

**1995-96
YEARBOOK
FOR
ORIGINAL
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

Contents

Foreword	7
Directory of Ordained Ministers	11
Directory of Licensed Ministers	31
Directory of Churches	37
Directory of Denominational Ministries	105
Minutes of State Bodies	
Convention	108
Officers, Boards, and Committees	109
Proceedings	111
Reports	
Credentials Committee	114
Obituary Committee	115
Resolutions Committee	115
Nominating Committee	116
Constitution and Bylaws	117
Woman's Auxiliary	123
League Convention	135
Minutes of Conferences and Association	
Piedmont	139
Albemarle	143
Western	151
Pee Dee	161
Eastern	170
Cape Fear	178
Central	188
Statistical Tables	204

**MINUTES
of the
CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE
of
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

**Held at
Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church
Dunn, North Carolina
November 2, 1995**

Officers

Moderator: The Reverend Billy Nowell
Assistant Moderator: The Reverend Al Markuson
Secretary: The Reverend Michael Ledbetter
Assistant Secretary: The Reverend Phillip Boykin
Treasurer: Mr. H. T. Hinson

Executive Board

Billy Bowell, Michael Ledbetter, Phillip Boykin,
H. T. Hinson, Al Markuson, J. B. Caton

Standing Boards

Board of Trustees

Mosby Elmore (1996), Ray Warrick (1997), Ray G. Smith (1998)
J. N. Bryant (1999), Raymond Godwin (2000)

Board of Education

Helen Coats (1996), Martha Parsons (1997), Peyton Lee (1998)
Ruth Scarborough (1999), Bobby Tew (2000)

Ordaining Board

Frank Harrison (1996), Fred Baker (1997), Charles Carroll (1998)
Edmundo Gonzalez (1999), Phillip Boykin (2000)

Ordained Ministers

(P-Present, A-Absent, E-Excused)

P	Armstrong, Henry	P	Boykin, Phillip
P	Ard, Norman	E	Brinson, Davie
P	Baker, Fred	P	Britt, Gene
E	Barrow, William David	P	Caton, J. B.
P	Benson, Swade	P	Coats, C. M.
P	Blackman, James Cecil	P	Farmer, T. C.
P	Boling, Dewey C.	P	Godwin, Felton
P	Byrd, Raeford	P	Gonzalez, Edmundo

P	Hargrove, Wayne	E	Pollock, Dennis
P	Harrison, Frank	P	Raper, Burkette
P	Harris, John Robert	P	Scarborough, Jeff
P	Hayes, Ronnie	E	Smith, Elijah Floyd
P	Hogg, Atlas	P	Stanley, Hubert
E	Johnson, Earl	E	Tew, Bobby
P	Kennedy, Dean	A	Thompson, Elmer
P	Ledbetter, W. Michael	A	Tyner, Luby
A	Lee, John Raeford	A	Tyner, William J.
P	Markuson, Al	E	van der Plas, Willem
A	Markuson, Chris	E	Vann, Sexton
P	McLamb, Tony	P	Venable, Don
P	Miles, Edward		
P	Nowell, Billy		
P	Parrish, Tony		
A	Painter, Edward		
A	Parker, Wilson W.		
E	Peedin, Kenneth		

Licensed Ministers

P	Godwin, Lewis--Lanwood Chapel Free Will Baptist Church
P	Martin, Gary--Riverside Free Will Baptist Church
A	Nordan, Roy--Steven's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church
A	Wall, Chris--Lanwood Chapel Free Will Baptist Church

Proceedings

The One Hundred Forty-first Session of the Cape Fear Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists convened at Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Dunn, NC, November 2, 1995.

