

MINUTES

Of the Sixth Annual Meeting

Of The California State Conference

Of Free-Will Baptist

Ministers and Deacons

Held with the Arvin Free-Will
Baptist Church

Dec. 27, 28, 29, 1951

Arvin, Calif.

Next Meeting At

Porterville Free-Will Baptist Church

March 28, 29, 1952

OFFICERS

F. A. McCage	President
J. L. Waltman	Vice President
R. C. Hampton	Clerk
Estell Sweeten	Asst. Clerk

CREDENTIAL BOARD

Rev. L. L. Davis
Rev. W. M. Johnson
Rev. H. A. Lewis
Rev. Lewis Lawson
Rev. J. R. Evans

MEMBERSHIP

Ministers	75
Deacons	51
Total	126

THURSDAY EVENING SESSION

Services was opened with singing, directed by Rev. Loyd Reddick. Rev. J. L. Waltman, the president, called for a united altar prayer, with Rev. H. E. Dixon leading the prayer. Devotional by Bro. Barney Vanwinkle. Bro. Wiburn Holiday arranged a quartet, which rendered a wonderful number, "The Reaping Time Is Coming."

The president introduced the speaker, Rev. O. H. Doss. Rev. Doss read the 133 division of the Psalms for the scripture lesson, introducing his subject "The Necessity of Unity." The message was greatly enjoyed, and the hand of fellowship was extended to Rev. Doss in appreciation of the fine message.

Visitors were assigned homes, for the night by the host Pastor. Benediction by Rev. Reddick.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened with singing by Rev F. A. McCage. A united prayer was called for by the president. Devotional conducted by Rev. Leo Shelton, reading Matt. 24, verses 1 to 12.

Roll call by clerk. Welcome was given by the host pastor, Rev. Cecil Thurman. Response was given by Rev. W. M. Johnson. The president expressed his thanks for all of the kindness shown him and Sister Waltman, when they were hurt in the auto accident.

The chair appointed the pulpit Committee. Those appointed were Rev. Cecil Thurman, Bro's James Gullet, Floyd Smith, Jasper Gates, Lester Kyle.

Officers elected were

President	Rev. F. A. McCage
Vice President	Rev. J. L. Waltman
Clerk	Rev. R. C. Hampton
Asst. Clerk	Rev. Estell Sweeten

Those elected on the Credential Committee were Rev. L. L. Davis, Rev. W. M. Johnson, Rev. H. A. Lewis, Rev. Lewis Lawson, Rev. J. R. Evans

Pulpit committee reported Rev. Neal Moore to preach in the 11:00 o'clock service. Motion was carried chair appoint Program Committee for coming year. Rev. H. E. Dixon, Rev. Delmar Scroggins, Rev. P. E. Lambert were appointed on program committee.

Letters from the following Churches were read and accepted. Arvin, Kerman, Selma, Taft, Porterville, Firebaugh, Santa Paula, Turlock, Farmersville, Hughson, Exeter, Modesto, Salinas, Shafter, Artesia and Babbitt, Nevada.

Motion carried to adjourn until 1:30 P. M. Dismissed with prayer, by Rev. Garrett Pusley.

11:00 O'CLOCK SERVICES

Singing directed by Rev. John Montgomery, prayer by Rev. H. A. Lewis. Rev. McCage arranged a quartet, which sang, "He Whispers Sweet Peace." Sister Fern Ray rendered a solo, "When I Have Gone the Last Mile of the Way."

The speaker, Rev. Neal Moore was introduced by the president. Rev. Moore used Revelation 3-21 as a text, his subject was "The Overcomer." The hand of fellowship was extended Rev. Moore in appreciation of the fine message. Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Waltman.

1:30 SESSION

Singing directed by Rev. Jessie Owen. Rev. A. E. Woolrey read the first chapter of Psalms for the scripture reading. Which was followed by a united prayer.

The chair appointed Rev. Dixon, Rev. Montgomery, Rev. Neal Moore, Rev. Wollrey, and Bro. Elmer Jones on resolution Committee. Motion carried to accept report of credential Committee.

Pulpit committee reported Rev. Pusley preach for a few minutes in the afternoon session, also that Rev. McCage and Rev. Hampton would be the speakers in the evening service. Rev. Pusley delivered an inspiring message on "Faith."

