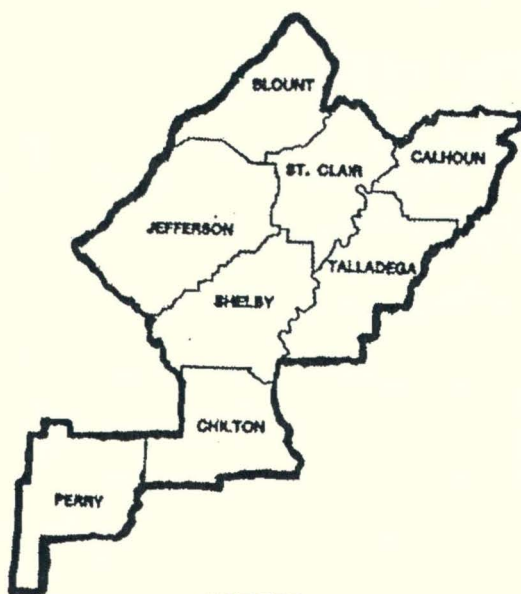


MINUTES
OF THE
ONE HUNDRED THIRTY NINTH
SESSION OF



THE
CAHABA RIVER DISTRICT
ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
2017

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
EXECUTIVE BOARD	1
ORDAINING COUNCIL	2
MISSION BOARD	3
YOUTH ACTIVITIES BOARD	4
WAC OFFICERS	5
CHURCHES DIRECTORY	6-8
IMPORTANT ADDRESSES	9
SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION.....	10-15
ANNUAL SESSION	16-23
BY-LAWS FOR BUSINESS.....	24
DISTRICT CONSTITUTION	25-29
ORDINATION GUIDELINES	30
CHURCH CONFERENCE GUIDELINES	31
FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTIST	32-43
CHURCH COVENANT	44



EXECUTIVE BOARD

<p><u>Moderator</u> Rev. Glenn Hood 3012 Brakefield Dr Fultondale AL 35068 205-854-0394 gahood913@gmail.com</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>Assistant-Moderator</u> Rev. Heath Webb 204 Dogwood Rd Sylacauga AL 35150 256-267-2115 Pastorheath83@gmail.com</p>	<p><u>Member @ Large</u> Rev. Mike Cox 402 Brian Drive Adamsville, AL 35005 205-674-6021 mikeandcherri@charter.net Term ending 2019</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> Steve Day 1634 Fairview Drive Moody, AL 35004 205-640-7470 stevelday07@windstream.net Term ending 2020</p>
<p><u>Assistant Clerk-Treasurer</u> 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>Rev. Dave Franks, Jr. 4361 Canterbury Street Mt. Olive, AL 35117 205-386-3053 dfranksjr@juno.com Term ending 2018</p>	<p>Rev. Heath Webb 204 Dogwood Road Sylacauga, AL 35150 256-267-2115 Term ending 2021</p>
<p>Rev. Ernest Walker 1915 M.A. Lee Drive Moody, AL 35004 205-640-7222 Term ending 2019</p>	<p>Noel Blackwood 2952 Acton Road Moody, AL 35004 205-215-1005 Term ending 2022</p>
<p>Rev. Raymond Rivers P O Box 1736 Calera AL 35040 205-470-6662 205-461-8198 notyourordinaryplace@gmobil.com Term ending 2020</p>	<p>Please note: Article VI-C of Constitution explains terms.</p>



CAHABA RIVER MISSIONS BOARD

<p><u>Chairman</u> Travis Webster 1800 Church Road Pell City, AL 35128 205-338-1574 Cell 256-591-6009 Term ending 2020</p>	<p>Paul Nichols 2689 Sherman Huey Road Centreville, AL 35042 205-926-6347 Term ending 2018</p>
<p>Harold Duckett 9111 County Highway 41 Leeds, AL 35094 205-699-5418 Term ending 2019</p>	<p>Howard Schultz 2095 Kelly Creek Road Odenville, AL 35120 205-640-6838 Term ending 2018</p>
<p>Rev. Chad Shaw 7423 Old Bradford Rd Pinson, AL 35126 (205) 680-2079 Term ending 2019</p>	<p>Rev. Burble Alexander 955 Hwy 86 Calera AL 35040 205-668-0893 C) 205-260-8229 bbalex@gmail.com Term ending 2018</p>
<p>Rev. Mike Cox 402 Brian Drive Adamsville, AL 35005 205-674-6021 mikeandcherri@charter.net Term ending 2019</p>	

