

Minutes

Fifteenth Annual Session
California State Association
Free Will Baptists



when convened with the Bell Gardens

Free Will Baptist Church

Bell Gardens, Calif. June 12-14, 1957

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The next session will convene with the Richmond Free Will Baptist Church, 1726 Lincoln Avenue, Richmond 9, California, on Wednesday night after the fourth Sunday in June, 1958, (June 25-27).

OFFICERS

Moderator	Rev. R. C. Hampton
2004 Aloha Way, Modesto, California, Phone L	Ambert 3-9966
Assistant Moderator	Rev. Earl Jensen
Lander and "C" Sts., Turlock, Calif., Phone M	Ercury 4-6440
Clerk and Treasurer	Rev. Gene Rogers
740 North "F" St., Tulare, Calif., Phone 6-	7852
Assistant Clerk and Treasurer	Mrs. June Rolen
4065 Montocito, Fresno, Calif., Phone C	Linton 5-0802

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Cecil Thurman	5 Years
1036 W. Fountain Way, Fresno, Calif.	
Rev. Winston Lawless	4 Years
10681 S. Highland Avenue, Selma, Calif.	
Rev. Arvel Woolery	3 Years
P. O. Box 642, Strathmore, Calif.	
Rev. Francis Boyle, Chairman	2 Years
782 Orange Street, Arvin, Calif.	
Rev. C. R. Fassio, Secretary	1 Year
6590 Fry Street, Bell Gardens, Calif.	

MISSION BOARD

Rev. Wiley Gregory	5 Years
1415 Ojai Road, Santa Paula, Calif.	
Rev. J. L. Waltman	4 Years
667 Eighth Street, Turlock, Calif.	
Rev. Jerry Dudley, Secretary	3 Years
710 William Way, Concord, Calif., Phone M	Ulberry 5-7030
Rev. George McLain	2 Years
1838 Clay, Fresno, Calif.	
Rev. Earl Jensen, Chairman	1 Year
Lander and "C" Street, Turlock, Calif., Phone M	Ercury 4-6440

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD

Rev. B. J. Brown, Secretary	5 Years
776 Holly St., Salinas, Calif., Phone H	Arrison 2-5467
Mr. Pete Conner	4 Years
2540 Wimbledon, Napa, Calif.	
Rev. Gene Rogers	3 Years
740 North "F" Street, Tulare, Calif.	

Rev. F. A. McCage2 Years
 915 Acacia Street, Modesto, Calif.
 Rev. E. E. Morris, Chairman1 Year
 1726 Lincoln Ave., Richmond, Calif., Phone BEacon 5-6966

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

Rev. J. R. Hall5 Years
 782 Orange, Arvin, Calif.
 Mr. Delmer Priest4 Years
 836 Ventura Avenue, Richmond, Calif.
 Rev. Harold Talley3 Years
 2405 Larcus Street, Bakersfield, Calif.
 Rev. Lonnie Rolen, Chairman2 Years
 4065 Montocito, Fresno, Calif., Phone CLinton 5-0802
 Mr. Delmer Sharp1 Year
 P. O. Box 61, Kerman, Calif.

LEAGUE BOARD

Rev. O. H. Doss5 Years
 P. O. Box 724, Kerman, Calif.
 Rev. Ray Letsinger4 Years
 251 Sierra View, Porterville, Calif.
 Rev. C. R. Fassio3 Years
 6590 Fry Street, Bell Gardens, Calif.
 Mr. Delmer Priest2 Years
 836 Ventura Avenue, Richmond, Calif.
 Rev. Wiley Gregory1 Year
 1415 Ojai Road, Santa Paula, Calif.

P R O C E E D I N G S

Wednesday Evening Service

The Fourteenth Annual Session of the California State Association of Free Will Baptists opened with singing "I'll Live on", led by Rev. Jerry Dudley, Concord, accompanied by Mrs. June Rolen, Fresno.

The Association was called into session by the Clerk, Rev. Gene Rogers, who introduced the Moderator, Rev. R. C. Hampton.

Prayer by Rev. John Reel, Paramount.

Congregational singing "O That Will Be Glory".

Bell Gardens Quartet sang "When Life is Over" and "More Precious Than Silver or Gold".

Solo by Mrs. Fern Ray, "How Firm a Foundation".

The introductory message was delivered by Rev. B. J. Brown, the theme, "Following Jesus" was taken from I Cor. 11:1.

Motion carried that program be adopted.

Committee on Committees was appointed by the moderator. Those appointed were Mr. Pete Conner, Chairman, Rev. John Reel, and Rev. Edward Johns.

Benediction by Rev. C. R. Fassio, Bell Gardens.

Thursday Morning Session

Services opened with singing, "Standing on the Promises" led by Rev. B. J. Brown, Salinas, accompanied by Miss Barbara Spurlock, Santa Paula.

Prayer by Rev. Wiley Gregory, Santa Paula.

Devotional reading, I Cor. 6:15-20, was brought by Rev. Odis Faris, Richmond.

The Welcome Address was given by Rev. F. A. McCage, Bell Gardens.

The Response, by Rev. Orval Thurman, Wasco.

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

Motion carried to seat delegates from the Southern Association pending the receipt of their letter.

Delegates were given handshake with congregation singing "He Keeps Me Singing".

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

Officers were elected as follows:

Moderator, Rev. R. C. Hampton; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Earl Jensen; Clerk and Treasurer, Rev. Gene Rogers; Assistant Clerk and Treasurer, Mrs. June Rolen.

Visitors, Rev. Elvis Priest and family of Phoenix, Arizona, and Mrs. Fern Ray of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, were welcomed by the Assistant Moderator.

Motion carried that reports scheduled for the afternoon ses-

sion be brought before the assembly at the present time.

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

Report of the Promotional Department was given by Rev. R. C. Hampton, Promotional Secretary.

Motion carried to accept the report.

