

THE 103RD ANNUAL SESSION OF THE
CONVENTION OF
**ORIGINAL
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

“Strengthening the Church”
Acts 16:5 (NKJV)



2015

MINISTRY AND CONFERENCE REPORT BOOK

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**MINUTES OF THE
ONE HUNDRED AND SIXTIETH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE
OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS
HELD AT FIRST OFWB CHURCH OF SMITHFIELD
SMITHFIELD, NORTH CAROLINA
NOVEMBER 11, 2014**

Moderator: The Reverend Aubrey Williamson (2016)
Assistant Moderator: The Reverend Doctor Otis Hamm (2016)
Clerk: Eva Ballance (2015)
Assistant Clerk: Carolyn Jernigan (2015)
Treasurer: The Reverend Doctor Sam Weeks (2016)
Member at Large: The Reverend Stephen Prescott (2015)

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dean Kennedy (2015) Carlton Barefoot (2016)
Braxton Carter (2017) William "Corky" Herring (2018) Brad Barbour (2019)

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Emmitt Jones (2015) Wayne Puckett (2016)
Martha Parsons (2017) Peyton Lee (2018) Doug Seymour (2019)

ORDAINING BOARD

Joe Ballance (2015) Frank Harrison (2016)
Roger Hill (2017) Aubrey Williamson (2018) Sam Weeks (2019)

ORDAINED MINISTERS

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

P	Fred Baker	P	Ken Dabbs
P	Joe Ballance	P	Wade Daughtry
P	Ken Benton	E	Jesse Fulcher
E	Cecil Blackmon	E	Edmundo Gonzalez
P	Jim Bogle	P	Otis Hamm
A	Gene Britt	P	Frank Harrison
P	John Butler	P	William Herring
P	Rayford Byrd	P	Roger Hill
P	Charlie Carroll	P	Emmitt Jones
P	Braxton Carter	E	Dan Jordan
P	Scott Casey	E	Dean Kennedy
P	Jamie Coats	P	Alan Lamm
A	Larry Coats	P	David Langley
P	James Corbett	E	Donnie Massey

Cape Fear

P	Richard McKeel	E	Scott Satterfield
E	Tony McLamb	E	Jeff Scarborough
A	Vicki Medlin	P	Doug Seymour
P	Joe Myrick	E	Elijah Smith
P	Billy Nowell	P	Ricky Warren
E	Charles Petit	P	Sam Weeks
P	Dennis Pollock	P	Richard Whitman
P	Stephen Prescott	P	Aubrey Williamson
P	Alan Price	P	Carla Williamson
P	Clarence Privette		

LICENSED MINISTERS

E	Jason Bordeaux	E	Jason Pittman
P	Duane Casey		

PROCEEDINGS

The One Hundred and Sixtieth Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists (OFWB) convened at First OFWB Church of Smithfield, Smithfield, North Carolina on November 11, 2014. Moderator Aubrey Williamson welcomed everyone. Moderator Aubrey Williamson presented the program for adoption. Motion was made to accept the program for adoption. Motion carried.

The congregation opened in singing "Victory in Jesus," *Bartlett*, led by song leader, Peyton Lee. Licensed Minister Duane Casey offered scripture and prayer from John 8:28. The conference was welcomed by Joyce Brown, a member of First OFWB Church of Smithfield. The response was heard from Rev. Gary Lee, a member of Faith OFWB Church.

Clerk Eva Ballance called the session to order. The rules of registration were then explained by Rev. Scott Casey, member 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. Brad Williamson requested to join the Cape Fear Conference. Motion was made to accept Rev. Williamson in the Cape Fear Conference. Motion was carried. The right hand of fellowship was extended by Moderator Aubrey Williamson to Rev. Brad Williamson on behalf of the conference. The Moderator recognized visiting ministers and guests. Moderator Aubrey Williamson recognized Wall of Honor recipients, H. Peyton and Betty Lee.

Moderator Aubrey Williamson offered words of encouragement to the conference from Hebrews 10:22-25. He expressed that the body of believers, the church, is important because they are the Lord at work in our world. We should be proud of the fact that we are children of the King. As disciples of our Lord, we should let people know who we are and that we have the support of the Sovereign God. Moderator Williamson led in prayer.

