY KIRKLAND
RT. 4 BOX 222
MONTGOMERY, AL 36116-1336
334-272-6096

CLERK:
GARY MAHONEY
212 WEST PARK AV.
MONTGOMERY, AL 36110
334-262-2496

CHURCH LOCATION:
3560 BELL ROAD
MONTGOMERY, AL 36116
334-271-6502

14. MT. OLIVE

PASTOR:
REV. LESTER GANN
1837 PARK AVE.
MOODY, AL 35004
205-640-7838

CLERK:
CARLENE HARRIS
121 WILLOW CREEK RD.
LEEDS, AL 35094
205-699-6096

CHURCH LOCATION:
CO. HWY. 41-N (DUNNAVANT)
LEEDS, AL 35094
NO PHONE

15. MT. PLEASANT

PASTOR:
REV. MAXWELL HARPER
HWY. 22 BOX 190
MONTEVALLO, AL 35115
334-665-7254

CLERK:
PEGGY HIGHTOWER
RT. 1 BOX 49-A
SPROTT, AL 36779
334-665-7254

CHURCH LOCATION:
RT. 1
SPROTT, AL 36779

16. MT. ZION

PASTOR:
REV. J. D. WALES
238 HAZELWOOD DRIVE
PELL CITY, AL 35125
205-884-3245

CLERK:
OZZIE SEALS
135 ASH DRIVE
PELL CITY, AL 35125
205-338-9325

CHURCH LOCATION:
HWY. 231
PELL CITY, AL 35125
205-338-3708

"CHURCHES DIRECTORY"

17. NEW LIFE

PASTOR:
REV. ERNEST WALKER
1925 M.A. LEE DRIVE
MOODY, AL 35004
205-640-7222

CLERK:
PEARL SCHULTZ
2095 KELLY CREEK RD.
ODENVILLE, AL 35120
205-640-6838

CHURCH LOCATION:
CO. RD. 10 (MOODY, AL)
P.O. BOX 534
LEEDS, AL 35094

18. FIRST CHURCH-SELMA

PASTOR:
REV. JIM MARTIN
2902 BROAD ROAD NORTH
SELMA, AL 36701
334-872-5521

CLERK:
SHIRLEY PUGH
6958 CO. RD. 39
SELMA, AL 36701
PHONE N/A

CHURCH LOCATION:
2902 NORTH BROAD ROAD
SELMA, AL 36701
334-872-5521

21. UNION HILL

PASTOR:
REV. MARSHALL ALEXANDER
18066 HWY. 55
STERRETT, AL 35147
205-672-7567

CLERK:
ROETERRY ANDREWS
53363 HWY. 25
VANDIVER, AL 35176
205-672-2515

CHURCH ADDRESS:
P.O. BOX 54
VANDIVER, AL 35176
NO PHONE

22. PRATTVILLE MISSION CHURCH

PASTOR:
REV. FRED JONES
1139 PERRYDALE LOOP
PRATTVILLE, AL 36066
334-361-2990

CHURCH ADDRESS:
P.O. BOX 680307
PRATTVILLE, AL 36068-0307

19. SHADY GROVE

PASTOR:
REV. RICKEY PATTERSON
2749 MOORE ROAD
ADAMSVILLE, AL 35005
205-674-6750

CLERK:
OLETA CONN
5705 CRESTVIEW DRIVE
ADAMSVILLE, AL 35005
NO PHONE

CHURCH LOCATION:
RT. 2 BOX 662
ADAMSVILLE, AL 35005
205-674-7022

20. FIRST CHURCH-SYLACAUGA

PASTOR:
REV. WAYNE McDANIEL
54 TWIN STREET
SYLACAUGA, AL 35150
205-249-9373

CLERK:
DONNA TIDWELL
600 S. BROADWAY AV. OAK APT. 3-3
SYLACAUGA, AL 35150
205-249-3613

CHURCH LOCATION:
54 TWIN STREET
SYLACAUGA, AL 35150
205-245-4945

23. FREE WILL BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

SUPERINTENDENT:
REV. LEVY COREY
P.O. BOX 8 (101 ACADEMY DRIVE)
ELDRIDGE, AL 35554
205-924-9751 or
205-924-9574 (FAX)

MARCH 2, 1996

continued.....

continued.....