Please note:
Article VI-A
of the Constitution
explains terms.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES BOARD

<p>Rev. Raymond Rivers PO Box 1736 Calera, AL 35040 205-470-6662 205-461-8198 notyourordinaryplace@gmobil.com Term ending 2018</p>	
<p>Rev. Heath Webb 204 Dogwood Rd Sylacauga, AL 35150 256-267-2115 Pastorheath83@gmail.com Term ending 2020</p>	
<p>Rev. Kevin Nelson 100 Autumn Acres Ln Sylacauga, AL 35150 Term ending 2022</p>	<p>Please note: Article IX-A of the Constitution defines terms.</p>



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. B'HAM, AL 35215	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 Pastorheath83@gmail.com	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 (SELFWILLE) REMLAP, AL 35133	REV. LARRY SMITH	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> 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



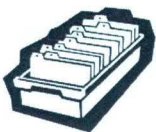
PASTOR



CLERK



11.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MT. OLIVE</u> 11751 Hwy 41 N LEEDS, AL 35094</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">INTERIM REV. GERALD HAYLE 55 MARY'S LANE VINCENT, AL 35178 205-753-1025</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CARLENE HARRIS 121 WILLOW CREEK CIRCLE LEEDS, AL 35094 205-699-8073</p>
12.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MT. PLEASANT</u> 1620 TUMPY JONES RD. MARION, AL 36756</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">REV. AUSTIN SMITH 751 CO RD 303 LAWLEY, AL 36793 334-518-0841</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TRACY DEAVOURS 1227 TUMPY JONES RD MARION AL 36756 334-683-5091</p>
13.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>MT ZION</u> P.O. BOX 844 915 MARTIN ST (HWY. 231-N) PELL CITY, AL 35125 205-338-3708</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">REV. MICHAEL BARBER 4 SEDDON POINT PELL CITY, AL 35128 205-812-5213 205-338-4090</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MELINDA GRAHAM PO BOX 844 PELL CITY AL 35125</p>
14.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>SHADY GROVE</u> 1630 UNION GROVE ROAD ADAMSVILLE, AL 35005 205-674-7022</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">REV. WADE PEOPLES 1630 UNION GROVE RD ADAMSVILLE, AL 35005 205-712-4525</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WANDA HYATT 1630 UNION GROVE RD. ADAMSVILLE, AL 35005 205-543-4288</p>
15.	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>UNION HILL</u> P.O. BOX 54 VANDIVER, AL 35176</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">REV. LEE BEVAN 31984 US HWY 280 CHILDERSBURG, AL 35044 205-230-2938 C) 205-213-6079</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ROETERRY ANDREWS 53363 HIGHWAY 25 VANDIVER, AL 35176 205-672-2515</p>



DIRECTORY
IMPORTANT ADDRESSES

Executive Director
AL State Ministries

Rev. Danny Williams
P.O. Box 14
Winfield, AL 35594
205-468-3897
205-468-3057
alfwb1@centurylink.net

National Association
of Free Will Baptists

P.O. Box 5002
Antioch, TN 37011-5002
615-731-6812
877-767-7659
www.nafwb.org

International Missions
Board of FWB

c/o Rev. Rodney Yerby-
Promoter
115 Maximillion Dr.
Madison, AL 35758

Free Will Baptist
Children's Home

Mandy Mitchell - Director
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205-924-9751
Amanda@fwbhome.org
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Alabama State WAC

Carolyn Michael
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256-837-5209
michaelcarolyn1@gmail.com

Welch Bible College

Rev. Tom Malone
3606 West End Ave
Nashville, TN 37205
615-844-5000
www.welch.edu

THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-NINTH SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION

Convening with:

Moody FWB

March 4, 2017

Pastor Wayne Neely welcomed everyone to the host church.
Song Service led by Sis. Vicki Murano. "Amazing Grace".
Bro. Raymond and Sis. Susan Rivers sang "Somebody Loves Me".

