

*The 100th Annual Session
of the
Convention of
Original Free Will Baptists*

Working for God With Enjoyment
I Peter 4:13

2012
Ministry and Conference Report Book

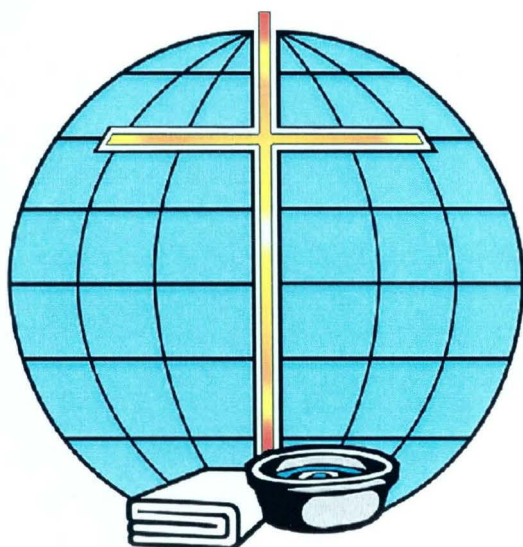


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MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS HELD AT SHADY GROVE OFWB CHURCH DUNN, NORTH CAROLINA NOVEMBER 8, 2011

Moderator: The Reverend Aubrey Williamson (2012)
Assistant Moderator: The Reverend Otis Hamm (2012)
Clerk: Eva Ballance (2013)
Assistant Clerk: Carolyn Jernigan (2013)
Treasurer: The Reverend Sam Weeks (2012)
Member at Large: The Reverend Stephen Prescott (2013)

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Aubrey Williamson, Otis Hamm, Eva Ballance,
Carolyn Jernigan, Sam Weeks, Stephen Prescott

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chris Markuson, Jr. (2012) George Thomas (2013)
J.N. Bryant (2014) Dean Kennedy (2015) Carlton Barefoot (2016)

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Martha Parsons (2012) Peyton Lee (2013)
Doug Seymour (2014) Emmitt Jones (2015) Wayne Puckett (2016)

ORDAINING BOARD

Jim Bogle (2012) Aubrey Williamson (2013)
Sam Weeks (2014) Joe Ballance (2015) Frank Harrison (2016)

CONFERENCE DISASTER RELIEF COORDINATOR

Braxton Carter (2012)

ORDAINED MINISTERS

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

E	Henry Armstrong	P	Braxton Carter
P	Fred Baker	P	Scott Casey
P	Joe Ballance	A	Larry Coats
E	Swade Benson	P	James Corbett
E	Cecil Blackmon	P	Ken Dabbs
P	Jim Bogle	E	Wade Daughtry
P	Gene Britt	E	Jesse Fulcher
P	John Butler	E	Edmundo Gonzalez
E	Rayford Byrd	E	Otis Hamm
P	Charlie Carroll	P	Frank Harrison

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P Ronnie Hayes
P John Hill
P Roger Hill
P Earl Johnson
P Emmitt Jones
E Dan Jordan
P Dean Kennedy
P Alan Lamm
E John Rayford Lee
E Donnie Massey
P Richard McKeel
P Tony McLamb
P Joe Myrick
E Billy Nowell
P Charles Petit

P Dennis Pollock
P Stephen Prescott
A Alan Price
P Jimmy Price
E Clarence Privette
P Scott Satterfield
E Jeff Scarborough
P Doug Seymour
E Elijah Smith
E Hubert Stanley
E William Van der Plas
P Ricky Warren
P Sam Weeks
P Richard Whitman
P Aubrey Williamson
P Carla Williamson

LICENSED MINISTERS

A Neil McLamb-Lee's Chapel
P Vicki Medlin-First OFWB of Smithfield

PROCEEDINGS

The One Hundred and Fifty-Seventh Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists (OFWB) convened at Shady Grove OFWB Church, Dunn, North Carolina on November 8, 2011. Moderator Aubrey Williamson welcomed everyone. Moderator Aubrey Williamson presented the program for adoption. Motion was made to accept the program for adoption. Motion was carried.

The congregation opened in singing "Standing on the Promises," *Carter*, led by song leader, Peyton Lee. Licensed Minister Vicki Medlin offered scripture and prayer from Luke 18 and Luke 11. The conference was welcomed by Pastor Stephen Prescott of Shady Grove OFWB Church. The response was heard from Pastor Fred Baker of Robert's Grove OFWB Church.

Clerk Eva Ballance called the session to order. The rules of registration were then explained by John Butler, Chairperson of the Credentials Committee, as adopted by the One Hundred Fourteenth Session of the Cape Fear Conference. Clerk Eva Ballance called the Roll of Officers and Standing Boards, Churches, and Ministers. Rev. David Langley requested to join the Cape Fear Conference. Motion was made to accept Rev. Langley in the Cape Fear Conference. Motion was carried. The right hand of fellowship was extended by Moderator Aubrey Williamson to Rev. David Langley on behalf of our conference. The Moderator recognized visiting ministers and guests.