The session was called to order by the Moderator, the Reverend Dewey C. Boling. The congregation sang "I Am Thine, O Lord," led by Peyton Lee. Scripture and prayer were offered by the Reverend Wayne Hargrove, pastor of St. Mary's Grove Free Will Baptist Church. He encouraged us to "faint not," from Luke 18:1. When we faint, we: 1) lose control, 2) lose heart, and 3) lose our prayers. We were welcomed by the host pastor, the Reverend Fred Baker. The response was given by the Reverend Jeff Scarborough.

The rules of the Credentials Committee were explained by the Reverend Tony Parrish as were adopted by the One Hundred and Fourteenth Session, which state, "In all future sessions of the Cape Fear Conference, the Credentials Committee shall be instructed to issue a badge of identification to all duly registered ministers, delegates, and visitors, and that no person be allowed to vote who does not properly display said badge. It is understood that all visitors shall be granted all rights and privileges except that of voting. It shall be the duty of the Credentials Committee to explain the registration at the opening of the Cape Fear Conference."

The roll of the officers, ministers, standing boards, and churches was called. The Moderator recognized the visitors and welcomed them to the session.

The following temporary committees were appointed to serve during the session with the first person named to serve as chairman:

Credentials Committee: Chris Markuson, Ronnie Hayes, and Tony Parrish

Temperance/Resolutions Committee: Fred Baker, Frank Harrison, and John Robert Harris

Nominating Committee: Al Markuson, Wayne Hargrove, and Ed Gonzalez

Obituary Committee: Dean Kennedy, Henry Armstrong, and C. M. Coats

The Moderator, the Reverend Dewey Boling, gave his remarks. He said he has served the Cape Fear Conference for over 40 years. He has enjoyed serving many of our churches. He commented on the fact that Jesus spent all night in prayer and should we not do the same. He further stated that until our churches get right with God, our churches will not grow. He encouraged us to return to the ways that work in growing the church for the Lord. If we have fellowship with the Master, then we can have fellowship with one another. We were asked to stand for a moment of silent prayer and then we were led in prayer for our churches.

The following reports were given from denominational ministries for our information:

Mount Olive College--The Reverend Frank Harrison

Children's Home--Mr. Gary Lee

Free Will Baptist Press--Miss Tracy McCoy

Foreign Missions--The Reverend Henry Armstrong

Home Missions--The Reverend David C. Hansley

Sunday School Board--The Reverend Michael Ledbetter

Executive Administrator--The Reverend Scott Sowers (The Reverend Sowers gave an overall look at the denominational ministries.) The Reverend Michael Ledbetter welcomed the Reverend Sowers to his new position on behalf of the Cape Fear Conference.

Before the break, and with the session ahead of schedule, the following reports were given: Woman's Auxiliary, Cape Fear Minister's Program, Ordaining Board, and the Board of Education (see Reports for all).

The Reverend Burkette Raper was recognized and he gave testimony that he was celebrating 49 years in the ministry. He started his ministry in the Cape Fear Conference before going to Mount Olive College for his ministry.

Morning worship began at 10:45 with singing praises to our Lord and Savior with "Victory in Jesus." Peyton Lee led in the chorus "Jesus Loves Me." The congregation continued in praise with "I Love to Tell the Story." After the offering, we were blessed with the special singing by Mrs. Trish Pope. She sang "Love Crucified a Rose."

Morning message was brought by the Reverend Phillip Boykin of Lee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. He read from the sacred Scriptures Luke 17:5-10. The Apostles asked the Lord to "Increase our faith." The title of the message was "DO IT!" The main points were: (1) They did not have lack of faith. They had faith! It only takes faith the size of a mustard seed to do great things. Are we really asking God to increase our faith or are we asking Him to make things easier? (2) Their actions showed their faith. It is our job to work out our faith. Some churches have "paralysis of analysis." They are frozen, immobile Christians waiting for God to push them to do something. We need to simply do our job--that is what is expected! We are here to make a difference. The message is the same--the response makes the difference. The morning worship was closed with an altar prayer by all ministers.

The Reverend Fred Baker gave instructions for the noon meal and Gary Martin offered a prayer of thanks.