SEMI-ANNUAL MINUTES continued.....

Special Song: "Little is Much" Adamsville church, and
"Some Call it Heaven," Shady Grove church.

Offering received totaled, \$135.00.

Morning message : Rev. Levy Corey, Children's Home
Director used the text entitled, "Let us Return".
Scripture was read from Numbers 14:1 . Rev. Corey
also reported the home had 34 children at present,
with 4 new ones arriving today.

Lunch prayer by Rev. Jack Rollins.

[EVENING SESSION]

Song: "Just a Little While."

Special song by Rev. Rickey Patterson, "Wedding Music"

Song: "Living by Faith."

Shady Grove was given a rising vote of "Thanks".

Devotional: Rev. Maxwell Harper used Galatians 5:22-23
with the text entitled, "Gifts of the Spirit."

Rev. Ricky Andrews resigned as Asst. Moderator to
go to the Birmingham Association due to pastoring
a church in same.

Business Committee : Evening report...

3. Recommend Annual Association to be at Huffman
Free Will Baptist Church, Birmingham.

4. Morning offering of \$135.00 be given to Children's
Home and Christian Ed. Board.

5. Rev. Tim Baumgarten be replaced by Rev. Glenn Hood
on the Christian Ed. Board.

(Report accepted.)

Rev. Rickey Patterson was elected to replace Rev.
Ricky Andrews as Asst. Moderator.

continued.....

SEMI-ANNUAL MINUTES continued.....

Ordaining Council report: Rev. E. B. Ledlow

1. Request Billy Vaughn be re-licensed to preach
the gospel for one year.

2. Request Larry Smith be licensed to preach the
gospel for one year.

3. Kendall Smith was examined and we request the
Adamsville church request that he be accepted in
to the Annual Association in October.

4. Request Ken Combs be ordained as a Deacon .

5. That Rev. Robert Roberson preach this ordaining
service.

(Report accepted)

Ordaining Council report: June 9, 1996. (Annex)

The Council met with Rev. G. L. Gann at Fairview
Free Will Baptist Church, Moody, to examine and
reinstate Rev. Gann into the Cahaba River Assoc-
iation. Rev. Gann had been pastoring in another
independent Free Will Baptist Church.

The 118th Semi-Annual session was dismissed in
prayer by Rev. Ray Ritch.

[End of Semi-Annual Minutes]

MINISTERS/DEACONS MINUTES
OF THE

118th SESSION OF CAHABA RIVER DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

The 118th annual session of Ministers/Deacons met with
Huffman Free Will Baptist Church, Birmingham, AL Oct. 4, 1996
Pastor..... Rev. Ray Ritch
Moderator..... Rev. E. B. Ledlow

The session began with congregational singing.

Rev. Ray Ritch, host pastor, welcomed the congregation.

Congregational singing was led by Bro. Ernest Markman.

Special music by the "Melody Girls" trio was enjoyed.

Opening prayer was led by Bro. Ernest Markman.

No visitors were present.

Offering was received in the amount of \$58.70.

Congregation sang "Holy, Holy, Holy!"

Special song was sang by Bro. Guy Wales.

Rev. Glenn Hood, guest speaker took his text from II Tim. 3.
The title was, "Miracle of the Bible, Inspiration!"

Rev. E. B. Ledlow, moderator declared the body into con-
ference for business. Rev. Fred Jones was elected to
be Assistant Moderator for the 119th session.

Prayer requests were made and Adjourning prayer was
prayed by Rev. J. D. Wales.

Refreshments were served by host church.