Moderator Aubrey Williamson offered words of encouragement to the conference from Jeremiah 29:11-14 and Micah 6:8. He expressed God's desire to have a relationship with us, a fellowship. This great opportunity should be used to share the love of God as disciples. Christ called us to be disciples and to follow Him. The calling on man is to live for Christ. "Praise the Lord, we have been saved." Then he asked for God's blessings on the conference.

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Motion was made to adopt the written report of the Executive Committee as given. Motion was carried.

Motion was made to appoint the following Temporary Committees by Moderator Williamson. The motion was carried.

Temperance/Resolutions Committee: Chair Frank Harrison, Ricky Warren, Carla Williamson

Obituary Committee: Chair Braxton Carter, Jim Bogle, John Hill

Credentials Committee: Chair John Butler, Carolyn Jernigan, Scott Satterfield

Nominating Committee: Chair Stephen Prescott, Roger Hill, Dean Kennedy

Parliamentarian: Ricky Warren

Dr. Sam Weeks was recognized as the Cape Fear Conference representative to the Executive Committee of the Convention, who gave the Convention report. He encouraged every Cape Fear Conference Church to consider recognizing an individual on the Wall of Honor and support the Convention through the Century of Grace. Rev. Buddy Sasser, Director of Convention Services of the Original Free Will Baptists, was recognized and he introduced the denominational ministry representatives, encouraging support for all ministries.

Representatives from our denominational ministries were present and given an opportunity to speak on the behalf of each ministry. The following ministries were represented: Children's Home - Gary Lee, OFWB International - Harold Jones, Mount Olive College - Carla Williamson, Cragmont Assembly - John Hill, Sunday School Ministry - Gail Heath, Free Will Baptist Press - Joe Ballance, Retirement Home Ministry - Ronnie Taylor, Minister's Program - Ricky Warren, Home Missions & Evangelism and Harvest Connection - David Charles Hansley, and Convention of OFWB - Harold Swinson. Moderator Aubrey Williamson recognized Ricky Warren for a report from the N.C. Foundation for Christian Ministries.

The Morning Worship Service began with singing "My Savior's Love," *Gabriel*, and "Victory in Jesus," *Bartlett*, led by song leader, Peyton Lee. An offering was received and the offertory prayer was given. Special music was presented by Rev. Stephen Prescott. Rev. Fred Baker, pastor of Robert's Grove OFWB Church, brought the morning message from Matthew 28:18-20 and 2 Corinthians 13:5. He noted that God made Christ the head of the Church, who gave commands to His children. We should be personally involved in what we are asked to do by Jesus Christ. Sometimes we lose our focus and the church loses its function. We should examine ourselves and our commitment. We should set aside our agenda and focus on our commitment because Jesus expects the job to be done. He sends us to evangelize the world and we are to be committed to do His will. Rev. Baker closed with a prayer of commitment.

Rev. Stephen Prescott prayed the blessing and the conference went to lunch.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Moderator Aubrey Williamson called the session to order. The afternoon session began with the congregation singing "At Calvary," *Newell*, led by song leader Peyton Lee. Scripture and prayer were offered by Licensed Minister James Coats from John 1:14 and 1 Peter 2:21.

The following reports of the Standing Boards were received by the conference (see attached reports of the Standing Boards). The Historical Committee report was given by Rev. Ricky Warren, the Woman's Auxiliary report was given by Carolyn Jernigan, the

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Cape Fear Youth and the Board of Christian Education report were given by Martha Parsons, the Ordaining Council report was given by Dr. Sam Weeks and the Cape Fear Minister's Conference report was given by Rev. Joe Ballance. Moderator Aubrey Williamson asked for a motion to receive these reports as information as presented to the conference. Motion was carried.

The following reports of the Temporary Committees were received (see attached reports of the Temporary Committees). Rev. Aubrey Williamson presented the Feasibility Committee report. Rev. Doug Seymour gave a report on Blended Fellowship and Rev. Stephen Prescott gave the Five Year Growth Plan report. Motion was made to receive all these reports as information. Motion was carried.

The Temperance/Resolutions Committee presented two resolutions, of which both passed. The Obituary Committee reported the passing of a Cape Fear Conference minister and three Cape Fear Conference ministers' wives during the past year. Motion was made to receive the report as information. Motion carried. The Credentials Committee gave a report of the Annual Conference's attendance. Motion was made to receive this report as information. Motion carried. The Nominating Committee made its recommendations to the conference. The list of candidates for nomination received a motion to be elected, was seconded and passed. The Treasurer's Report was given by Treasurer Sam Weeks and was received by motion (see attached report).