Moderator's Message by Rev. Glenn Hood. "Beware of the Amalekites". He spoke from Exodus 17:14-16. An Amalekite is anyone or anything that hinders you from doing God's work. You cannot associate with the Amalekites and be on God's side. God gives us our power and our strength. Victory is in the Lord. Prayer.

Bro. Glenn Hood reminded the congregation of the request for several years of missing Cahaba River Association Minutes for the Online Minutes Project.

The 139th Semi-Annual meeting was Called to Order by Rev. Wayne Neely. Roll was called and Delegates were seated. Visitors were recognized and welcomed.

Bro. Raymond Rivers and Bro. Kevin Nelson encouraged churches to bring their youth to the association meetings. The Youth were dismissed for Youth Roundup activities.

Old Business: The Clerk previously sent letters to Cahaba River Association churches to inform each church of the Children's Home Immediate Need: Their stove only has 2 working eyes. \$10,000.00 is needed for Kitchen stove/appliances. A letter was previously sent to all of the churches requesting a commitment of funds toward this need. Each church should let the Clerk know of any church commitment.

Moderator Glenn Hood reminded churches that all their letters should be returned timely and accurately. There was no other Executive Board business.

Treasurer's Report: Rev. Wayne Neely:

TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE 139TH SEMI-ANNUAL SESSION

Balance on Hand as of 9/8/2016	\$1390.55
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RECEIVED:

Total fees and offerings received as of 3/3/17	\$5698.00
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BALANCE AFTER FEES AND OFFERINGS	\$7088.55
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PAID OUT:

Wayne Neely, Clerk	\$250.00
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Howard Schultz, Assit. Clerk	\$100.00
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Glenn Hood, Moderator	\$100.00
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Ron Woodard, Assit. Moderator	\$50.00
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PO Box Fee	\$60.00
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Southern Quick Print 139 Annual Programs	\$41.16
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Center Point Ch. (food for 138th annual)	\$325.00
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Dr. Picirilli Offering	\$500.00
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Hotel (Dr. Picirilli)	\$112.86
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Glenn Hood (Planning meetings Food)	\$69.26
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State Assoc. Fees	\$2590.00
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Computer Graphics (Minutes)	\$764.50
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TOTAL PAID OUT	\$4962.78
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BALANCE ON HAND as of 3/3/17	\$2125.77
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BALANCE ON HAND :

Free Will Baptist Foundation as of Dec. 2016	\$43420.75
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139th Semi-Annual
TREASURER'S REPORT
HOME MISSIONS BOARD

Balance on Hand as of 9/8/16	\$0.00
Reimbursement from Discover Church	\$1000.00
BALANCE:	\$1000.00
PAID OUT:	\$0.00
TOTAL PAID OUT	\$0.00
BALANCE ON HAND as of 3/3/17	\$1000.00

Bro. Neely also stated Discover Oxford work has closed its doors.
Bro. Shane Suggs returned \$1000.00 that the Cahaba River Association had sent to the Oxford work.
Motion passed to Accept both Reports.

Children's Home and State Executive Office Report – The reports were given by Bro. Danny Williams and accepted as Information.

I send my greetings and prayers to the pastors and people who comprise the churches of your association. Trust God is working in your midst and that you experience a year of growth in 2017.