Resolution No. 1 adopted. Motion carried to adjourn business until 9:00 A. M. Saturday.

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICES

Singing directed by Rev. Lewis Lawson, Rev. Pusley sang, "Just a Closer Walk." Also "Precious Lord Take My Hand." Rev. Montgomery sang "God's Radiophone." Sister Gates sang "Lord I Want to Live for Thee." Sister Fern Ray sang "The Pearly White City." The Good News Quartet of Stockton, rendered several good numbers. Sister McQuire and Sister Ewing sang "He Will Understand and Say Well Done."

The vice president, Rev. Waltman introduced the first speaker of the evening, Rev. R. C. Hampton. Isa. 28:9-10 were read for the scripture text, introducing for his subject, "Doctrine." Rev. F. A. McCage concluded the message using the same subject. The hand of fellowship was extended the speakers, in appreciation of the good messages.

An offering of \$31.00 was received for the Treasury of the conference. Benediction by Rev. T. N. Huddleston.

SATURDAY MORNING 9:00 A. M.

Singing directed by Rev. L. L. Davis. Scripture reading by Rev. Harold Talley, Psalms 100 was read. Pulpit committee report, Rev. John Montgomery and Rev. Lewis Lawson to preach in the 11:00 A. M. services.

Credential committee report accepted. The special committee, appointed in a previous meeting to meet with the Selma Church, report all grievance settled.

Meetings for the year of 1952 were set as follows:

1st meeting Porterville, Thur. evening Mar.28,29
Speaker, Rev. Cecil Thurman with Rev. L. C. Lynch as alternate.

2nd meeting Firebaugh, Thur. evening June 27,28
Speaker, Rev. Garrett Pusley with Rev. Loyd Reddick alternate.

3rd meeting Farmersville, Thur. evening
Aug.29, 30

Speaker, Rev. John Montgomery with Rev. T. N. Huddleston alternate.

4th meeting Turlock, Thur. evening Nov. 27,28,29
Speaker Rev. O. Thurman with Rev. Estell Sweeten alternate.

The 4th meeting is the annual business meeting.

Resolution No. 2 adopted.

Resolution No. 3 adopted.

Motion carried to adjourn business until next regular meeting March 28,29 when convened with the Porterville Church.

11:00 A. M. SERVICE

Singing directed by Rev. John Montgomery prayer by Rev. J. D. Rowlet. Rev. Montgomery took the stand, reading Acts 2:16, using as a subject "The Workings of the Holy Spirit." Rev. Lawson followed, using the same subject. These fine messages were greatly enjoyed by all present. The hand of fellowship was extended the speakers in appreciation of the good messages.

We were dismissed with prayer by Rev. H. A. Lewis.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We the credential committee, of the Ministers and Deacons Conference of the State of California, find the following worth of membership in this conference.

Ministers, Don Bias, Harold Talley.
Licensed Ministers, Garrett Pusley, Danny Doyle,
Mickey Doyle.
Deacons, Paul Griffen, Orval Ray, Carl Smithen,
Lee Heler.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

Resolution No. 1

Be it resolved that this conference go on record for, and request the state association to pass a resolution that all Free Will Baptist Churches being organized in the State of California be organized according to the treatise, under the direction of the executive board of the district association with in whose boundries the Church is located.

Resolution No. 2

Be it resolved that this body authorize the clerk not to issue cards to any person who has not attended at least one session in 1951.

Resolution No. 3

Be it resolved that this conference give the Arvin Church a vote of thanks for the fine hospitality during this Conference.

By-Laws

ARTICLE 1

The clerk or assistant clerk, or in their absence the senior minister in years, shall call the ministers present into conference. If a quorum is present the President or in his absence the Vice-President shall moderate the meeting. If neither of these are present, the senior minister in years shall be in charge.

ARTICLE 2

It shall be the duty of the clerk to enroll the ministers of the conference. Ministers and Deacons shall present themselves with proper evidence of their rights to seats therein, and those enrolled by the clerk shall compose the conference. In case of questionable representation the case under question shall be referred to the Credential Committee.

ARTICLE 3

Each minister and deacon belonging to this conference must be a member of some church in California and should report to each session in person or by letter and failing to do so for one year is subject to discipline.