The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee minutes were read by Clerk Eva Ballance. Motion was made to receive the minutes as information. Motion carried.

Rev. Aubrey Williamson read Section 13 of the Constitution. Clerk Eva Ballance read proposed constitutional changes to Article VIII – Section 2 and Article V – Section 1 and 2.

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

Temperance/Resolutions Committee: Chair Frank Harrison, Otis Hamm,

Stephen Prescott

Obituary Committee: Chair Doug Seymour, Richard Whitman, John Butler

Credentials Committee: Chair Connie Weeks, Braxton Carter,
William "Corky" Herring, Scott Casey

Nominating Committee: Chair Ricky Warren, Carla Williamson, Ken Benton

Parliamentarian: Ricky Warren

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: OFWB International – Harold Jones, Retirement Home Ministry - Ronnie Taylor, Sunday School Ministry – Gail Heath, Home Missions & Evangelism and Harvest Connection – Tim Heath, FWB Children's Home - Gary Lee, Free Will Baptist Press – Jeff Daughtry, Minister's Program – Doug Seymour, University of Mount Olive – Carla Williamson, Cragmont Assembly and Convention of OFWB – Buddy Sasser. Moderator Aubrey Williamson recognized Ricky Warren for a report from the N.C. Foundation for Christian Ministries. Brad Williamson provided a report from the Ministerial Association of OFWB.

The Morning Worship Service began with singing, "Standing on the Promises," Carter. An offering was received and the offertory prayer was given by Rev. Dr. Otis Hamm. A Veteran's Day presentation recognizing all branches of the armed services with congregation participation was shown by Wayne Puckett. Special music was presented by Wayne Puckett and Sandra Stewart. He sang "The Anchor Holds." Licensed Minister Duane Casey provided special music and sang, "Great Is Thy Faithfulness." Rev. Dr. Sam Weeks, pastor of First OFWB Church of Smithfield brought the morning message from Ephesians 4:1-6, entitled, "Achieving Unity and Accepting Ethnic Diversity." He read a unity scripture from Psalm 133:1. He stated that the focus of the church has become more inward than outward. We are failing to look at the community. We should concentrate on unity in our churches and be one in Christ and bear His fruit. The Great Commission encourages us to love one another despite our ethnic background. He encouraged us to study God's Word and apply it as one who is wise, always following the Golden Rule. He closed with a poem, "The Wrecker." He asked if we are going to be builders or wreckers." The invitational hymn was, "Have Thine Own Way, Lord," Pollard. Rev. Sam Weeks prayed the closing prayer and blessing. The conference recessed for lunch.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Assistant Moderator Dr. Otis Hamm called the session to order. The afternoon session began with the congregation singing, "When We All Get to Heaven," Hewitt, led by song leader Peyton Lee. Scripture from Matthew 28 and prayer were offered by Rev. Jamie Coats.

Assistant Moderator Otis Hamm gave the reading of the First Proposed Constitutional Amendment and the Second Proposed Constitutional Amendment. Motion to accept the First Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Article VIII – Section 2 was made by Rev. Aubrey Williamson and seconded by Rev. Joe Ballance. Motion carried. Motion was made by Rev. Stephen Prescott and seconded by Rev. Dr. Sam Weeks to accept the second Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Article V – Section 1 and 2. Motion carried.

The following reports of the Standing Boards were received by the conference (see attached reports of the Standing Boards). The Woman's Auxiliary report was given by

Carolyn Jernigan. The Ordaining Council report was given by Rev. Aubrey Williamson and Cape Fear Conference Minister's Association report was given by Rev. Joe Ballance. Wayne Puckett gave the Board of Christian Education report. Rev. Doug Seymour gave the Blended Fellowship Report. Assistant Moderator Otis Hamm asked for a motion to receive these reports by acclamation. Motion carried.

Rev. Aubrey Williamson presided over the remainder of the session. Blended Fellowship Feasibility Report was presented by Rev. Aubrey Williamson. Motion was made to adopt this report. Motion carried. Rev. Stephen Prescott presented the Five Year Growth Plan Report. Motion was made to adopt this plan. An amendment was presented to review the plan annually to evaluate whether it is adequately complimenting the strategic plan of the Convention. Motion carried. The following reports of the Temporary Committees were received (see attached reports of the Temporary Committees). The Temperance/Resolutions Committee presented two resolutions, which passed. The Obituary Committee reported the passing of three Cape Fear Conference ministers and three ministers' wives during the past year. Motion was made to accept 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. There was no old business. New business presented by Rev. Frank Harrison was a request for churches or individuals to make \$100.00 donations to purchase freezers for the FWB Children's Home. Donations were received. The 161st Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference will be held at Bethel OFWB Church of Four Oaks on Tuesday, November 10, 2015.

