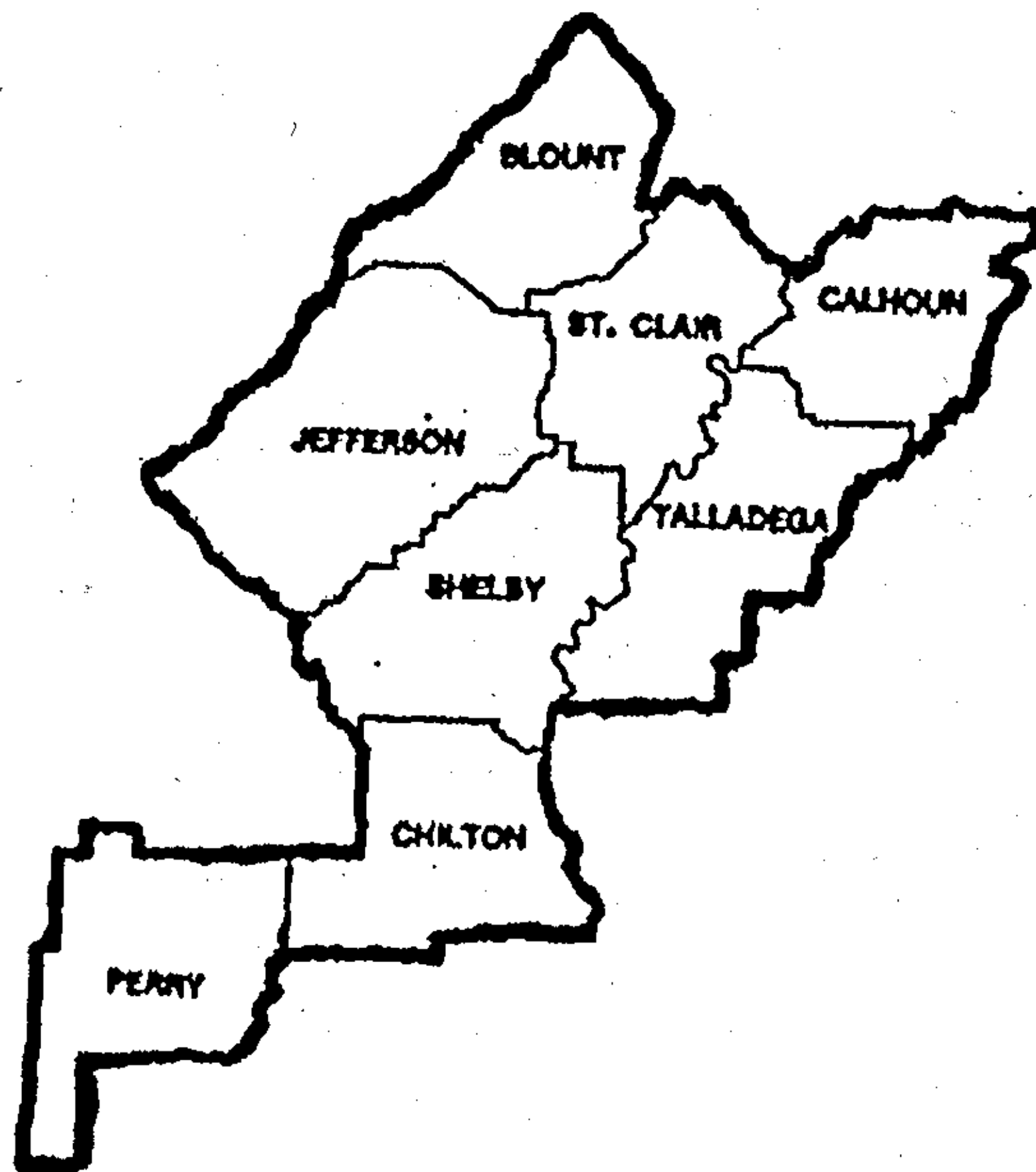
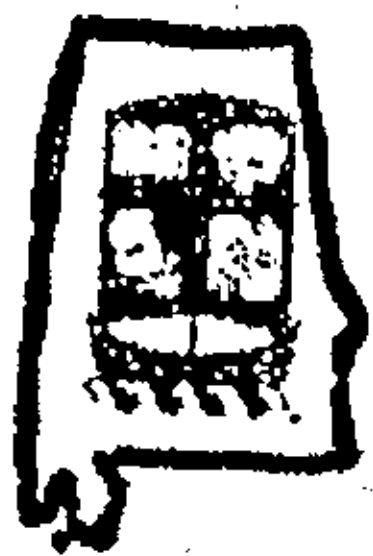