(End of minutes)

ANNUAL MINUTES
OF THE

118th SESSION OF THE CAHABA RIVER DISTRICT ASSOCIATION
OF

FREE WILL BAPTISTS.....OCTOBER 5, 1996

The 118th session convened with Huffman Free Will Baptist
Church, 1400 Ware Boulevard, Birmingham, Alabama 35217
Pastor..... Rev. Ray Ritch
Moderator..... Rev. Wayne Neely

The session opened with welcome by Moderator.

Congregation songs were led by Bro. Ernest Markman.

Moderator's message was entitled, "Holy". Scripture
reading was from Leviticus 11:44-45.

Session was opened with altar prayer.

Clerk, Bro. Steve Day declared session in order.

Information concerning Lifetime Gold Certificates for
Ministers and Deacons age 65+ was discussed. Past
minutes from 1949 and 1958 verified the information.
The clerk was instructed to list the names of eligible
men.

Credentials Committee chairman, Bro. Larry Smith reported
all letters in order and refered them to the Business
and Ordaining Committee for reference.

Delegates were seated for all but three churches.

Visitors were Dr. Richard Cordell, State Promotional Dir.
and Bro. Travis Sinich, Faith Free Will Baptist Church.

Continued.....

ANNUAL MINUTES continued.....

Old Business called for and none reported.

Cahaba River Home Missions Board reported a balance of \$3992.35. Monthly support to Fred Jones \$300.00. Treasurer Bro.James Tyus reporting.

Cahaba River District Treasurer report: Bro.Steve Day,

Balance on hand 9-30-95.....\$2986.08

Fees received as of 9-30-96..... 3150.00

Offering received 118th Semi-Annual.... 135.00

Balance.....\$6271.08

Paid out:

Moderator.....\$ 20.00

Asst.Moderator..... 12.50

Clerk 100.00

Asst.Clerk 20.00

Food for Asso.117th session 475.00

AL State Assoc.fees..... 1050.00

Supplies 24.21

Post Office(stamps + box rent)..... 40.00

Supplies 8.12

Minutes books printed..... 231.58

Planning committee luncheon 42.13

Food for 118th session 500.00

Stamps 32.00

Youth rally fund 67.50

Children's Home,Eldridge 67.50

Post Office (mail fee State forms)..... 38.80

Supplies 9.77

Planning committee luncheon(annual).... 40.29

Safe deposit box for deeds 25.00

Total paid out:

.....\$2809.40

Balance on hand 9-30-96:

.....\$3461.68

(End of report)

Continued.....

ANNUAL MINUTES continued.....

Children's Home report: Bro.Lecil Gardner.

Bro.Gardner reported two new buildings were under construction. One building had been completed debt free. Paid out \$67,750.17. State has condemned old building and has given three year grace period due to building progress now in effect. Bro.Gardner suggested monies from selling youth camp property be invested in building one of the buildings. He reminded churches of the Harvast Drive Campaign. Several states are asking for information about the home and trustees will ask Alabama state if can send information to these states.

Delegates to State Association appointed:

Fairview.....Polly Roberson

Forestdale.....Lecil Gardner

Thelma Gardner

Friendship.....Trina Neely

HuffmanSue Ritch

Mt.Pleasant..... Paul Nichols

Mt.Zion Jeanette Wales

New Life Imogene Walker

Selma Sylvia Martin

Shady Grove Tim Capps

Sylacauga Odessa Ledlow

Prattville Barbara Jones

Rev.Richard Cordell reported on the State Association dates.They are Nov.7-8th .Host church will be First Free Will Baptist of Dothan,AL. Hotel information was given. Dr.Cordell announced the Mid-South Conference dates were February 24-25,1997. A special service is planned for Nov.6th featuring Dan Ireland at the Dothan church prior to the State meeting. Dr.Cordell encouraged missionary conference participation. He ask prayer for Rev.John Edwards due to the loss of his wife. He encouraged churches to win souls.

(End)

Continued.....

