
Minutes
OF THE
Twelfth Annual Session
OF THE
California State Association
OF
Free Will Baptists



When Convened With The
ARVIN FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Arvin, California
June 15 - 17, 1955

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The next session will be held at Kerman Church, 2nd and "C" Streets, Kerman, California, on Wednesday night after the second Sunday in June 1956. (June 13 - 15.)

OFFICERS

Moderator Rev. Winston Lawless
10681 Highland Avenue, Selma, California
Assistant Moderator Rev. Earl Jensen
Lander and "C" Streets, Turlock, California
Clerk and Treasurer Rev. Wade Jernigan
Post Office Box 61, Kerman, California
Assistant Clerk and Treasurer Mrs. J. W. Tilden
Post Office Box 292, Lindsay, California

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Arvel Woolery 5 Years
General Delivery, Corcoran, California
Rev. Francis Boyle 4 Years
508 E. "D" Street, Ontario, California
Rev. Cecil Fassio 3 Years
Post Office Box 341, Orange, Cove, California
Rev. Dean Moore 2 Years
1726 Lincoln Avenue, Richmond, California
Rev. Lester Davis 1 Years
760 "R" Street, Fresno, California

MISSION BOARD

Rev. Jerry Dudley 5 Years
212 Beaumont, Tulare, California
Rev. Wade Jernigan 4 Years
Post Office Box 61, Kerman, California
Rev. Earl Jensen 3 Years
Lander and "C" Streets, Turlock, California
Rev. Wiley Gregory 2 Years
6618 Florence Pl., Bell Gardens, California
Rev. J. L. Waltman 1 Year
667 Eighth Street, Turlock, California

LEAGUE BOARD

Rev. C. R. Fassio 5 Years
Post Office Box 341, Orange Cove, California
Delmer Priest 4 Years
836 Ventura, Richmond, California
Rev. Wiley Gregory 3 Years
6618 Florence Pl., Bell Gardens, California
Rev. Joe Mooneyham 2 Years
535 W. 2nd Street, Tulare, California
Rev. Carl Young 1 Year
1520 Mill Street, Selma, California

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Rev. Dean Moore 1726 Lincoln Ave., Richmond, California
Rev. Wade Jernigan P. O. Box 61, Kerman, California
Rev. Jerry Dudley 212 Beaumont, Tulare, California
Rev. Winston Lawless 10681 Highland Ave., Selma, Calif.
Rev. Ralph Hampton 2202 N. 6th, Ceres, California

PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

The Twelfth Annual Session of the California State Association of Free Will Baptists opened with singing "To The Work" led by Rev. Jerry Dudley, Tulare, accompanied by Betty Fry, Tulare.

Moderator, Rev. Winston Lawless called the house to order.

Rev. Earl Jensen, Turlock, called the ordained to prayer. Special Singing by Kerman and Tulare Churches. National Promotional Secretary, Rev. W. S. Mooneyham sang, "Is My Name Written There."

Rev. Ralph Hampton brought the introductory message using as his text, Numbers 13:26-33, "Vision" as his subject.

A handshake was given Rev. Ralph Hampton.

Benediction by Rev. Carl Young.

THURSDAY MORNING

Services opened by singing "The Haven of Rest" led by Rev. Wade Jernigan, Kerman, accompanied by Betty Fry, Tulare.

House called to order by Moderator, Rev. Winston Lawless, Selma.

Prayer by Rev. Joe Mooneyham, Tulare.

Rev. Carl Young, Selma, read James 3:13-18 for scripture reading.

Letters were read and accepted and delegates seated from West Coast, Center, Golden Gate and Southern Associations.

The following officers were elected:

Moderator, Rev. Winston Lawless; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Earl Jensen; Clerk and Treasurer, Rev. Wade Jernigan; Assistant Clerk and Treasurer, Mrs. J. W. Tilden.

Motion made that Moderator appoint all committees.

Congregational singing, "Amazing Grace." Solo, "That's Enough For Me" by Rev. W. S. Mooneyham.

Pulpit committee reported that Rev. Dean Moore, Richmond, would preach at 11 o'clock service Thursday morning, and Rev. W. S. Mooneyham to bring message Thursday evening at 7 30 and Rev. O. H. Doss to bring message Friday morning at the 11 o'clock service.

The following visitors were invited to sit in council as advisory members and given the right hand of fellowship: Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. Frank Hagar, First Oklahoma Association, Oklahoma.

A petitionary letter from the Blythe Church was read.
Motion made that the petitionary letter from Blythe be received for consideration.

Motion carried that the Blythe Church put forth an effort to unite with a subordinate association. (West Coast.)

Motion carried that business adjourn until 1:30 p. m.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Johnnie Priest, Rodeo.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Service opened with singing "Wonderful Jesus" led by Rev. Joe Mooneyham, Tulare, accompanied by Betty Fry, Tulare.

Prayer by Rev. Jack Cravens, Arvin.

Trio composed of Jerry Dudley, Bea Dudley and Betty Fry sang, "I Looked Up and He Looked Down." Trio "Try Jesus" by Fern McAlister, Georgia Reynolds and Betty Fry.

Rev. Dean Moore brought the message using I Timothy 3:16 as his text.

Benediction by Rev. H. E. Dixon, Huntington Park.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened with singing, "Just Over In the Glory Land" led by Rev. Clinton Wood, Concord, accompanied by Betty Fry Tulare.