Motion carried to adjourn the 160th Session of the Cape Fear Conference and the conference was dismissed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Aubrey Williamson, Moderator
Eva Ballance, Clerk

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We, the Cape Fear Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists (OFWB) denomination, desiring to be in fellowship in a bond of union, do adopt this Constitution.

NAME

This shall be the Constitution of the Cape Fear Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists Churches; meeting annually in the Fall to conduct its business and in the Spring as the Conference Fellowship Meeting.

Cape Fear

PURPOSE

The goal of the Cape Fear Conference shall be to promote Christ's Kingdom among all people by advancing and promoting the cause of Jesus Christ.

ARTICLE I - COMPOSITION

This conference shall be composed of ordained ministers and churches within its bounds, which are in good standing, and of all officers, and members of standing boards or committees of the conference. It shall operate under *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*. A church corporation whose articles of incorporation, or constitution and bylaws, adhere with *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists*, shall be permitted membership in the Conference.

ARTICLE II - REPRESENTATION

Each church shall be represented with one delegate for each fifty active members or fraction thereof, as reported in the current OFWB Directory. The delegation from each church shall carry a letter to the conference reflecting their appointment.

ARTICLE III - OFFICERS

The officers of the conference shall be a moderator, an assistant moderator, a clerk, an assistant clerk, a treasurer, and a member at large who shall be elected for a term of two years, entering upon the duties of said office at the close of the session in which they are elected. The officers shall serve as the Conference Executive Committee. Temporary officers, representatives or messengers may be elected at the option of the conference for whatever purposes deemed essential.

ARTICLE IV - STANDING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

It shall be the policy of the conference to elect as many boards and committees as may be necessary to implement its program. These shall keep records of their proceedings and make a report at each annual session of the conference.

A Board of Trustees, a Board of Christian Education, and a Board of Ordination consisting of five members each shall be elected. The term of office for members of these boards shall be five years, with one member elected at each annual session of the conference.

Section 1 - Standing boards shall establish their operating procedures and administer their respective programs of work, but each shall remain subject to the conference.

Section 2 - Temporary committees shall be appointed at option of the conference for whatever purpose deemed necessary.

ARTICLE V - FINANCE

Section 1 - Each church shall contribute to the conference annually the **minimum** amounts specified below based on active church membership:

50 members or less--\$100.00

51-125 members--\$200.00

126 members or greater--\$300.00

Section 2 - Each church shall also contribute to the Spring Conference Fellowship Meeting a **minimum** of \$100.00.

ARTICLE VI - ADMISSION OF CHURCHES

Any properly organized church that gives evidence of adherence to the doctrines of Christianity as taught by the Original Free Will Baptists, that desires to help promote the work of the conference and the Convention of OFWB, may petition for membership into the conference. Upon approval, the moderator shall extend the hand of fellowship to the church.

ARTICLE VII - DISMISSION OF CHURCHES

A church may be dismissed from membership in the conference by conference vote or by request of said church.

ARTICLE VIII - MEETINGS

Section 1 - The conference shall meet in annual session on the second Tuesday of November. The host church shall be selected by vote of the conference in annual session or by the executive committee. The place of a future meeting may be changed by the executive committee should a change become necessary.

Section 2 - A mid-year Fellowship will consist of one annual event held on a date to be determined by the Executive Committee. The purpose of the meeting is for worship and fellowship which will be organized by the Executive Committee. Cape Fear Conference churches will be asked by the Executive Committee to host this event.

BYLAWS

Section 1 - The duties of the moderator shall be to preside, according to accepted parliamentary procedure, over the session of the conference: to appoint temporary committees; and to serve as an ex officio member of all standing boards and committees. The moderator also serves as chairperson of the Conference Executive Committee.

Section 2 - The duties of the assistant moderator shall be the duties of the moderator when that person is not present, and shall assist the moderator when called upon. In the event of the resignation or death of the moderator, the assistant moderator shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the conference.