ANNUAL MINUTES continued.....

Board of Christian Education: Rev.Glenn Hood
Schedule for youth rally as follows: Nov.'96-
New Life, Jan.'97-Mission Conf.,April-District
preparation,and June-State at Forestdale.

Financial report: Bal.forward\$ 35.63
Deposits 126.00
Disbursements... 118.50
Ending bal.....\$ 45.13

Rev.Maxwell Harper recommended an offering be received
and given to Dr.Richard Cordell for Promotional
Secretary office in the amount of \$ 500.00.

Special singing:"Melody Girls" Huffman church.

Business Committee report: Jim Martin

Recommend as follows:

1. The offering be given to Bd.of Christian Ed.
2. All churches try to engage Dr.Cordell.
3. The Executive committee outline the duties of
each committee.
4. Say "Thank You!" to Huffman for hospitality.Amen!

INTERMISSION

Morning message : Rev.Wayne McDaniel used Acts 2:36-39
to enhance his message title,Power of Holy Ghost!"

Offering of \$139.30 received and given to Bd.Christ.Ed.

LUNCH

Continued.....

ANNUAL MINUTES continued.....

[AFTERNOON SESSION]

Congregation Singing: Bro.Ernest Markham

Special song:Rev.Ricky Patterson and Melody Girls Trio.

Afternoon message: Rev.Jack Rollins used I Samuel 10
as scripture for his text,"Band of Men Lord Touched."

Auditing committee report was given by Rev.Mike Wydemon.
The finances were in order of 1.Cahaba River Home
Missions, 2. Cahaba River District Assoc.,and 3. Bd.
of Christian Ed.

Registration committee reported by host church:
Ministers 22, Deacons 17, Delegates 34, Visitors 28=
Total 101 registered.

Nominating committee recommended the following officers:

- 1.Clerk/Treasurer..... Bro.Steve Day
- 2.Asst. Clerk/Treas.Rev.Ray Ritch
- 3.Executive BoardRev.Wayne McDaniel (Term 99)
- 4.Home MissionsRev.Charles Weaver (Term 97)
- 5.Home MissionsRev.Mike Wydemon (Term 97)
- 6.Home Missions Rev.Jim Martin (Term 99)
- 7.Ordaining Council Rev.Max Harper (Term 2001)
- 8.Bd.Christian Ed. Rev.Ernest Walker (Term 2001)
- 9.Thanksgiving Speaker , ,Dr.Richard Cordell
[Paul Nichols]

Announcements:

March '97,119th Semi-Annual to be at Sylacauga and
October '97, 119th Annual to be at Mt.Zion,Pell City.
Thanksgiving service at Forestdale,tuesday before
Thanksgiving. Rev.Dr.Richard Cordell,guest speaker.

(end)

Continued.....

ANNUAL MINUTES continued.....

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT:

We the ordaining council recommend the following:

- 1.that Billy Vaughn,David Reese,and Larry Smith's license be renewed to preach the gospel one year.
- 2.that Brian Taunton and Micheal Barber be issued license to preach the gospel.
- 3.that Travis Webster and Jamie Willis of Mt.Zion be ordained as deacons.Their church wishes to host their ordaining service October 6,1996.
- 4.that since Rev.Kendall Smith was absent,the request from Adamsville church for him to be accepted into the Association be postponed indefinitely.
- 5.that all prespective deacons appear before the council to be examined at the Association during session and the Ordaining service be at the association or in their church at a later date.

Rev.Max Feltman,Rev.Eugene Howard,Rev.Jimmy Youngblood,
Rev.J.D,Wales, and Rev.E.B.Ledlow.(end of report)

Rev.Fred Jones dismissed the Association in prayer.