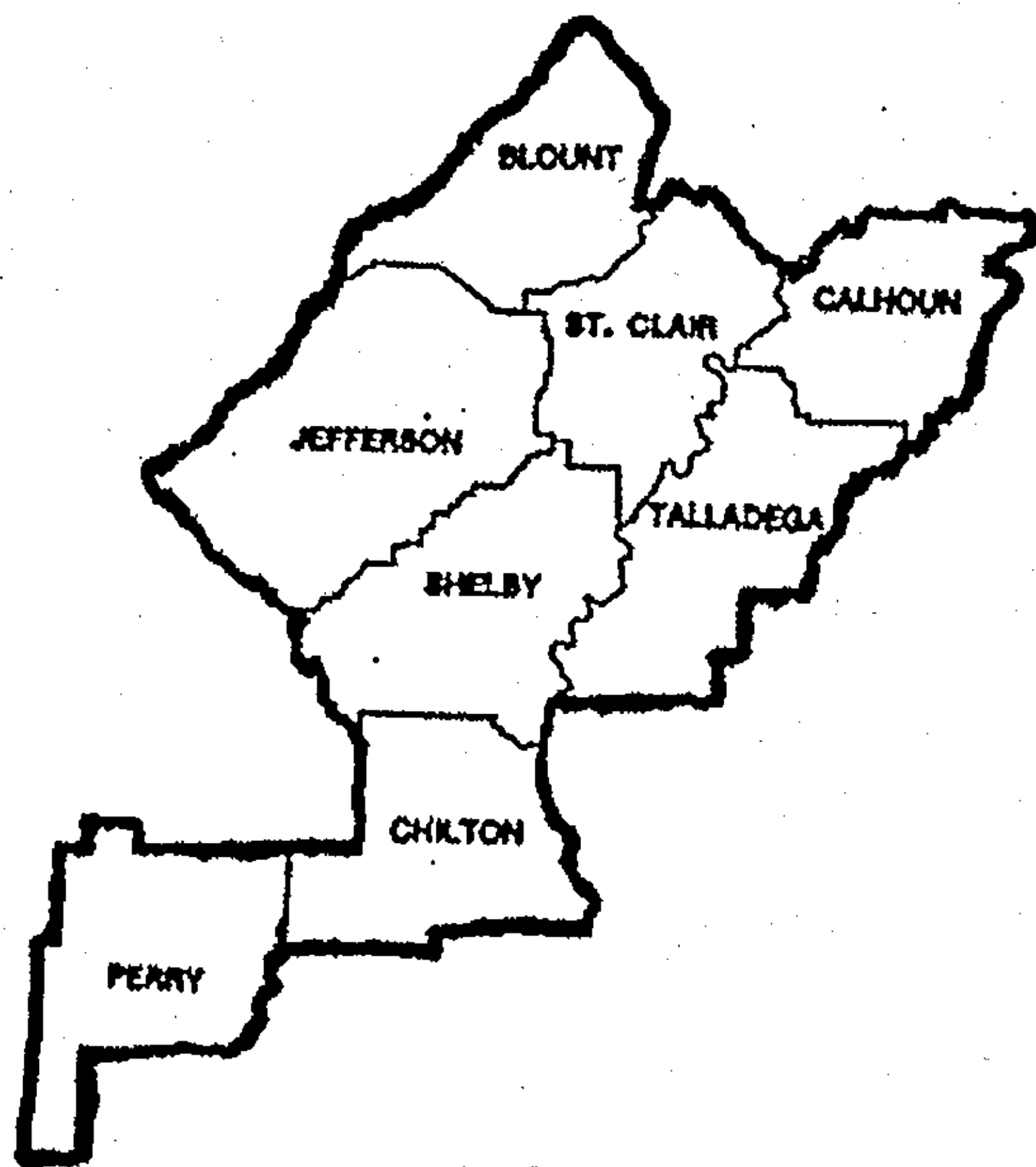
MINUTES
OF THE
ONE HUNDRED THIRTY EIGHTH
SESSION OF



THE
CAHABA RIVER DISTRICT
ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
2016



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FREE WILL BAPTISTS
2016

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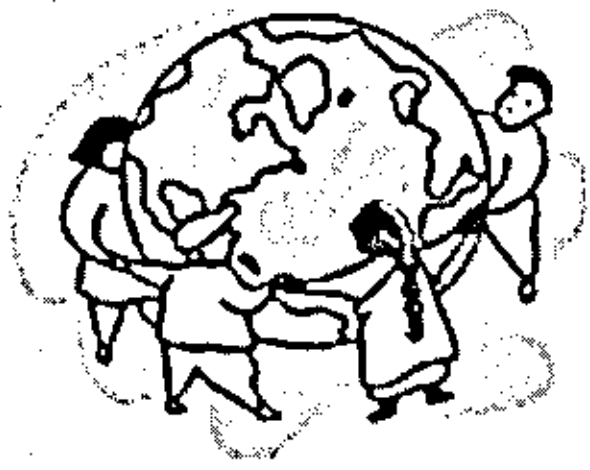
EXECUTIVE BOARD

<p><u>Moderator</u> Rev. Glenn Hood 113-13th Avenue N.W. Birmingham, AL 35215 205-854-0394 gahood913@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Member @ Large</u> Steve Day 1634 Fairview Drive Moody, AL 35004 205-640-7470 stevelday07@windstream.net Term ending 2017</p>
<p><u>Assistant-Moderator</u> Rev. Ron Woodard 3897 Highway 5 Jasper, AL 35503 205-602-9444 jwoodard@bellsouth.net</p>	<p><u>Member @ Large</u> Rev. Rick Andrews 165 Haley Acres Vandiver, AL 35176 H) 205-672-2552 C) 205-365-5548 Term ending 2018</p>
<p><u>Clerk-Treasurer</u> Rev. Wayne Neely P.O. Box 342 Moody, AL 35004 205-680-3085 C) 205-229-6326 WTNeely@Bellsouth.net</p>	<p><u>Member @ Large</u> Rev. Mike Cox 402 Brian Drive Adamsville, AL 35005 205-674-6021 Term ending 2019</p>
<p><u>Assistant Clerk-Treasurer</u> Bro. Howard Schultz 2095 Kelly Creek Road Odenville, AL 35120 205-640-6838 howsch@windstream.net</p>	<p>Please note: Article VI and VI-B of the Constitution defines terms.</p>



ORDINATION COUNCIL

<p>Noel Blackwood 2952 Acton Road Moody, AL 35004 205-215-1005 Term ending 2017</p>	<p>Rev. Dave Franks, Jr. 4361 Canterbury Street Mt. Olive, AL 35117 205-386-3053 dfranksjr@juno.com Term ending 2018</p>
<p>Rev. Ernest Walker 1915 M.A. Lee Drive Moody, AL 35004 205-640-7222 Term ending 2019</p>	<p>Rev. Raymond Rivers P O Box 1736 Calera AL 35040 Term ending 2020</p>
<p>Rev. Heath Webb 204 Dogwood Road Sylacauga, AL 35150 256-267-2115 Term ending 2021</p>	<p>Please note: Article VI-C of Constitution explains term.</p>



CAHABA RIVER MISSIONS BOARD

<u>Chairman</u> Travis Webster 1800 Church Road Pell City, AL 35128 205-338-1574 Cell # 256-591-6009	Paul Nichols 2689 Sherman Huey Road Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-6347
Harold Duckett 9111 County Highway 41 Leeds, AL 35094 205-699-5418	Howard Schultz 2095 Kelly Creek Road Odenville, AL 35120 205-640-6838
Rev. John Ackerman 295 Fox Run Lane Pell City, AL 35125 (205) 338-7346	Rev Burble Alexander 955 Hwy 86 Calera AL 35040 205-668-0893 C) 205-260-8229 bbalex@gmail.com
Rev. Mike Cox 402 Brian Drive Adamsville, AL 35005 205-674-6021 mikeandcherri@charter.net	Please note: Article VI-A of the Constitution explains term.

Please note:
These members will serve
until further notice.



WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST **DISTRICT OFFICERS**

<p><u>President</u></p> <p>Paulette Boyd 3494 Old Coal City Rd Pell City, AL 35125 C-205-863-3448</p>	<p><u>Member @ Large</u></p> <p>Barbara Stevens P.O. Box 372 Springville, AL 35146 C-205-531-8604</p>
<p><u>Secretary</u></p> <p>Marie Ackerman 295 Fox Run Lane Pell City, AL 35125 H-205-338-7346 C-205-335-0102</p>	<p><u>Member @ Large</u></p> <p>Dot Grimes 420 Mays Bend Lane Pell City, AL 35128 H-205-338-2063 C-205-368-2751</p>
<p><u>Treasurer</u></p> <p>Ann Hazelwood 925 23 St N Pell City AL 35125 C-205-405-0016</p>	

CHURCHES DIRECTORY

CHURCH



PASTOR



CLERK



1. <u>CENTERPOINT</u> 745 MARY VANN LN. P.O.BOX 9741 B'HAM, AL 35215 205-853-9683	REV. GLENN HOOD 3012 BRAKEFIELD DR FULTONDALE, AL 35068 205-854-0394 gahood913@gmail.com	CAROLYN WILSON 380 POPLAR LN WARRIOR AL 35180 205-552-5122
2. <u>DAVIS' CHAPEL</u> CO ROAD 55 STERRETT, AL 35147 205-672-7579	REV. CHAD SHAW 7423 OLD BRADFORD RD PINSON, AL 35126 205-680-2079	BRENDA GIBSON 3501 HWY 83 VINCENT, AL 35178 205-672-7767
3 <u>FAIRVIEW</u> 1804 PARK AVE. HIGHWAY 10 MOODY, AL 35004 205-640-5003	REV. BRUCE DAMRON 3826 VALLEY BEND DR MOODY AL. 35004 205-640-7981	POLLY ROBERSON 1400 POOLE STREET LEEDS, AL 35094 205-699-6907
4. <u>FIRST (SYLACAUGA)</u> 50 KINGS ROAD SYLACAUGA, AL 35150 256-245-4945	REV. HEATH WEBB 204 DOGWOOD RD SYLACAUGA, AL 35150 256-267-2115	KATHY HARRIS 450 MERKEL LOOP SYLACAUGA, AL 35151 256-245-0908
5. <u>FIRST (TALLADEGA)</u> 256 WHITSON RD. TALLADEGA, AL 35160 256-761-1752	300 WHITSON RD TALLADEGA, AL 35160 256-362-6580	NETTIE GOODWIN 784 CRESTVIEW RD TALLADEGA, AL 35160 256-362-2699

CHURCHES DIRECTORY

CHURCH



PASTOR



CLERK



6.	<u>FORESTDALE</u> 2615 VETERAN'S MEM PKY. HWY.78 B'HAM, AL 35214 205-798-1724	REV. MIKE COX 402 BRIAN DR ADAMSVILLE, AL 35005 205-674-6021 mikeandcherri@charter.net	LOUISE BLACKMON PO BOX 372 ADAMSVILLE, AL 35005 205-674-3976
7.	<u>FRIENDSHIP</u> HIGHWAY 79 (SELFVILLE) REMLAP, AL 35133	REV. RON WOODARD 3897 HWY 5 JASPER AL 35503 205-602-9444 jwoodard@bellsouth.net	TAMMY WHITSON 4899 VISE RD PINSON AL 35126
8.	<u>FULTONDALE</u> 3112 NEW CASTLE RD. B'HAM, AL 35217 205-631-8494	REV. JACK ROLLINS 920 MEEHAN AVE. B'HAM, AL 35214 205-798-1508 BR50@bellsouth.net	KENNETH MARSH 941 ROBIN DR. MT.OLIVE, AL 35117 H) 205-631-9894 C) 205-515-2168
9.	<u>GOSPEL LIGHT</u> <u>MISSION</u> P.O.BOX 134 CALERA, AL 35040 205-470-6662	REV. RAYMOND RIVERS P.O.BOX 1736 CALERA AL 35040 205-470-6662 205-461-8198 notyourordinaryplace@gmobil.com	SUSAN RIVERS P.O.BOX 1736 CALERA AL 35040 205-470-6662
10.	<u>MOODY</u> 1212 PARK AVENUE P.O. BOX 342 MOODY, AL 35004 205-680-3085	REV. WAYNE NEELY 115 NARROWS ROAD REMLAP, AL. 35133 205-680-3085 Cell: 205-229-6326 WTNeely@BellSouth.net	TRINA NEELY 115 NARROWS ROAD REMLAP, AL 35133 205-680-3085

CHURCHES DIRECTORY

CHURCH



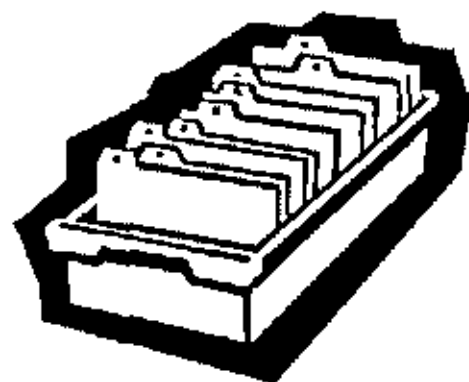
PASTOR



CLERK



11.	<u>MT. OLIVE</u> 11751 Hwy 41 N LEEDS, AL 35094	INTERIM REV. GERALD HAYLE 55 MARY'S LANE VINCENT, AL 35178 205-753-1025	CARLENE HARRIS 121 WILLOW CREEK CIRCLE LEEDS, AL 35094 205-699-8073
12.	<u>MT. PLEASANT</u> 1620 TUMPY JONES RD. MARION, AL 36756	REV. AUSTIN SMITH 751 CO RD 303 LAWLEY, AL 36793 334-518-0841	TRACY DEAVOURS 1227 TUMPY JONES RD MARION AL 36756 334-683-5091
13.	<u>MT ZION</u> P.O. BOX 844 915 MARTIN ST (HWY. 231-N) PELL CITY, AL 35125 205-338-3708	REV. MICHAEL BARBER 4 SEDDON POINT PELL CITY, AL 35128 205-812-5213 205-338-4090	MELINDA GRAHAM PO BOX 844 PELL CITY AL 35125
14.	<u>SHADY GROVE</u> 1630 UNION GROVE ROAD ADAMSVILLE, AL 35005 205-674-7022	REV. WADE PEOPLES 1630 UNION GROVE RD ADAMSVILLE, AL 35005 205-712-4525	WANDA HYATT 1630 UNION GROVE RD. ADAMSVILLE, AL 35005 205-674-1360
15.	<u>UNION HILL</u> P.O. BOX 54 VANDIVER, AL 35176	REV. LEE BEVAN 31984 US HWY 280 CHILDERSBURG, AL 35044 205-230-2938 C) 205-213-6079	ROETERRY ANDREWS 53363 HIGHWAY 25 VANDIVER, AL 35176 205-672-2515



DIRECTORY

IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Executive Director</u> <u>AL State Ministries</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rev. Danny Williams P.O. Box 14 Winfield, AL 35594 205-468-3897 205-468-3057 alfwb1@centurylink.net</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>National Association</u> <u>of Free Will Baptists</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">P.O. Box 5002 Antioch, TN 37011-5002 615-731-6812 877-767-7659 www.nafwb.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>International Missions</u> <u>Board of FWB</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">c/o Rev. Rodney Yerby- Promoter 115 Maximillion Dr. Madison, AL 35758</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Free Will Baptist</u> <u>Children's Home</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Mandy Mitchell - Director P.O. Box 8 Eldridge, AL 35554 205-924-9751 Amanda@fwbhome.org www.fwbhome.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Alabama State WAC</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Carolyn Michael 100 Spencer Green Madison, AL 35758 256-837-5209 michaelcarolyn1@gmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Welch Bible College</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Rev. Tom Malone 3606 West End Ave Nashville, TN 37205 615-844-5000 www.welch.edu</p>

THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-EIGHTH SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION

Convening with:
1st FWB Church of Sylacauga
March 5, 2016

The Meeting began with a Song Service.

