

Minutes
Of the Fifty-fourth Annual Session
—OF THE—
Cave Spring Association

—OF THE—
Freewill Baptist Churches
—HELD WITH—
Mill Creek Church, Myrtle Mo.
August 22, 23 and 24, 1941



The next Association will be held with Norman Church, near Alton, Mo., beginning on Thursday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1942. The Introductory sermon will be preached by Elders Sam Johnson and Jesse Dunkin at 11:00 a. m. Friday.



OFFICERS

Rev. Harry Beatty, Moderator
Rev. Billie Rogers, Assistant Moderator
Ralph Hoyt, Clerk
Ned Rhoades, Assistant Clerk
E. L. Brewer, Treasurer

STANDING COMMITTEES

Business:

Rev. H. C. Crase
Rev. T. J. Dunkin
Rev. Billie Rogers
Ralph Hoyt

Ordination:

Rev. Harry Beatty
Rev. Billie Rogers
Rev. W. P. Stogsdill

Obituary:

Flo Dunkin
Dora Martin
C. H. Crews

Printing:

J. P. McCullough
Geo. Moore
E. L. Brewer
Ralph Hoyt

Mill Creek, Friday, August 22. Morning Conference called together by singing. Psalm read by Clerk, prayer by Jas. McGeehee. Ralph Hoyt elected clerk; N. H. Rhoades, assistant clerk. By-laws read by clerk. Moderator Harry Beatty appointed Eckland Brewer, Roy Wisheart and Mrs. S. L. Dotson committee on divine service.

Church letters called for: Cane Hill, Bailey Chapel, Shiloh, Mill Creek and Pleasant Hill letters received and delegates seated. Rev. G. W. Scott, Jr., delegate from Union Association was seated. Adjourned for preaching services; benediction, Elder H. C. Crase. Singing, prayer by Elder Jesse Dunkin, singing Elder Ernest Harding read John 3:14 as text, and Elder Dale Williams and him preached on the need of looking on Jesus in order to live spiritually, as the Israelites looked on the brazen serpent in the wilderness for bodily life, and we must lift up Jesus to the world as the only means of salvation, and every child of God is going to work at the job. Adjournment for dinner.

After singing, reading of the 139th Psalm and prayer by Elder Wayne Tucker, the following church letters came in: Norman, Cotton Creek, Bethany and Liberty.

Moderator appointed committees.

Temperance: Elders T. J. Dunkin, H. C. Crase, S. W. Bell.

Observance of the Sabbath: Elmer Hodges, Lewis Dodson and Albert Holmes.

State of Denomination: Sam Johnson, E. L. Brewer, Willie Wisheart.

Literature: C. A. Dodson, Jesse Dunkin, J. E. Rolen.

State of Religion: Ernest Harding, Ezra Johnson and E. E. Simpson.

Finance: Mesdames Tem Crawford, Edith Bell and Issie Pingleton.

Resolutions: H. H. Beatty, B. H. Woodring, Roy Wisheart.

Ordaining Com. continued; also Printing committee, except Hoyt was put on in place of Adrain Jenkins.

E. E. Simpson elected Moderator. Brothers Jim Hendrix and Harvy Hackworth were visiting ministers.

Elder Jas. McGeehee asked us, each one, to pray for the boys in camps, that they may turn to the Lord, and while preserving their country from its foes, do much to bring it back to the high moral and spiritual levels of a generation ago. Supper, followed by song service and prayer by Billie Rogers. Elders Jesse Dunkin and Geo. W. Scott preached splendidly, with Job 14:10 "But man dieth, and wasteth away; yea man giveth up the ghost, and where is he?" Benediction, Hoyt.

Saturday. Rom. 12:1-11 read by Moderator, prayer, Rogers. More church letters: Billmore, Cave Spring, Smyrna, Pleasant Ridge, Piney, Oak Grove, Rose Hill. Letters received, delegates seated. Minutes of Friday meeting read. Elders J. H. Tally and Whittaker were visiting ministers. Prayer by Bro. Tally. After a brief recess, singing and prayer by Elder H. C. Crase, Elders Bell and Wayne Tucker with Deut. 32-11 as text, gave a warning message that we stir about and work out our salvation so folks would know there is a living reality in it.

Has anyone, at any time, or anywhere, ever had the devil come along and offer to help them out of trouble? Every once in a long while though, someone does so much wickedness that the devil is really ashamed of them.