[END OF ANNUAL MINUTES]



MINUTES
OF
THE FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION
OF
THE CAHABA RIVER DISTRICT
WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

APRIL 6,1996

Convening at:
FAIRVIEW FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
1804 PARK AVENUE, MOODY, AL 35004

The fortieth annual session of Cahaba River District Woman's Auxiliary marked the historical event of the district having been organized fifty-years.The first annual convention was held in April 1956. For ten years the ladies met with the Cahaba River Annual Association of Free Will Baptists. (1946-1956)

The fortieth annual session theme was,"Let Your Light Shine." Convention president was Carolyn Wilson.

The congregation sang,"God's Wonderful People," led by Robbin King of Centerpoint auxiliary.

Polly Roberson led the opening prayer and gave the welcome address.

Gladys Branton of Forestdale responded with a "Thank You!"

The Credentials Committee reported all auxiliaries had letters in order and delegates were seated.

Auxiliary count revealed a total of 46.This included 37 members and 9 visitors. New Life won the banner.

Devotional was given by Alice Hood of Centerpoint aux.

Robbin King sang "O How He Loves You And Me."

Icy Mae Fredrick of Fultondale gave a brief report of her work in Haiti and how God is answering prayer.

continued.....

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY MINUTES continued.....

Louise Webb and Icy Mae Fredrick were given a hand-clap of praise for being two of our founding-sisters. They were present at the 1946 organizational meeting.

Our guest speaker was Sandra Raper. Sandra and her husband, Roger are missionaries to Ft. Collins, Colorado. Sandra and her children, Brooke, Josh, and Sarah sang a special song entitled, "No, Not One!"

Alice Hood prayed the lunch prayer.

Linda Woodruff of Forestdale sang, "It Is Finished."

Business committee reported: 1. That the 1997 convention go to New Life. 2. That the 1998 convention go to Mt. Zion. 3. Recommended an offering be taken for Icy Mae Fredrick's work. 4. Recommended \$600.00 project money be given to the Ft. Collins, CO. work. Report was accepted.

Secretary Bettie Wade presented Sandra Raper a love offering from the ladies.

Pearl Schultz of New Life told of upcoming events.

Offering was received and the door prizes were given away. The session was dismissed in prayer.

A bookmark with the following inscription was given: "Golden Thoughts" These fifty years as we all look back, to times of old, to records of fact. God blessed us with many Co-Laborers brave that willingly worked and prayed and gave. Because of their faith and patience too, our missionaries saw their visions come true. As we bow our hearts and minds and souls, we ask for guidance and "Future Gold."

("CAHABA RIVER DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY" 1946-1996)

Bettie Wade-Sec.

end of report

"BY-LAWS OF MINISTERS AND DEACONS CONFERENCE"

1. The Clerk, Assistant-Clerk, or Senior Minister in years may call the meeting to order and 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 (2/3) vote any decision of the Moderator may be over-ruled.
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 not 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-like spirit.
10. The person who desires to speak must first rise and address the Moderator and, (when recognized) proceed.
11. The votes on any question must be counted upon request of one-fifth (1/5) 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. Ministers of this body shall support all Boards and Committees elected by Association.
14. A minister carries a license until he is called to a church or enters full-time Evangelistic work. The license are re-issued each year if the church of his membership makes the request to this association.
15. The Assistant-Moderator will automatically become the Moderator for the following year and a new Assistant will be elected each year by the body.

CONSTITUTION

Article I-The Association shall be known as "Cahaba River Association of Free Will Baptists."

Article II- This association shall be composed of ordained ministers,deacons,and elected delegates of different churches forming the same. All ordained ministers,active deacons,and officers of the association shall be standing delegates.

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

Article IV- Each church composing this association shall be entitled to three(3)delegates of the first one-hundred (100)members and one(1)for each additional fifty(50) or fraction thereof. Any ordained man that is a member of a mission church sponsored by this association shall have delegate priviledges at all conferences.

Article V-All church clerks shall mail church letters to the association clerk no later than four weeks in advance of the first day of the beginning of the association.