Rev. Don Farris read John 17:13-26 for the scripture reading.

Prayer by J. A. Roberts, Modesto.

Rules of order were read by the Moderator, Rev. Winston Lawless, Selma.

Report of Temperance Committee read and accepted.
(See Reports)

Report of Sunday School Committee read and accepted.
(See Reports.)

Report of Executive Board read and accepted but all the recommendations were rejected. (See Reports.)

An oral report of the Home Mission Board was given by chairman, Rev. Earl Jensen.

Report of Home Mission Treasurer, Rev. Winston Lawless, read and accepted.

Rev. Joe Mooneyham, Mission Director, gave a report of his year's activities.

Motion carried that Rev. Joe Mooneyham turn in his expenses to the State Mission Board.

Rev. Arvel Woolery and Rev. C. R. Fassio were elected on the Executive Board, 5 years and 3 years, respectively.

Resignation of Rev. O. H. Doss on the Executive Board was read and accepted. Rev. Francis Boyle, Ontario, was elected in his place. (4 years.)

Rev. Jerry Dudley was elected on the Mission Board. (5 years.)

Dismissed by Rev. Jack Cravens.

THURSDAY EVENING SERVICE

Services opened by singing "The Old Account Was Settled" led by Rev. Joe Mooneyham, Tulare, accompanied by Betty Fry, Tulare. Prayer by Rev. O. H. Doss, Modesto.

An offering was received for the "Loyalty Gift."

Preachers' Quartet sang "The Great Redeemer." Solo "I Don't Know About Tomorrow" by Betty Fry, Tulare. Quartet composed of Clinton Wood, Fern McAlister, Lonnie McAlister and Georgia Reynolds sang "My God Is Real."

Rev. W. S. Mooneyham brought the message, using as a subject, "What it means to be a Christian."

Dismissed in prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened with singing "I'm In The Gloryland Way" led by Rev. Gene Shaw, Bakersfield, accompanied by Wanda Rogers, Lamont.

Rev. Lonnie McAlister read Psalms 103:1-12 as the scripture reading.

Report of League Committee read and accepted. (See Reports.)

Report of Auxiliary Committee was read and accepted. (See Reports.)

Report of Obituary Committee was read and a moment of silent prayer was given, followed with prayer by Rev. O. H. Doss. (See Reports.)

Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Report of State Centralization Treasurer was read and accepted. (See Reports.)

Motion carried that we reimburse Rev. Lee Ramsey for the expense of printing programs for State Meeting.

Resolutions Nos. 1, 2, and 3 were read and accepted. (See Reports.)

Resolution No. 4 was read and received for consideration.

Resolution No. 4 accepted. (See Reports.)

Rev. Ralph Hampton was elected as Promotional Secretary and Treasurer.

The next association was placed at Kerman Church, 2nd and "C" Streets, Kerman, California June 13-15, 1956. Rev.

Lonnie McAlister, Kerman, was elected to bring the introductory message and Rev. Joe Mooneyham, Tulare, as alternate.

Motion carried that the Moderator appoint a program committee. Those appointed were: Rev. Wade Jernigan, chairman; Rev. Arvel Woolery, Rev. Cecil Thurman, Rev. Leonard Rial, Rev. J. E. Bridges.

Motion carried that Moderator appoint delegates to National Association. Those appointed were Goldie Jensen, Virgie Woolery, Pearl Davis, Lettie McFarland, Stella Bentley, Delmer Priest, Goldie Priest, Mary Moore, Ivey Wilson, Nettie Lou Jernigan, Walker Nickol, Willa Mize, Daisy Stack, Lois Colvin, Cleo Doss, Mary Sue Lindsey, Mae Mooneyham, Bea Dudley, Barney VanWinkle, Reba VanWinkle, Inez Thurman, Herb Holleman, Teddie Thurman, Harold Barlow, Ruth Barlow and Mary Nickol.

Motion carried that business adjourn until 1:30 p. m. Dismissed by Rev. Winston Lawless.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Opened with singing "Showers of Blessings." Prayer by Rev. Jerry Dudley. Piano Solo "Where The Living Waters Flow" and solo "Wayfaring Pilgrim" by Sister Mary Nichols. Solo "Sunrise" by Rev. W. S. Mooneyham.

Rev. O. H. Doss brought the message, using I Corinthians 13:13 as his text and "Three Basic Principles of Christian Living" as his subject.

Handshake was given Rev. Winston Lawless, Rev. Ralph Hampton, Rev. Dean Moore, Rev. W. S. Mooneyham and Rev. O. H. Doss.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. J. E. Bridges, Reedley.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened with singing "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder." Prayer by Rev. Fred Wynne, Bakersfield.

Rev. Johnnie Priest read John 12 for the devotional. Prayer by Rev. Winston Lawless.

Motion carried to print a roll of the deacons present.

Report of Publication Committee read and accepted. (See Reports.)

Resolution No. 5 read and accepted and a Board of Education was elected. (See Reports.) Those elected were: Dean Moore, Wade Jernigan, Jerry Dudley, Winston Lawless and Ralph Hampton.

Report of Finance Committee read and accepted. (See Reports.)

