

Minutes
**OF THE NINTH ANNUAL MEETING
CALIFORNIA STATE CONFERENCE
OF FREE-WILL BAPTISTS
MINISTERS AND DEACONS**

**HELD WITH THE BELL GARDENS
FREE-WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

**October 28, 29, 30, 1954
Bell Gardens, California**

**Next Meeting At
TURLOCK FREE-WILL BAPTIST CHURCH**

October 27, 28, 29, 1955.

OFFICERS

Earl Jensen	. . . . .	President
Wiley Gregory	. . . . .	Vice President
Wade Jernigan	. . . . .	Asst. Clerk
W. B. Lawless	. . . . .	Clerk

CREDENTIAL BOARD

Bennie Brown

A. E. Woolrey

H. E. Dixon

Lee Ramsey

O. H. Doss

MEMBERSHIP

Ministers	. . . . .	95
Deacons	. . . . .	98
Total	. . . . .	193

THURSDAY EVENING SESSSION

Opened by singing, "Onward Christian Soldiers" led by Sis. Mary Nickolls. Prayer by Rev. George McLain. Special singing was: Mrs. Marvin Bryant sang "Neath the Old Olive Tree."

Introductory message by Rev. Wade Jernigan, Subject; "I Charge Thee", Scripture—II Timothy 4:1-5. Pastor Rev. Wiley Gregory in charge of placing visitors in homes. Benediction by Rev. Cecil Thurman.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened by singng, led by Rev. Clinton Wood. Devotional by Bro. Pete Conner using Psalms 24:1-5. Welcome by host pastor, Rev. Wiley Gregory. Response by Rev. Jack Craven. Reading of letters from the following churches: Arvin, Manteca, Modesto, Selma, Richmond, Artesia, Hughson, Calwa, Ontario, Martinez, North Fresno, Orange Cove, Kerman, Long Beach, Lamont, Wasco, Chowchilla, Reedly, Oxnard, Corcoran, Turlock, Rodeo, Firebaugh, Bell Gardens, Clovis, Santa Paula, Porterville, Salinas, Taft, Huntington Park, Campbell, Exeter, Sanger, Stockton, Farmersville, Visalia.

Officers elected as follows: Rev. Earl Jensen, President; Rev. Wiley Gregory, Vice President; Rev. Winston Lawless, Clerk; Rev. Wade Jernigan, Assistant Clerk.

Appointment of committees.

Divine Service— Delmar Priest, J. B. Smith, Leonard King, Lester Kyle and Rodney Kemp

Resolution Committee— C. R. Fassio, A. E. Woolery, Clinton Wood, H. E. Dixon and G. W. McClain

Obituary— Lloyd Reddick, Bennie Brown, Cecil Thurman and Andrew Roberts.

Finance— Lee Ramsey, Sam Winters, Bob Maxwell, Pete Connor, and F. C. Berry.

Divine Service committee reported that Rev. E. E. Morris of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma would be the speaker at the 11 o'clock hour.

Credential Board was elected as follows: Rev. Bennie Brown, A. E. Woolery, Lee Ramsey, O. H. Doss and H. E. Dixon.

Motion carried that the personal letters be referred to the Credential Committee.

Motion carried to adjourn until 1:30. Dismissed by Rev. G. Pusley.

11:00 O'CLOCK SERVICE

Opened by singing "Blessed Assurance" led by Rev Clinton Wood. Special song by Mrs. Marjorie Winters and Mrs. Sylvia Adams "I Need the Prayers of Those I Love." Special by Quartet.

President Introduced the speaker, Rev. E. E. Morris. He brought a message from Phil.3:16 and Gal. 6:16, Text "As Many As Walk According to This Rule."

Dismissed by Rev. H. E. Dixon.

1:30 O'CLOCK SESSION

Opened by singing, led by Bro. Chester Burgess. Devotional by Rev. Cecil Thurman. Special song from Arvin church. Reports from the various associations given. Much progress was reported. Report of Credential Committee received and accepted, (see report). Letter from Clovis read and accepted. Resolution No. 1 carried. The next session is to go to Turlock. Introductory speaker to be Rev. Lee Ramsey. Alternate Rev. Cecil Fassio.

Program Committee appointed. Jack Craven, Francis Boyle and Clyde Rogers.

Motion carried that this conference begin on Thursday night and run until Saturday noon.

Report of Obituary Committee accepted.

Report of Divine Service Committee, Bro. O. H. Doss to preach at the evening service.