Rev. R. C. Hampton was retained as the Promotional Secretary of California.

Telegram received from Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, Executive Secretary of the National Association of Free Will Baptists expressing good wishes to this convention, was read by the Moderator.

A letter received from Rev. H. E. Willis, the National Home Mission Secretary of Free Will Baptists, expressing good wishes to this convention, was read by the Moderator.

Divine Service Committee reported Rev. Odis Faris, Richmond, to bring the Thursday morning message, Rev. E. E. Morris, Richmond, to bring the Thursday evening message, and Rev. Winston Lawless, Selma, to bring the Friday morning message.

Report of the Mission Board was given by Rev. Earl Jensen, Chairman, and Rev. Jerry Dudley, Secretary. (See Reports.)

Motion carried to accept the report.

Rev. Wiley Gregory was elected to serve as the five (5) year member of the Mission Board.

Report of the Christian Education Board was given by Rev. B. J. Brown, Secretary, and Rev. E. E. Morris, Chairman. (See Reports.)

Motion carried to adopt the report.

Rev. B. J. Brown was elected to serve as the five (5) year member of the Board of Christian Education.

Motion carried to accept oral report of Sunday School Board as information.

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

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Francis Boyle, Ontario.

Eleven O'Clock Service

Service opened with singing, "I Am Thine O Lord" led by Rev. Jerry Dudley, Concord, accompanied by Miss Barbara Spurlock, Santa Paula.

Prayer by Rev. Harold Talley, Bakersfield.

Duet, "I Bowed on My Knees and Cried Holy" by Mrs. Fern Ray and Mrs. Bea Dudley, accompanied by Mrs. Wanda Rogers.

Rev. Odis Faris, Richmond, brought the message. The theme, "The Basis of Christian Stewardship" was taken from Romans 12:1.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. O. H. Doss, Kerman.

Afternoon Session

Opened with singing, "Joy Unspeakable" led by Rev. Jerry Dudley, Concord, accompanied by Miss Barbara Spurlock, Santa Paula.

Prayer by Rev. Carl Young, Petaluma.

Devotional reading from Hebrews 12 was given by Rev. Bob Taylor, Sacramento.

The Southern Association's letter was read and accepted.

The resignation of Mrs. Pat McLain as the three (3) year member of the Sunday School Board was read and accepted.

Rev. J. R. Hall was elected as the five (5) year member and Rev. Harold Talley was elected as the three (3) year member of the Sunday School Board.

Motion carried that the Sunday School Board become a standing State Board.

Report of the Centralization Treasurer was given by Rev. Dean Moore. (See Reports.)

Motion carried to accept the report.

Rev. Dean Moore was reelected as the State Centralization Treasurer.

Report of the State Executive Board as given by Rev. Francis Boyle was received and recommendation No. 1 was adopted. (See Reports.)

Rev. Cecil Thurman, Fresno, was elected to serve as the

five (5) year member of the Executive Board.

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

Report of the Resolution Committee was received.

Resolution No. 1 was adopted. (See Reports.)

The Polity Committee, as recommended in Resolution No. 1, was elected as follows: Rev. Dean Moore, Rev. F. A. McCage, Rev. Odis Faris, Rev. E. E. Morris, Rev. Francis Boyle, Rev. Jerry Dudley, and Rev. Cecil Thurman.

Resolution No. 2 was read and tabled until noon Friday, June 14th. (See Reports.)

Resolution No. 3 was read and adopted. (See Reports.)

Resolution No. 4 was read and adopted. (See Reports.)

Resolution No. 5 was tabled for an indefinite period. (See Reports.)

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

Motion carried that the next session of this Association convene with the Richmond Free Will Baptist Church, 17th and Lincoln Streets, Richmond, California on June 25, 26, and 27th, 1958.

Rev. Gene Rogers, Tulare, was elected to bring the introductory message and Rev. J. R. Hall was elected alternate.

Motion carried that the ordained ministers attending the 1957 National Convention be empowered to select delegates at the National Meeting.

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

Rev. F. A. McCage led the congregation in prayer after a moment of silent meditation.

Motion carried to adopt Temperance Committee Report. (See Reports.)

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

Motion carried to adjourn until 9:00 a.m. Friday.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Joe Blair, North Redondo Beach.

Thursday Evening Service

Service opened with singing "I Am Satisfied With Jesus" led by Mr. C. C. Bonds, Ventura, accompanied by Mrs. Mary Nichols, Bell Gardens.

Prayer by Rev. J. R. Hall, Arvin.

Congregational singing followed by altar of prayer of all ordained led by Rev. John Reel, Paramount.

The Bell Gardens Trio sang "Have you Heard" and "I'm Bound for the Kingdom".

Duet, "I Can't Pay, Even for Today" by Mrs. Rose Lee Thomas and Rev. John Reel, Paramount.

Solo, "He Bought My Soul" by Mrs. Fern Ray, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Rev. E. E. Morris brought the evening message from Revelations 3:20.

Appointment of Rev. O. H. Doss, Rev. Sam Winters, and Rev. John Reel to fill vacancies on Finance Committee.

Benediction by Rev. Edward Johns, Shafter.

Friday Morning Session

Opened with singing "I Want to Be a Worker" led by Rev. B. J. Brown, Salinas, accompanied by Mrs. Iris Talley, Bakersfield.

Devotional reading from Psalms 121 and prayer by Rev. Carl Young, Petaluma.

Resolution No. 2 was taken from the table and adopted (See Reports.)

Resolution No. 6 was read and adopted. (See Reports.)

Motion carried that future vacancies of the State League Board be elected during each regular session of the State Association.

Report of the Finance Committee was read and adopted. (See Reports.)

Motion carried that \$250.00 be borrowed from the State Centralization Fund and be repaid at a rate of \$125.00 per year for the ensuing two (2) years.

Motion carried that the State Centralization Treasurer deposit Centralization funds in a Savings Account.