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Divine Service

Jack Cravens
Rodney Kemp
A. E. Gilliam
E. O. Lawless
Eddie Bonds

Temperance

Juanita Wood
Bill Mize
Stella Bentley
Myrtle Harrison
J. E. Bridges

Resolution

Ralph Hampton
Sam Winters
J. W. Tilden
Francis Boyle
Wiley Gregory

Publication

Clinton Wood
Doice McAlister
Sue Martin
Dick Hagar
B. F. Paragin

Sunday School

Cecil Fassio
Arvel Woolery
Norma Voss
Jo Hupp
Mae Mooneyham

Obituary

Wanda Nelson
Ed McDonnal
Leona Keoster
Sis. H. E. Dixon
O. H. Ellis

Finance

Joe Mooneyham
Lee Ramsey
Cecil Thurman
Dean Moore
H. E. Dixon

Auxiliary

Zella Ramsey
Margie Winters
Georgia Reynolds
Goldie Jensen
Sis. Callison

League

O. H. Doss
Clark Casteel
Lonnie McAlister
Daisy Stack
Lucille Boyle

Resolution Committee

1. Be it resolved each subordinate association have their letters in to the clerk by the evening service preceding the business session and a committee on committees be obtained so they will have time to select committees for the business session.

2. Be it resolved we return to the practice of sending expense money to the host association that they may entertain the delegation.

3. Be it resolved that we adopt a Cooperative Program with a budget of \$20,000 with the following allocations.

National Cooperative— 35% up to and not to exceed \$7,500 for this church year, June 15, 1955 to June 15, 1956.

State Missions— 25%

State Paper— 2.5%

Centralization Fund— 15%

Promotional Department— 12.5%

Education (College)— 10%

4. Be it resolved that we elect a Promotional Secretary-Treasurer to contact the pastors and churches and explain to them the Cooperative Program and ways and means of support, to the best of his ability on the amount of money provided for his Department.

5. Be it resolved that we elect a Board of Education whose duty shall be to look into the possibilities of a school, starting in the near future and make necessary arrangements.

6. Be it resolved that we give the host church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality during the association.

Sunday School Committee

1. We recommend that each church adopt and use the six point record system.

2. We recommend that each church sponsor a study course on the six point record system.

3. We recommend that each church request from the National Sunday School Board that we have a graded series of Sunday School Literature.

4. We recommend that each church set aside one day each year as Sunday School Rally Day to promote Sunday Schools.

Finance Committee

1. We recommend that the associations send the following amounts to the State Association in 1956: Golden Gate, \$130.00; Center, \$115.00; Southern, \$105.00; West Coast, \$95.00, of which \$150.00 will be paid to the host church.

2. We recommend that \$25.00 be paid to the clerk, \$15.00 to the Moderator and \$10.00 to the assistant clerk.

We recommend that 1,000 minutes be printed and the clerk send them to each pastor according to membership.

4. We recommend that \$30.00 be sent to the National Association for minutes.

5. We recommend that the churches support the State Cooperative Program by tithing their regular tithes and offerings.

League Committee

Whereas, the league is a training department of the church and a vital phase of our work, we recommend the following:

1. We recommend that the pastors, deacons and all church leaders put forth a greater effort to encourage league work.

2. We recommend that the church give the leaguers of our church a part in church participation.

3. We recommend that the State League Convention minutes be printed in the State Association minutes.

Temperance Committee

We wish to report as follows: Our first consideration is to search our own lives as to our influence on others, abstaining from all worldly amusements and sinful habits, always looking for our own faults that might offend our fellowman and looking for the good in our brothers and sisters in Christ being temperate in all things.

Publication Committee

We recommend that our pastors strive to get our people to subscribe to all Free Will Baptist publications.

Obituary Committee

We report that the Lord has called fourteen members from our midst, Southern, 6; Center, 1; West Coast, 4; Golden Gate, 3.

Auxiliary Committee

We report two new auxiliaries organized this past year. We ask that the Auxiliary Convention Minutes be printed in the State Association Minutes for which we send \$40.00.

TREASURER'S REPORT 1954-55

Receipts: Golden Gate Association, \$155.00; Center Association \$140.00; Southern Association, \$130.00; West Coast Association, \$120.00; State League Convention, \$40.00; State Woman's Auxiliary Convention, \$40.00. Total received, \$625.00. Balance 1953, \$285.34. Grand Total \$910.34.

Disbursements: Moderator, \$15.00; Clerk, \$25.00; Assistant Clerk, \$10.00; Calwa (Host Church,) \$220.00; National Association, \$30.00; Palo Verde Valley Times, (printing 1,000 minutes,) \$186.30; U. S. Postoffice, (Postage for mailing State and National Minutes,) \$10.23; Winston Lawless, (Travel Expense to Nashville, Tennessee,) \$120.00; Executive Board travel expense (6c per mile,) O. H. Doss, \$4.90; Ralph Hampton, \$19.80; Dean Moore, \$20.70. Total disbursements \$661.93. Balance June 16, 1955, \$248.41.

Pat McLain, Treasurer

State Centralization Treasurer's Report

Balance as of June 17, 1954..... \$1,469.49

Received this year as follows:

J. R. Evans	7.00
Alex Crook	3.00
Lena Eckert	3.00
Wade Jernigan	10.00
Orvil Woolery	50.00
Selma League	20.50
Sanger Church	4.50
Parlier Church	5.00
Concord Church	25.00
Campbell Church	23.25
Center Association League Rally	174.00
Golden Gate Association League Rally	7.00
West Coast Association League Rally	2.00
Southern Association League Rally	54.00
Salinas Church	19.58
Center Association Woman's Auxiliary	15.00
Richmond Church	25.48
Southern Association	237.50

TOTAL IN TREASURER \$2,255.30

Dean Moore, Treasurer

Mission Board Financial Report

Total amount received for 1955, \$3,408.81. Amount brought forward from 1954, \$702.84. Total \$4,111.65.