The conference then moved into its business session. Old business included a motion to request all ministers to report their accumulated continuing education credits, acquired through voluntary participation in the CEU program, to Moderator Aubrey Williamson. Motion was carried. New business included a recommendation to ministers to meet with superintendents of public schools systems to seek a method to reach out to young people in our communities. The 158th Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference will be held at Blended Fellowship on Tuesday, November 13, 2012.

Motion was carried to adjourn the 157th Session of the Cape Fear Conference and the conference was dismissed in prayer by Rev. Carla Williamson.

Respectfully submitted,
Aubrey Williamson, Moderator
Eva Ballance, Clerk

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES *157th Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference*

The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on December 10, 2010, at 1st Smithfield OFWB Church at 2:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Moderator Aubrey Williamson. Conference members present were Aubrey Williamson, Otis Hamm, Sam Weeks, Eva Ballance, and Carolyn Jernigan. Aubrey Williamson gave the devotion from Psalm 122 and prayed the opening prayer.

Treasurer Sam Weeks gave the treasurer's report. Balance was \$1735.26. Motion was made to accept the treasurer's report as presented (MSP).

As a result of the resolution that was adopted at the 156th Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference, it was noted that \$500.00 would be sent to honor Ms. Merle Stephenson, from Johnston Union OFWB Church, on the Wall of Honor.

As recommended by the Board of Ordination at the 156th Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference, a motion was made to recommend voluntary participation of all

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ministers in the Continuing Education program proposed by the Commission on Education for Christian Ministries for the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists to complete one CEU (Continuing Education Unit) annually (MSP).

Minutes from the 156th Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference were reviewed.

Motion was made to accept the minutes with correction (MSP). Minutes will be submitted for printing in the Annual Reports Book.

Discussion and planning began for a seminar on March 26, 2011, that would qualify for the recommended CEUs for ministers. Two sessions, beginning at 9:00 A.M. and concluding at 12:00 P.M. were suggested. Potential speakers were discussed. A motion was made to contact Martha Parsons to request a change to allow the Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee to use July 30, 2011 for planning a Fellowship meeting (MSP). Sam Weeks will contact Mrs. Parsons.

The next meeting will be held on January 27, 2011, at 6:00 p.m. at Holt Lake Restaurant in Smithfield, NC. Eva Ballance will notify the Blended Fellowship Feasibility Committee and make reservations at the restaurant.

There was no new business so a motion was made to adjourn (MSP). Otis Hamm prayed the closing prayer.

The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on January 27, 2011, at Holt Lake Restaurant in Smithfield, NC. The meeting was called to order by Moderator Aubrey Williamson. Conference members present were Aubrey Williamson, Sam Weeks, Eva Ballance, and Stephen Prescott. Aubrey Williamson gave the devotion and prayed the opening prayer.

Treasurer Sam Weeks gave the treasurer's report. Balance was \$2506.95, of which \$771.69 was designated for the Education Fund. Motion was made to adopt the treasurer's report (MSP).

It was announced that Licensed Minister Tod Creech would be ordained at Faith OFWB Church on February 13, 2011, at 3:30 p.m.

The Historical Committee Report was given by Chairperson Ricky Warren. A motion was made to request the Historical Committee to publish two hard copies with a disc of the updated history of the Cape Fear Conference OFWB churches, one for placement in the Mt. Olive College Historical Room and the other copy to be kept by the Cape Fear Conference (MSP).

It was noted that Dr. Burkette Raper has requested to speak at the Cape Fear Conference Annual Meeting following the presentation of the historical committee report. Moderator Aubrey Williamson will confer with Ricky Warren and invite him to our meeting.

Motion was made to send a letter of support to the President of the Executive Committee of the Convention of OFWB regarding the article in the Free Will Baptist, "Look Before you Leap" (MSP).

Planning began for the Fellowship Meeting to be held on July 30, 2011. Motion was made to invite Ricky Warren to present a program on Parliamentary Procedure and consider Dr. David Hines as the alternate speaker (MSP).

The next meeting will be held on May 26th, at 6:00 p.m., at Holt Lake Restaurant in Smithfield, NC. Eva Ballance will notify the Blended Fellowship Feasibility Committee and make reservations at the restaurant.

Motion was made for the Executive Committee to send \$250.00 in 2011 and \$250.00 in 2012, to Century of Grace in support of the Convention of OFWB (MSP).

Motion was made to adjourn (MSP). The meeting closed in prayer.

The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on February 11, 2011, at 1st Smithfield OFWB Church. The meeting was called to order by Moderator Aubrey Williamson. Conference members present were Aubrey Williamson, Otis Hamm, Sam Weeks, Eva Ballance, Carolyn Jernigan, and Stephen Prescott. Rev. Frank Harrison was invited to attend as a special guest. Aubrey Williamson gave the devotion from Acts 2 and prayed the opening prayer.

Rev. Aubrey Williamson announced his resignation as pastor of St. Mary's Grove OFWB Church, acknowledging that his 90-day notice will end on Sunday, March 27, 2011. He has accepted the call to pastor Kenly OFWB Church, beginning April 3, 2011.