Motion carried that the Moderator appoint a Placement Committee to investigate possibilities of a central meeting place for the 1959 session of the California State Association.

Those appointed were Rev. Gene Rogers, Rev. Winston Lawless, and Rev. Cecil Thurman.

Motion carried that we recommend to our churches the support of the Cooperative Program by tithes and offerings.

Motion carried to adjourn.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Billy Hood, Whittier.

Eleven O'Clock Service

Service opened with singing "Sunshine in the Soul" led by Rev. Jerry Dudley, Concord, accompanied by Miss Vivian Sweeten.

Prayer by Rev. Dorce McAlister, Kerman.

Congregational singing "O That Will Be Glory" followed by duet, "When I Looked Up and He Looked Down" by Rev. and Mrs. Jerry Dudley, Concord.

Rev. Winston Lawless brought the message, "Restraining the Power of God Among Free Will Baptists" from Psalms 78:44.

Handshake given to speakers of convention with congregation singing "Blest Be the Tie that Binds".

Benediction by Mr. E. L. Floyd, Modesto.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES:

DIVINE SERVICE

F. A. McCage
Noel Brown
Joy McLain

PROGRAM

R. C. Hampton
Earl Jensen
Gene Rogers

RESOLUTION

E. E. Morris
Earl Jensen
Joe Blair
Edward Johns
Winston Lawless

FINANCE

F. W. Boyle
Jerry Dudley
Orval Thurman
Vivian Sweeten
Mildred Chambers

LEAGUE

B. J. Brown
Imogene Farris
Don Bias
Dorce McAlister
J. R. Hall

TEMPERANCE

Carl Young
Sam Winters
Bob Taylor
J. S. Cox
Inez Thurman

PUBLICATION

Dean Moore
Wiley Gregory
O. H. Doss
John Reel

OBITUARY

Margie Winters
Bea Dudley
Ella Cox
Alma Johns

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

June Rolen
Lucille Hampton
Lucille Boyle

Ruth Holmesley
Wanda Rogers

Resolution Committee

1. Be it resolved that we recommend to each Association the attached questions (printed separate from these minutes) as an examination for ordination. We further recommend the election of a "Polity Committee" for the purpose of compiling other questions and answers.
2. Be it resolved that Resolution No. 2 of 1956 Convention which reads, "Be it resolved that no person serve on more

than one standing board" become Amendment No. 1 to the Constitution.

3. Be it resolved that the next session of this Association convene on Wednesday night after the fourth (4) Sunday in June, (June 25, 26 and 27, 1958).
4. Be it resolved that the Board of Christian Education be responsible for those who teach and for the doctrine that is taught in the school which is sponsored by this State Association.
5. Be it resolved that the California State Paper be discontinued and 5% of the Cooperative fund be allocated to the Sunday School Board (See Finance Committee Report No. 6.)
6. Be it resolved that we give the Bell Gardens Church and the West Coast Association a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality to this Convention.

Finance Committee

1. We recommend that each Association send 25c per capita member to this State Association.
2. We recommend that \$225.00 be paid to the host church.
3. We recommend that \$20.00 be paid to the Moderator, \$35.00 to the Clerk, and \$15.00 to the Assistant Clerk.
4. We recommend that 1,000 minutes be printed.
5. We recommend that 30.00 be sent to the National Association for minutes.
6. We recommend that the Cooperative Fund be allocated as follows:

National Association35%

(Up to, and not to exceed \$7,500.00 for fiscal year
June 1, 1957 to May 31, 1958.)

State Missions35%

Centralization Fund7 1/2%

State Christian Education Board10%

State Sunday School Board5%

Promotional Department7 1/2%

League Committee

We recommend that the present State League Board be recognized as a standing board of this association.

Motion carried from the floor that future vacancies be elected at each annual session of the State Association.

Temperance Committee

We wish to report as follows: "That we search ourselves as to the position in which we stand as Christians, and that we give our most earnest thought to abstaining from anything that might offend our fellowmen or unchristianize us in the eyes or minds of sinners. Therefore, let us recommend temperance in all things".

Publication Committee

We recommend that each pastor encourage his church to adopt the "Every Church Family Plan" of subscription to the "Contact" magazine of the National Association.

Obituary Committee

We report that the Lord has called 24 members from our midst in the past year. From the Golden Gate Association 6; from the Center Association 2; from the Southern Association 7; from the West Coast Association 9.

Woman's Auxiliary Committee

During the past year the West Coast District has organized and joined the California State Convention. There were three (3) auxiliaries organized in the Golden Gate Association and two (2) in the Southern Association.

There have been thirty (30) conversions during the past year through the efforts of the Woman's Auxiliary.

We request the 1957 Woman's Auxiliary Convention minutes to be printed in the State Association minutes, for which we send \$40.00.

The Woman's Auxiliary State Convention will convene on the second Saturday in April, (April 12, 1958), at the Calwa Free Will Baptist Church.

Executive Board Report

The State Executive Board met and organized February 9, 1957, at Tulare, California. Rev. Francis Boyle was elected Chairman and Rev. C. R. Fassio, Clerk.

The Board met again May 3, 1957, at Modesto, California. We submit the following recommendation:

We recommend that the Executive Board be authorized to incorporate the California State Association of Free Will Baptists.