Afternoon Session

The afternoon session began with singing " 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus." The Reverend Charlie Carroll, pastor of Wooten's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, brought the devotions and prayer.

The following reports were given: Cape Fear Sunday School--Al Markuson; Executive Committee--Michael Ledbetter (see Reports).

The reports of the temporary committees were as follows: Temperance/Resolutions, Obituary, Credentials, and Nominating (see Reports for all).

The Reverend Billy Nowell asked for the 142nd Session to be held at the Pleasant Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Dunn, NC. By motion, this met with the approval of the Conference.

Treasurer's Report (see Reports).

The floor was handed over to the newly elected moderator, the Reverend Billy Nowell. A motion was made and carried to give the outgoing officers a rising vote of thanks.

A motion was made and carried to leave all unfinished business to the newly elected Executive Committee. Motion was made to adjourn and we closed with prayer.

Reports

Executive Committee

(November 3, 1994)

With the absence of Moderator Dewey Boling, Assistant Moderator Bolly Nowell called a meeting after the 140th Session of the Cape Fear Conference to approve the Minutes for printing in the *Yearbook*. A motion was made and carried to proceed in printing the Minutes of the 140th Session in the 1995 *Yearbook*.

(September 5, 1995)

The Executive Committee of the Cape Fear Conference met Tuesday, September 5, 1995, at the Lee's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church to plan the 141st Session of the Cape Fear Conference. Members present were: Phillip Boykin, Al Markuson, and Michael Ledbetter. In the absence of Dewey Boling and Billy Nowell, the committee proceeded to plan the 141st Session. Names for the committees were suggested and speakers were discussed. There was some discussion about the availability of funds to the Conference. It was suggested that in a future meeting finances could be discussed to suggest ways of increasing the funds available to the Conference. With no other business, we adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Ledbetter, *Clerk*

Woman's Auxiliary Report

Greetings from the Cape Fear District Woman's Auxiliary. It has been a good year and we give God the honor and praise for everything that has been done.

Haymount Free Will Baptist Church, Fayetteville, NC, was the host for our Fall Convention held on October 12, 1994. The theme for the Convention was "Jesus Is Coming Again," supported by Scripture from Acts 1:11. The total attendance was 66. The day was spiritually uplifting to everyone. A Life Membership Award was presented to Mrs. Martha Parsons, district youth advisor and state youth chairman, for her many years of faithful and devoted service in the Auxiliary.

Hopewell Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, NC, hosted the Spring Convention on April 12, 1995. The theme was "The Power of the Holy Spirit," with the Scripture taken from Acts 1:8. The Convention had the largest attendance in recent years, with 85 present and 20 churches represented. Only one church, Robert's Grove, reached A-1 status this year.

Officers for 1995/96 were installed by Mrs. Linda Jackson, from Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church. The officers and their home churches are as follows:

President: Claudette Lane, Yelverton Grove

Vice President: Phyllis McLamb, Shady Grove

Secretary: Betty Strickland, Palmer Memorial

Field Secretary: Grace Barbour, Hopewell

Treasurer: Jane Parker, Hopewell

Missions Chairman: Linda Baker, Robert's Grove

Benevolence Chairman: Esteline Tart, Lee's Chapel

Study Course Chairman: Mavie Daughtry, Yelverton Grove

Youth Advisor: Martha Parsons, Genesis Mission

Co-Youth Chairman: Angela Honeycutt, Shady Grove; and Karen Honeycutt, Robert's Grove

Program Prayer Chairman: Frances Phillips, Johnston Union

The Cape Fear District sponsored two study courses this year at Yelverton Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, NC.

Mrs. Hilda Starling, Branch Chapel Church, Slema, NC, spoke on Evangelism on October 17, 1994. The attendance was 35, with 6 churches represented.