The Ordination Board of the Western Conference has chosen and voted not to approve Rev. Williamson to serve at Kenly OFWB Church. It was noted the church has been properly informed of this possible outcome, but the church is very supportive of Rev. Williamson serving their church, believing that he was "called" to become their pastor. Rev. Williamson wanted the Executive Committee to be fully informed of these circumstances. He wanted to express his intent to continue as moderator of the Cape Fear Conference and his plans to remain a member of St. Mary's Grove OFWB Church and the Cape Fear Conference.

Kenly OFWB Church plans to petition the Western Conference at the annual meeting in October with an appeal, seeking support for Rev. Williamson to become their pastor.

Rev. Williamson wanted to know if he had the support of the Executive Committee of the Cape Fear Conference to serve Kenly OFWB Church.

Moderator Aubrey Williamson turned the chair over to Assistant Moderator Otis Hamm. Discussion continued.

Motion was made that the Ordination Board and the Executive Committee act jointly as a Ministerial Character Board of the Cape Fear Conference (MSP). It was a unanimous decision.

Motion was made to support Rev. Aubrey Williamson in his decision to pastor Kenly OFWB Church as led by the Holy Spirit and offer support in prayer for his decision.

Motion was made to adjourn (MSP). The meeting closed in prayer by Rev. Stephen Prescott.

The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on May 19, 2011, at the Tillman Building, Mount Olive College in Mount Olive, NC. The meeting was called to order by Moderator Aubrey Williamson. Conference members present were Aubrey Williamson, Sam Weeks, Eva Ballance, Carolyn Jernigan, and Stephen Prescott. Aubrey Williamson gave the devotion from James 1 and prayed the opening prayer.

The first item of old business was concerning the 5-year Committee to grow our conference. Members present from the committee were Stephen Prescott and Carla Williamson. A recommendation was made to the Chair of the committee, Stephen Prescott, to speak with a member of First Free Will Baptist of Smithfield for ideas and concepts regarding church growth. The committee will meet with the Executive Committee in October, 2011, to provide additional information regarding the plan of the committee. Dr. Sam Weeks will speak with his church member and determine his position to offer input to the committee. Eva Ballance closed the meeting of the 5-year Committee to grow our conference with prayer.

Motion was made to adopt the January 27, 2011 and the February 11, 2011 minutes, which were approved as read.

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Treasurer Sam Weeks gave the treasurer's report. Balance was \$1721.20, of which \$886.49 is designated for the Education Fund. Motion was made to adopt the treasurer's report (MSP).

Rev. Aubrey Williamson announced that he had been approved by the Western Conference to serve as the pastor of Kenly OFWB Church.

The Historical Committee report was reviewed. Motion was made to accept the information provided by the Historical Committee (MSP).

Dr. Burkette Raper will be contacted by Rev. Ricky Warren and invited to speak during the Historical Committee Report at the upcoming conference meeting in November.

The Fellowship Meeting on May 28, 2011, will be held at Palmer Memorial OFWB Church. The speaker will be Rev. David Charles Hansley, Director of Home Missions and Evangelism and Disaster Relief. The Fellowship Meeting on July 30, 2011, will be held at Johnston Union OFWB Church. Rev. Ricky Warren, pastor of Lee's Chapel OFWB Church, will be the speaker. His topic will be Parliamentary Procedure and will give each minister present 0.5 CEU toward the 1.0 CEU recommended by the Board of Ordination. Eva Ballance will prepare an insert to be mailed to all ministers and churches announcing this educational opportunity.

Motion was made to adjourn (MSP). The meeting closed in prayer by Carolyn Jernigan.

The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on September 9, 2011, at 1st Smithfield OFWB Church at 2:30 p.m. The meeting was called to order by Moderator Aubrey Williamson. Conference members present were Aubrey Williamson, Sam Weeks, Eva Ballance, Carolyn Jernigan, and Stephen Prescott. Aubrey Williamson gave the devotion from Luke and Stephen Prescott prayed the opening prayer.

Minutes were approved as corrected.

Treasurer Sam Weeks gave the treasurer's report. Balance was \$1507.93. Motion was made to accept the treasurer's report as presented (MSP).

Motion was made to approve the purchase of the meal at Mayflower following the Fellowship Meeting for a total cost of \$155.23 (MSP).

Motion was made to fund the Education Fund with \$81.31 to obtain a zero balance (MSP).

Motion was made to send a donation of \$100.00 to Disaster Relief/Harvest Connection for the purpose of purchasing water (MSP).

Stephen Prescott, Chairperson of the 5-year Plan to grow our conference will contact John Byrd from First Free Will Baptist in Smithfield regarding church growth.

Planning continued for the 157th Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference to be held at Shady Grove OFWB Church on November 8, 2011. Aubrey Williamson will contact Ricky Warren and Donnie Lassiter to report from the N.C. Foundation for Christian Ministries.