State Association Treasurer's Report, 1956-57

Balance brought forward, June, 1956\$348.88

Receipts:

Golden Gate Association	\$130.00
Center Association	115.00
Southern Association	105.00
West Coast Association	95.00
Offering for National Sunday School Dept.	55.27
State League Convention	40.00
State Woman's Auxiliary Convention	<u>40.00</u>

Total Receipts\$580.27

Total\$929.15

Disbursements:

Kerman Church, Host for Association	\$150.00
Rev. Ralph Hampton, Moderator	20.00
Rev. Gene Rogers, Clerk	35.00
Mrs. June Rolen, Assistant Clerk	15.00
National Association, minutes	30.00
National Sunday School Department.....	55.27
Briefcase for clerk	11.35
Buttons for National Association	34.49
Vallejo Mission	290.00
Postage for Minutes	4.50
Printing of Minutes	213.20
Convention Letter Forms	1.30
Executive Board Travel Expense	<u>54.27</u>

Total Disbursements\$914.48

Balance on Hand, June 1957\$ 14.67

Deficit:

Executive Board Travel Expense\$42.00

Rev. Gene Rogers, Treasurer

Promotional Department Treasurer's Report

Total Income for Year\$9,120.09

Allocations:

National Cooperative Plan	35%.....	\$3,192.03
State Home Mission Board	35%.....	3,192.03
State Christian Education Fund	10%.....	912.01
Centralization Fund	7½%.....	683.99
Promotional Department	7½%.....	683.99
State Paper	5%.....	<u>456.04</u>

Total Allocations\$9,120.09

Rev. R. C. Hampton, Promotional Sec.-Treas.

State Centralization Treasurer's Report

Balance Brought Forward\$3,486.20

Received Through Cooperative Plan\$ 683.99

Total in Treasure\$4,170.19

Rev. Dean Moore, Treasurer

Report of "California Free Will Baptist" Paper

Balance Brought Forward, June, 1956\$ 116.93

Receipts:

Cooperative Allocation456.04

Contribution from Martinez Church 5.00

Contributions from Individuals 3.00

Total Receipts\$ 572.97

Disbursements:

Printing of Nine (9) Issues\$496.12

Mailing of Nine (9) Issues 56.12

Total Disbursements\$ 552.24

Balance on Hand, June 1957\$ 20.73

Rev. Dean Moore, Treasurer

Mission Board Report

The Mission Board has met at the call of some works and has met with each Association in session this year to report on the Mission work and encourage the churches to support the entire program in the scope of the Cooperative Program. We wish to thank the Lord for a good year in His work.

A total of seven (7) churches were organized during the year

and missions were encouraged and helped in some instances. The churches organized were:

Petaluma:

Evangelist ..\$75.00
Literature\$ 6.30

North Redondo Beach: Strathmore:

Evangelist	\$100.00	Evangelist	\$100.00
Rent	\$ 80.00	Rent	\$ 95.00
Literature	\$ 6.30	Literature	\$16.00

Sacramento:

Evangelist ..\$30.00
Rent\$70.00

Baldwin Park:

Evangelist \$100.00
Rent\$ 50.00
Literature ..\$ 6.75

Lincoln:

Evangelist \$100.00
Escrow Fee \$ 25.00

Camarillo:

Evangelist ..\$75.00
Rent\$38.00
Literature\$ 6.30

A mission was started and helped in San Diego but has not developed. A mission was helped in Olivehurst and remains a mission.

August, 1956, Rev. Jerry Dudley made a survey of Northern California and contacted several community churches and some of these may be converted to Free Will Baptist. The Board was deeded property at Lincoln to protect the church there, and to receive this property the Mission Board had to Incorporate. The Mission Board was Incorporated April 24, 1957.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance Brought Forward\$ 174.63

Receipts:

Cooperative Allocation	\$3,192.03
Earmarked Receipts	<u>32.74</u>

Total Receipts\$3,224.77

Total to be Accounted For\$3,399.40

Disbursements:

Organization of New Works	\$ 985.80
Telephone	232.22
Mileage	442.53
Supplies (Stationery and Postage)	74.46
Literature (Churches Organized 1955-56)	25.50
Exploratory Work	70.84
Legal Fees	<u>14.50</u>

Total Disbursements\$1,845.95

Balance On Hand, June, 1957\$1,553.45

Total Accounted For\$3,399.40

Rev. Earl Jensen, Chairman
Rev. Jerry Dudley, Secretary

Christian Education Board Report

On November 19, 1956, the Board of Christian Education met at the Arvin Free Will Baptist Church to make plans for a six weeks school to be held at the Tulare Free Will Baptist Church.

The Board decided to contact Dr. Johnson from the Free Will Baptist Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, of the possibility of getting teachers from the college. Dr. Johnson agreed to arrange for one to come, although when the time came, we couldn't get the teacher we had asked for. We contacted several others who were qualified to teach, but could not get them. However, we are proud to report to the Association of the progress that was made in the northern part of the state. Four young ministers were impressed of the Lord to start a school in this area. The Board met with this group on February 8, 1957, and after hearing the plans and desires of this group, decided to invest \$400.00 in books for this school.

The Board received five (5) letters from men who attended this school, expressing their appreciation to the Board and praising the work very highly. We feel that this semester of schooling was very successful, after talking to several who attended. We recommend that the State Association support this work.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Balance Brought Forward	\$ 519.60
Receipts:	
Cooperative Allocation.....	\$ 912.01
Total Receipts	\$ 912.01
Total	\$1,431.61
Disbursements:	
Traveling Expense (Board Members)	\$126.70
Phone Calls	45.05
Chime Press (Rubber Stamp)	2.50
Check Book	2.29
Supplies	8.84
Books for California Bible Institute	<u>419.00</u>
Total Disbursements	\$604.38
Balance on Hand, June, 1957	\$827.23

Rev. E. E. Morris, Chairman
Rev. B. J. Brown, Secretary

LETTERS FROM ASSOCIATIONS

Golden Gate Association

To the California State Association when meeting at Bell Gardens, California, June 12-14, 1957.

We send as delegates Lura Clayton, Vivian Sweeten, Bert Hilton, Pat Clifton, Dennis Cook, Robert Carter, and Johnie Taylor.