Expenses: National Missions, \$1,595.11; Board Expenses, \$357.65; Office Supplies, \$259.04; Postage, \$16.00; Sunday School Literature, \$29.15; Telephone Company, \$86.23; Advertising, \$23.66; Total paid out, \$3,230.34. Balance June 1, 1955, \$881.31.

Winston Lawless, Treasurer

LETTERS FROM ASSOCIATIONS

Golden Gate Association

To the State Association when convened with Arvin Church, Arvin, California.

We send as delegates Eddie Vaughn, Robert Pierce, Edd McDonald, Virginia Peevyhouse, Kelly Adkins, Royce Eppler, Alma Brown, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you in your Godly deliberations.

Number of churches, 17; membership, 1,095; state of religion, good deceased, 3; Prayer meetings, 17; Sunday Schools, 17; average attendance, 1,101; Leagues, 6; Auxiliaries, 4; Paid Pastors, \$23,778.75; Evangelists, \$1,466.40; Missions, \$2,228.09; Building and Repairs, \$2,355.30; Miscellaneous, \$9,602.84; Value church property, \$283,020.00; Ministers, 42; Deacons, 43; Golden Gate Association has received two new churches the past year. We send \$105.00 as expense money.

O. H. Doss, Moderator
Mae Graham, Clerk
143 Eighth Street, Turlock, California

Southern Association

To the State Association of Free Will Baptist when convened with the Free Will Baptist Church, Arvin, California.

We send as delegates Brothers John Tilton, E. O. Lawless Sisters Bentley, Cambell, Mitchell, Mildred Scott and as alternate delegates Brother Archey Owens and Sis. Zackery, Sis. Markwick, Della White, Sis. Cotton and Sis. Laughlin, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you in your Godly deliberations.

Number of churches, 12; membership, 684; state of religion, good; deceased, 6; Condition of prayer meetings, good; condition of Sunday Schools, good; average attendance, 685; leagues, 9; auxiliaries, 5; Paid Pastors, \$15,278.02; Evangelists, \$1,106.03; Missions, \$935.37; Building and Repairs, \$8,334.03; Education and Publications, \$1,855.27; Centralization Building Fund, \$237.37; Value church property, \$101,500.00; Ministers, 33. We send \$80.00 as expense money.

Arvel Woolery, Moderator
Arville Nelson, Clerk

Center Association

To the State Association of Free Will Baptist when convened with the Arvin Church, Arvin, California, June 15, 16, 17, 1955.

We send as delegates, our beloved brethern and sisters, Sherman Wells, Martha Hale, Susie Martin, Gladys Baker, Leona Keoster, Georgia Reynolds and Agnes Kerr whom we pray you will receive to sit with you, and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

Number of churches, 10; membership, 674; state of religion, good; deceased, 1; condition of Prayer meetings, good; condition of Sunday Schools, good; average attendance, 564; leagues, 4; membership of leagues, 84; auxiliaries and Y.P.A., 5; Paid Pastors, \$13,751.14; Evangelists, \$749.66; Missions, \$717.51; Building and repairs, \$9,631.15; Education and Publications, \$1,010.35; amount for incidentals, \$1,406.43; Value of church property, \$151,500.00; ordained ministers, 29; licensed ministers, 1; ordained deacons 13. We send \$90.00 as expense money.

We request the next State association to meet with the Kerman Church, Kerman, California.

Lester Davis, Moderator

Fern McAlister, Clerk

P. O. Box 84, Kerman, California

West Coast Association

To the State Association when convened with Arvin Church, Arvin, California.

We send as delegates our beloved brothers; Wright, John Campbell; sisters, Norma Voss, Sis. Watkins, Fannie Smith-en, Sis. Stacks and Hessie Best. Alternates, Bro. Ticer, Bro. Paregin, Sis. Shirley Wright, Sis. Elsie Jones, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you, and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of Religion, Good; members received this year, 189; baptised, 177; dismissed, 18; deceased, 4; Total membership, 488; Condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday School, good; average number of pupils 552; number of officers, 32; number of teachers, 49; condition of leagues, good; condition of auxiliaries, good; Value of church property, \$194,500.00; Paid Pastors, \$14,327.90; Evangelists, \$930.71; Amount for Building and Repairs, \$10,795.37; Missions, \$552.43; Publications, \$373.58; Education, \$275.81; Ordained ministers, 13; licensed ministers, 8; deacons, 33. We send \$70.00 as expense money.