Eva Ballance will contact Pedro Rosario, Crown Financial Ministries to bring material to the annual meeting in November and set up a table in the dining area to share information with churches in attendance.

Sam Weeks will contact Convention Headquarters and ask if we can use their name tags for the upcoming conference meeting.

The Executive Committee met with the Blended Fellowship Feasibility Committee and then reconvened.

Temporary Committee assignments for the meeting in November were established.

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The next meeting will be held following the Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference.

Motion was made to adjourn (MSP). Carolyn Jernigan prayed the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Eva Ballance, Clerk of Cape Fear Conference

Cape Fear Conference Historical Committee Report 157th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

The Cape Fear Conference History Committee was formed by the Executive Committee of the Conference after the 2009 Conference Meeting passed a resolution to form such a committee to update the history of the Conference by November 2011. This was meant to coincide with the 400th Anniversary of the first General Baptist Confession by Thomas Helwys in 1611. Members of the committee were Mr. Gary Barefoot, curator of the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection at Mount Olive College; Dr. Alan K. Lamm, History Professor at Mount Olive College; Dr. Michael R. Pelt, Religion Professor Emeritus of Mount Olive College; Rev. Ricky J. Warren, Committee Chairman.

The committee worked diligently during the past 18 months, reading all the conference minutes from 1855 through 2010. The most historically significant events were included in a summative history of the Conference. In addition to compiling the history from the Conference meetings, the committee also compiled a history of each of the current churches in the Conference. Where no information could be obtained from the Historical Collection on a particular church, contacts with that church were attempted and any information that was available or provided was included.

The committee recognizes the immense contributions of Dr. William Burkette Raper (September 10, 1927 – August 1, 2011) to this Conference; this project was written as a result of his vision, as communicated by him at the 2009 Session of the Cape Fear Conference, for such a history to be compiled. It is therefore the privilege of the committee to dedicate this historical work to his memory. Furthermore, we present a bound copy of this 100 page history to the Executive Committee of the Cape Fear Conference and a second identical copy to the Free Will Baptist Historical Collection at Mount Olive College so that it will be available for future generations.

Additional copies of this history can be obtained for individual and churches through the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary F. Barefoot, Dr. Alan K. Lamm, Dr. Michael R. Pelt, and Rev. Ricky J. Warren

Woman's Auxiliary Report 157th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

The North Carolina Auxiliary Executive Committee has planned a workshop for all district officers on January 21, 2012, for information on their office. It will be held at Raper Hall at Mount Olive College, beginning at 9:00 A.M. Refreshments will be served. Any local auxiliary officers are invited to attend.

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Respectfully submitted,
Carolyn Jernigan, Study Course Chair

Cape Fear Conference Youth Report 157th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

The Cape Fear Conference Youth participated in the State Youth Convention at Mount Olive College. Bible Bowl teams from the Cape Fear Conference competed. The youth attended a weekend retreat at Camp Vandemere. Following the devastation from the hurricane, the youth returned to Camp Vandemere for a workday to assist with repairs.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Parsons, Co-Director of CFC Youth

Report of the Board of Ordination 157th Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference

I) The Ordaining Board met on January 24, 2011, at the First FWB Church Smithfield. Those present were Sam Weeks, Frank Harrison, Jim Bogle, Fred Baker served as proxy for Joe Ballance in his absence, and Aubrey Williamson. a) The meeting was opened with prayer. b) The minutes from the last meeting were read and accepted. c) Licensed minister Chris Bagley met with the Board to inform that his final Sunday as interim at Powhatan, his home church will be this Sunday, January 30, 2011. Chris thanked the Board of Ordination for the opportunity to serve. d) The Board met with licensed minister Tod Creech from the Faith Church. Tod has completed the written portion of the Ordination Examination that was administered by his Board mentor, Jim Bogle. He is before the Board to complete the oral portion of the examination. Mr. Creech successfully passed both the written and oral portions of the examination. Motion was moved, seconded and passed to ordain. Discussion followed to make plans for the service. It was agreed that the requested date, Sunday February 13, 2011 at 3:30pm at the Faith church be set for the special service. e) Mr. Tod Creech requested permission to serve Flood's Chapel Church, MSP for him to continue there as pastor for another 90 days. f) The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

II) The Ordaining Board met on May 23, 2011, at the First FWB Church Smithfield. Those present were Sam Weeks, Frank Harrison, Joe Ballance, Jim Bogle and Aubrey Williamson. a) The meeting was opened with prayer. b) The minutes from the last meeting were read and accepted. c) The Board met with Mrs. Vicki Medlin from the First OFWB Church of Smithfield. A letter was received from the church requesting approval for licensure. The Board reviewed Mrs. Medlin's application and examined her. Motion seconded and passed that Mrs. Medlin is approved (vote count, 3-1). First Church Smithfield is notified to proceed with licensing. Mrs. Medlin's Board mentor is Sam Weeks. d) The Board met with Licensed Minister Chris Bagley from the Powhatan Church. A letter was received requesting that he sit for the Ordination Exam when it can be scheduled. The letter states that he has met his educational requirements and is prepared for examination. His Board mentor, Jim Bogle administered the exam. He has completed the written portion of the Ordination Examination and is before the Board to complete the oral portion of the examination. Mr. Bagley successfully passed both the written and oral portion of the examination. Motion was moved, seconded and passed to

ordain. Discussions followed to make plans for the service. It was agreed that the requested date, Sunday July 10, 2011 at 3:00 pm at the Powhatan Church be set for the special service. (Note: Sunday July 24, 2011 was the rescheduled ordination date due to scheduling conflicts with the church for July 10) e) The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

