

Canadian Association
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
OF GOD



1948
*Proceedings of the 43rd
Annual Session*



Convened with Paden Church, Paden, Oklahoma,
Beginning on Thursday Night Before the
Second Sunday in August, 1948

Minutes
of the
Forty-Third Annual Session
of the
Canadian Association
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
OF GOD

Convened with Paden Church, Paden, Oklahoma,
Beginning on Thursday Night Before the
Second Sunday in August, 1948

OFFICERS

Moderator _____ Rev. W. E. Wilson
Ass't Moderator _____ Rev. Marion Caton
Clerk _____ Sister Clara Caton
Ass't Clerk _____ Bro. Cephus Mouser

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Elder W. E. Wilson _____ One Year
Elder W. P. Scott _____ Two Years
Elder Marion Caton _____ Three Years
Elder Arthur Reid _____ Four Years
Elder Melvin Mouser _____ Five Years

The next annual session of this Association will be held at Spring Creek Church, near Calvin, Oklahoma, beginning Thursday Night before the second Sunday in August, 1949.

THURSDAY EVENING SESSION

Opened with singing led by Bro. Marion Caton, using "I Want to Be Ready To Go," as first number.

Moderator J. T. Champion in charge of services. The 133rd Psalms was used as Scripture reading. Prayer by Bro. W. P. Scott. A good testimony meeting was enjoyed by all.

A special number in song was rendered by Bro. and Sister Frank Dawson.

Bro. W. E. Wilson brought the message, using Deut. 1:20.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Arthur Ried.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened with singing led by Bro. W. E. Wilson. Prayer by Bro. Arthur Ried.

Moderator read 1st Psalms as Scripture reading. Moderator declared the Body now ready for business.

Letters of the different churches called for and read. Hill Top, Jackson, Spring Creek and Paden Churches were represented.

Motion carried that we receive the letters and seat the delegates with a song and handshake.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moderator.....	Rev. W. E. Wilson
Ass't Moderator.....	Rev. Marion Caton
Clerk.....	Sister Clara Caton
Ass't Clerk.....	Bro. Cephus Mouser

Motion carried that the moderator appoint all committees:

Divine Committee—Bro. Geo. Reich, Bro. Cephus Mouser and Sister Pate.

Resolutions Committee—Rev. W. P. Scott, Rev. Melvin Mouser and Bro. T. H. King.

Sunday School Committee—Bro. Charles Compton, Sister Coleman and Sister Stella Dodd.

Finance Committee—Sister J. T. Humes, Sister Leona Mouser and Sister Ola Compton.

Obituary Committee—Sister George Riech, Sister Sylvia Loney and Brother Jimmy Searcy.

Temperance Committee—Bro. Geo. Campbell, Rev. Arthur Ried and Rev. Geo. Taylor.

Motion carried that we give Rev. Melvin Mouser a seat and voice in full fellowship with this body.

Rules of order were read at this time.

Divine Committee reports that Bro. Melvin Mouser will bring the eleven o'clock message.

Unfinished business called for. The Jackson and Paden Churches request the ordination of Bro. Charles Compton and Bro. Frank Martindale, respectively.

Rev. J. T. Champion, Rev. Arthur Ried and Rev. Marion Caton were appointed as examining committee for the deacon candidates for ordination.

A motion carried that the body be adjourned for business until one o'clock.

A special number in song was rendered at this time by Rev. Caton, Sister Lamoine Caton, Rev. W. E. Wilson and Brother Charles Compton, with Mrs. Rieta Walton at the piano.

Rev. Melvin Mouser brought an uplifting message on "Covetousness."

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. T. H. King.

Lunch was served at the church. Rev. W. P. Scott graced the table.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened by singing led by Bro. Corky Dawson. Prayer by Rev. Geo. Taylor.

Moderator read Romans 12:1-8.

Unfinished business called for at this time.

The examining committee reports that they recommend Bro. Charles Compton and Bro. Frank Martindale for ordination as Deacons.

Motion carried that the candidates select their own presbytery to ordain them. Rev. J. T. Champion, Rev. W. E. Wilson and Rev. Lane were chosen.

We are happy to witness the ordination of Bro. Charles Compton and Bro. Frank Martindale as Deacons in our denomination.

The Associational Evangelist, Rev. Marion Caton gave his report at this time. Motion carried that the report be accepted and that we retain our present Evangelist, also the same finance plan.