Section 3 - The clerk shall record the proceedings of all sessions of the conference, the executive committee meetings, and preserve accurate records. The clerk shall prepare the minutes of the annual session for publication.

Section 4 - The duties of the assistant clerk shall be the duties of the clerk when that person is absent, and shall assist the clerk when called upon. In the event of the resignation or death of the clerk, the assistant clerk shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the conference.

Section 5 - The treasurer shall hold in trust all money that belongs to the conference and pay out same by order of the conference. The treasurer shall keep an accurate account of all funds received and paid out, and make an annual report to the conference.

Section 6 - It shall be the duty of the executive committee to transact the business of the conference when the conference is not in session and to present a report at annual conference. The executive committee shall plan the program for the annual session of the conference and the program for the Spring conference fellowship meeting. The executive committee shall serve as the Conference Mission Board, working in cooperation with Home Missions and Evangelism.

Section 7 - The Board of Trustees shall hold in trust all conference real property and convey said property or assets as the conference may direct.

Section 8 - It shall be the duty of the Board of Ordination to examine, ordain, and discipline ministers in keeping with the provisions of the *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists*, along with whatever additional requirements are made by the conference. The Board of Ordination shall examine ordained ministers seeking to serve a church in this conference and report decisions to the church.

Section 9 - It shall be the duty of the Board of Christian Education to keep people informed of educational needs, and endeavor to promote the cause of Christian education. The Board of Christian Education shall cooperate with the educational institutions of the denomination and use all funds for the best interests of Christian education.

Section 10 - The following temporary committees shall be appointed annually by the moderator and shall render reports during the sitting of the conference: Credentials, Nominating, Resolutions, and Obituary.

Section 11 - Boards or committees will be recognized as having a quorum when there is a majority of the members present for a meeting, providing all the members of said boards or committees have been duly notified concerning the said meeting.

Section 12 - Each ordained and licensed minister shall attend the annual session of the conference or be represented by letter.

Section 13 - Each officer and member of standing committees and boards shall be entitled to a seat and vote in the conference.

Section 14 - The conference shall open and close with suitable devotional services or prayer.

Section 15 - This constitution, and its bylaws, may be altered or amended by a two-thirds favorable vote of the members present at the annual session, provided that said amendment shall be read during the morning session and action taken during the afternoon session.

CAPE FEAR CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

160th Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference

The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on Friday, May 9, 2014 at Smithfield First OFWB Church. Present were Aubrey Williamson, Otis Hamm, Sam Weeks, and Stephen Prescott. Moderator Aubrey Williamson opened the meeting with prayer and devotions from Romans 12:9-16.

A motion was made granting permission to Duke University Divinity School to use the 1949 & 1950 Minutes of the Cape Fear Annual Conference for the purpose of research and digitalization for further study. *MSP*

The Cape Fear Conference is permitted to seat delegates at the Annual Convention of Original Free Will Baptists. Executive Committee Members who are aware of interested members of conference churches are asked to contact Rev. Weeks.

Rev. Weeks, Conference Treasurer, offered the Treasurer's Report. Presently, the Conference has \$2,580.46, with \$953.22 designated for the Education Fund. A major expenditure expected prior to the Annual Conference is the publication of the 2013 Conference Minutes in the OFWB Convention Report Book. A motion was made to receive the report. *MSP*

A motion was made to cancel the June Cape Fear Conference Fellowship Meeting. *MSP*

A motion was made to change the next Cape Fear Conference Fellowship Meeting to a to-be-determined Thursday evening in September. *MSP*

In preparation for the September Cape Fear Conference Fellowship Meeting, it was suggested that Lee's Chapel OFWB Church be contacted with regards to hosting and providing a meal and that the Music Department of the University of Mount Olive be contacted regarding the presentation of a musical program. The Moderator will contact the Rev. Brad Williamson and Dr. Alan Armstrong concerning these matters.

The Moderator asked the Executive Committee to suggest Cape Fear Conference members who could be honored on the OFWB Convention's Wall of Honor. It is expected to have someone named by the upcoming Annual Conference.

The latest report from Covenant OFWB Church is that the membership will continue to function as a church without the assistance of the Executive Committee.