The Reverend Edmundo Gonzalez, pastor of Hopewell Church, Smithfield, NC, spoke on "The History of Free Will Baptists" on April 24, 1995. The attendance for this was 79, with 13 churches represented.

Our Woman's Auxiliary program prayerfully supports and contributes financially to all of our denominational ministries and sponsors the Cape Fear Youth Program which meets monthly.

Please pray that we will glorify God in all that we do and be a blessing to the Free Will Baptist denomination.

Respectfully submitted,

Claudette Lane, *President*
Betty Strickland, *Secretary*

Ordaining Board Report

(January 23, 1995)

The Ordaining Board of the Cape Fear Conference met at First Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, on January 23, 1995, at 1 p.m.

By motion, the Reverends Harry Jones and Dan Jordan be received into the membership of our ordained ministers and be cleared to pastor in the Conference.

By motion, Mr. Gary Martin, a member of Riverside Free Will Baptist Church, be granted a license to preach after being examined and passed by the Ordaining Board.

By motion, the Reverend Roy Clifton was cleared to pastor St. Paul Free Will Baptist Church, Newton Grove, NC.

There being no other business, the Board dismissed with prayer.

(April 24, 1995)

The Ordaining Board of the Cape Fear Conference met at First Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, NC, on April 24, 1995, at 1 p.m.

Mr. Ronnie Hayes presented a letter from Pleasant Grove Church recommending that he be ordained.

By motion, Mr. Hayes be permitted to take the ordaining exam sometime during the next quarter.

There being no other business, the meeting was closed with prayer.

(July 24, 1995)

The Ordaining Board of the Cape Fear Conference met at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, NC, on July 24, 1995, at 1 p.m.

Mr. Ronnie Hayes met with the Board after having taken the ordination exam. Mr. Hayes was informed that he did not make a satisfactory score on the exam and that the Board recommended he take some courses under the direction of the Reverend Fred Baker, who was a member of the Ordaining Board. Mr. Hayes was to complete the courses by the next meeting of the Board, which was scheduled for October 23, 1995, at which time, he would take the ordination exam again.

By motion, Mr. John Robert Harris be approved for ordination on Sunday, August 27, 1995, at 6 p.m. Mr. Harris had successfully passed the exam and had received a call from Gum Swamp Church in the Central Conference. (John Robert Harris was ordained to the gospel Ministry on August 27, 1995.)

(October 24, 1995)

The Ordaining Board of the Cape Fear Conference met at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Smithfield, on October 24, 1995, at 1 p.m.

By motion, Mr. Ronnie Hayes was approved for ordination, having successfully completed the ordination exam, and has received a call from Smyrna Church. He is scheduled to be ordained on Sunday, November 5, 1995, at 6 p.m., at Pleasant Grove Church.

By motion, Mr. Lewis Godwin be approved as a licensed minister for the year by Lanwood Chapel, after the Ordaining Board examined him regarding the doctrine, faith, and practices of Original Free Will Baptists.

Respectfully submitted,
Frank Harrison, *Secretary*

Cape Fear Ministers Report

The Cape Fear ministers met on January 23, 1995, with 15 ministers present. Devotional was given by the Reverend Frank Harrison and we had the election of new officers. The program was given by the Executive Administrator, the Reverend C. H. Overman. He reported on his work within our Convention and we enjoyed his program.

The Cape Fear ministers met on April 24, 1995, with 18 ministers present. The devotional was given by the Reverend Dan Jordan. The program was given by the Reverend David C. Hansley, executive director of Home Missions and Evangelism. He reported to the group the work the Mission Board is doing and asked for our support and prayers.

The Cape Fear ministers met on July 24, 1995, with 14 ministers present. The devotional was given by Brother Ronnie Hayes. The program was given by the Reverend Frank Harrison representing the Minister's Program. He spoke to us on the future for our ministers and the need to invest for our retirement.