Article VI-[A] The officers of the association shall be composed of the following: 1.Moderator,2.Asst.Moderator, 3.Clerk-Treasurer,4.Asst.Clerk-Treasurer, These four shall serve two(2)year terms and be elected by the body. The moderator and assistant-moderator shall be elected at odd years and the treasurer and assistant-treasurer shall be elected at even numbered years.The clerk-treasurer shall handle all monies of the association except, the Home Missions and Board of Christian Education funds.

Article VI-[B] There shall be a Home Missions Board. The board shall consist of seven(7)members with three(3) members coming off each year.When vacancies occur the body shall elect.

continued.....

CONSTITUTION

continued.....

Article VI-B

The Home Missions Board shall elect their own Clerk/Treasurer which shall record minutes of all meetings and handle all monies belonging to same.

VI-C There shall be an Executive Board. It shall consist of nine members.These shall be as follows:(1)Moderator, (2) Assistant-Moderator, (3) Clerk/Treasurer, (4) Assistant-Clerk/Treasurer, (5) Moderator-Ministers/Deacons Conference (6) Assistant Moderator-Ministers/Deacons Conference, and three members at large elected by the association to serve a three year term with one to be coming off each year. Any five members will constitute a quorum. When vacancies occur the body will elect. The Moderator will serve as Chairman of this Board.

VI-D There shall be an Ordaining Council. It shall consists of five members with one coming off each year. As vacancies occur the body shall elect. All members of this council shall be Ordained Ministers or Deacons. It shall be the duty of the council to meet with candidates for liscensing or ordination as ministers of the Gospel and candidates for ordination as Deacons.It shall further be their duty to assure compliance with the By-Laws of the Presbytery.

VI-E There shall be a Board of Christian Education. It shall consist of five members with one coming off each year. If vacancies occur the body will elect.It shall elect it's own Clerk/Treasurer to record minutes of meetings and handle all monies belonging to same.

Article VII-All committees shall be appointed in advance by the Moderator. Their responsibility will cease at end of session.

Article VIII-A. Committees shall be(1) Business,(2)Deceased,(3)Nomination,(4)Credentials,(5)Auditing,and (6)Registration. Credentials shall meet in advance and be ready to report at beginning of session.

continued...

CONSTITUTION

continued.....

Article VIII-B

The Auditing and Registration committees will serve at the Annual Association only!

Article VIII-C

The Credentials committee shall be composed of Ordained men.

Article VIII-D

All other committees except Registration shall have at least one Ordained man on it.

Article IX

This association shall meet the first Saturday morning in March and the first Saturday morning in October of each year. The Ministers/Deacons Conference shall meet Friday evening before the first Saturday in October of each year.

Article X

Each church shall pay a representation fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00) each session of the annual and semi-annual conferences in order to be seated.

Article XI

The Clerk/Treasurer shall be paid one-hundred dollars(\$100.00)annually.The Assistant Clerk/Treasurer shall be paid twenty dollars(\$20.00)annually. The Moderator shall be paid twenty-five dollars(\$25.00) annually. The Assistant Moderator shall be paid twelve dollars and fifty-cents(\$12.50)annually. All other expenditures shall be decision of the body.

Article XII

This Constitution can be amended (or altered) at any regular session of the association by two-thirds vote of members present providing proposed admendment be presented in writing to the body and be tabled from the morning session until the evening session or,from the evening session until the next session.

"ORDER OF CHURCH CONFERENCE"

- 1.Call for peace and fellowship of church.
- 2.Opportunity for members.
- 3.Reading of the minutes of the last conference.
- 4.Call for acknowledgements.
- 5.Report of the Treasury.
- 6.Unfinished business.
- 7.New business.
- 8.Report of all committees.
- 9.Motion to adjourn.