Moderator's Message by Rev. Glenn Hood. "Reasons to Praise the Lord". He spoke from Psalm 145. Words of Praise are used 10 times. Points emphasized: His Greatness, His Goodness, His Grace.

The 138th Semi-Annual meeting was Called to Order by Rev. Wayne Neely.

Credentials Committee: Bro Steve Day gave the report. The Committee examined letters from 14 churches and found them in order with 1 church not reporting. Motion passed to Accept the Report.

Roll was called by Rev. Wayne Neely and Delegates were seated. Visitors were welcomed. Special recognition and welcome was extended to Bro. Dave Franks Sr.

Bro. Raymond Rivers and Bro. Kevin Nelson invited the Youth to be dismissed for Youth Roundup activities.

Old Business: None.

Due to the needed actions by the Ordaining Council today, and the absence of some Council members, Bro. Wayne McDaniel, Bro. Tommy Wright, and Bro. Mike Cox were chosen to assist the Ordaining Council today.

Nominating Committee: The report was given by Bro. Mike Cox. The committee recommended Bro. Heath Webb replace Bro. Danny Ryals on the Ordaining Council since Bro. Danny Ryals is now at St Mark FWB Church of Phenix City AL in the Twin Cities District. Motion Passed.

Treasurer's Report: Rev. Wayne Neely:

**TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE 138TH SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION OF THE
CAHABA RIVER DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST**

Balance on Hand as of 9/10/15 \$2307.90

RECEIVED:

Total fees and offerings received as of 3/4/16 \$5526.00

BALANCE AFTER FEES AND OFFERINGS \$7833.90

PAID OUT:

Fairview FWB semi- annul food \$300.00

Discover Church (5 payments @ \$200 each) \$1000.00

Glenn Hood (food planning 138th) and Hotel reimburse \$197.51

Fred Warner Speaker \$556.31

State Association Fees \$2590.00

PO Box Fee \$56.00

OD (\$108.00) and Service Fees (\$14.00) \$122.00

Howard Schultz Reimburse for lack of funds \$1000.00

Computer Graphics (Minutes) \$778.50

TOTAL PAID OUT \$6689.32

BALANCE ON HAND as of 3/4/16 \$1144.58

BALANCE ON HAND :

Free Will Baptist Foundation as of 3/4/16 \$44,690.46

**Treasurer's Report of the Home Missions Board of the Cahaba
River District: Rev. Wayne Neely:**

**TREASURER'S REPORT
HOME MISSIONS BOARD OF THE
CAHABA RIVER DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST**

Balance on Hand as of 9/10/15 \$1790.24

BALANCE: \$1790.24

PAID OUT:

DISCOVER CHURCH (5 payments \$200ea) \$1000.00

TOTAL PAID OUT \$1000.00

BALANCE ON HAND as of 3/4/16 \$790.24

Motion passed to Accept both Reports.

Children's Home Report – The report was given by Bro. Danny Williams and was accepted as Information. Bro. Danny extended his thanks for the faithful prayers and support of this ministry. Without the people of the local churches, we could not fulfill the task God has given us.

1. Since 1947 we have cared for approximately 950 children. We currently have room for others, so please pray that God will put us in contact with those we can help. If you know someone in need, please refer them to us. We want to impact the lives of as many children as we can.
2. Please pray for our kids and their spiritual lives. There are several who need to settle the salvation issue and some who need a spiritual victory.
3. The Eldridge Toy Run was the first Saturday in December. It was the 13th year for the ride and we had motorcycles, antique cars, and about 1000 people attended. Financially, the benefit generated over \$94,000 in donations, which is a new record! This helped us finish in the Black.
4. If you are not on our mailing list, please give us your name and address today. Home Happenings is produced six times per year and is a great way to keep up with what is going on at the Home.
5. We have 3 candidates for Director of the Home and hope to finalize this soon.

You can learn more about us or contact us by way of our website, fwbhome.org. Call us or come by for a visit. We encourage you to schedule a presentation about the Home's ministry. We appreciate your partnership in this ministry which is making a difference in the lives of children every day. Thanks for helping us "invest today in the heart of tomorrow."

State Executive Director's Report was given by Bro. Danny Williams. This report was accepted as Information. He opened his report by announcing some upcoming events: Golf 4 Man Scramble, 4/23 AWAC, 4/24 WMO offering. Thank you Cahaba River Association for your 2015 Acts gifts.

International Missions: 41.34% of the Acts budget goes to International Missions. This enables Alabama's own, the Lancasters, the Turnboughs and the Detherages to serve.

Alabama Home Missions: Pray for the Alabama Mission board as they are now seeking the Lord's direction for the next work. The Board is discussing and praying about new locations, potential church planters, possible revitalization projects, etc.

Mobile: The Bay City Church has paid off their mortgage and has become a self-supporting church. They are averaging in the mid 70's in Sunday morning worship attendance and near 60 on Wednesday nights. There are now 135- 140 people in the Mobile area who call the Bay City Free Will Baptist Church their home.

Partnership: Our partnerships with Russia and Mexico are still ongoing with the support of eight church planters and two Bible institutes even though there are no pastors conferences scheduled this year. Due to these partnerships hundreds of Russians have come to Christ at the Camp/Conference Center made possible by Alabama Free Will Baptists. 115 Russian preachers & missionaries have been trained since 1999. 50 Mexicans have graduated from the Mexican Bible Institute. Five church plants in Mexico have been dedicated since 2011.

There are two more Free Will Baptists church plants scheduled to be completed and dedicated in Mexico in 2015 due to funding from Alabama FWB.

Thanks for joining hands with us for the Glory of God and the salvation of the lost.

Special Song: Steve Johnson, "Child of the King".

Registration Committee:

75+ were present. It was noted that there were more people in the Fellowship Hall.

Ordaining Council: Report given by Rev. Dave Franks Jr.

1. We recommend that Bro. Chad Shaw be ordained into the gospel ministry.
2. We recommend Bro. Austin Smith be prayerfully accepted as an ordained minister into our association.
3. We recommend St Mark FWB in Phenix City Al be sent a letter of good standing for Bro. Danny Ryals at their request.