The next annual association was placed with the Spring Creek Church.

The quarterly meetings were placed as follows:

The first quarterly meeting was placed with the Paden Church.

The second quarterly meeting was placed with the Hill Top Church.

The third quarterly meeting was placed with the Jackson Church.

Rev. Melvin Mouser was elected by acclamation to bring the introductory message for the first quarterly meeting.

Rev. R. G. Lane was elected to bring the introductory message for the annual association, and Rev. Geo. Taylor as the alternate.

Motions carried that two ministers be used and give each thirty minutes.

Rev. Caton was elected by acclamation to follow Rev. Mouser in the first quarterly meeting.

Rev. Melvin Mouser was elected as new executive board member, to replace Rev. D. C. Sharp who automatically goes off.

Bro. Geo. Campbell's report on the national association was accepted at this time.

Following committee reports were accepted and committees dismissed:

Obituary, Music, Sunday School, Divine and Temperance.

Motion carried that each church send \$10.00 for our own minutes, and \$5.00 for state minutes.

Financial report of association was read by Clerk and was accepted.

Motion carried that we elect an orphanage board for our association.

Motion carried that the board organize within themselves.

Motion carried that we elect an associational reporter to "The Small Voice." Sister Ola Mae Compton was elected as reporter.

Motion carried that we set apart each Friday night of the association for the two oldest Ministers to preach the memorial service.

Motion carried that we have preaching every afternoon at three o'clock during the association.

Motion carried that we elect our State Delegates.

Sister Sylvia Loney, Sister Ola Mae Compton and Bro. Cephus Mouser were elected by acclamation.

Bro. T. H. King was chosen to represent us in the National Association.

Motion carried that we pay our national delegates car fare to the association.

Minutes of this session were read and approved at this time.

Motion carried that the body be adjourned until the next annual session which convenes with the Spring Creek Church on Thursday night before the second Sunday in August, 1949.

CHURCH LETTERS

SPRING CREEK CHURCH, Calvin, Oklahoma. Pastors salary for coming year, undecided at this time. Meeting day is on the second Sunday of each month. We have received by confession 10; letters 0; excluded 0; died 0; dismissed by letter 4; resident members 29; non-resident members 43; total in full fellowship 72. We have in our membership one minister, Rev. W. P. Scott; two ordained deacons, Bro. Edd Phillips and Bro. Tom Elliott. We have paid out for Evangelistic work, \$69.85; Missions, none; total paid out, \$180.70. We have a Union Sunday School. We have a Free Will Baptist League. Contribution for minutes, \$6.00; State minutes, \$2.00. We have chosen Bro. Cephus Mouser, Bro. Jimmy Searcy and Sister Leona Mouser as our delegates to represent us in the annual session, when convened with the Paden Church. We have chosen Rev. Marion Caton as our Pastor for the ensuing year. Pray for us. Done in Conference June 13, 1948.

Rev. Marion Caton, Moderator
Sister Cyrene Green, Clerk

PADEN CHURCH, Paden, Oklahoma. Pastor's salary for coming year undecided. Meeting day, straight time. We have received by confession, none; by letters, none; excluded, 7; died, 1; resident members, 33; non-resident, 30; total in full fellowship, 63. We have in our membership five ministers, Rev. W. K. Smith, Rev. Roy Wilson, Rev. Frank Davison, Rev. Odis Robinson, Rev. J. T. Champion and Rev. O. P. Westbrook. Ordained deacons, 3; Bro. Clarence Day, Bro. Trevor Case and Bro. Geo. Mitchell. We have paid out for Evangelistic work, \$164.46. Mission support, none; total amount paid out by the church, \$411.16. We have a Free Will Baptist Sunday School. We have a Free Will Baptist League. Contribution for Minutes \$6.31. Value of church property, \$4,000. We have chosen Sister Della Coleman, Sister Velma Page and Sister Ruth Wilson as our delegates to represent us in the annual session, when convened with the Paden Church. We have chosen Rev. Richard Lane as our pastor for the ensuing year. We have sent \$45.41 to the Children's Home. Pray for us. Done in Conference the 3rd day of July, 1948.