Motion carried to adjourn until 9:00 o'clock Saturday morning. Dismissed by Bro. Lester Kyle.

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION

Opened by singing, led by Rev. Lloyd Reddick. Prayer by Rev. Cecil Fassio. A special offering was taken for the host church. \$72.00 was taken.

Special singing was: Ontario and Sis. Betty Bryant. Testimony time by W. F. Holiday. The speaker, Rev. O. H. Doss was introduced by the president. Scripture used, II Timothy 1: 1-7. Dismissed by Rev. Jack Craven.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened by singing, led by Bro. Joe Mooneyham. Devotional by Rev. Billie Hood. Letters from Farmersville and Manteca churches.

Finance Committee report read and accepted. (See reports.)

Letter from Stockton read and accepted.

Motion carried that clerk send minutes to each associational moderator.

Discussion of various means and ideas of promotion enjoyed by all.

Bro. Joe Mooneyham gave a talk on an itinerary for Bro. Damon Dodd.

Motion carried to adjourn. Dismissed by Rev. Sam Winters.

11 O'CLOCK SESSION

Opened by singing, led by Rev. Joe Mooneyham. Prayer by Rev. T. N. Huddleston. Speaker, Rev. H. E. Dixon, introduced by president. Scripture, Acts 20:28, "Overseer's." Dismissed by Rev. Francis Boyle.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

We your committee on credentials recommend the following ordained ministers for membership in this conference. Rev. Francis Boyle, Rev. Robert Maxwell, Rev. F. C. Casteel, Rev. Ray Letsinger, Rev. Bobbie Joe Brown.

The following ordained deacons, Eugene Wilkinson, Elza R. Johns, Lowell E. Lewis, Troy Seely.

The following as associate members; Rev. Claudie E. Hames, and Rev. Charles F. Fredrick.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We recommend that each subordinate conference send \$10.00 per church annually, \$5.00 to go to the host church and \$5.00 for expenses.

We recommend that the clerk be paid \$20.00, assistant clerk, moderator and assistant moderator be paid \$10.00.

We also recommend that we have 500 minutes of this conference printed.

TREASURERS REPORT

Balance on hand	\$ 47.66
Amount rec.	151.00
Paid clerk	10.00
Printing of minutes	68.10
Printing of programs	20.00
Balance	100.56

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

Be it resolved that Article five of the constitution be changed to read annually instead of quarterly.

Be it further resolved that each district association organize a conference to meet quarterly.

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254135

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.

Amendment No. 1

Be it resolved that each church send a letter to this conference, giving names of all ministers and deacons in their church who are in good standing.

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 annually.

ARTICLE 6

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

Amendment 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, agree 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 ROLL

Ray Morris	
Aaron Lewis	
Guy Hutsell	129 Stockton St., Manteca
O. H. Doss	P. O. Box 284, Ceres
Jack Craven	782 Orange St., Arvin
Fred Wynn	
C. E. Wilkinson	Selma
R. M. Hollins	Selma
Winston Lawless	10681 Highland Ave., Selma
Henry Scroggins	21822 Devlin Ave., Artesia
Don Bias	11703 216th St., Artesia
Dean Moore	1718 Lincoln Ave., Richmond
Clinton Wood	
L. L. Davis	
Finney Berry	2543 S. Cedar Ave., Calwa
Francis Boyle	212 S. San Antonia, Onterio
L. A. Lawson	
Roy Pimbrook	
John Clifton	
W. T. Cantrell	
Robert Groves	Calwa
Cecil Thurman	3770 Tyler St., Fresno
Andrew Winters	Sanger
C. R. Fassio	Orange Cove
Loyde Talley	Orange Cove
Wade Jernigan	Box 61, Kerman
Doice McAlister	Kerman
Lonnie McAlister	Box 84, Kerman
Joy Freeman	Box 37, Kerman
Billie Hood	Bell Gardens
Marvin Bryant	Bell Gardens
Gene Rogers	Lamont
Omer Jones	
Guy McGuire	Bakersfield
Orville Thurman	4513 Mesa Dr., Bakersfield
Truman Huddleston	Chowchilla
I. B. Rose	Chowchilla
John Tripp	
Jimmie Maxwell	