Discussion was held regarding Blended Fellowship and the upcoming vote at the Annual Conference on this ministry being granted "Ministry Status." A motion was made to meet with the leadership of Blended Fellowship in order to discuss the proposed Constitution and By-Laws submitted to the Executive Committee and the feasible reality of Blended Fellowship becoming a ministry of the Cape Fear Conference. *MSP*

Discussion was held regarding the purpose and direction of the 5-Year Growth Plan Select Committee. It was determined that the committee should continue its work, with the hope of offering viable options for growth within the Cape Fear Conference.

Motion made to adjourn. *MSP*

The Cape Fear Conference Executive Committee met on August 15, 2014 at the First OFWB Church of Smithfield. Members in attendance were Aubrey Williamson, Sam Weeks, Eva Ballance and Stephen Prescott. Moderator Aubrey Williamson called the meeting to order. He gave the devotion from 1 John 4:16-21 and then led in prayer. Minutes were read by Member-at-large Stephen Prescott. They were approved with correction. (MSP)

Treasurer Sam Weeks gave the treasurer's report. Total funds were \$2040.46, which included \$953.22 of the Education Fund. Motion made to accept the report. (MSP) Planning began for the Cape Fear Conference Fellowship Meeting to be held at Lee's Chapel OFWB Church on September 18 2014. The meal was scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. and the program would begin at 7:30 p.m. and end approximately 8:30 p.m. Free Spirit will perform and other individuals would be contacted to perform. There would not be any business conducted at this meeting.

A Cape Fear Conference Constitutional change of Article 8 was discussed. Motion was made as follows, "A mid-year Fellowship will consist of one annual event held on a date to be determined by the Executive Committee. The purpose of the meeting is for worship and fellowship which will be organized by the Executive Committee. Cape Fear Conference churches will be asked by the Executive Committee to host this event." (MSP)

Cape Fear Conference Constitutional change of Article 5, Section 1 was discussed. Motion was made to increase the conference contributions to \$100 for 50 members or less, \$200 for 51 – 125 members and \$300 for 126 members or greater. (MSP)

Cape Fear Conference Constitutional change of Article 5, Section 2 was discussed. Motion was made to change the name of the Fellowship Meetings to Meeting and increase the minimum contribution to \$100.00. (MSP)

Cape Fear

The Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Smithfield on November 11, 2014 was planned. It was decided to have two tables for registration, one for voting and one for non-voting registration. Connie Weeks, Chairperson of the Credentials Committee will be notified.

Rev. Jamie Coats and Licensed Minister Duane Casey will be contacted by Aubrey Williamson to present the Morning and Afternoon Scripture and Prayer. Moderator Williamson will notify Faith OFWB Church to prepare the response to the welcome. Rev. Sam Weeks will prepare the message and Moderator Williamson will contact Rev. Emmitt Jones to be the alternate speaker and ask if Bethel OFWB Church will host the 161st Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference. Motion made to accept the program as planned. (MSP)

It was decided to add the following to the Cape Fear Conference letter to churches and pastors, "For your delegates to be properly seated, "Each church..."

Motion made to honor H. Peyton Lee and his wife, Betty on the Convention Wall of Honor. (MSP)

Motion made to adjourn. (MSP) Rev. Stephen Prescott closed in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Eva Ballance, Clerk of Cape Fear Conference

Blended Fellowship Mission/Ministry Report 160th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

We are so thankful for those of you who, along with those from other conferences and even other denominations, continue to support this vital ministry through your prayers, financial support, donated items and volunteer help. We continue to reach out to the Deaf community in a variety of ways in an effort to give them equal access to the Gospel message. It has been a trying year for us in some ways but the work continues and progress is being made.

You might have heard that we had a fire sweep through a portion of our building in July. Tears were shed by many who have labored so diligently to move the ministry forward. Though it was heartbreaking, our insurance is covering the cost of repairs and soon the work will be completed.

Our efforts to reach Deaf young people continue to be the most fruitful of our ministry areas. For example, our Blended Bridges program this year included ministry to a deaf child adopted from China and another from Haiti. Neither of them had any language skills to speak of but were signing to their moms by the time the month long program was finished. We were also able to assist a family whose teenage son suddenly lost his hearing leaving him with no way to communicate other than writing notes. Because of the Bridges program, he learned to communicate through sign language and they have started attending worship with us. The young man's mother told me recently that had we not been there for them, she has no idea what they would have done. During Bridges, we also had the privilege of sharing visually based Bible teaching with all of these deaf youth, their parents and siblings, on a daily basis.