Robert Maxwell, Jr., Moderator

Chester S. Burgess, Clerk

11755 Garetal St., Norwalk, California

MINISTERS ROLL

Francis Boyle, 508 E. "D", Ontario, California
J. E. Bridges, General Delivery, Orosi, California
Walter Brown, 1103 Grace, Bakersfield, California
W. H. Callison, Route 2, Box 273-K, Oxnard, California
Clarke Casteel, 1021 9th, Sanger, California
Jack Cravens, 782 Orange Avenue, Arvin, California
Lester Davis, 760 "R" Street, Fresno, California
H. E. Dixon, 21818 Devlin, Artesia, California
O. H. Doss, 1445 Nadine, Modesto, California
Jerry Dudley, 212 Beaumont, Tulare, California
Donald Farris, Shafter, California
Cecil Fassio, Box 341, Orange Cove, California
Wiley Gregory, 6618 Florence Pl., Bell Gardens, California
R. L. Groves, Calwa, California
J. F. Hagar, P. O. Box 213, Noble, Oklahoma
Ralph Hampton, General Delivery, Ceres, California
Clifton Harrison, 632 So. "K", San Bernardino, California
Herman Hupp, Post Office Box 1129, Riverbank, California
Earl Jensen, Lander and "C" Streets, Turlock, California
Wade Jernigan, Post Office Box 61, Kerman, California
Winston Lawless, 10681 Highland Avenue, Selma, California
Doice McAlister, Turlock, California
Lonnie McAlister, Post Office Box 84, Kerman, California
Bill Mize, 1033 W. 7th, Hanford, California
Joe Mooneyham, Tulare, California
W. S. Mooneyham, 3801 Richland Avenue, Nashville, Tenn.
Dean Moore, 1726 Lincoln, Richmond, California
Johnnie H. Priest, 1218 Starr, Crockett, California
G. B. Ramsey, 1404 Tucker, Selma, California
Lee Ramsey, 349 So. Shasta, Kerman, California
Leonard Rial, 416 Riverside, Chowchilla, California
Gene Rogers, 573 Santa Anna, Lamont, California
Henry Scroggins, 21822 Devlin, Artesia, California
Cecil Thurman, 3756 Tyler, Fresno, California
J. L. Waltman, 667 Eighth Street, Turlock, California
Andrew Winters, 309 "J" Street, Sanger, California
James C. Wood, 2875 The Alameda, Concord, California
Arvel E. Woolery, General Delivery, Corcoran, California
Fred Wynn, 727 Wither Street, Bakersfield, California

DEACON ROLL

A. J. Bailey, 207 Hughes Dr., Oxnard, California
L. E. Buchanan, Parlier, California
E. W. Burgess, 1814 Hardcastle Street, Hanford, California
Pete Connor, 2540 Wimbledon, Napa, California
O. H. Ellis, 1715 Sunshine Avenue, Bakersfield, California
A. E. Gilliam, 5520 Pacific Blvd., Huntington Park, California
James Groves, 334 Easter Street, Bakersfield, California
R. R. Hagar, 347 E. Walnut, Visalia, California
Rodney Kemp, 16455 W. Neilson, Kerman, California
Otis Keoster, Route 5, Box 950, Hanford, California
J. A. Roberts, Post Office Box 123, Ceres, California
Carl Rodden, 2633 Hill Street, Huntington Park, California
John B. Smith, 457 Hood, Arvin, California

STATISTICAL REPORT OF SUBORDINATE ASSOCIATION

Associations	Golden Gate	Center	Southern	West Coast	Total
Churches	17	10	12	9	48
Ministers	42	30	33	21	126
Members	1095	674	684	488	2941
No. of Sunday Schools	17	10	12	9	48
No. of Leagues	6	4	9	6	25
No. of Auxiliaries	4	5	5	1	15
Paid Pastors	\$23,778.75	\$13,751.14	\$15,278.02	\$14,327.00	\$67,134.91
Paid Evangelists	1,466.40	749.66	1,106.03	930.71	4,252.80
Paid Home Missions	2,228.09	717.51	935.37	552.43	4,433.40
Value of Church Property	283,020.00	\$151,500.00	\$101,500.00	\$194,500.00	\$730,520.00

STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION

The sixth annual session of the California State League Convention met in Memorial Hall, Tulare, California, April 30 - May 1, 1955.

President Clinton Wood called the house to order.

Services opened with singing "Heavenly Sunshine" led by Margie Tuggle, Bell Gardens, with Betty Fry, Tulare as pianist.

Prayer by Donald Doss, Modesto.

Devotional John 12: 35-36 was read by Glenn Smith, Fresno.

Welcome Address was given by Mayor Carl Miller, Tulare. Response was given by Ralph Hampton Jr., Concord.

Motion carried that programs be accepted.

Letters from Golden Gate, Center, Southern, and West Coast Conventions were read and accepted.

Petitionary letter from Blythe League was read and accepted.

Committees were appointed as follows:

Pulpit

Jerry Dudley, Tulare
Loren Rush, Kerman
Mary Moore, Richmond
Lucille Boyle, Ontario
Merlyn Clark, Blythe

Finance

Lowell Moore, Tulare
Bob Brown, Salinas
Edwin McCuller, Selma
Charles Marshall, Blythe
Frances Smith, West Coast

Resolution

Ralph Hampton Jr., Concord
Pansy Cravens, Ontario
Courtney Lindsey, Kerman
Lonnie Rolen, Blythe
Betty Anderson, Porterville

Registration

Shirley Reberry, Tulare
Velma Copeland, Kerman
Shirley Wright, Oxnard

Obituary

Betty Fry, Tulare
Fern McAlister, Kerman
Deloise Newman, West Coast

Motion carried to adjourn business until 1:30 p. m.

Dismissed by Rev. Francis Boyle, Ontario.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Services opened by singing "Bring Them In."