Motion passed on all recommendations. The ordained men gathered around Bro. Chad and Bro. Austin and prayed for their ministries.

Business and Deceased Committee: Reported by Sis. Polly Roberson. No business to report.

Deceased: Sherry Cromer, Stacy Tollison, Al Ingram, Barbara Ellison, Gerald Morris, Glenda Franklin, Sally Gable, Jack Worthy, Doyle Hawkins, Harley Russell, Bernice Clayton, EB Ledlow.

Scripture: 1 Thess. 4:16 was read and prayer was said for the loved ones and other prayer requests.

Motion passed to Accept the Report.

Offering \$450.00.

Bro. Shane Suggs from Discover Church at Oxford gave an update on his work. They had 3 new converts the 1st of the year. They currently have 40 members, averaging 33 each week. Report accepted as information.

Intermission.

Special Song: A gospel medley, "Winging My Way Back Home", "Say Amen", and Bro. Steve Johnson sang "Broken and Spilled Out".

Morning Message by Bro. Fred Warner.

1 Timothy 3:4-16. "The Mystery of Jesus Christ in the Scriptures". There is never a time when He wasn't! There is never a time when He isn't!

Altar Prayer.

The next meeting: The 138th Annual meeting will be at Centerpoint FWB Church on Sept 10, 2016.

Motion passed to adjourn the meeting and dismiss for lunch.

THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

Convening with:
Centerpoint FWB Church
September 10, 2016

Song Service led by Bro. Glenn Hood, "He Set Me Free".

Moderator's Message by Rev. Glenn Hood. Genesis 3:15, "And I will put enmity between you and the woman. He shall bruise his head, you shall bruise his heel." He will deliver a crushing blow to the serpent (the devil). He was bruised at his crucifixion. Adam and Eve experienced physical death. They also experienced the Promise of Salvation. Satan lives on borrowed time from this point. Cain went his own self-righteous way. Abel went His Way, through Grace. Faith, the Way of the Cross. Bro. Glenn concluded with the charge, "Let's hold up the blood-stained banner of Jesus Christ!". Prayer.

The 138th Annual meeting was Called to Order by Rev. Wayne Neely. Visitors were welcomed, including Rev. Rick Taylor of Sulphur Springs FWB Church. It was announced that Dr. Picirili will be here as our special guest.

Credentials Committee: Bro Noel Blackwood gave the report. 14 letters were examined and found in order. Mt. Olive and Talladega did not report. Motion passed to accept the report.

Roll was called by Clerk Wayne Neely and Delegates were seated. Motion passed to seat the delegates.

Executive Board and Old Business: Bro. Glenn Hood said there is no Old Business. He said the Executive Board meets several times during the year to handle any business that may arise.

Cahaba River Home Missions Board Treasurer's Report by Clerk Wayne Neely:

It was noted that since we have to send \$185.00 per church to the State Association, we will have to tap into the funds we have stored in the Foundation.

TREASURER'S REPORT
HOME MISSIONS BOARD OF THE
CAHABA RIVER DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST

Balance on Hand as of 3/4/16	\$790.24
BALANCE:	\$790.24
PAID OUT:	
DISCOVER CHURCH (3 payments \$200ea)	\$600.00
DISCOVER CHURCH (balance of funds)	\$190.24
TOTAL PAID OUT	\$790.24
BALANCE ON HAND as of 9/8/16	<0>

Cahaba River District Association Treasurer's Report by Clerk
Wayne Neely:

Bro. Neely mentioned that the last 3 years we voted to take \$3000 for Mission funds and pay the Oxford Work to assist in outreach efforts, and we've done that. He said unless more funds are given and designated as Cahaba Home Missions, we have no additional funds to send to the Oxford work. He emphasized that these funds must be designated.

Motion was passed to accept the Reports.

TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE 138TH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE
CAHABA RIVER DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST

Balance on Hand as of 3/4/2016	\$1144.58
RECEIVED:	
Total fees and offerings received as of 9/8/16	\$1900.00
BALANCE AFTER FEES AND OFFERINGS	\$3044.58
PAID OUT:	
Discover Church (3 payments @ \$200 each plus remainder balance of \$190.24)	\$790.24
Glenn Hood (food planning 138th) and Hotel reimburse	\$186.65
Fred Warner Speaker	\$100.00
PO Box Fee	\$00.00
Southern Quick Print 138 Annual Programs	\$46.20
Clerk reimburse for 138th planning meal	

and stamped Envelopes.	\$205.94
Sylacauga Church (food for 138th semi-annual)	\$325.00
TOTAL PAID OUT	\$1654.03
BALANCE ON HAND as of 9/8/16	\$1390.55
BALANCE ON HAND :	
Free Will Baptist Foundation as of June, 2016	\$45,305.61

Youth Roundup-Bro. Raymond Rivers, Bro. Kevin Nelson and the Youth left the business meeting to participate in Youth activities.

Cahaba River Women Active for Christ Report by Sis. Paulette Boyd was accepted as information.

Sis. Paulette encouraged the ladies to start a group in their local church. Women Active for Christ exists for the purpose of serving the Lord. One of the ways this is done is by providing school supplies to children that need them. We also serve the church missionaries.

We need to take a break from our busy schedules and meditate on God. The seasons are changing and we need to praise Him from a clean heart and a clear conscience. We should praise Him in good times and bad times; all day every day. Everything is great when God is in it.

Sis. Paulette concluded with the thought, "How is God using You?" and encouraged the ladies to "Join with us and get involved!"

Children's Home Report – by Bro. Danny Williams was unable to attend. Bro. Wayne Neely made the following announcements regarding the Children's Home.

Fund Raising Effort for Kitchen Appliances: Bro. Neely informed the congregation that he had a discussion with Bro. Danny Williams recently and asked if the Children's Home had any needs at this time. Bro. Danny said they needed to upgrade their Kitchen appliances in their large fellowship hall. This would include a 36" stove with a convection oven. They priced them at \$9938.00.

The Children's Home should not have to be concerned about this type of basic need. They should put their efforts toward meeting the needs of the children.

We have \$5000.00 so far.

We would like to petition the churches to contribute toward this project.

The Harvest Drive: This annual project is the way they re-stock their pantry. It is now underway and continues through Thanksgiving. The list of needed items can be found in their latest newsletter or on their

website, www.fwbhome.org.

Eldridge Toy Run and Benefit Ride: On the first Saturday in December the 14th Annual Eldridge Toy Run will be held. Motorcyclists from all over the region ride to the Home bringing gifts and donations. Each year this event gets bigger and better. You can get more information on this ride using the link on their website.