"GUIDELINES FOR ORDINATION"

- ①.This Association ordains no man that has more than one living wife,nor a man whose wife has more than one living husband.
- 2.Every minister carries a license until he is either called to a church or enters full-time evangelistic work.The license of ministers licensed by this association are to be re-issued each year if the church of which they are a member makes this request.
- ③.This association ordains no one that does not believe fully the faith and practice of the Free Will Baptist Treatise.
- 4.This association ordains no one that does not believe and practice tithing.
- 5.This association ordains no one that does not believe in the verbal inspiration of the Word of God.
- 6.This association will not ordain women to preach the Gospel.
- 7.This association will not ordain anyone that is affiliated with the World Council of Churches.
- 8.This association will not ordain anyone with a bad character with them that are without.
- 9.This association will not ordain anyone that does not believe and practice the ordinances of the church. A.Baptism by immersion;B.Communion; C.Feetwashing.
- 10.This association will not ordain anyone that does not believe a person can apostatize and be lost.

"CHURCH COVENANT"

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Jesus 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 this solemn covenant.

We promise, by His grace, to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearances 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 the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves 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 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 principle 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 effort; 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.

TREATISE ARTICLES OF FAITH Chapter I-The Holy Scriptures

These are the Old and 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 attributed of God

The Scriptures teach that there is only one true and living God, who is spirit, self-existent, eternal immutable, omnipresent, 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 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. Preceding 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 of 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, 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 has 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 known 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 our 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 agrogated, 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 man Adam, and not that anyone of them dying in that State shall suffer punishment on 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 a 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 fall 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 Santification

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 beginning 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 ship-wreck 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, as 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. Qualifications 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 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 christians to the world, the washing to 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, as 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 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

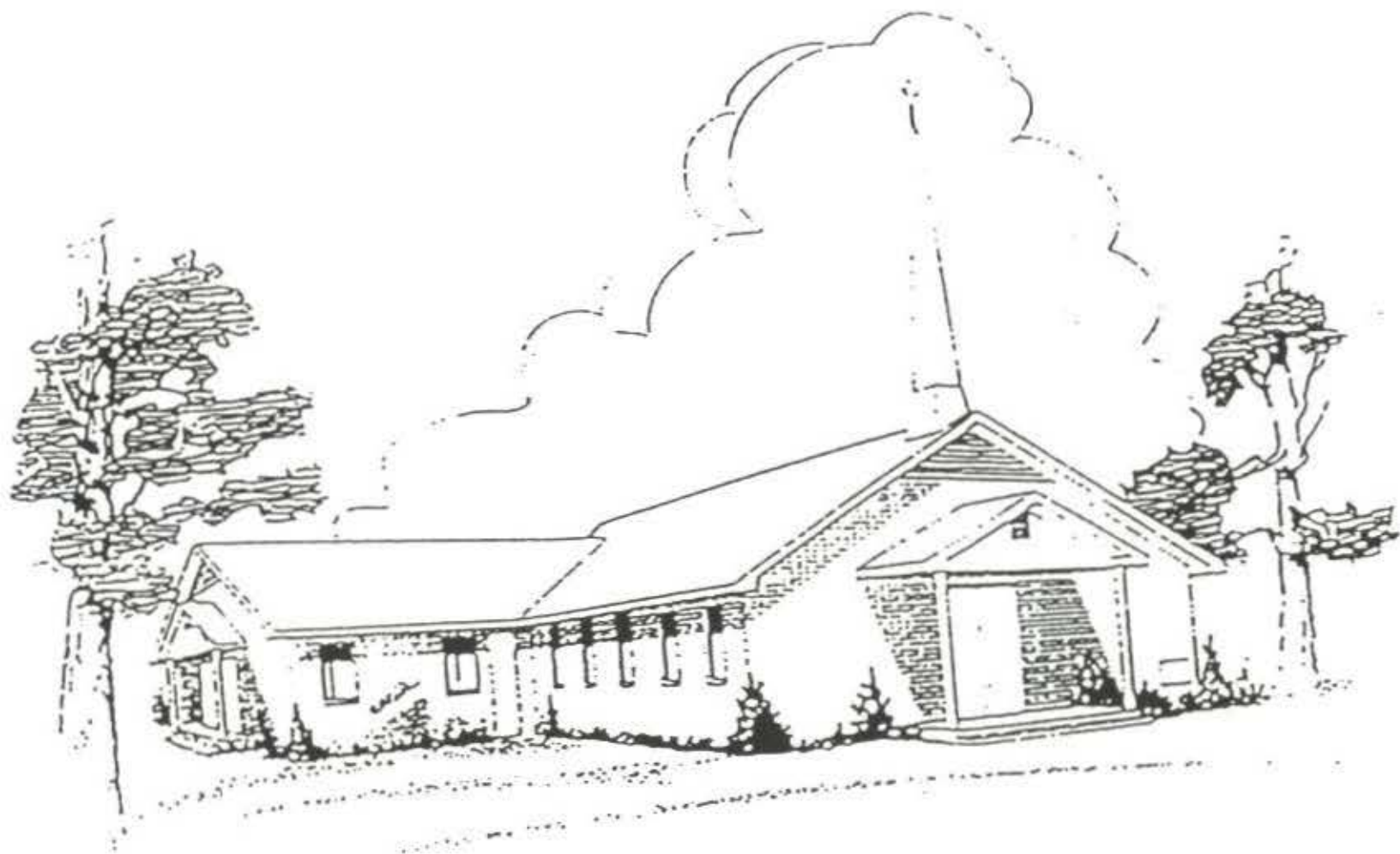
The Scriptures teach the resurrection of the bodies of all men each in its own order; they have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil to the resurrection of damnation.