We continue to provide many services to our deaf adults. Some of you have contributed food items and we are distributing food weekly to multiple deaf families who truly need it. Your donations are a huge blessing and are greatly appreciated. The clothing you have

donated has made it possible for some of these families to have shoes, coats, suits, dresses, etc. that they would not have been able to purchase for themselves. We would ask that you delay any clothing donations for the next few months because we have had to empty the building in the fire damaged areas and this has limited our storage space. Instead of Deaf Judgment House this year, we set up an indoor maze that taught a visual spiritual lesson about the importance of being led by the Holy Spirit. This event was very well received and we had about 120 people not connected with Blended Fellowship that attended, including a number of students from our Children's Home ministry and from the Eastern North Carolina School for The Deaf.

We appreciate the work of the Feasibility Committee and support their decision to leave our official status as is, for now. We agree that making significant changes in our structure at this point could have a negative impact on the ministry so it's better not to try to "fix" what is already working.

Our theme for 2014 has been "Seeing Jesus" and I shared with our congregation recently that I see Jesus in them every time I see them welcome those who have in some ways been overlooked and weep over those who have not had the opportunity to know Jesus for themselves.

Finally, we are thankful for the spiritual growth that is taking place among those to whom we minister. One of the licensed ministers from Blended, Jason Bordeaux, shared a testimony with our congregation concerning his father, a Deaf man who is also a member. He said when his mother was sick recently, his father prayed for her. This may not seem like a huge milestone, but it was a huge step forward for this man. Jason said that it was obvious as he watched his dad sign that faith filled prayer that our ministry was accomplishing what we set out to do 15 years ago. To God be the glory!

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Seymour
Pastor/Director
Blended Fellowship Mission/Ministry

Report of the Board of Ordination 160th Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference

I) The Ordaining Board met on March 24, 2014, at the First FWB Church Smithfield. Those present were Sam Weeks, Joe Ballance, Roger Hill 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 Rev. Lewis Godwin, who has come requesting clearance to serve Hopewell Church. He also comes stating his intent to transfer membership from the Western Conference to the Cape Fear Conference. Motion, seconded and passed (MSP) to approve Brother Godwin to serve Hopewell. d) The Board met with Mr. Jamie Coats, Licensed Minister from Powhatan Church requesting approval to serve Pleasant Grove Church for 90 days. MSP to approve Brother Coats to serve as pastor for 90 days. e) The Board met with Mr. Duane Casey, Licensed Minister from Hopewell Church requesting permission to serve with Pastor Sam Weeks, as his mentor at the Smithfield First Free Will Baptist Church. f) The Board approved Rev. Frank Grubbs for clearance to serve Saint Paul Church as pastor. He is a member of the Western Conference. g) The Board approved Rev. Ricky Warren to serve Robert's Grove Church as pastor. h) The Board briefly discussed the guidelines for "sitting" for the

Examination for Ordination. It was agreed to have further discussions at the next meeting. i) The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

II) The Ordaining Board met on June 23, 2014, at the First FWB Church Smithfield. Those present were Sam Weeks, Roger Hill and Aubrey Williamson. a) The meeting was opened with prayer. b) The minutes from the last meeting were read and accepted. c) There was continued discussion concerning the guidelines for "sitting" for the Examination of Ordination. It was agreed that the present guidelines are sufficient. d) The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

III) The Ordaining Board met on August 25, 2014, at the First FWB Church Smithfield. All Board members were present. a) The meeting was opened with prayer. b) The minutes from the last meeting were read and accepted. c) There was discussion concerning the status of Mr. Duane Casey Licensed Minister from Hopewell Church. His Board Mentor, Rev. Sam Weeks advises that he is nearing completion of his educational requirement for ordination. d) The Board met with Mr. James E. (Jamie) Coats Licensed Minister from Powhatan Church. Mr. Coats has completed the written portion of the Ordination Examination that was administered by his Board mentor, Rev. Roger Hill. He is before the Board to complete the oral portion of the examination. Jamie has 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 September 7, 2014 at 3:00 pm at Powhatan Free Will Baptist Church, Clayton be set for the special service. (Note: Jamie was ordained on that date.) The meeting was adjourned in prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Sam Weeks, Chairman
Frank Harrison
Joe Ballance