Please know, whatever method you choose to support this ministry, it is greatly appreciated! Keep the Children's Home in your prayers.

Auditing Committee: The committee was comprised of Ricky Andrews, Trina Neely and Polly Roberson. Bro. Neely read the Report. The books have been examined and found in good order. Motion passed to accept.

Registration Committee: Conducted by the Host Church. The Report was read by Bro. Wayne Neely.

52 Registered. 11 Ministers, 6 Deacons, 25 Delegates, 10 Visitors. The head count in the auditorium was 68 with more in the Fellowship Hall. Estimated attendance 75.

Business and Deceased Committee: Reported by Bro. Howard Schultz.

Deceased: Forestdale: Lecil Gardner, Bobby Daugherty, Robert Best.

Davis Chapel: Rev. Charles Shaw, Carolyn Alexander, John Alexander.

Sylacauga: Ed Ledlow, Annie Ruth Cox Brasher.

Centerpoint: Carol Reese.

Friendship: Nellie Keeton.

Fairview: Myrtle Winslett.

Silent Prayer then Prayer by Bro. Howard Schultz.

The Business Committee also recommended that we begin a Youth Activities Board comprised of at least 3 Board Members that are ordained. The board will be responsible for planning and overseeing services and activities for the Youth of our Association.

Since this required a Constitution change, A motion was made to table the item. Volunteers were requested with Bro. Raymond Rivers, Bro. Kevin Nelson, and Bro. Heath Webb volunteering. The motion passed in the afternoon session.

Intermission.

Song: "At The Cross" by Bro. Glenn Hood.

Nominating Committee: Report was given by Rev. Heath Webb.

1. Regarding the Executive Board-We recommend Bro. Wayne Neely remain as Clerk, Bro. Howard Schultz remain as Asst. Clerk, and Mike Cox replace himself as Member at Large.
2. Regarding the Ordination Council-We recommend Bro. Heath Webb be elected to replace Bro. Danny Ryals as he is in another Association now.
3. Regarding the Missions Board-We recommend the Board members stay the same except for Bro. Mike Cox to replace Bro. Danny Ryals.

Motion passed to accept all items.

Ordaining Council Report: The Report was given by Bro. Heath Webb.

The Ordaining Council recommended that Bro. Tom Gibson be ordained as Deacon to Davis Chapel FWB Church. Motion passed.

Delegates were selected for the State Association meeting to be held at 1st FWB Church of Dothan on November 9-11, 2016.

The Delegates are Paul and Leona Nichols, Paulette Boyd, Ann Hazelwood.

Song: "I Will Sing of the Mercies of the Lord Forever" by Bro. Glenn Hood.

Special Speaker Bro. Rick Taylor is a Representative on behalf of Welch College in Nashville Tn. He is the Pastor of Sulphur Springs FWB Church and lives in Northport. He gave an update on the transition from the old campus to the new, building on a legacy. The college is fully accredited which includes Masters degrees.

Bro. Rick said his primary reason for coming to our meeting is to promote Christian Education through the local churches.

They offer scholarship opportunities to make a way for every young person to go. Anyone interested should contact the college for information.

Special Singing: "He's Been So Good to Me" by Bro. Glenn and Sis. Stacy. "Blessed be the Name". "A Vessel of Honor I am Today, All Because Jesus Didn't Throw the Clay Away!" by Carolyn Wilson.

Prayer Request: Bro. Wayne Neely asked continued prayer for Bro. Jimmy and Sis. Janie Aldridge who are now living in an assisted living facility.

Offering: \$347.17

Morning Message by Dr. Robert Picirilli. Bro. Glenn Hood introduced Dr. Picirilli by saying “He lives what he preaches and has never wavered. He is Biblically Sound and Faithful and assists our Free Will Baptist denomination in keeping it sound and grounded. He teaches us to live like the Lord Jesus Christ”.

Bro. Glenn also said Dr. Picirilli has been a Professor at Welch Bible College for many years, teaching such subjects as New Testament, Greek, and Philosophy.

He has taught Sunday School at Coffers Chapel FWB in Nashville for over 40 years.

Dr. Picirilli is active in visitation, training Christians in Outreach.

He is on the FWB Historical Commission and is actively working on the Minutes project, which aims to enter all minutes records from the church associations onto a website for easy access.

Dr. Picirilli brought several books he has written that are available for purchase. He will have a drawing to give away 5 of his books.

Dr. Picirilli began by saying he was honored to be in the Cahaba River Association meeting. He spoke from 2 Timothy 3:14, 2 Peter 1:20,21.

Holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the words of God. The Bible is an Anchor in the storm. It is God’s Word whether you let it speak to you or not. It gives you certainty in times of doubt. God breathed the words and men spoke those very words.

Dr. Picirilli quoted Charles Spurgeon: “Indifference to the Scripture is the great curse of the Church”. We have to be people of The Book; the only sure foundation on which we can base our lives.

The Bible contains no errors. God doesn’t err. The Bible is God’s Word, the Doctrinal Authority. We have the authority to live our lives through God’s Word.

Liberal Christians believe that the enlightened human conscience has the authority to govern our lives. This is a false teaching. The authority to govern the Christian Life is the Bible, the Voice of God.

The Bible should pull us to its pages in our Devotional Life. We must spend time in it. This is the way to live God’s Way. Reading written or hearing oral communications makes it real, creates a relationship. We get to know it. It is God breathing into us the words of the Bible.

Isaiah spoke to Israel about the need to live right. Our lives should match our doctrine, the Word of God. Samuel told Saul “To obey is better than sacrifice. You’ve rejected the Word of the Lord”.

Dr. Picirilli closed the message with the charge, “To obey is better than professing only. God’s Word, Profit from it!”.

Altar prayer.

Bro. Glenn Hood thanked Dr. Picirilli for that great message. Drawing for 5 of Dr. Picirilli's books. Winners: Howard Schultz, Burble Alexander, Wayne Neely, Ron Woodard/Doyle Harris, Noel Blackwood.

The Women Active for Christ had a drawing to give away a flower arrangement. Winner: Barbara Mitchell.

Announcement: Bro. Ron Woodard announced Friendship's upcoming Homecoming and singing. He also commended Dr. Picirilli, saying he was in some of his classes and loved them except during test time. Bro. Glenn Hood added that we are all blessed by Dr. Picirilli's work and testimony.

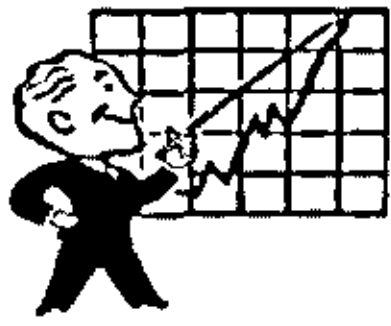
Reminders: Tomorrow is the anniversary of 9/11.