The Cape Fear ministers met on October 23, 1995, with 18 ministers present. The devotional was given by Brother Lewis Godwin. The program was given by the Reverend Ray Wells, president of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. He told us of the challenges and rewards he has seen as president. He also informed the group of the possible new things the Executive Committee was looking at for the future.

Our next meeting will be in March of 1996, with the December meeting being cancelled.

In His service,

Billy Nowell

Memorial Service and Obituary Committee Report

The service was opened with prayer by the Reverend Henry Armstrong. Old Testament Scripture and remarks were given by the Reverend Dean Kennedy. Brother Kennedy used Psalm 23. New Testament Scripture and remarks were given by the Reverend C. M. Coats. Brother Coats used John 11:24-26, 14:1-4. The introduction of "Remembrance of Ministers" that have died since our last conference was given by the Reverend Henry Armstrong. The Reverend Ed Taylor has gone to be with our Lord. Words were given by the Reverend Billy Nowell who answered the call to the ministry under Brother Taylor. The benediction was given by the Reverend Dean Kennedy.

Respectfully submitted,
Dean Kennedy, *Chairman*
Henry Armstrong
C. M. Coats

Board of Education Report

The Board of Education Committee met on June 4, 1995, to grade the applications we had received. There were a total of 13.

While each applicant was highly qualified, we could only choose two. The first scholarship went to Carla Renee McLamb from Shady Grove Free Will Baptist Church. She is attending Mount Olive College. The second scholarship went to Kimberly Gregory from Steven's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. She had been accepted to North Carolina State University, Mount Olive College, Clemson University, and Appalachian University. She had not decided which one she would attend.

We are still working on our training session we announced last year. Hopefully we can have it ready for the spring of 1996.

Committee members,

Bobby Tew, *Chairman*
 Martha Parsons, *Secretary*
 Helen Coates
 Ruth Scarborough
 Peyton Lee

Credentials Committee Report

Ministers Present	30
Visitors	18
Licensed Ministers	3
Delegates	19
Ministry Representatives	6
Total Present	73
Ministers Excused	11
Ministers Absent	9

Respectfully submitted,
 Tony Parrish, *Chairman*
 Ronnie Hayes

Temperance/Resolutions Committee

WHEREAS, Robert's Grove Free Will Baptist Church has been a gracious host for this the 141st Session of the Cape Fear Conference,

BE IT RESOLVED that we express our appreciation to the church and its pastor with a rising vote of thanks.

WHEREAS, the use of alcohol and other drugs continue to spread in our society, especially among the youth of America, and

WHEREAS, many of the television programs continue to promote violence, pre-marital sex, and other unchristian values and behavior,

BE IT RESOLVED that we ask our people to continue to take a stand against drugs and alcohol and that we monitor closely and turn off those television programs that are not wholesome to family values as we believe they are taught in the Scriptures.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Harrison, Chairman
John Robert Harris
Fred Baker

Nominating Committee Report

The following nominations are suggested by the committee for the approval of the Conference.

Officers:

- Moderator--The Reverend Billy Nowell
- Assistant Moderator--The Reverend Al Markuson
- Secretary--The Reverend Michael Ledbetter
- Assistant Secretary/Treasurer--The Reverend Phillip Boykin
- Treasurer--Mr. H. T. Hinson

Executive Committee:

- Member-at-Large--The Reverend J. B. Caton

Standing Boards:

- Board of Trustees--Mr. Raymond Godwin (2000)
- Board of Education--The Reverend Bobby Tew (2000)
- Ordaining Board--The Reverend Charlie Carroll (1998) to fill the unexpired term of the Reverend Dewey Boling, The Reverend Phillip Boykin (2000)

Respectfully submitted,

Al Markuson, *Chairman*
Wayne Hargrove
Ed Gonzalez

Treasurer's Report
July 1, 1994 to June 30, 1995

Balance brought forward	\$ 665.35
Received from Cape Fear Conference	998.45
Received from Union Meetings	<u>436.61</u>
Total to account for	\$2,100.41