Roger Hill
Aubrey Williamson, Secretary

The Report of the Minister's Association 160th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

During the past year, the Cape Fear Minister's Association met for three meetings. All of the 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 March 2014 was Licensed Minister Jason Bordeaux whose presentation was on Youth and Church based on the fact that the youth are the future church. In June 2014, Reverend Brad Williamson was the guest speaker. He gave an interesting and challenging program about Making Disciples taken from Matthew 28, the "Great Commission" scripture. In August 2014, Reverend Ricky Warren gave valuable information about The North Carolina Foundation for Christian Ministries. A prayer was offered for all the concerns mentioned at each meeting. All Cape Fear Conference Minister's Association meetings are held on the Monday before fifth Sunday. Ministers and licensed ministers are invited to participate. There are 30 ministers on roll with an average attendance of 14 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,
Reverend Joe Ballance, Secretary/Treasurer

**Christian Board of Education Report
160th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

The Cape Fear Conference Board of Christian Education met June 1, 2014, at the First Original Free Will Baptist of Smithfield to grade scholarship applications received. The scholarships were awarded as follows:

Alex Bradley	Lee's Chapel OFWB Church	\$500.00
Sarah Casey	Casey's Chapel OFWB Church	\$100.00
Andrew Johnson	Shady Grove OFWB Church	\$100.00
Anna Grubbs	St. Paul OFWB Church	\$ 50.00
Emma Woodall	Tee's Chapel OFWB Church	\$ 50.00
Ryan Tart	St. Paul OFWB Church	\$ 50.00
Jessica Jones	Bethel OFWB Church	\$ 50.00

We, the Committee of the Board of Christian Education, thank each church for your support to help young people who are well-deserving of a scholarship.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Parsons, Chairperson

**Blended Fellowship Feasibility Committee Report
160th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

We are glad to inform you that the work of our committee has reached a conclusion. We are proud to share that we have a very positive final report concerning the work of Blended Fellowship Mission/Ministry. We unanimously find that it is in the overall best interest of Blended Fellowship to continue on its current path in exceptional ministry. The official status should remain as is and unchanged. Significant changes at this point of ministry may not be in the best interest of Blended Fellowship Mission/Ministry. The Cape Fear Conference should continue to support this mission/ministry as we have in the past.

Respectfully submitted,
Feasibility Committee
Cape Fear Conference Mission Board and Blended Fellowship Representatives

**Five Year Conference Growth Committee
160th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists**

Who We Are.

Knowledgeable OFWB Churches

- Within five (5) years, all of our churches need to present to its membership an extensive study on our OFWB Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government.

Effective OFWB Churches

Cape Fear

- To embrace Christ's call to "love one another as I have loved you," our churches are being called to cultivate their outreach to the local community.
- Within five (5) years, we call for at least 50% of the local church's active membership to be involved in some sort of community outreach.

What We Do.

Partnership

- To bring greater attention to the work of the local OFWB Church, churches in similar geographic areas are being called to partner together for the purpose of community outreach.
- This outreach can take the form of community events, the combination of services/programs, and local service projects.

Accountability

- In order to connect all of our Cape Fear Churches to the Conference and each other, local churches are being called to partner with another local church to facilitate participation with conference and denominational events.
- The purpose for accountability is so that local Cape Fear churches will not feel deserted or unaided in their work, but will be united with other churches for support, encouragement, and accountability.

Where We Go.

Local Church Missions

- Partnerships with local OFWB churches, the Cape Fear Missions Board, and OFWB Home Missions and Evangelism to plant and support new churches.
- Embracing the model of joint local/conference/denominational support and administration for new church plans, we want to establish two (2) OFWB churches in the next five (5) years.

How We Proceed.

Formation of Select Committee for Church Support & Growth

- In order to facilitate the aforementioned proposals, a Select Committee will be created, entitled the "Committee for Church Growth & Support." As this will be designated a select committee, the Moderator of the Cape Fear Conference will select the members, with counsel by the Executive Committee.
- This will be a three-person (3) committee consisting of the Cape Fear Conference. These will be a Member of the Executive Committee, an Ordained Minister, and a layperson.
- The function of the committee will be to assist local churches in the implementation of the Five-Year Plan. This support will come through direct contacts with church leadership, aid

in executing the ideas proposed, and assistance in creating partnerships between our Cape Fear Conference Churches.