Allow me to mention a few things as updates of our state ministries:

1. Our Children's Home is doing well. There are presently 15 children in residence. This number is down from our normal population, so please pray for God to bring us in contact with children who need our ministry. Mandy Mitchell, our social worker, is now our Director and doing an admirable job. The Toy Run and Benefit Ride in December set an amazing, new record in contributions. For the first time ever it surpassed \$100,000! (100,721).
2. Our state missions projects are both making progress. Bro. Tim Riggs and family in Semmes at the Bay City FWB Church are seeing visitors every week. Attendance is steady but more faithfulness in

giving is needed. Bro. Tim announced at the State Meeting that he hopes to go self-supporting in April. Bro. Billy Bevan continues to lead the Eastside Church in Dothan as a revitalization project. Progress is being made and new families have been reached. For several Sundays they have had over 60 in attendance without any special days.

3. The State Missions Conference began January 7th and concluded February 5th. Sixty-five of our churches participated. Twenty-four missionary speakers came and shared their heart and ministry.
4. This past year's Acts 1:8 budget was \$566,000, a \$60,000 increase over the previous year. When we closed 2016, donations totaled \$530,800. That is obviously short of our goal, but a 5% increase (\$27,000) in contributions over 2015. Thank you for the \$82,000 which was donated by 9 of your Association's churches. You helped ministries from Alabama to Russia.
To express it in other terms the Cahaba River Association funded Acts 1:8 for 53 days in 2016! THANK YOU!
5. Please remember the following events:
 - March 10-11 God's Man (Men's Conference) at Northport FWB
 - April 1 Legal Seminar at Forestdale FWB with David Gibbs III
 - April 21-22 Alabama WAC Annual Meeting at Red ay FWB
 - April 26-28 Mid-South Bible Conference
 - April 29 State Youth Competition
 - April 30 International Missions WMO (World Missions Offering)

Please pray for these events asking God to bless with His powerful touch. Also, I would appreciate your prayers as I serve in this role. Please contact me if I can be of assistance.

Cahaba River WAC Report given by Sis. Paulette Boyd and accepted as information. Sis. Paulette announced the Cahaba River WAC meeting would be at Mt Zion on 4/1 at 10 AM and the State AWAC meeting would be at Red Bay. She spoke from Psalm 150:1,6. She encouraged all the ladies to participate and also congratulated Gift Basket Giveaway winner Sis. Louise Blackmon.

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.

Nominating Committee: The report was given by Bro. Wayne McDaniel. The committee recommended Bro. Chad Shaw replace Bro. John Ackerman on the Home Mission Board. Motion passed.

Ordaining Council: Report given by Rev. Ernest Walker. They had no actions needed as there was no one to ordain.

Business and Deceased Committee: Reported by Rev. Chad Shaw. No business to report.

Deceased: Forestdale: Bobby Daugherty, Robert Best, Shiver Winchester, Libby Willoughby. Fairview: Myrtle Winslett. First Sylacauga: Gary Wyatt, Betty Landers. Fultondale: Gertrude Wolford. Mt Pleasant: Eugene Johnson. Mt Zion: John Ackerman, Elton Tollison.

Prayer and thankful hearts for these that left a good example for us, given by Rev. Jack Rollins.

Home Missions Board Report given by Bro. Paul Nichols. A recommendation was made to give Gospel Light Church \$200.00 per month for 5 months until the \$1000.00 balance is depleted. Motion passed.

Our Next Annual Meeting will be Saturday, September 9th at First Sylacauga Free Will Baptist Church.

Business portion of Conference adjourned.

Intermission.

Song Service: Congregational Singing "I'll Fly Away". Special Singers Regan and Kennedy, "I've Got a Mansion", Bro Raymond and Sis Susan Rivers, "He's Watching Me".

Bro. Glenn Hood welcomed our guest speaker, Rev. Tim Baumgarten. "Examining the Prayer of Stephen" Scripture: Acts 7, Luke 23. Stephen's character was calm, loving, caring, gracious, meek, grateful, and filled with the Spirit. He had a joyful heart, a submissive heart, a thankful heart. Stephen let the Lord lead him. He wasn't worried about the anger, hatred, accusations, stones. He was looking up. Stephen was confident in where he'd been, where he was, and where he was going.

Love Offering for Bro. Tim Baumgarten. \$422.60.