STATISTICS

Number of churches 25; number of parsonages 5; number of ordained ministers 60; number of deacons 61; number of the following auxiliaries: Sunday Schools 25; Leagues 16; Woman's Auxiliaries 12; Prayer Meetings 25; Church membership 1357; Sunday School average 1242; League 298; Woman's Auxiliary 96; Members Received 419; Members dismissed 305; Deceased 6.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Spent for local causes: Pastors salaries \$29,115.90; Evangelistic work \$2,381.61; Building and repairs \$29,167.48; Literature \$2,467.24; Miscellaneous \$9,557.44. Spent four outside causes: Cooperative Plan \$3,084.41; Home Missions \$400.45; Education \$2,467.19.

Value of church property \$408,596.00.

Value of parsonage property \$20,000.00.

Amount enclosed with letter for expenses \$175.00.

Rev. R. C. Hampton, Moderator
2004 Aloha Way, Modesto, California

Mrs. Mae Graham, Clerk
651 8th Street, Turlock, California

Center Association

To the California State Association of Free Will Baptists meeting at Bell Gardens, California, June 12-14, 1957.

We send as delegates Elva Scanthing, Suzie Martin, Bennett Hatcher, George Mann, Delmer Sharp, Pearl Mann, and Mary Kimbro.

STATISTICS

Number of churches 9; number of parsonages 4; number of ordained ministers 28; number of licensed ministers 4; number of deacons 17. Number of the following auxiliaries: Sunday School 9, Leagues 6; Woman's Auxiliaries 4; G.T.A.'s 2; Y.P.A.'s 1; Prayer Meetings 9; Church Membership 536; Members Received 123; Members dismissed 60; Deceased 2.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Spent for local causes: Pastors salaries \$9,198.50; Evangelistic Work \$430.76; Building and repairs \$6,853.02; Literature \$635.28; Advertising \$194.00; Miscellaneous \$1,776.55. Spent for outside causes: Cooperative Plan \$1,286.84; Foreign Missions \$62.75; Home Missions \$386.31; Education \$598.52.

Value of church property and parsonages \$182,500.00.

Amount enclosed with letter for expenses \$125.00.

Rev. Winston Lawless, Moderator

10681 Highland Avenue, Selma, California

Mrs. Marjorie Winters, Clerk

1673 Lewis Street, Kingsburg, California

Southern Association

To the California State Association of Free Will Baptists meeting at Bell Gardens, California, June 12-14, 1957.

We send as delegates J. E. Hallman, Dela White, Eva Bonner, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Tilden, Etta Boland, and John Keaton.

STATISTICS

Number of churches 13; number of parsonages 3; number of ordained ministers 28; number of licensed ministers 3; number of deacons 53. Number of the following auxiliaries: Sunday Schools 13; Leagues 9; Woman's Auxiliaries 7; Prayer Meetings 13; Church membership 910; Members received 199; Members dismissed 97; Sunday School enrollment 914.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Spent for local causes: Pastors salaries \$26,709.00; Evangelistic Work \$1,462.69; Building and repairs \$19,293.25; Literature \$1,937.05. Spent for outside causes: Cooperative Plan \$2,379.79.

Value of church property \$241,700.00.

Value of parsonage property \$20,000.00.

Amount enclosed with letter for expenses \$135.00.

Rev. Edward Johns, Moderator

420 West Marengo St., Shafter, California

Rev. Arville Nelson, Clerk

1021 Niles St., Bakersfield, California

West Coast Association

To the California State Association of Free Will Baptists meeting at Bell Gardens, California, June 12-14, 1957.

We send as delegates, Mildred Chambers, Audrey Franks, J. B. Ledbetter, Jesse Dunn, Harry Carr, Ruth Holmesley, and Bill Keys.

STATISTICS

Number of churches 14; number of parsonages 2; number of ordained ministers 24; number of licensed ministers 8; number of deacons 38. Number of the following auxiliaries: Sunday Schools 14; Leagues 13; Woman's Auxiliaries 10; Prayer Meetings 14; Church membership 666; Members received 138; Members dismissed 90; Sunday School enrollment 771; League enrollment 260; Woman's Auxiliary membership 91.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Spent for local causes: Pastors salaries \$22,942.43; Evangelistic Work \$972.71; Building and Repairs \$18,466.82; Literature \$709.93; Advertising \$289.15; Miscellaneous \$2,005.89. Spent for outside causes: Cooperative Plan \$1,366.71; Home Missions \$236.45; Education \$346.10.

Value of church property \$210,000.00.

Value of parsonage property 16,000.00.

Amount enclosed with letter for expenses \$115.00.

Rev. Joe Blair, Moderator

14814 Avis Street, Lawndale, California

Rev. Chester S. Burgess, Clerk

11755 Garetal St., Santa Fe Springs, Calif.

MINISTERS WHO REGISTERED

Bias, Don, 11703 E. 216th Street, Artesia, California
Blair, Bobby J., 14814 Avis Street, Lawndale, California
Boyle, Francis, 782 Orange Avenue, Arvin, California
Brown, B. J., 776 Holly Street, Salinas, California
Cox, J. S., 1519 Elm, Atwater, California
Doss, O. H., P. O. Box 724, Kerman, California
Dudley, Jerry, 710 William Way, Concord, California
Garman, Eual, 219 South 6th Street, Healtown, Oklahoma
Faris, Odis, 531 19th Street, Richmond, California
Fassio, C. R., 6590 Fry Street, Bell Gardens, California
Florence, L. C., 1654 Ave. N and 17th St., Palmdale, California
Gregory, Wiley, 1415 Ojai Road, Santa Paula, California.
Hall, J. R., 782 Orange Avenue, Arvin, California
Hampton,, R. C., 2004 Aloha Way,, Modesto, California
Haskins, Riley, 3941 North Merced, Baldwin Park, California
Hood; Billy J., 11541 East Florence, Norwalk, California
Jacoe, Al, Ventura, California
Jensen, Earl, Lander and "C" Streets, Turlock, California
Johns, Edward F., 420 W. Marengo Street, Shafter, California
Lawless, Winston, 10681 Highland Avenue, Selma, California
McAlister, Dorce, Box 513, Kerman, California
McCage, F. A., 915 Acacia, Modesto, California.
Moore, Dean, 2824 May Road, Richmond, California
Priest, Elvis, 4337 North 27th Street, Phoenix, Arizona
Morris, E. E., 1726 Lincoln Avenue, Richmond, California
Reddick, Loyd, 5520 Pacific Blvd., Huntington Park, California
Reel, John L., 9545 Florence Avenue, Bellflower, California
Roberts, Wilburn, 11413 Corby Avenue, Norwalk, California
Rogers, Gene, 740 North "F" Street, Tulare, California
Talley, Harold, 2405 Larcus Street, Bakersfield, California
Thurman, Cecil, 1036 West Fountain Way. Street, Fresno, Calif
Thurman, Orvil, 332 "F" Street, Wasco, California
Waltman, J. L., 667 8th Street, Turlock, California