Prayer by Reba Kirk, Modesto.

Special singing by Bakersfield Quartet.

Rev. Wade Jernigan, Kerman brought the message using "We Walk With Christ" as his subject.

Dismissed by Fern McAlister, Kerman.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened with singing "Joy Unspeakable."

Prayer by Loren Rush, Kerman.

Pulpit Committee reported Rev. Lee Ramsey, Exeter would deliver the afternoon message and Rev. Joe Mooneyham, Tulare would bring the Sunday 11:00 a. m. message.

Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Finance Committee report was read and accepted. (See Reports.)

The next convention will convene with Bell Gardens Church, 7216 Garfield Avenue, Bell Gardens, May 1-2, 1956. Rev. O. H. Doss, Modesto was elected to bring the introductory message and Rev. Bob Brown, Salinas, as alternate.

Motion carried that Program Committee select one to give response.

Motion carried that programs be presented Saturday and Sunday afternoons and evangelistic service be on Saturday evening.

Motion carried to adjourn.

Dismissed by Rev. Winston Lawless, Selma.

AFTERNOON WORSHIP

Opened by singing "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart."

Prayer by Rev. Dois McAlister, Kerman.

Report of Center Association Youth Camp was given by Rev. Winston Lawless.

Singspiration was led by Rev. Clinton Wood.

Prayer by Rev. Lonnie Rolen, Blythe.

Solo "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow" by Betty Fry..

Rev. Lee Ramsey delivered the message using Mark 2: 1-13 as his scripture and "Bringing Men to Jesus" as his subject.

Motion carried that President appoint program judges. Those appointed were Francis Boyle, Winston Lawless, and Leon Kirk.

Motion carried that a Junior Sword Drill be conducted.

Motion carried that evening services began at 7:00 p. m.

Benediction by Bud Jenkins, Modesto.

SATURDAY EVENING SERVICES

Opened by singing "I'll Live On" and "When I See The Blood."

Prayer by J. B. Lawless, Selma.

Special singing by Tulare Gospel Harmonettes, Blythe Double Quartet, and solo by Yvonne Carter, Tulare.

Prayer by Rev. Dean Moore, Richmond.

Kerman representing Center Convention presented "The Life Of Christ."

Intermediate and Junior Sword Drills were led by Fern McAlister. Delma Wright, Oxnard received a Loving Cup and \$25.00 Savings Bond as winner of Intermediate Drill and Esther White, Shafter received a New Testament as second place winner. Virginia Lawless, Selma won a Bible as winner of Junior Drill and Martha Russel, Porterville received a New Testament as second award.

Porterville representing Southern Convention presented "Five Minutes After I Die."

Dismissed by Betty Gregory, Santa Paula.

SUNDAY MORNING SESSION

Services opened by singing "Bring In the Sheaves" led by Margie Tuggle with Betty Fry as pianist.

Prayer by Mary Hatcher, Richmond.

Officers were elected as follows:

Sponsor—Bud Jenkins, P. O. Box 364, Ceres, California

President—Ralph Hampton Jr., 2859 Avon, Concord, California

Vice President—Francis Boyle, 508 E. D Street, Ontario, California

Recording Secretary—June Rolen, Route 1, Box 275-A, Blythe, California

Corresponding Secretary—Mary Moore, 1726 Lincoln Avenue, Richmond, California

Treasurer—Lowell Moore, P. O. Box 782, Tulare, California

Chorister—Loren Rush, Route 2, Box 500, Kerman, California

Pianist—Betty Fry, 562 South H Street, Tulare, California

Sword Drill Leader—Lucille Boyle, 508 E. D. Street, Ontario, California

Five Year League Board Member—Cecil Fassio, P. O. Box 341, Orange Cove, California

Installation of officers was given by Rev. Cecil Fassio, Orange Cove.

Dismissed by Mary Moore, Richmond.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Opened by singing "Leaning On The Everlasting Arm."

Prayer by Lucille Hampton, Concord.

Special singing by Blythe Quartet, a duet by Clinton Wood and Mary Moore and a solo "I'd Rather Have Jesus" by Mary Moore.

Prayer by Pansy Cravens, Ontario.

Rev. Joe Mooneyham delivered the message using "Discipleship" as his subject and Luke 9:33 as his text. An invitation was given and one soul was saved.

Dismissed by Peggy Robertson, Oakland.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened by singing "Love Lifted Me."

Prayer by Rev. Francis Boyle.

Concord League representing Golden Gate Convention presented "Beyond the Door."

Santa Paula representing West Coast Convention presented "The Eye of Faith."

Resolution No. 1 was read and accepted. (See Reports.)

Program Banner was won by Porterville League representing Southern Convention.

Benediction by Rev. Winston Lawless.

REPORTS

Resolution Committee

1. Be it resolved that this convention give the Tulare Church and Southern League Convention a standing vote of thanks.

Finance Committee

1. We recommend that each subordinate convention send \$1.00 per capita member to the State League Convention, \$.50 for convention expenses and \$.50 for host church.

2. We recommend that \$40.00 be paid to the State Association for printing of minutes.

Obituary Committee

We are thankful to report that there have been no deaths in our league this year.

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The seventh session of the Woman's Auxiliary Convention met with the Arvin Church June 15, 1955, at 10:00 a. m. The convention was called to order by president, Zella Ramsey.