The next meeting will be the **139th Semi-Annual Meeting on 3/4/2017 at Moody Free Will Baptist Church with Bro. Tim Baumgarten as the Special Speaker.**

The 9/2017 139th Annual Meeting will be held at Sylacauga church.

Adjourned for lunch.

Business Meeting Adjourned after the previously tabled item passed in the Afternoon session.



BY-LAWS FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS

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. Each meeting shall be opened with scripture reading and prayer.
3. By a two-thirds vote any decision of the moderator may be over ruled.
4. This meeting shall sit with open doors unless it goes into a committee as a whole.
5. Any person not a member of the body shall be allowed to take part in discussion, (with the moderator's permission) but shall not vote.
6. All members of the body are expected to be present throughout the session unless excused by the moderator.
7. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one officer if his nomination is elected.
8. The moderator must not allow any discussion to be carried on in an unchristian-like spirit.
9. The person who desires to speak must first rise and address the moderator and proceed only when recognized.
10. The votes on any question must be counted upon request of one-fifth of members present.
11. No member shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes, or twice on the same subject unless given permission by the moderator.
12. Ministers of this body shall support all boards and committees elected by this association.



CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I- This association shall be known as “The Cahaba River Association of Free Will Baptists” and is an active member of the Alabama State Association of Free Will Baptists and the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

ARTICLE II- This association has adopted the Treatise of the Faith and Practices of Free Will Baptists, which includes:

1. The Free Will Baptist Church Covenant
2. The Faith of Free Will Baptists
3. The Articles of Faith
4. The Practices of Free Will Baptists

ARTICLE II-A- 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 III-A- Any church without a letter of recommendation will be examined by an appointed committee, which will report to this association at the next conference.

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 privileges at all conferences.



CONSTITUTION

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- The officers of the association shall be composed of the following:

1. Moderator
2. Assistant Moderator
3. Clerk-Treasurer
4. Assistant Clerk-Treasurer

These four shall serve two-year (2) terms and be elected by the body. The moderator and assistant-moderator shall be elected at “odd” years and the clerk-treasurer and assistant clerk-treasurer shall be elected at “even” numbered years. The clerk-treasurer shall handle all monies of the association.

ARTICLE VI-A- There shall be a “Home Missions Board”.

The board shall consist of seven (7) members with three (3) members coming off the board each year. When vacancies occur the body shall elect new members. The Clerk-Treasurer of the Association shall be the Custodian of the Home Missions Fund, keep a record of the funds, and expend the funds as directed by the Home Missions Board.

ARTICLE VI-B- There shall be an “Executive Board”. It shall consist of seven members. These shall be as follows:

1. Moderator
2. Assistant-Moderator
3. Clerk-Treasurer
4. Assistant Clerk-Treasurer



CONSTITUTION

5. Three (3) "Members-At Large" elected by the association to serve a three-year (3) term with one coming off the board each year.

Any four members will constitute a quorum. When vacancies occur the body shall elect replacements. The moderator shall serve as Chairman of the board.

ARTICLE VI-C- There shall be an "Ordination Council." It shall consist of five (5) members with one coming off each year. As vacancies occur the body shall elect replacements. All members of this council shall be ordained ministers or deacons. It shall be the duty of the council to meet with candidates for:

1. Licensing as ministers of the Gospel.
2. Ordination as ministers of the Gospel.
3. Ordination as deacons.

It shall further be their duty to assure compliance with the "Ordination Guidelines".

ARTICLE VII- the Executive Board of this association shall appoint all committees in advance. The committees' responsibility will cease at the end of the session.

ARTICLE VIII- Committees shall be as follows:

1. Business and Deceased
2. Nomination
3. Credentials *
4. Auditing
5. Registration.

*Credentials shall meet in advance and be ready to report at the beginning of the session.



CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE VIII-A- The Auditing and Registration committees will serve at the Annual association session only.

ARTICLE VIII-B- The Credentials committee shall be composed of ordained men.

ARTICLE VIII-C 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 second Saturday morning in September of each year.

ARTICLE IX-A- There shall be a Youth Activities Board comprised of at least 3 board members that are ordained. Each board member will come off every 2 years. This board is responsible for planning and overseeing services and activities for the Youth of our Association.

ARTICLE X- Each church shall pay a representation fee of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$ 125.00) per session of both the annual and semi-annual conferences in order to be seated.

ARTICLE XI-

1. The clerk-treasurer shall be paid two hundred-fifty dollars (\$250.00) annually.
2. The assistant clerk-treasurer shall be paid one hundred dollars (\$100) annually.
3. The moderator shall be paid one hundred dollars (\$100) annually.



CONSTITUTION

4. The assistant-moderator shall be paid fifty dollars (\$50) annually.

All other expenditures shall be the decision of the body.

ARTICLE XII- Sexual Immorality and Sanctity of Marriage:

- A. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. We believe that God disapproves of and forbids any attempt to alter one's gender by surgery or appearance. (Gen. 2:24; Gen. 19:5, 13; Gen. 26:8-9, Lev. 18:1-30; Rom. 1:26-29; 1 Co. 5:1; 6:9; 1 Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4).
- B. We believe that the only Scriptural marriage is the joining of one man and one woman. (Gen. 2:24; Rom. 7:2; 1 Cor. 7:10; Eph. 5:22-23).

ARTICLE XIII- This constitution can be amended (or altered) at any regular session of the association by two-thirds (2/3) vote of members present providing proposed amendment be presented in writing to the body and be tabled from the morning session until the afternoon (or evening) session, or from the afternoon (or evening) session until the next session.

[End of constitution]



ORDINATION GUIDELINES

1. This association neither ordains nor grants a certificate of standing to any man who 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 these ministers is to be re-issued each year if the church of which they are a member makes a request for the license to be renewed for another year.
3. This association ordains no one who does not fully believe the faith and practice of the Free Will Baptist Treatise.
4. This association ordains no one who does not believe and practice tithing.
5. This association ordains no one who does not believe in the verbal inspiration of the Word of God.
6. This association does not ordain women to preach the gospel.
7. This association will not ordain anyone affiliated with the World Council of Churches.
8. This association will not ordain anyone with a bad character report with "them that are without."
9. This association will not ordain anyone who does not believe and practice the ordinances of the church. These are: A. Baptism by immersion; B. Communion; and C. Feet washing.
10. This association will not ordain anyone who does not believe a person can apostatize and be lost.
11. This association will not ordain anyone who does not abide by the Free Will Baptist church covenant's issue concerning the use and sale of intoxicating beverages.
12. This association has the authority to recall ordination credentials from anyone if there is biblical reason to do so. This association, for a minimum of one year as a probationary period, could hold these credentials or the credentials could be held indefinitely. (See: "The Free Will Baptist Treatise, Practices of the Free Will Baptists- Chapter II, The Minister, Section II- His Discipline.)