Williamson, Jess, Norwalk, California
Winters, Andrew, 1673 Lewis Street, Kingsburg, California
Young, Carl, 113 Howard Street, Petaluma, California

DEACONS WHO REGISTERED

Bonds, C. C., Ventura, California
Conner, Pete, 2540 Wimbledon, Napa, California
Cravens, Carl, 695 East Grand Street, Pomona, California
Floyd, E. L., 340 Rowland Avenue, Modesto, California
Gilliam, A. E., 5520 Pacific Blvd., Huntington Park, California
Holoman, H. E., 6803 Colmar, Bell Gardens, California
Kirkpatrick, Charles, 3815 "C" Randolph St., Huntington Park,
California
McLain, Joy, 4674 Elmonte Street, Fresno 2, California
Rader, E. J., 930 E. Washington Street, Ontario, California
Roberts, Andrew, 22028 Violita Street, Artesia, California
Rodden, Carl, 2633 Hill Avenue, Huntington Park, California
Vandivort, Bob, 11662 Magnolia Ave., Garden Grove, California
Watkins, J., Santa Paula, California

STATISTICAL REPORT OF SUBORDINATE ASSOCIATIONS

ASSOCIATIONS	GOLDEN GATE	CENTER	SOUTHERN	WEST COAST	TOTAL
Churches	25	9	13	14	61
Ministers	60	28	28	24	140
Members	1357	536	910	666	3469
No. of Sunday Schools	25	9	13	14	61
No. of Leagues	16	6	9	13	44
No. of Women's Auxiliaries	12	4	7	10	33
Paid Pastors	\$29,115.90	9,198.50	26,709.00	22,942.43	87,965.83
Paid Evangelists	2,381.61	430.76	1,462.69	972.71	5,247.77
Paid Cooperative Program	3,084.41	1,286.84	2,379.79	1,366.71	8,117.75
Value of Church Property	408,596.00	182,500.00	241,700.00	210,000.00	1,042,796.00

STATE LEAGUE CONVENTION

The eighth annual session of the California State League Convention met at the Free Will Baptist Church, Modesto, California, May 4-5, 1957.

President Rev. Gene Rogers called the meeting to order.

Services were opened by singing our convention hymn "Ready" led by chorister Margie Winters, Selma with Teddy Wilbanks, Clovis at the piano.

Prayer by State League Sponsor, Lowell Moore.

Motion carried that we accept the program as written.

In the absence of Bro. Coy Priest, Bro. Carl Young gave the Devotional, Romans 1:1-6.

Welcome address was given by Sue Wood, Modesto. Response was given by Claude Hames, Oxnard.

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

Committees were appointed as follows:

FINANCE

James Eoff
Ruth Ellen Hatcher
Jesse Dunn
Dale Rogers
Don Robirds

RESOLUTION

Bob Taylor
F. G. McCage
Paul Reberry
Billy Nelms
Lonnie McAlister

PULPIT

O. H. Doss
Peggy Morris
Linda Stevens
Larry Moore
Marjorie Tuggle

NOMINATION

Bob Smith
Donald Hames
Glenda Pursur
Francis Boyle
Fern McAlister

REGISTRATION

Betty Wood
Donna Priest
Carolyn Hern
Norma Stewart

Treasurers report was read and accepted. (See reports).

Telegram expressing best wishes for convention was received and read from Ray C. Turnage, National Secretary.

"He Keeps Me Singing" was led by chorister, Margie Winters with Teddy Wilbanks at the piano.

Dismissed in Prayer by Rev. Jerry Dudley.

Eleven O'Clock Service

Services were opened by singing, "Higher Ground," and "Love Lifted Me", led by Margie Winters.

Prayer by Bro. F. G. McCage.

Special Singing by Margie Winters, Sue Barlow, and Frances Barlow, singing "I've Been a'waitin' Lord to Go"; "Mansions Over the Hill Top" was sung by Gay Sumpter, Modesto.

Congregational song, "He Lives", led by Margie Winters.

Rev. Paul Reberry, Tulare, brought the message, using "Chosen Vessels" as his subject and Acts 9:15 as his scripture.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Ralph Hampton.

Saturday Afternoon Session

Opened with singing "Standing on the Promises" led by Sis. Margie Winters, with Teddy Wilbanks at the piano.

Prayer by Rev. Winston Lawless, Selma.

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

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

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

Motion carried that the convening of the State League Convention be on Friday and Saturday. In accordance with Resolution No. 2. (See Reports)

Motion carried that the president have the power to appoint a placement committee to attain a centralized place for State League Conventions.

Those elected were, Bro. Winston Lawless, Chairman; Bro. Earl Jensen; and Bro. F. A. McCage.

Bro. Royce Stevens, Sis. Opal Wilbanks, Bro. Rusty Jenkins, Sis. Pat Hoover, and Rev. Flannery were appointed as Program Judges.

The Oxnard League representing the West Coast Convention, presented "Lord I'm Coming Home."