G. M. Condley	116 Springfield Ave., Reedley
J. E. Bridges	Gen. Del., Orosi
Emmitt Grey	Box 323, Selma
Cecil Morris	6261 Clarkson Ave., Selma
Arthur Billows	Oxnard
Ray Letsinger	Porterville
Earl Jensen	Lander and C Sts., Turlock
Herman Hupp	
Albert Shelton	
Johnnie Priest	Crockett
Earnest Snowden	
Brady Miller	Firebaugh
W. I. Cook	Firebaugh
J. P. Pierce	Firebaugh
Neal Moore	Box 236, Castorville
Wiley Gregory	Bell Gardens
Leroy Cupit	Artesia
O. J. Mount	Sanger
Wm. Johnson	Sanger
Bob Maxwell	903 Venturi St., Santa Paula
A. E. Woolery	251 Sierra View, Porterville
Amos Fagen	Rt. 3, Box 466n, Tulare
Jesse Owens	Box 175, Porterville
J. R. Evans	31889 Date St., Porterville
Garrett Pusley	760 San Jaun Rd., Salinas
George McLain	Box 138, Kerman
Loyd Reddick	Taft
H. E. Dixon	21818 Devlin Ave., Artesia
Eual Gorman	Bell Gardens
H. H. Easterwood	
Bennie Brown	1918 N. Main St., Santa Clara
I. L. Boggs	220 W. Main, Los Gatos
Bobbie Brown	599 E. Taylor, Sunnyvale
Lee Ramsey	Rt. 2, Box 336AA, Kerman
Elza Owens	439 N. Harvard, Lindsay
Earl Austin	
F. C. Casteel	832 Greenwood, Sanger
Estelle Sweeten	
D. J. Rowlette	Farmersville
Jerry Carr	
Kenneth Wood	

LICENSED MINISTERS

Merle Erickson
Albert Jacoe
Carl Young
Wilburn Roberts
Pete Robertson
Frank Hoffman
Charles Fredrick
W. T. Cantrell, Jr.

Glen Smith
Leonard Rials
Claudie Hames
Gloster Barlow
Newell Bonner
Don Ferris
Edward Johns

DEACON ROLL

ARVIN

O. H. Ellis
George Davis
W. F. Holliday
H. H. Bennett

Henry Horton
J. B. Smith
Barney Van Winkle

MANTECA

Tony Moore

Fred Daniels

MODESTO

Grady Henley
E. L. Floyd
L. H. Adkins
J. A. Roberts

M. D. Percifield
John Wood
B. A. Jenkins

SELMA

M. V. Little
Earl McCullar

Ervin Pendley

RICHMOND

Eugene Russell
Pete Conner
Sullivan Ingram
Jack Moore

Harry Edwards
Dick Shipman
Delmar Priest

ARTESIA

Carl Smithen

CALWA

Will Floyd

Eugene Guinn

Gus Berry

Oren Morre

ONTARIO

Eugene Wilkinson

MARTINEZ

W. H. Derickson

Alfred Dickerson

NORTH FRESNO

Estelle Martin

ORANGE COVE

C. T. McCowan

Edgar McKinze

John Cross

KERMAN

Rodney Kemp

J. W. Hall

J. M. Rolen

W. J. Rush

TURLOCK

Ralph Groves

Herbert Foster

W. W. Carter

R. C. Watts

STOCKTON

J. Q. Moore

LONG BEACH

Elijah Wheeler

Kenny Carpentar

Clarence Eagle

LAMONT

Jim Bentley ✓
A. Nelms

A. Titsworth

WASCO

Lee Highly ✓

CHOWCHILLA

Carl Scott

CORCORAN

Edgar Wilson
Wade Keirn

Golden Burden

RODEO

Guy Pitts

FIREBAUGH

Dallas Pendelton

BELL GARDENS

Dave McCormick
Andrew Roberts

Troy Seely
Chester Burgess

SANTA PAULA

Leonard King
Boyd Duren
Pat Henthorne

Everett Lewis
Estelle Newport

PORTERVILLE

J. D. Lewis ✓
Elmer Jones
H. H. Stout

Paul Griffin
Lester Kyle

SALINAS

Charles Vanhorn
J. V. Meek

Franklin Headley
Gordon Bradshaw

TAFT

O. V. White
Neal Watts
Clyde Rogers

Elza Johns
R. S. Johns

HUNTINGTON PARK

Ed Gilliom

CAMPBELL

Floyd Smith
John Taylor

Roy Peevyhouse

EXETER

Pete Ussery
Charles Jones
Joe Kelsey

Alvin Long
Leonard Loyd

SANGER

Denton Colvin

FARMERSVILLE

Jasper Gates
Ira Malsom

Emmitt Barr