J. T. Champion, Ass't Modeator
Sylvia Loney, Clerk.

JACKSON CHURCH, Holdenville, Oklahoma. Pastor's salary for the coming year, \$20.00 a month. Meeting days straight time. We have received by confession, 10; letters, 12; excluded, none; died, none; resident members, 83; non-resident members, 61; total number on Church roll, 144. We have in our membership two ordained Ministers, Rev. W. E. Wilson and Rev. Marion Caton. Ordained Deacons two: Bro. E. S. Roberts and Bro. T. H. King. We have paid out for Evangelistic work \$156.17. Missions, \$38.00. Support of Association, \$5.00. Total paid out by the Church \$704.01. We have a Free Will Baptist Sunday School. We have a Free Will Baptist League. Value of Church property \$2000.00. Contribution for Minutes, \$8.00; State Minutes \$2.00. We have chosen Bro. Charles Compton, Sister Ola Mae Compton and Sister Lila Wilson as our delegates to represent us in the annual session when convened with Paden Church. Alternates Sister T. H. King, Sister Lois Martin and Sister Ruth Walker.

We have chosen Rev. W. E. Wilson as our pastor for the ensuing year. We would like to speak for the third quarterly meeting. We are sending Bro. Charles Compton to go before the examining board to be ordained as a Deacon. Pray for us. Done in Conference July 21, 1948.

Rev. W. E. Wilson, Moderator
Box 103, Holdenville, Oklahoma
Sister Ruth Walker, Clerk
Route 5, Holdenville, Oklahoma

HILL TOP CHURCH. The Free Will Baptist Church of God, worshipping at Hill Top, Wewoka, County of Seminole, this 29th day of July, 1948, sends greetings to the 43rd annual session of the brethren and sisters composing the Canadian Association of Free Will Baptists, to let you know of our love and fellowship and our zeal for the cause of Christ.

Pastor's salary for the coming year \$25.00 per month. Meeting days straight time. We have received by confession, 10; by letters, 1; excluded, none; died, none; resident members, 38; non-resident members, 26, in all 64. We have in our membership four ministers, Elder D. C. Sharp, Elder Arthur Reed, Elder W. N. Stevenson and Elder George Taylor. Ordained Deacons, 2, Bro. George Campbell, Brother Howard Gaun. We have paid out for Evangelistic work \$175.00; Missions support of the Association \$13.00; total amount paid out by the church,

\$862.32. We have a Free Will Baptist Sunday School. We have not a Free Will Baptist League. Value of church property \$1200.00. Contribution for Minutes, \$10.00; State Minutes, \$5.00. We have chosen Sister Reich, Sister Vansant and Sister Hume as delegates; as alternates Sister Dodd, Bro. George Reid and Bro. Nathaniel Vansant to represent us in the annual session when convened with the Free Will Baptist Church of Paden, Oklahoma. We have chosen Elder George Taylor for our pastor for the ensuing year. Pray for us. Done in Conference this 29th day of July, 1948.

Rev. George Taylor, Moderator
Ethel Hume, Clerk

MINISTERS ROLL

W. P. Scott, Box 664, Holdenville, Oklahoma.
W. E. Wilson, Box 103, Holdenville, Oklahoma.
Marion L. Caton, Route 1, Wewoka, Oklahoma.
J. T. Champion, Okemah, Oklahoma.
Arthur Reid, Weleetka, Oklahoma.
Geo. Taylor, Box 86, Snomac, Oklahoma.
Melvin Mouser, Hanna, Oklahoma.
Frank Dawson, Paden, Oklahoma.

EVANGELIST'S REPORT

Conducted two revivals, assisted two others. Witnessed 38 conversions, baptised 18. Received about \$175.00.

CLERK'S REPORT

Amount paid in.....	\$120.91
Printing of Minutes.....	45.00
Typing of Minutes.....	1.00
Postage and Books.....	1.04
Sent Childrens Home.....	45.00
Balance on Hand.....	13.56

The Association sent one cow to the Childrens Home and Spring Creek Church sent one heifer to the Home.

ORPHANAGE BOARD

Chairman.....Rev. R. G. Lane, Box 697, Paden, Oklahoma
Secretary and Treasurer.....T. H. King, 120½ N. Broadway
Holdenville, Oklahoma
Member.....Rev. W. E. Wilson, Box 103, Holdenville, Oklahoma
Member.....Rev. Geo. Taylor, Box 86, Snomac, Oklahoma
Member.....Charles Compton, R. 1, Wewoka, Oklahoma

COMMITTEE REPORTS

OBITUARY COMMITTEE—We your Obituary Committee report that God in His wisdom has called from our midst Sister Anna Frogge from the Paden Church, also Bro. Thomas Abercrombie from the Cross Roads Church.