ARTICLE 4

Each conference shall be opened by reading a portion of God's word and prayer, and each session shall be closed with prayer.

ARTICLE 5

By a two-thirds vote of the members present a ruling of the President may be overruled.

ARTICLE 6

This conference shall sit with open doors, except when it shall go into a committee as a whole.

ARTICLE 7

No member shall absent himself from the conference during its meeting without permission from the President.

ARTICLE 8

No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of a committee, unless person nominated is not elected.

ARTICLE 9

The President shall not allow discussions when not carried on in a Christian spirit, or when he thinks it will cause discord.

ARTICLE 10

Anyone desiring to speak shall rise and address the President by the appellation, "Brother President," but shall not speak further until recognized.

ARTICLE 11

No member of this conference shall be allowed to speak more than five minutes, nor twice on the same subject without permission from the President.

ARTICLE 12

These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular or adjourned session of this conference by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 1

This ministers and deacons conference shall be called the California State Free Will Baptist Ministers and Deacons Conference and shall be composed of ordained free will Baptist ministers and deacons who are members of some orthodox free will Baptist Church in the state of California.

ARTICLE 2

The officers of this conference shall be President, Vice-President, Clerk, Asst. Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be elected annually.

ARTICLE 3

This conference shall have the power to discipline its members.

ARTICLE 4

Every ordained minister and deacon in the State of California should be a member of this conference and is required to report in each session in person or by letter. Every member shall be required to carry a card of identification and recommendation from this conference, and said card to be issued annually.

ARTICLE 5

This conference shall meet quarterly.

ARTICLE 6

This Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular session.

Admendment No. 1

Be it resolved that the Ministers and Deacons Conference of California will not recognize any minister advocating Premellinialism as free will Baptist doctrine.

Covenant

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and being called and chosen to the Ministry and Deaconship, we give ourselves to one another, by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by the grace of God to love and support our brother minister to the advancement of the Gospel and the Glory of God.

We will not be partakers of any sinful amusement, neither shall we conduct ourselves in any manner at any time that will bring reproach on the ministry or hinder God's cause.

We agree to faithfully discharge our obligations and duties, to study to show ourselves approved unto God a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth.

We willingly by self denial, to promote the Gospel and by faith, endeavor to "Grow in Grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We agree to reprove with meekness and to watch over one another in love and affection, endeavor to keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace. To be careful of one another's happiness, reputation, and ministerial success. Seek to strengthen and encourage one another, and at all times promote the success of the church and Gospel of our Lord and Savior. We will at all times hold Christian principles sacred, and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our chief mission in life to carry God's eternal message to those who are dead in sin, that they may be resurrected by "Saving Grace."

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of Education and Denominational enterprises, constantly praying and toiling for greater achievement for Christ. May the God of peace sanctify us blameless unto the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

MINISTERS

J. L. Waltman, 145-8th St., Turlock, Calif.
O. H. Doss, P.O.Box 61, Kerman, Calif.
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Delbert Spain, Sanger, Calif.
Cecil Thurman, Arvin, Calif.
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E. M. McCaulley, Turlare, Calif.
Loyd Reddick, Taft, Calif.
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A. E. Woolrey, Selma, Calif.
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Fred Marler, Lindsay, Calif.
Cecil Morris, Selma, Calif.

Ray Morris, Selma, Calif.
H. L. Scroggins, Parlier, Calif.
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Roy Pimbrook, Walnut Creek, Calif.
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T. N. Huddleston
Aaron Lewis
Dean Moore, Richmond, Calif.

DEACONS

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R. R. Kemp, Rt. 2, Box 324B, Kerman, Calif.
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Ralph Groves, Ceres, Calif.
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Clyde Rogers
Paul Griffen, Porterville, Calif.
Orval Ray, Porterville, Calif.
Carl Smithen, Artesia, Calif.
Lee Heler

C. T. Vanhorn
Andrew Rayney
Monroe Scrivner
O. V. White
R. S. Johns
J. L. King
L. L. McClellan
M. O. Haley
P. A. Ussery
Joe Kelsey
J. V. Meek
Elmer Baker
E. W. Burgess
J. A. Titsworth
G. H. Bentley

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

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Lonnie Mcalister, Kerman, Calif.
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