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

Meeting dismissed for lunch.

**THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-NINTH
ANNUAL SESSION**

Convening with:
**First FWB Church of Sylacauga
September 9, 2017**

Song Service: "He Keeps Me Singing".

Opening prayer and Moderator's Message by Rev. Glenn Hood.
"The Resurrection", "The Fact of the Resurrection, the Theology of the Resurrection, What does it Mean for Us?". 1 Peter 3:19, Romans 4:24, 25, Romans 12:1,2, Romans 8:34, Romans 10:9,10, John 10:10. Believers in the Lord Jesus Christ are counted righteous. His resurrection proved that. His sacrifice of Himself was acceptable. Believers are given New Life in Christ Jesus within our souls and lives. We have an intercessor. Believers experience Salvation. It is a reality in our lives. We are delivered from the wrath of God. Through Christ we are saved, cleansed and delivered from sin's power. I'm glad He is alive! Bro. Glenn concluded his message with the charge, "Always Put Christ First, Keep Him First in our Lives!".

Bro. Heath Webb welcomed everyone to First FWB of Sylacauga and expressed his excitement over the meeting and fellowship. Bro. Wayne Neely thanked Bro. Heath and the Sylacauga church for the hospitality.

The 139th Annual Session was Called to Order by Clerk Wayne Neely.

Credentials Committee: Bro Wayne McDaniel gave the report. All of the letters we received were examined and found in order. 3 churches did not report; Mt. Olive, Talladega, and Union Hill. 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 some committees needed to be strengthened. Bro. Tommy Wright was

chosen to serve on the Business and Deceased committee since Bro. Jack Rollins and Bro. Steve Day were not present. Bro. Chad Shaw will serve on the Ordaining council as Bro. Dave Franks Jr is not present. The Executive Board had no old business to discuss. Bro. Glenn said the Executive Board meets several times during the year to handle any business that may arise.

Youth Roundup - Bro. Raymond Rivers gave a Youth Video Presentation to the congregation. He introduced YES, Youth Emphasis Service, Leading Young People to say YES to Jesus! What will We do? Ephesians 6:4, Proverbs 22:6. It begins in the home. We need to be aware that the Parents may need the Lord too. Psalms 145:3,4. It all comes down to the local church to reach our youth. What can We do? We can Pray. We can Bring children to all church meetings. Bro. Raymond reminded the congregation that we now have a Youth Activities Board that is willing to assist local churches. The Youth Activities Board members are Bro. Raymond Rivers, Bro. Kevin Nelson and Bro. Heath Webb. The youth were dismissed from the business meeting to participate in Youth Roundup activities.

Moderator Glenn Hood said he received a letter from State Secretary Jeff Lunsford reminding all churches to please complete each item on their letters to the Cahaba River Association so an accurate record of this information can be forwarded to the State Association. Clerk Wayne Neely encouraged all churches to inform him of any information they omitted from their last letters and he can submit it to the State.

Treasurer's Report: Rev. Wayne Neely:

TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE
139th ANNUAL SESSION

Balance on hand as of March 3rd 2017.....\$2125.77

RECEIVED:

Total fees and Offerings received as of Sept 9th 2017.....\$2522.60

BALANCE AFTER TOTAL RECEIPTS

AND OFFERINGS\$4648.37

PAID OUT:

Food Fee for 139th Semi-annual.....\$325.00

Gospel Light Church Support from
the Home Missions Bd (6 months)\$1000.00

Reimburse for food to plan 139th Annual (3 meetings).....\$196.57

Love Offering Bro. Tim Baumgartin\$422.60

TOTAL PAID OUT:.....\$1944.17

BALANCE ON HAND AS OF Sept. 9, 2017\$2704.20

BALANCE ON HAND:

FREE WILL BAPTIST FOUNDATION

as of June, 30th 2017.....\$44,013.50

139th Annual
TREASURER'S REPORT
HOME MISSIONS BOARD

Balance on Hand as of 3/3/2017	\$1000.00
BALANCE:	\$1000.00
PAID OUT: Gospel Light Church	\$1000.00
TOTAL PAID OUT	\$1000.00
BALANCE ON HAND as of 9/9/2017	\$ 00.00

Motion passed to accept both Reports.