Sister Geo. Riech
Sister Sylvia Loney
Bro. J. Searcy

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE—We, the Sunday School Committee recommend that all should work harder for the betterment of our Sunday School. May we make it our business to be there with our families and see that someone else is there also.

Bro. Charles Compton
Sister Stella Dodd
Sister Lizzie Coleman

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE—We your Temperance Committee recommend that each Pastor preach at least one Temperance sermon each quarter. We also recommend that we as a body of Christian people abstain from all intoxicating beverages and any other practices that defiles the Church.

Bro. Geo. Campbell
Rev. Arthur Ried
Rev. Geo. Taylor

MUSIC COMMITTEE—We recommend that our church use Hymnals in all church services, and that our choir be given more training and take time one night a week for practicing for Sunday worship. We also recommend a community singing one night a week. We should endorse and support our music normal and make it possible for the underprivileged by our financial support.

Sister Ola Mae Compton
Sister Leona Mouser
Sister Sylvia Loney

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE—Be it resolved that we extend our thanks and appreciation to the Paden Church for the kindness and hospitality shown while in this session.

Rev. W. P. Scott
Rev. Melvin Mouser
Bro. T. H. King

FINANCIAL REPORT

Paden Church	\$ 8.31
Hill Top	15.00
Spring Creek	8.00
Jackson Church	10.00
Offering	13.36
Amount brought forward.....	13.56
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TOTAL.....	\$66.06

Sister J. T. Humes
Sister Leona Mouser
Sister Ola Mae Compton

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible Word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice.—2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:20-21.

2. That there is but one true and living God, and in the God-Head or Divine Essence, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.—Gen. 17:1; 1 John 5:7.

3. That we are fallen and depraved creatures and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature.—Eph. 5:1-19.

4. That Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification, Justification and Redemption are by the Life, Death, Resurrection, Ascension and Intercession of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.—Acts 4:12; Titus 3:5.

5. That he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved.—Matt. 22:13; Rev. 2:10.

6. That the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.—Matt. 25:46.

7. That Baptism and the Lord's Supper, and the washing of the saint's feet are the ordinances of Jesus Christ, appointed in the church, and none but true believers are proper subjects, and the only proper mode of baptism is Immersion.—Mark 1:4, 9-10; Luke 23:30; John 13:14.

8. We believe in the sanctity of the first day of the week or the Lord's Day, and that it ought to be observed and spent in the public or private worship of God, and that on it we should abstain from our worldly concerns except in cases of necessity and mercy.—Ex. 31:15; Deut. 5:12; Matt. 12:12.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both of the just and unjust, but everyone in his own order, those who have done evil to the resurrection of damnation, and that God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. 15:34; John 5:28; 1 Thess. 4:16.

10. That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another, and to study the happiness of the people of God in general, and to be singly engaged to promote the honor of God.—John 13:35; Gal. 6:10.

11. We believe that Jesus Christ by the grace of God tasted death for every man; yet none can partake of His divine benefit only by his repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, infants and idiots excepted.—Acts 20:21; I Tim. 2:5-6; John 3:14-16; I Cor. 15:20-22; Romans 5:15.

12. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the door into the church, that Baptism is a duty in answer to a good conscience.—John 10:7; I Peter 3:21.

13. We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him, and therefore should be one at His table.—I Cor. 1:1-11, 27-28; John 17:11.

RULES OF ORDER

1. The Association when met shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

2. Only one person shall speak at a time, and he shall rise to his feet and address the Moderator.

3. Any person shall not be interrupted by anyone except the Moderator, until he is through speaking; nor shall the Moderator unless he breaks order.

4. Any person speaking shall adhere to the subject in question and shall not cast any reflections on him who may have spoken before him.

5. No person shall speak more than three times on any one subject without leave of the Association.

6. No person shall laugh or whisper in time of public speaking.

7. The members shall be addressed by the application of brothers or sisters.

8. No members shall absent himself from the Association while in session without leave.

9. The names of the members of the Association shall be enrolled and called over as the Association deems it necessary.

10. No member shall speak more than fifteen minutes at any one time without leave of the Association.

11. Any person who knowingly breaks any of these rules shall be reproved by the Moderator according to direction of the Association.

LETTER OF DISMISSION

This is to certify that..... is a member in good standing of the Free Will Baptist Church at and as such we recommend him (or her) to the fellowship of God's people, and is dismissed from us when united with another church.