Disbursements

Kathy Markuson, mileage	
Rudy Owens	\$ 35.25
Mount Olive College Dining Hall	50.00
1995 <i>Yearbook</i> pages	150.00
Phillip Boykin, mileage	446.39
Michael Ledbetter, secretary allowance	13.50
Mount Olive College Dining Hall	150.00
C. J. Hanna, Treasurer's Bond	100.00
Kathy Markuson, mileage	100.00
Frank Harrison, for Bible	40.00
Dewey Boling, mileage	58.29
Michael Ledbetter, Conference expenses	28.00
Kathy Markuson, mileage	53.00
H. T. Hinson, treasurer's allowance	30.00
Total disbursements	125.00
Balance on Hand	<u>1,369.43</u>
	\$ 470.98

Educational Fund

Balance brought forward	\$ 405.19
From Union Meetings	360.31
From Cape Fear Conference	509.00
Total to account for	1,274.50
Less two scholarships	<u>1,000.00</u>
Balance on hand	\$ 274.50

Respectfully submitted,
H. T. Hinson

Churches	1994	Baptism	Gain	Other	Deceased	Lost	Other	Net	1995	Sunday	Active	Inactive	Avg. SS	Avg. MW
	Members		Letter			Letter		Change	Members	School			Atten.	Atten.
<u>Cape Fear Conference</u>														
Bethel	142	1			1	2		-2	140	68	77	63	55	68
Casey's Chapel														
Daly's Chapel	50	1	2	1		2		2	52	23	33	19	12	20
Faith	122	5	4		7	2		0	122	88	51	71	67	65
Genesis Mission														
Goldsboro, First	220	2	1	7	4			6	226	84	107	119	84	110
Haymount	96	6	2					8	104	71	104		71	117
Hopewell	244				1	2		-3	241	98			60	85
Johnston Union	151	4	2		2	6		-2	149	110			84	115
Lanwood Chapel	67		3	1	1	3		0	67	56	50		40	50
Lee's Chapel	328	7	2		3	1		5	333	200			145	179
Mount Olive	7							0	7					
New Freedom														
Oak Grove	168	4	1		4			1	169	125			40	58
Palmer Memorial	188		2		1	5		-4	184	50	69	115	35	45
Pleasant Grove	175	8			4			4	183	70	85	90	65	85
Powhatan	266	1	2		3	4		-4	262	115			81	85
Riverside	87	5				1	9	-5	82				65	100
Robert's Grove	198	6	4		1	2		7	205	160			108	103

Churches	1994	Baptism	Gain	Other	Deceased	Lost	Other	Net	1995	Sunday	Active	Inactive	Avg. SS	Avg. MW
	Members		Letter			Letter		Change	Members	School			Atten.	Atten.
Shady Grove	280	5	2		7	5		-5	275	115			73	90
Smithfield, First	132			1	3	10		-12	120	18	61	59	12	35
Smyrna	152	4			1			3	155	102	155		75	75
Steven's Chapel	117	7	2		2	2		5	122				45	75
St. Mary's Grove	215				2	1		-3	212	139	212	34	78	136
St. Paul	159		3			3		0	159	102	95	64	69	69
Tee's Chapel	306	9	2		5	2		4	310	198	310	39	147	156
Vandora Springs	91	3	3	6		3		9	94	45	84	10	41	68
Victory First Deaf														
West Clinton	22					2		-2	20	20	18	2	15	18
Wootens Chapel		4	20					24		25			23	50
Yelverton Grove	147	7			8	3		-4	143	99			68	50
Cape Fear Totals	4130	89	57	16	60	61	9	32	4136	2181	1511	685	1658	2107

Central Conference

Aspen Grove	214	6	4		9	1		0	214	94			65	80
Ayden	137		2		1			1	138	36			36	56
Bethany	197							0	197	71	99	108	56	80