Cahaba River Women Active for Christ Report - No report was given but Sis. Alice Hood said the Auxiliary had a great meeting in last Spring and plan to have another one next Spring also.

Children's Home Report and State Report given by Bro. Danny Williams.

We currently have 23 children at the Children's Home. We have just begun the new school year. There are many DHR custody children right now; a new ministry for us. Privately-placed children are usually there longer and can be nurtured over a period of time. Children under DHR placement may stay 24 hours, 1 week, or longer so it is more difficult to get them into a routine. We do our best to make a difference in their lives in the time we are given. We had 6 or 7 saved this past summer.

Prayer Requests- We need a couple to serve as House-parents.

Annual Eldridge Toy Run and Benefit Ride: December 2, 2017
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.

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

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

Bro. Tim Riggs and the Bay City Church went self-supporting in 4/2017. You are encouraged to visit the Bay City church anytime you are in the area during worship service hours.

The Eastside Church Project has been in place for 2 years. Bro. Billy Bevan and Bro. Dalton Malloy have been there. Bro. Billy Bevan passed away. Bro. Dalton is still helping there but a Lead Pastor has not been assigned. Next weekend, a new Pastoral candidate will be considered. Please pray about it.

The next copy of the Digest will have a new Church Plant Project in Athens Al led by Bro. Joel Franks.

Acts 1:8 Project began 20 years ago in November. Alabama Coming Together for the Savior. Jaimie and Tammy Lancaster had not even gone to the mission field at that time. Now it has a \$570,000 budget compared to the \$192,000 budget of 20 years ago. We are currently running \$13,000 behind the budget right now. The Cahaba River Association has given \$46,000.

Upcoming Events:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| 9/24 | Rest of the Family Offering. |
| 9/29 | South Golf Tournament, Highland Oaks, Dothan.
October-Pastor Appreciation Month. |
| 10/8 | AL FWB Roll Call Sunday. |
| 10/13,14 | Southern Ladies Retreat, Piney Grove FWB, Guin. |
| 10/16-18 | Annual Ministers' Retreat, Lake Guntersville. |
| 11/8-10 | AL FWB State Association, Madison FWB. Speakers:
Pres. Matt Pinson of Welch College and Rev. Jeff Jones of
Hilltop FWB at Fuquay Varina, NC. Bro. Jimmy and Sis.
Janie Aldridge will be honored on Thursday evening for
their many years of service in Foreign Missions. |
| 11/19 | NAM Missions Offering. |

A Teacher Training Session was held at Trinity Camp recently with Terry Forest as the speaker. We had 65 in attendance. It was very important and very beneficial. Sunday School ministry is vital. We need that time to teach our people and to further disciple our people so that it won't stay in the classroom but go out in our everyday lives. We hope to do more training sessions in different parts of the state in the future. A Motion passed to accept both reports as information.

Bro. Glenn Hood encouraged giving to Acts 1:8 by "writing your tithes first, then earmarking extra funds to Acts 1:8 to support Missions on a regular monthly basis".

Bro. Glenn welcomed Bro. Joel Franks and family. Bro. Joel is the Lead Church Planter at Legacy FWB Church in Athens, AL. He graduated from the University of Alabama and studies theology at Welch College. He pastored the First FWB Church of Glasgow KY for 17 ½ years. His family is from Marion County AL and his wife Melanie, grew up in the Winfield area with Winfield FWB as her home church. She worked at Trinity Camp and attended Southeastern FWB Bible College and W KY University. They have 2 children, Jonathan and Makayla, 2 very hard workers for Christ. Bro. Joel's former KY Youth Pastor, Bro. B J Eaton, will serve as Associate Church Planter at Legacy, along with his wife Sis. Joann, and son Austen. Bro. and Sis. Eaton have both worked with the children's ministry and bus ministry for many years. Sis. Caitlyn Cook will train with Bro. Tim and Sis. Amanda York to learn Biblical and Christian terms to assist the Athens Church in American Sign Language. Sis. Francis Young will assist with hospitality. The area is growing at a very rapid pace. About 48% of the people in the area have no ties to any belief. Bro. Joel and his associates pledge to plant a new church that is Bible-based, driven by Biblical preaching, ethnically diverse, that has blended music (Ephesians 5:19). The ministry is focused on leading others to Christ. Acts 26:16-18. Please give to Acts 1:8 as this project supports the Athens Church.