Opened with singing led by Marjorie Winters accompanied by Wanda Rogers.

Devotional by Wanda Nelson, Bakersfield. Invocation by Sis. Roberts, Modesto.

Duet was rendered by Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Dudley of Tulare

Welcome was given by Evelyn Smith, Arvin, and response by Lou Groves, Bakersfield.

The president was given power to appoint committees. They were appointed as follows:

Registration

Evelyn Smith
Goldie Jensen

Obituary

Teddie Thurman
Beatrice Pettit
Georgia Reynolds

Finance

Florence Sharp
Anne Scott
Bea Dudley

Nominating

Pat McLain
Fern McAlister
Johnny Jenkins

Resolution

Gladys Stevens
Ruth Walker
Opal Wilbanks
Mary Moore
Marjorie Winters

Sis. Zella Ramsey, the president, brought her message using John 12:23 and Romans 12:1-2.

Letters called for by President. Petitionary letters from Oxnard and Blythe were read and accepted by motion.

"Information Please," conducted by President to State Officers.

Dismissed for recess by Rev. Jack Craven.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Opened with singing "The Glory Land Way" led by Ruth Walker, Modesto.

Prayer by Rev. W. S. Mooneyham. Solo by Betty Fry, Tulare, song by Kerman Quartet.

Rev. Winston Lawless, Selma brought the message, "Declaring His Glory Now" using as Scripture Psalms 19:1 and I Corinthians 3:9.

Benediction by Sis. Opal Wilbanks.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened with singing led by Georgia Reynolds. Scripture reading by Sis. Virginia Hupp. Prayer by Rev. Ray Let-singer, Porterville.

Reports of chairmen given as follows:

Enlistment—Goldie Jensen

Youth Chairman—Johnny Jenkins

Mission Study—Goldie Priest

Program and Prayer—Pat McLain

Benevolence—Lettie McFarland

Secretary and Treasurer—Winnie McLain

Treasurer's report read and accepted.

Officers elected as follows:

President—Gladys Stevens, Kerman

Enlistment—Goldie Jensen, Turlock

Youth Chairman—Marjorie Winters, North Fresno

Mission Study—Zella Ramsey, Kerman

Program and Prayer—Wanda Nelson, Bakersfield

Benevolence—Bea Dudley, Tulare

Secretary and Treasurer—Lou Groves, Bakersfield

Resolution No. 1 read and accepted. (See Reports.)

Resolution No. 2 read and accepted. (See Reports.)

Resolution No. 3 read and accepted. (See Reports.)

Resolution committee given power to select gift for Winnie McLain, outgoing secretary-treasurer.

Finance Committee report read. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 were accepted. (See Reports.)

Registration report read.

Obituary report read and accepted, moment of silent prayer observed followed with prayer by Rev. George McLain.

Delegates for National Association appointed as follows: Lettie McFarland, Bea Dudley, Stella Bentley, Montie Bostick, Nettie Lou Jernigan, Cleo Doss, Mary Moore, Goldie Priest, Alma Brown and Goldie Jensen.

Stewardship playlet "The Triumphant Hour" presented by Bakersfield.

"It is No Secret" played by Betty Fry and George McLain.

Installation of officers by Rev. Jerry Dudley, Tulare. Prayer by Rev. O. H. Doss, Modesto.

Motion carried to give outgoing officers a standing vote of thanks for their fine work.

A corsage was presented to Zella Ramsey, outgoing president.

An offering of \$24.32 was given for Centralization Fund.

A handshake given to Rev. Winston Lawless.

Minutes read and approved.

Motion carried to adjourn.

Benediction by Goldie Jensen, Turlock.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Registration Committee

We wish to give the following report. There were 14 ministers and 49 auxiliary members present, making a total of 63.

Resolution Committee

1. Be it resolved that we register according to our Districts and then the names of the ladies present be given to the President for the selection of committee members.

2. Be it resolved that the ladies of the host church furnish lunch of some sort.

3. Be it resolved that Winnie McLain be given a gift from this Convention in appreciation for her work and interest in the convention as past recording secretary-treasurer.

Finance Committee

1. We recommend that \$40.00 be paid for printing of minutes.

2. We recommend that an offering be taken for centralization fund.

3. We recommend that we pay for the expense of bulletins and other expenses of convention.

4. We recommend that we pay \$10.00 Loyalty Gift.

5. We recommend that \$25.00 be spent for gift for Winnie McLain.

6. We recommend that each District pay \$15.00 for feeding fund.

Obituary Committee

We report 2 deaths, Sis. Wade of the Tulare Church and Sis. McGowan of the Orange Cove Church.

Zella Ramsey, President

Winnie McLain, Recording Secretary

BY-LAWS OF HOME MISSION BOARD

1. The board shall be composed of five members including a secretary, treasurer and their tenure of office shall be one to five years.

2. All moneys for missions shall be sent through this board.

3. Requests for financial aid shall be made in writing to the board and after investigation, money shall be granted in such cases as merits support. There must be an opportunity to establish a church to merit such aid.