Solo "How Firm a Foundation" was rendered by Gay Sumpter, Modesto.

The Campbell League representing the Golden Gate Convention, presented "I Love to Tell the Story."

The Service was then turned over to Bro. Dudley to speak on "The Methods and Practices of the Local League".

Dismissed in Prayer by Rev. Dean Moore.

Saturday Evening Services

Services opened by singing "Ready", "Jesus Saves" and "Send the Light" led by Sis. Margie Winters with Teddy Wilbanks at the piano, and Sis. Erline Parris at the organ.

Led in prayer by Bro. Clinton Wood.

In the absence of Sword Drill Leader, Wanda Russel, State League Sponsor, Lowell Moore took charge.

Virginia Lawless, Selma received a Bible as winner of the Junior Sword Drill and Gary Wright, Oxnard received a New Testament as second place award. Linda Stevens, Kerman received a trophy and a \$25.00 war bond as winner of the Intermediate Sword Drill, and Delma Wright, Oxnard received a New Testament as second award.

Special singing was rendered by the Modesto Junior Church Choir, led by Bro. Joe Mooneyham. "He Hideth My Soul," "Follow Me" and "Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone."

The Lunsford family favored us with two specials, "The King and I" and "One Lost Sheep". The Tulare trio sang "Is He Satisfied With Me."

Rev. E. E. Morris, Richmond brought the message using, "Vessels of Honor" as his Topic, and Romans 4:29 as his scripture.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Earl Jensen.

Sunday Morning Services

Services opened by singing "Onward Christian Leaguers", "Take the Name of Jesus With You" led by chorister Margie Winters with Teddy Wilbanks at the piano.

Led in prayer by Bro. Dorce McAlister, Kerman.

Devotion I Samuel 3:1-10 was given by Bro. Coy Priest in the absense of Bro. Bill Johnson.

Motion carried that the appointment of the introductory speaker for next years' ralley be left up to the officers of the ralley.

Report of the nominating committee was read.

The officers were elected as follows:

Sponsor—Lowell Moore, Box 782, Tulare, Phone 6-6380

President—Gene Rogers, 740 No. "F" St., Tulare, Phone 6-7852
Vice Pres.—Bob Brown, 776 Holly St., Salinas, Phone 2-4567
Rec. Sec.—Betty Wells (Lawless), 2423 "B" St., Selma, Calif.
Corres. Sec.—Barbara Sharp, Box 51, Kerman, Phone 5239
Treasurer—Don Robirds, Modesto, California
Chorister—Margie Winters, Kingsburg, California
Pianist—Teddy Wilbanks, 5295 E. Rialto, Fresno, Phone 5-9096
Sword Drill Leader—Mrs. Clifford Wright, 1916 Fifth Place,
Port Hueneme, California
5 Yr. Board Member—Bro. O. H. Doss.

Installation of officers was given by Rev. Winston Lawless, Selma.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. McCage.

Eleven O'Clock Service

Opened by singing our convention hymn, "Ready", followed by "Jesus Saves" led by chorister, Margie Winters.

Led in Prayer by Odis Farris.

The Kerman quartet favored us with the songs, "Heavenly Love" and "I Bowed on My Knees and Cried Holy".

The Lunsford Family sang "Its a Secret Known Only to Him", "I'm Feelin' Mighty Fine" and "The Name of Jesus".

Rev. James Franklin, Kerman, brought the Message using as his topic "Wisdom and Folly" with Matt: 25:1-13 as his scripture text.

Dismissed in prayer by Francis Boyle.

Sunday Afternoon Session

Opened by singing "All the Way My Savior Leads Me", led by Clinton Woods.

Prayer by Bro. Jess Rolen.

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

Motion made and carried that we ask for the 1960 National League Rally to come to California.

Motion carried that the general officers attend to getting the National League Rally.

In the absense of Bro. Flannery, Bro. Hedley was appointed to act as judge.

The Selma League representing the Center Convention presented "Who is My Neighbor".

The Lunsford Family sang "I'm walking In The Sunlight of His Love" and "The King and I".

Lamont, representing the Southern Convention presented "In Answer to My Prayer".

The Program Banner was won by the Selma League representing the Center Convention.

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

Dismissed in prayer by Oscar Wright.

R E P O R T S

FINANCE COMMITTEE

We recommend that each subordinate convention send one dollar (\$1.00) per capita member to the State Convention. \$.40 for convention expenses and \$.60 for host church.

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

3. We recommend that the State League officers be paid four cents (4c) per mile for traveling expenses while attending business meetings.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

1. Be it resolved that a central place located where our State League Rally could be held each year.

2. Be it resolved that the convening of the State League Rally be held on such dates that will not fall on Sunday, for the benefit of the services of each individual church.

3. Be it resolved that we give the Modesto Church a standing vote of Thanks for their hospitality.

PLACEMENT COMMITTEE:

The 1958 League Convention will convene JULY 25-26, 1958. The exact location of meeting place will be mailed to each church before Convention time.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

Officers

President	Mrs. June Rolen 4065 Montocito Street, Fresno, California
Vice President	Mrs. Pat McLain 4674 Elmonte Way, Fresno, California
Secretary and Treasurer	Mrs. Wanda Rogers 740 North "F" Street, Tulare, California
Youth Auxiliary Chairman	Mrs. Lucille Hampton 2004 Aloha Way, Modesto, California
Study Course Chairman	Mrs. Hester Bowser 5991 Gallant Street, Bell Gardens, California
Stewardship-Prayer Chairman	Mrs. Ruth Holmesley Chino, California
Personal Service Chairman	Mrs. Bea Dudley 710 William Way, Concord, California

The ninth annual session of the Woman's Auxiliary Convention met with the Bell Gardens Free Will Baptist Church on June 12, 1957, with Mrs. June Rolen, recording secretary, presiding.