Please pray that our houses in KY will sell, that God will prepare people's hearts for the gospel, and for wisdom for us in this new endeavor.

Delegates were selected for the State Association Meeting. Alice Hood, Paul Nichols, and Leona Nichols were selected.

It was brought to the Moderator's attention that Bro. Ernest Walker was on the Auditing Committee but was unable to serve because of his duties on the Ordaining Council. He was replaced by Bro. Chad Shaw.

Nominating Committee: Report was given by Rev. Mike Cox.

1. Regarding the Executive Board-We recommend Bro. Glenn Hood to replace himself as Moderator. Assistant Moderator Ron Woodard has accepted a pastorate in another association. Therefore, we nominate Bro. Heath Webb to serve as Assistant Moderator. We recommend Bro. Steve Day to replace himself as a member at large.
2. Regarding the Ordination Council-We recommend Bro. Noel Blackwood to replace himself.

Motion passed on both items.

A question was raised about the need for the Term Limits to be placed on the Missions Board page of the Minutes booklet as stated in Article VI-A of the Constitution. (The Term Limits have now been added to the current Minutes booklet.)

Registration Committee: Conducted by the Host Church.
75 Registered.

Ordaining Council Report: The Report was given by Bro. Ernest Walker. The Ordaining Council recommended Bro. Michael Cox be licensed for 1 year. Motion passed.

Business and Deceased Committee: Reported by Bro. Tommy Wright.

There was no business to report.

Deceased: Forestdale: Former member Bobbie Beasley.

Davis Chapel: Voyd Howard, Louise Brasher.

Sylacauga: Mary Walton.

Moody: Bobby Jones, David Sellers.

Motion passed to accept the report.

1 Thessalonians 4 was referenced. Bro. Glenn said our goal is to go home to be with the Lord one day and have a brand new glorified body and eternal life. Prayer.

Auditing Committee: The Report was given by Bro. Chad Shaw. The Treasurer's books were examined and found to be in good order. Motion passed to accept.

Intermission. Since there was no other business, the Moderator adjourned the business portion of the meeting. A motion was passed to this effect.

Song: "I Will Serve Thee, Lord Prepare Me to be a Sanctuary, Redeemed" by Host singers, Bro. Kevin Nelson.

Bro. Glenn welcomed our speaker back to the Cahaba River Association, his son, Rev. Allen Hood. He was examined and ordained at our association. He has served almost 5 years as Youth Pastor in Owasso, OK at Rejoice Church. Bro. Allen spoke from 1 Timothy 1:1-4. "Stay in Ephesus! Don't abandon your Post!" Paul asked Timothy to stay put and face things head on. When we preach and teach, we should just hide behind The Word, God has already said it all. Stand Firm! Stay pure! Stay True! Stay Still and Lean on the Word of God! 1 Timothy 1:18,19. Remember why you are where you are. God put you here, be thankful and content. Hold Faith and a good conscience. Be obedient. Beware of false doctrine as Satan is always at work. Luke 17:7-10. When we stand before the Lord, we want to be able to say "I have done what you wanted me to do". Bro. Glenn prayed with the challenge for us to stay in Ephesus.

Our next meetings:

3/3/2018 at Davis Chapel FWB for the Semi-Annual Conference.
9/8/2018 at Forestdale for the Annual Conference.

Offering: \$217.00.

Bro. Glenn thanked the host church once again and closed the meeting in prayer.



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.



THE FAITH OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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!