III) The Ordaining Board met on July 25, 2011, at the First FWB Church

Smithfield. Those present were Sam Weeks, Frank Harrison, Joe Ballance, Jim Bogle, and Aubrey Williamson. a) The meeting was opened with prayer. b) The minutes from the last meeting were read and accepted. c) Continuing Education Units (CEU) were discussed. The value of courses (BBN), seminars (i.e. Faith and Rural Life, The Harrison lectures, etc.) were considered. It was decided to discuss this further at the October meeting and hopefully offer some clarity at the conference in November. d) The Board met with Mr. John Byrd from the First OFWB Church of Smithfield. Mr. Byrd is before us today at the invitation of his pastor. He wants to inform the Board that he will soon be seeking license to preach from his church and has already begun the educational track to prepare for ministry. He wanted to verify his curriculum of study in preparation to be licensed and ordained in the future. He is currently enrolled in seminary at Campbell Divinity School. The Board mentioned that included in educational requirements, the History of Free Will Baptists course is required. Additionally, a course in Homiletics and a Pastoral Care course should be included on his transcript. He is advised to maintain his educational aspirations and welcomed to return when he is prepared to move forward with his ambitions and has his church recommendation. e) Rev. David Langley was asked to meet with us today for permission to serve at St. Mary's Grove Church. Rev. Langley was unable to attend our meeting due to two parishioners having surgery today in Raleigh. He will be invited to meet with us in October. e) The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

IV) The Ordaining Board met on October 24, 2011, at the First FWB Church

Smithfield. Those present were Sam Weeks, Frank Harrison, Joe Ballance, Jim Bogle, and Aubrey Williamson. a) The meeting was opened with prayer. b) The minutes from the last meeting were read and accepted. c) The Board met with Mr. James "Jamie" Coats from the Powhatan OFWB Church. A letter was received from the church requesting approval for licensure. The Board reviewed Mr. Coats' application and examined Mr. Coats. Motion seconded and passed that Mr. Coats is approved and Powhatan OFWB Church is notified to proceed with licensing. Mr. Coats' Board mentor is Jim Bogle. d) The Board met with Mr. John Byrd from the Smithfield First OFWB Church. A letter was received from the church requesting approval for licensure. The Board asked Mr. Byrd several questions in regard to his call and examined him. His completed application is to be submitted as soon as possible. Motion seconded and passed that Mr. Byrd will be approved contingent upon the receipt of his properly completed application. First OFWB Church Smithfield will be notified to proceed with licensing after the receipt of a letter of approval from this Board. Mr. Byrd's Board mentor is Sam Weeks. e) The Board met with Rev. David Langley from the St. Mary's Grove Church. Rev. Langley is requesting permission to serve St. Mary's Grove as pastor. Rev. Langley is a member of the Central Conference. Rev. Langley expressed his plans to become a member of the Cape Fear Conference. Motion seconded and passed to approve his request for permission to serve in this conference. f) The Board met with Rev. Dustin Bannister from the Oak Grove Church. Rev. Bannister is requesting permission to serve Oak Grove as pastor. Rev. Bannister is a member of the Central Conference. Motion seconded and passed to approve his request for permission to serve in this Conference. g) The Board met with Dr.

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Ken Benton from the Goldsboro First Church. The Board is awaiting receipt of the church's letter in regard to their request of approval for licensure. The Board proceeded to ask Dr. Benton several questions in regard to his call and examined Dr. Benton. His completed application is to be submitted as soon as possible. Motion seconded and passed that Dr. Benton will be approved contingent upon the receipt of his properly completed application and letter from the church. First OFWB Church Goldsboro will be notified to proceed with licensing after the receipt of a letter of approval from this Board. Dr. Benton's Board mentor is Frank Harrison. h) The Board met with Rev. George Thomas from the Bethel Church. Rev. Thomas asked to meet to request consideration of exchanging his ordination credentials with the Independent Baptist Alliance. In our discussions Rev. Thomas advised that he was also formerly ordained in the Pentecostal Free Will Baptist Church. After careful discussion and questions, the Board voted to approve Rev. Thomas for consideration of the credential exchange upon the following conditions.