4. Not less than three members of this board can make a decision.

5. This board shall appoint a representative in each subordinate association to raise funds for missions.

6. The treasurer shall give an official receipt for funds received.

7. The treasurer shall give a financial report at each regular session of the association.

8. These By-Laws may be amended at any regular session of the state association by a majority vote of members present.

9. All moneys shall be distributed as follows: 25 percent paid to Foreign Missions, 25 percent to National Home Missions and 50 percent will remain in the state treasury to be used for home missions in California.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory sermon.
2. House called to order by Moderator.
3. Letters called for, read and received.
4. Right hand of fellowship and seating of delegates.
5. Election of officers.
6. Petitionary letters called for.
7. Reading rules of order.
8. Invite visiting brethren to seats in council.
9. Appointment of committees.
10. Unfinished business.
11. New business.
12. Report of committees.
13. Miscellaneous business.

BY-LAWS

1. The Moderator or assistant Moderator or in their absence the oldest minister (in the work) present shall call the association into conference.

2. Each session shall be opened and closed by prayer.

3. Fourteen members from two or more associations shall constitute a quorum. A less number may adjourn until such quorum is present.

4. Visiting brethren are invited to seats as advisory members.

5. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.

6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and vote taken.

7. Motion made and lost shall not be recorded.

8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.

9. The Moderator shall not allow discussions when not carried on in a Christian spirit.

10. The ruling of the Moderator may be overruled by a two-thirds majority of members voting.

11. No question from any association shall come under the consideration of the association unless it has first been discussed in its own association.

12. At each Association arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons or their equivalent devotional exercises each day.

13. The State Association shall have no power to fill vacancies in the delegation from any composite body.

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE: From long experience, we, the members of the Free Will Baptist Denomination, being regularly baptised upon the profession of our faith in Christ and realizing the necessity of a bond of union and fellowship among us as an association of churches and to preserve and maintain correspondence and coordination with us, do therefore ordain this constitution for our better denominational government.

ARTICLE 1

This organization shall be known as the State Association of Free Will Baptists of the State of California.

ARTICLE 2

The object and purpose of this organization shall be to unify the work of our churches and associated bodies of this state and to devise and execute measures of expanding our work in the cause of Christ in broader fields.

ARTICLE 3

This state association shall consist of delegates duly appointed or elected by the subordinate association they represent and all ordained Free Will Baptist ministers, their wives, all ordained Free Will Baptist deacons and their wives.

ARTICLE 4

Representation to the state association is to be by subordinate associations. Each subordinate association shall be entitled to seven delegates to be selected from the laity.

ARTICLE 5

The state association shall have the right to settle any and all questions of discipline doctrine or practice, that may properly come before it from any of the bodies composing this organization or act upon an appeal that may be made by any church or individual which is a component part of this body. Said appeal shall have been written and properly signed by the constituent body or bodies making such appeal from the lower to the next higher body.

ARTICLE 6

OFFICERS: The officers of this state association shall consist of a moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, assistant clerk and treasurer,, each of whom shall be elected at the opening of each setting of the state association.

Section 2. Committees as necessary shall be appointed by the Moderator unless otherwise provided for and shall hold office until work is completed or their successors are appointed.

ARTICLE 7

The executive board shall be composed of five members. Each member shall be an ordained minister in good standing in the state association and their terms of tenure shall be as follows:

- (1) one for one year.
- (1) one for two years.
- (1) one for three years.
- (1) one for four years.
- (1) one for five years.

Succession to office thereafter shall be determined as order requires.

ARTICLE 8

The state association shall hold its meetings annually. The date and place to be decided upon at each previous meeting of said state association.

ARTICLE 9

Should necessity arise which calls and requires immediate action, the State Executive Board shall convene upon call of its chairman and shall take whatever action it deems necessary in the best interests of the cause of Christ. The action however shall not conflict with the purpose and edicts of the Constitution as set forth in the preceding articles.

ARTICLE 10

This constitution may be altered or amended at any regular session of the state association by a two-thirds vote of members present and voting. All proposed alterations or amendments shall be presented in writing to the body one day in advance.

ARTICLE 11

No minister will be received into this association who cannot obtain a recommendation from the association from which he comes, and that said association be a member of the state or national association, and that he obtain a recommendation from the California State Minister's Conference before he is allowed to pastor a church in California.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in 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 use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations to reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conference, public worship, and the observance of the ordinance of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for 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 bond of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and to seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able to promote the success of the churches and the Gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society.

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 conversion of the world.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. **THE BIBLE**—The Scripture of the Old and New ment were given by inspiration of God and are an infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. **GOD**—There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scripture as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, yet as one God infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

3. **CHRIST** is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature, truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified and is our ever present Savior and Lord.

4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT**—The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit, all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men.

5. **THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD**—God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. **SINFULNESS OF MAN**—Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His Posterity, therefore, inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin and become guilty before God.

7. **THE WORK OF CHRIST**—The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, suffering, death and resurrection affected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. **THE TERMS OF SALVATION**—The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord, with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the domination of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. **ELECTION**—God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ, men become His elect.

10. FREEDOM OF WILL—The human will is free and self controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit and live, or to resist them and perish.

11. SALVATION FREE—God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all and whosoever will may come and take of the Water of Life freely.

12. PERSEVERANCE — All believers in Christ, who through grace, preserve in holiness to the end of life, have the promise of eternal salvation.

13. GOSPEL ORDINANCES—Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; Feet washing, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14. TITHING—God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament: Jesus endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:33) and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him." (I Cor. 16:2.)

15. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH—The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

16. RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT, AND FINAL RETRIBUTION—The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked shall "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."