Done in Church Conference this..... day of , 19.....

....., Pastor
....., Clerk

LETTER TO ASSOCIATION

The Free Will Baptist Church of God, worshipping at..... county of..... this (date)..... P. O. address....., Sends greetings to the..... Annual Session of the brethren and sisters composing the Canadian Association of Free Will Baptists, to let you know of our love and fellowship and our zeal for the cause of Christ.

Pastor's salary for the coming year \$..... Meeting day is on the..... Sundays of each month. We have received by Confession.....; Letter.....; Excluded.....; Died.....; Resident Members.....; Non-Resident Members.....; Total in Full Fellowship..... We have in our membership, Ministers.....; Names.....; Ordained Deacons....., Names..... We have paid out for Evangelistic work \$.....; Missions \$.....; Support of the Association \$..... Total Amount Paid out by the Church \$..... We (have or have not) a F. W. B. Sunday School. We (have or have not) F. W. B. League. Value of Church Property \$..... Contribution for Minutes \$.....; State Minutes \$..... We have chosen (brothers or sisters)..... as our delegates to represent us in the Annual Session when convened with..... Church. We have chosen Elder..... for our pastor for the ensuing year. (Here ask for the Next Association or Quarterly if wanted). Pray for us. Done in conference this..... day of , 19.....

....., Moderator
....., Address
....., Clerk
....., Address

CONSTITUTION

From long experience, we, the members of the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist), being regularly baptised upon a profession of our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union among us, and to preserve and maintain correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this Constitution for our better Church government.

Art. 1. MEMBERSHIP. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches of our union, not exceeding three messengers from each church, and upon producing letters, they shall be entitled to seats. All ordained ministers and deacons of said union shall be regular members, when present, by virtue of their office.

Art. 2. NAME. The members thus chosen and assembled with the ministers and deacons, to be denominated the Canadian Association of Free Will Baptists, being composed of the several churches of our union, the Association having no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor having any ecclesiastical power over the churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly.

Art. 3. LETTERS. Letters from the different churches representing are to express their number in fellowship, including the names and addresses of ordained and licensed ministers, the number of members received upon profession of faith, by letter or recommendation, by restoration or denominational choice; the number dismissed by letter, excluded, and those having died since last Association. Churches, in sending their letters, may send obituaries of any who died during the year, that we may keep up the memorial of our dead.

Art. 4. OFFICERS. The Association to have a Moderator, a Clerk, and a Credential Committee of three ordained elected by the suffrage of the members of the Association at each annual association. The credentials Committee shall be elected as follows: One for three years, one for two years, and one for one year. Then one each year following to succeed the outgoing members.

Art. 5. NEW CHURCHES. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association, which are to petition by letter and delegates, and if upon examination, they are found to be

orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 6. QUESTIONS. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has been first considered in its own church.

Art. 7. MOTIONS. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

Art. 8. MINUTES. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the Association in proportion to the amount paid by each church, the distribution to be at the discretion of the Association.

Art. 9. CLERK. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes of the Association in a book to be kept by the Association for that purpose.

Art. 10. SIGNATURES. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the close of the Association.

Art. 11. ORDINANCES. The pastor of the church shall preach on the ordinances of the church once a year, and one discourse on the support of the ministry.

Art. 12. FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS. This Association shall hold three Fifth Sunday Meetings each year, and the ministers and deacons shall make a written report of their work, and it shall be the duty of each quarterly conference to look after the necessities of the widows and orphans, and the order of the ministry, and the quarterly conference shall make a written report to the Association annually.

Art. 13. TREASURY. Resolved, that each church have a treasurer, and come together and subscribe the amount they are willing to pay into the treasury during the year for the support of the ministry, widows, orphans, and incidental expenses, and that said amount be paid quarterly, and that said funds shall not be paid out except by order of the church.

Art. 14. AMENDMENTS. Amendments to this Constitution may be made, when necessary, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular session.

RULES FOR HOLDING CHURCH CONFERENCES

1. Call Church into Conference.
2. Invite visiting Brethren to seats in Council.

3. Reading of minutes of last meeting.
4. Report of Treasurer of Finance Committee.
5. Unfinished business.
6. New business.
7. Any sick or in need.

FREE WILL BAPTIST 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 the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world;⁶ from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit," in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society; constantly praying and toiling that the kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

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 Savior 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.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls, and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