- 1) A letter shall be received by the Board from the Bethel Church signed by the pastor and church clerk. This letter should include the desire of Bethel church in regard to Rev. Thomas' request to exchange credentials, confirming and affirming his request to become an ordained Original Free Will Baptist minister.
- 2) That Rev. Thomas begins a year probationary period and return to this Board in one year for consideration of the credential exchange.
- 3) During this time Rev. Thomas shall read and/or reread both Dr. Floyd Cherry's and Dr. Michael Pelt's books concerning the history of the Free Will Baptist Church.
- 4) That he complete the study guide provided by this Board.

Frank Harrison will serve as his Board mentor.

i) Continuing Education Units (CEU) were discussed. The value of "courses" will be determined by content and value on a case by case basis. "Seminars" (i.e. Faith and Rural Life, The Harrison lectures, etc.) will be credited as follows:

Half day Seminar (2-hour minimum) = ½ CEU.

Full day Seminar (4-hour minimum) = 1 CEU

Motion seconded and passed.

j) The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sam Weeks, Rev. Frank Harrison, Rev. Joe Ballance, Rev. Jim Bogle, and Rev. Aubrey Williamson

The Report of the Minister's Association 157th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

During the past year, the Cape Fear Minister's Association met for four meetings. Several speakers made excellent presentations that provided good information and challenged each of the ministers to work for the cause of Christ. The guest speaker in January, 2011, was Rev. Harold Swinson, President of the Convention of OFWB, who provided information about the status of the Free Will Baptist Ministries and current issues among Original Free Will Baptists. He introduced "The Century of Grace" as an effort to raise \$100,000 for the work of the Convention. In May, 2011, the Rev. George

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Thomas, member of Bethel OFWB Church, spoke about the 1911-1912 Division of The Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists. In July, 2011, the Rev. Harold Jones, Director of OFWB International, Inc./Foreign Missions gave a PowerPoint presentation on Foreign Missions, showing the work that is being accomplished by this ministry. The guest speaker in October, 2011, was Dr. K. David Hines, Dean for the School of Arts & Sciences and Professor of Religion at Mount Olive College. His topic was: "Why Churches Grow – Why Churches Die."

There are 28 ministers on roll with an average attendance of 15 ministers at each meeting. All of the meetings were held at the First Free Will Baptist church in Smithfield. Dr. Sam Weeks and his wife, Connie, with assistance from members of his church, prepared the noon meals that were served after each meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Joe Ballance, Secretary/Treasurer

Christian Board of Education Report 157th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

The Board of Christian Education met at First Original Free Will Baptist at Smithfield on June 30, 2011, to grade scholarship applications received. The scholarships were awarded as follows:

Amanda LaJoyce Gray

Jason Christopher Pittman

Tyler Dewain Sinclair

St. Mary's Grove OFWB Church

Blended Fellowship

St. Paul OFWB Church

Each recipient received a \$400.00 scholarship.

The 2011 Cape Fear Conference Fellowship Meeting Schedule was presented.

January 28, 2012	Pleasant Grove OFWB Church	10:00 AM Layman's League Russell Tyson, President 11:00 AM Host Church
April 28, 2012	Powhatan OFWB Church	10:00 AM Mount Olive College Dr. Philip Kerstetter, President 11:00 AM Host Church
July 28, 2012	First OFWB Church in Smithfield	9:00 AM
September 29, 2012	Bethel OFWB Church	10:00 AM S.S. Ministry Gail Heath 11:00 AM Host Church

There will not be a meeting on December 29, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Parsons, Chair

Cape Fear

Their request to become a ministry of the Conference is still being considered, but the support from the churches of the conference is of utmost importance.

Respectfully submitted,
Aubrey Williamson, Moderator of Cape Fear Conference

Five Year Growth Plan Committee Report 157th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

When called by God to leave his homeland, Abraham was also given a vision by God- "I will bless you...so that you will be a blessing." Abraham and Sarah were instructed not just to go, but to go with a purpose.

The task of the Five Year Growth Plan Committee has been to examine a vision for our Conference; in other words, to consider a deeper purpose for our Conference. This task has been a challenging one, for it is believed that adding additional workshops and seminars to the many that are common on most of our calendars wouldn't result in the attendance or commitment necessary for successful growth.

It may seem counter-intuitive that, two Conferences after being adopted, this committee does not have a viable presentation to make regarding the growth of our Conference. Nevertheless, such a project isn't one that will ever succeed if placed on a fast-track program. It is going to take a great amount of discernment, reflection, commitment, dedication, and time to coordinate, implement, and complete this program of growth.

Therefore, I invite you to pray for me and our committee members- the Reverends Braxton Carter and Carla Williamson-as we continue to consider this noble pursuit. As well, I ask that, if asked for input or involvement, that you and your church be willing to commit yourselves to this project.

Respectfully submitted,
Reverend Stephen Prescott, M.Div.