The meeting was opened with singing "To the Work" led by Mrs. Margie Winters, Selma, accompanied by Mrs. Wanda Rogers, Tulare.

Prayer by Rev. Ralph Hampton, Modesto.

Welcome address was given by Mrs. Hester Bowser, Bell Gardens, and response was given by Mrs. Margie Winters, Selma.

A petitionary letter was read and accepted from the West Coast Association.

The president was given power to appoint committees as follows:

NOMINATING

Mrs. Margie Winters
Mrs. Lucille Hampton
Mrs. Bea Dudley

RESOLUTION

Mrs. Alma Johns
Mrs. Beatrice Twilley
Mrs. Wanda Rogers

FINANCE

Mrs. Pat McLain
Mrs. Billie Fassio
Mrs. Ira Rodden

OBITUARY

Mrs. Ruth Holmesley
Mrs. Sue Martin
Mrs. Julia Webb

REGISTRATION

Mrs. Lucille Boyle
Mrs. Cindy Vandivort

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Edward Johns, Shafter.

Eleven O'Clock Service

Opened by singing "Standing on the Promises" led by Mrs. Margie Winters. Prayer by Rev. Elvis Priest, visitor from Phoenix, Arizona.

Mrs. Fern Ray, visitor from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, sang "The Pearly White City".

Rev. Jerry Dudley, Concord, brought the message, "Send Out Thy Light, Through Faith, Courage, and Stewardship", using Luke 17:5 as his text.

Rev. F. A. McCage, host pastor, called on Rev. E. E. Morris, Richmond, to pronounce the benediction.

Afternoon Session

Opened with singing "When I See the Blood" and an altar prayer by all women.

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

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

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

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

The Treasurer's Report was read and accepted. (See Reports.)

Resolutions No. 1 and No. 2 were read and accepted. (See Reports.)

Motion carried to have the next Auxiliary Convention at the Calwa Free Will Baptist Church, 3707 Laurite Street, the second Saturday in April, April 12, 1958.

Motion carried to send \$20.00, the balance remaining for California's quota on the Tabernacle Fund for the National Home Mission Department, to Woman's National Auxiliary Convention.

The acting president, Mrs. June Rolen, encouraged each local auxiliary to bring their completed Standard of Achievement Chart to the State Convention as a challenge to other auxiliaries.

A special feature in the form of a play was presented by the Ontario Church, West Coast District.

Installation of officers was conducted by Mrs. Pat McLain, North Fresno, dedication prayer was by Rev. Ralph Hampton, Modesto.

Benediction by Rev. Gene Rogers, Tulare.

REPORTS

Resolution Committee

1. Be it resolved that instead of having our meetings on the Wednesday prior to our State Association we have them the 2nd Saturday in April and that they be entertained in a centrally located church.
2. Be it resolved that we give the West Coast Association a standing vote of appreciation for the lunch and hospitality.

Nominating Committee

President	Mrs. June Rolen
Vice President	Mrs. Pat McLain
Recording-Corresponding Secretary & Treasurer	Mrs. Wanda Rogers
Youth Chairman	Mrs. Lucille Hampton
Study Course Chairman	Mrs. Hester Bowser
Stewardship and Prayer Chairman	Mrs. Ruth Holmesley
Personal Service Chairman	Mrs. Bea Dudley

Obituary Committee

We, the Obituary Committee report that God in his great love has called Sis. Lucy Burgess of the West Coast Association from our midst the past year.

Finance Committee

1. We recommend that \$40.00 be paid for printing of minutes.
2. We recommend that each district represent with \$15.00 for feeding of delegates.

Registration Committee

There were 12 auxiliary members from West Coast Association, 4 from Center Association, 4 from Golden Gate Association, 2 from Southern Association, 9 ministers, 10 visitors, and 2 officers present, making a total present of 43.

Treasurer's Report, June 1956 to June 1957

Balance Brought Forward June 13, 1956\$ 20.23

RECEIVED:

June 13, 1956, Southern Association Dues	\$ 15.00	
June 13, 1956, Southern Association Feeding	15.00	
June 13, 1956, Center Association Dues	25.21	
June 13, 1956, Center Association Feeding	15.00	
June 13, 1956, Center Association India Visual Aid ..	10.00	
June 28, 1956 Golden Gate Associaion Dues	19.20	
June 28, 1956, Golden Gate Association India Visual Aid	18.00	
August 15, 1956 Golden Gate Association Feeding	15.00	
June 13, 1956, Offering	22.86	
January, 1956 Center Association Tabernacle Fund	20.00	
February 29, 1957, Golden Gate Association Tabernacle Fund	50.00	
March 27, 1957, Golden Gate Association Home Mission	16.36	
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$241.63	\$241.63
		\$261.86

DISBURSEMENTS:

June 16, 1956		
Gladys Stevens, Phone calls, Bulletins ..	\$ 8.00	
June 29, 1956		
W.N.A.C., Visual Aids for India	28.00	
June 29, 1956, W.N.A.C., National Dues ..	26.10	
July 13, 1956, California State		
Association, Printing Minutes	40.00	
August 6, 1956, June Rolen, Phone Calls		
to Golden Gate Association	4.84	
September 13, 1956		
Kerman Church Feeding Fund	45.00	
March 17, 1957		
Phone Call to Ruth Holmesley	3.98	
March 27, 1957		
W.N.A.C. for Tabernacle Fund	70.00	
March 27, 1957		
Jerry Dudley, Home Mission	16.36	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$242.28	\$242.28
BALANCE IN TREASURE JUNE 11, 1957	\$ 19.58	

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 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 Denominaton, 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.

Amendment 1

No person shall serve on more than one standing board of this Association.

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 appearances of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship, and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." We will not forget 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 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 church and the Gospel. We will everywhere uphold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christian Society.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday School, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls and the conversion of the world.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. *The Bible* The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament 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 being 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 of 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, persevere 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."