CHURCH CONFERENCE **GUIDELINES**

1. Call for peace and fellowship of the church.
2. Opportunity for members.
3. Reading of the minutes of the previous church conference.
4. Call for acknowledgements.
5. Report of the church treasurer.
6. Unfinished church business.
7. Report of any (and all) committees.
8. Motion to adjourn.



THE FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

CHAPTER I

The Holy Scriptures

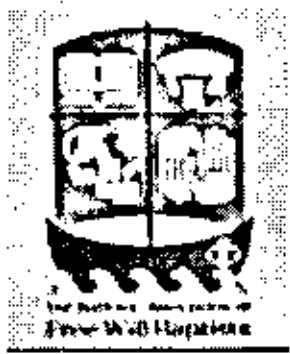
These are the Old and the New Testaments; they were written by holy men, inspired by the Holy Spirit, and are God's revealed word to man. They are a sufficient and infallible rule and guide to salvation and all Christian worship and service.

Since the Bible is the Word of God, it is without error in all matters upon which it speaks, whether history, geography, matters relating to science or any other subject.

Appendix to Chapter I (Adopted July 1979)

Free Will Baptists believe in the plenary, verbal inspiration of the Bible. By plenary we mean "full and complete." We hold that all parts of the Bible are inspired and that inspiration extends to all its subjects. By verbal we mean that inspiration extends to the very words of the Scriptures, not just to the thoughts and ideas expressed by human authors.

We believe the Scriptures are infallible and inerrant. The Bible is without error and trustworthy in all its teachings, including cosmogony, geology, astronomy, anthropology, history, chronology, etc., as well as in matters of faith and practice. Being the very Word of God, it is God's final revelation and our absolute authority.



THE FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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, Saviour, 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 is 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 that He knows will occur.



THE FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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 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.



THE FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

CHAPTER V

Of Christ

SECTION I: *His Divinity*

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 revelation 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: Saviour, Jehovah, Lord of hosts, the first and the last, God, true God, great God, God over all, mighty God, and the everlasting Father.
2. *His Attributes.* He is eternal, unchangeable, omnipresent, omniscient, omnipotent, holy, and to be worshiped.
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 accepted. 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

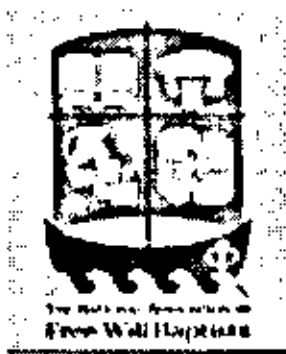
begotten, He is "the Son of God," being the only begotten of the Father, and the only incarnation of the Divine Being.



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 affected 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. *Infant death.* We believe that all children dying in infancy having not actually transgressed against the law of God in their persons, are only subject to 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.



THE FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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 all divine perfections. It has also been shown that Jesus Christ is God, "one with the Father." Then these three, "the Father, the Son, and the 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.

Appendix to Chapter VII (Adopted July 1979)

Free Will Baptists understand the Bible teaches the following facts: On the day of Pentecost believers spoke in distinct foreign languages, which were readily understood by the nationalities present.

Tongues were given as a special gift to the early church as only one sign, which confirms the witness of the Gospel to unbelievers.

While tongues were bestowed by the sovereign will of God on some believers, all did not speak with tongues. When this gift was abused, it became a source of disturbance in the congregational meetings. To eliminate confusion and correct the error, Paul set particular guidelines for the Christian church to follow. The gift of



THE FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

tongues was neither an evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, nor does it bring about sanctification.

We believe that speaking in tongues, as a visible sign of the baptism of the Holy Spirit is an erroneous doctrine to be rejected. Any implication of “a second work of grace” has never been tolerated in our fellowship of churches, and will not be permitted.

We teach and preach the fullness of the Holy Spirit and heed the scriptural admonition, “Be filled with the Spirit; Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

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 his own.

CHAPTER IX

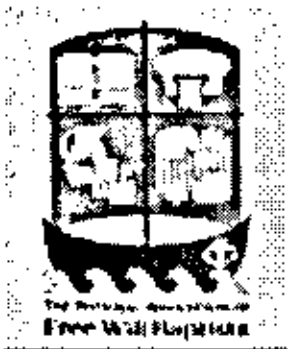
Repentance

The repentance, which the Gospel requires, includes a deep conviction, a penitential sorrow, an open confession a decided hatred, and an entire forsaking of 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



THE FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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 quicken", 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 may constantly grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.



THE FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

CHAPTER XIII

Perseverance of the Saints

There are strong grounds to hope that 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.

Appendix to Chapter XIII (Adopted July 1969)

1. We believe that salvation is a possession by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour and that a person's eternal destiny depends on whether he has this possession. This we hold in distinction from those who teach that salvation depends on human works or merit.
2. We believe that a saved individual may, in freedom of will, cease to trust in Christ for salvation and once again be lost. This we hold in distinction from those who teach that a believer may not again be lost.
3. We believe that any individual living in the practice of sin (whether he be called "backslider" or "sinner") must be judged by that evidence to be lost should he so die in his sins. This we hold in distinction from those who suggest that pernicious doctrine that a man may live in sin as he pleases and still claim Heaven as his eternal home.
4. We believe that any regenerate person who has sinned, (again, whether he be called "backslider" or "sinner") and in whose heart a desire arises to repent may do so and be restored to favor and fellowship with God. This we hold in distinction from those who teach that when a Christian sins he cannot repent and be restored to favor and fellowship with God.



THE FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

CHAPTER XIV

The Lord's Day

This is one 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-aside for the Lord's Day. 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 stately 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 is 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



THE FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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 the Holy Spirit, in which are represented the burial and resurrection 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.

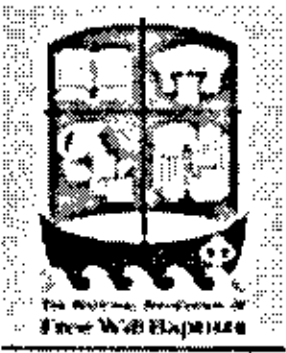
It is the privilege and duty of all who have spiritual union with Christ to commemorate His death, and no man has a right to forbid these tokens to the least of His disciples.

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

As a result of sin, all mankind is subject to the death of the body.



THE FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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 that 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 Judgment and Retribution

1. The Judgment. There will be a judgment, when time and man's probation will close forever. Then all men will be judged according to their works.



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 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 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 in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour 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 efforts for the salvation of the world.

And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

AMEN!