- The committee will report regularly to the Executive Committee and make an annual report to the Cape Fear Conference during its Annual Session.
- The committee will be tasked with implementing any suggestions made by the OFWB Convention Strategic Plan [Added as an amendment from the floor of the Conference].

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Stephen Prescott, Chair, Rev. Braxton Carter

Temperance and Resolutions Committee
160th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

Whereas, First OFWB Church of Smithfield has been a gracious host of the 160th Session of the Cape Fear Conference

Now therefore, be it resolved that we give a rising vote of thanks to the good people and pastor of First OFWB of Smithfield.

Resolution adopted

Whereas, November 11, 2014 is celebrated as Veteran's Day...

Now therefore, be it resolved that we give a rising vote of thanks to those of our people who have faithfully served in any branch of the Armed Forces.

Resolution adopted

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Frank Harrison, Chair, Rev. Otis Hamm and Rev. Stephen Prescott

Obituary Committee
160th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

We, the Obituary Committee do offer the following report to the 160th Annual Session of the Cape Fear Conference. Since the 159th Annual Session of our Conference, we have had three ministers to pass away, Rev. George Thomas, Rev. Ronnie Hayes, and Rev. John Rayford Lee. We would like to recognize the passing of three ministers' wives, Mrs. Annie Ruth Scarborough, Mrs. Betty Britt and Mrs. Lucille Coates. Rev. Doug Seymour presented the memorial service, remembering all of these who were gone to be with the Lord. He closed the service with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Doug Seymour, Rev. Richard Whitman and Rev. John Butler

Credentials Committee
160th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

Present at the One Hundred and Sixtieth Annual Session of Cape Fear Conference are as follows:

Cape Fear

Ministers	33
Licensed Ministers	1
Officers	4
Delegates	21
<u>Visitors and Visiting Ministers</u>	<u>23</u>
Total	82

Respectfully submitted,
Connie Weeks, Chair, Rev. Braxton Carter, Rev. William Herring and Rev. Scott Casey

Nominating Committee
160th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

The Nominating Committee submitted the following to serve the conference:

Executive Committee- Moderator (2016): *Aubrey Williamson*
Assistant Moderator (2016): *Otis Hamm*
Treasurer (2016): *Sam Weeks*
Member of the Board of Trustees – (2019): *Brad Barbour*
(2018): *William "Corky" Herring*
Member of the Board of Education - (2019): *Doug Seymour*
Member of the Ordaining Board – (2019): *Sam Weeks*

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Ricky Warren, Chair, Rev. Carla Williamson and Rev. Dr. Ken Benton

Cape Fear Conference Treasurer's Report
160th Cape Fear Conference of Original Free Will Baptists

I.	Balance on hand as of November 11, 2013:	\$854.71
II.	Receipts:	
	2013 Conference (offering and letters)	\$2,372.01
	Union offerings and letters (March &/September)	\$2,237.11
	Late Conference/Union (Mailed in)	\$325.00
	Designated Gift for Blended Fellowship Mission	<u>\$2,000.00</u>
	Total Receipts:	\$6,934.12
	Total to account for:	\$7,788.83
III.	Disbursements:	
	Conf/Union Expenses (Mailings, Bibles, honorariums)	\$759.49
	N. C. Foundation for Christian Ministries	\$1,200.00
	FWB Press (gift)	\$300.00
	Foreign Missions	\$538.64
	Home Missions	\$538.63
	Education Scholarships	\$900.00

Cape Fear

Blended Fellowship Designated Gifts	\$2,000.00
Convention Wall of Honor (Peyton and Betty Lee)	\$500.00
Convention of OFWB for Delegate Fees	\$180.00
Convention of OFWB (2014 Report Books)	<u>\$360.00</u>

Total Disbursements: **\$7,276.76**

IV. Balance on hand as of November 10, 2014: **\$512.07**
(Out of this balance \$53.22 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/Conference and other expenses = 55%

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Dr. Sam Weeks, Treasurer