Temperance and Resolutions Committee 157th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF DR. WILLIAM BURKETTE RAPER

Whereas Dr. William Burkette Raper was a longtime member of the Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists;

Whereas, he was an outstanding leader among all those in our denomination;

Whereas, his vision and leadership was instrumental in the development of Mount Olive College;

Whereas, he was a visionary leader across our denomination;

Whereas, his lifetime of service and devotion to our denomination has left a lasting legacy for future generations;

Now, therefore, be it Resolved,

That on this the eighth day of November 2011, the Cape Fear Conference honors and remembers the life and contributions of Dr. William Burkett Raper and affirms—

Cape Fear

Their request to become a ministry of the Conference is still being considered, but the support from the churches of the conference is of utmost importance.

Respectfully submitted,
Aubrey Williamson, Moderator of Cape Fear Conference

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Cape Fear

- (1) the sending of a \$500 contribution to the William Burkette Raper and Rose M. Raper Endowment through the NC Foundation for Christian Ministries and
- (2) that the Conference Clerk sends a letter stating as such to Mrs. Rose M. Raper.

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee

Resolution adopted

Whereas Shady Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church is one of the original eight churches that chartered the Cape Fear Conference in 1855;

Whereas, Shady Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church is the only one of the original eight charter churches to remain in the Cape Fear Conference today;

Whereas, Shady Grove Original Free Will Baptist has served as a gracious host of this the 157th Annual Meeting of the Cape Fear Conference;

Now, therefore, be it Resolved,

That on this the eighth day of November 2011, the Cape Fear Conference give a rising vote of appreciation to Shady Grove Original Free Will Baptist Church.

Submitted by the Resolutions Committee

Resolution adopted

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Frank Harrison, Chair, Rev. Ricky Warren, Rev. Carla Williamson

Obituary Committee

157th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

We, the Obituary Committee do offer the following report to the 157th Session of the Cape Fear Conference. Since the 156th Annual Session of our Conference, we have had one minister to pass away, Dr. Burkette Raper, and three minister's wives to pass, Lucille Stanley, wife of Rev. Hubert Stanley, Treva Kennedy, wife of Rev. Dean Kennedy and Paula Casey, wife of Rev. Scott Casey.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Braxton Carter, Chair, Rev. Jim Bogle and Rev. John Hill

Credentials Committee

157th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

Present at the One Hundred Fifty-Seventh Annual Session of Cape Fear Conference are as follows:

Ministers	32
Licensed Ministers	1
Officers	2
Delegates	25
<u>Visitors</u>	<u>26</u>

Cape Fear

Total **86** (Several workers not counted)

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. John Butler, Chair, Carolyn Jernigan, Rev. Scott Satterfield

Nominating Committee 157th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

The Nominating Committee submitted the following to serve the conference:

Executive Committee-	Clerk (2013): <i>Eva Ballance</i>
	Assistant Clerk (2013): <i>Carolyn Jernigan</i>
	Member at large (2013): <i>Stephen Prescott</i>
Two Members of the Board of Trustees - (2013): <i>George Thomas</i>	
	(2016): <i>Carlton Barefoot</i>
One Member of the Board of Education - (2016): <i>Wayne Puckett</i>	
One Member of the Ordaining Board - (2016): <i>Frank Harrison</i>	

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Stephen Prescott, Chair, Rev. Roger Hill, Rev. Dean Kennedy

Cape Fear Conference Treasurer's Report 157th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

I.	Balance on hand as of November 8, 2010:	\$2,308.45
II.	Receipts:	
	2010 Conference (offering and letters)	\$2,817.46
	Union offerings and letters (Jan/May/Jul/Oct)	\$2,995.00
	Late Conference/Union (Mailed in)	\$450.00
	Designated Gifts for Blended Fellowship Mission	<u>\$2,450.00</u>
	Total Receipts:	\$8,712.46
	Total to account for:	\$11,020.91
III.	Disbursements:	
	Conf/Union Expenses (Mailings, Bibles, honorariums)	\$920.79
	N. C. Foundation for Christian Ministries	\$1,200.00
	Foreign Missions	\$569.06
	Home Missions	\$569.05
	Home Missions (Disaster Relief-water)	\$100.00
	Education Scholarships	\$1,200.00
	Blended Fellowship Designated Gifts	\$2,450.00
	Church Mutual Insurance Co. (Covenant)	\$346.94
	Convention of OFWB (Wall of Honor-M. Stephenson)	\$500.00
	Convention of OFWB (Century of Grace)	\$250.00
	Convention of OFWB (2009 Report Books)	<u>\$735.00</u>

Cape Fear

Total Disbursements: **8,840.84**

IV. Balance on hand as of November 7, 2011: **\$2,180.07**
(Out of this balance \$170.69 is in the Education Fund)

V. Formula for disbursements of Conference/Union Dues and Offerings:
Missions = 25% (half to Foreign and half to Home)
Christian Education Fund = 20%
Union and Conference expenses = 55%

Respectfully submitted,
Sam Weeks, Treasurer