Chapter XXII-The Final Judgement and Final Retribution

1. The Final Judgement. There will be a final judgement, 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 judgement, the righteous will enter into eternal life, and the wicked will go into a state of endless punishment.

Fairview Free Will Baptist Church



P.O. BOX 897
MOODY ALABAMA 35004
PHONE 640-5003

January NEWSLETTER

FAIRVIEW FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
MOODY, AL

CHURCH PHONE _____ 640-5003
MORNING SERVICES _____ 10:00 AM
EVENING SERVICES _____ 6:00 PM
WEDNESDAY SERVICES _____ 7:00 PM
MONTHLY SINGING (EVERY 2nd SAT.) _____ 7:00 PM
WAC (EVERY 2nd MON.) _____ 7:00 PM

January 25 1998

Nursery: June Winters &
Brenda Newton



Children's Church: Barbara Boyd

Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting:
Devotion: Levelle Hawthorne
Preaching: Ray Ritch



Birthday: Ophelia Phillips
Troy Roberson

Anniversaries: Deldon & Joyce Wise



Brother Robert Roberson
will be preaching today.

DON'T FORGET TO PRAY

for our Deacons
And our Church.

We Welcome you to our church.
Alan and Norma Jean Moore



Call and invite a
friend to come to
Church with you.



**IF YE LOVE
ME, KEEP MY
COMMANDMENTS.**

John 14:15



**IF YOU MUST WHISPER IN
CHURCH, WHISPER A PRAYER!**

**MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED
A HOUSE OF PRAYER!**

As God did not at first choose you because
you were high, so He will not forsake
you because you are low. —J. Flavel

Don't get into the habit of telling folks where
to get off — unless you are a bus driver.

Son Shine

I saw the son shine brightly
Just the other day
As I had met up with a Christian man
Who'd passed along my way.

He told me of a Son
Whose love did shine so bright
That no matter where my life would go
He'd be my Guiding Light.

His light will shine forever
Its brilliance shall not fail
Whether over mountains or through the valleys
Or even on a dusty trail.

I long to see this Son one day
Now that I've learned so much
With all His light, beauty and radiance
One day I long to touch.

So open up your heart to Him
And let the Son come in
Because the Son that shines the Brightest
Is when the sun that shines without
Comes from the Son that shines from within.

Printed by Permission
Ben Allen
Springfield, Mo