Dinner, followed by more letters: Pleasant Valley, 3 delegates; Walnut Grove, 3; Wilderness, 3; Mt. Zion, 1; Royal Oak.

Committee reports received; Temperance, Resolutions, Financial, Obituary, also ministers' annual reports.

H. H. Beatty, W. E. Crews, Marvin Williams, Claude Bryan, W. P. Stogsdill, Daniel King, Billie Rogers, E. E. Simpson, Paris Wheeler and C. H. Crews were appointed delegates to Union Association, four miles north of Mansfield.

Delegates to Missouri State Association meeting with Flat River church were: C. A. Dodson, S. W. Bell, Ralph Hoyt, Mrs. Ella Dotson, Ernest Harding, H. H. Beatty and wife. Delegates to Social Band Association: H. C. Crase, Billie Rogers and Ralph Hoyt.

Statistical report of Association read.

Norman Church chosen as place of meeting of next association. Mill Creek church near Myrtle chosen as place for holding the next State Association, which will be held beginning on Monday after the second Sunday in September, 1942, and continuing through Friday.

Elders Sam Johnson and Jesse Dunkin chosen to preach the introductory sermon at the next meeting of Cave Spring Association at 1:00 a. m. Friday. Heartfelt thanks were tendered to church and people of Myrtle for fellowship and courtesy.

Adjourned, with hand-shake.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Temperance Committee:

We, your committee on Temperance, beg leave to report. Seeing the great awfulness and destruction of strong drink, and realizing that some of our church members are being led away by its deception and bringing shame upon Christianity, and our denomination. We earnestly ask and pray that our members and especially the pastors of the Freewill Baptist churches live and preach the great danger of Christians indulging in the damnable stuff, for thereby many have left their first love.

Elders H. C. Crase, T. J. Dunkin, S. W. Bell.

State of Religion:

We find our Association seemingly on the back ground and sluggish in Christian work, and unless there is a waking up in religious efforts we fail to win souls. Pure and undefiled religion is this: to visit the widows, and keep themselves unspotted from the world; too much form in religion but denying the power thereof. We beg our people to labor earnestly in order to produce the real religion that saves the sinners.

Rev's. E. E. Simpson, and Ernest Harding and Ezra Johnson.
State of Denomination:

We find that our denomination is too near a stand still. Our ministers are striving earnestly for the conversion of sinners, yet with seemingly slight results. May the Lord of the harvest increasingly bless their labors in the salvation of souls.

E. L. Brewer, S. D. Johnson, W. H. Wisheart, Com.

Observance of the Sabbath:

Your committee recommends that our people abstain from all forms of worldly amusement and all unnecessary labor on the Lord's day. Instead attend Sunday School, church services and social worship.

We believe God's people who are working at their job will not go in the ways of the world.

Albert Holmes, Lewis Dodson, Elmer Hodges, Com.

Literature:

We, your committee on literature, advise that we should place the Bible first in our reading, as it is the only true guide to right living, and we should also read other clean, up-building literature, and do all in our power to put all unclean and misleading literature away from us and our associates so that we can inherit the blessings God has promised to those who do His will.

C. A. Dodson, Jess Dunkin J. G. Rolen, Com.

Resolutions:

1. That we adhere quite strictly to the principles of our church covenant, as pastors, deacons and lay members.

2. That each church recommend their deacons when worthy of commendation. Association voted Yes unanimously.

Elder Harry Beatty, Roy Wisheart, Elder Ben Woodring, Com.

MINISTERS ENROLLED

C. A. Dodson, Alton
 H. H. Beatty, Thayer
 S. W. Bell, Alton
 C. R. Bryan, Couch, Mo.
 N. Combs, Couch, Mo.
 H. C. Crase, Myrtle, Mo.
 Jesse Dunkin, Myrtle, Mo.
 Elmer Hodges, Alton, Mo.
 Ernest Harding Alton, Mo.
 Jas. McGeehee, Myrtle, Mo.
 Billie Rogers, Myrtle, Mo.
 J. E. Rolen, Thayer, Mo.
 E. E. Simpson, Alton, Mo.
 W. P. Stogsdill, Alton, Mo.
 B. H. Woodring, Alton, Mo.
 C. H. Williams, Myrtle, Mo.
 T. J. Dunkin, Myrtle, Mo.
 Sam D. Johnson, Alton, Mo.
 Dale Williams, Alton, Mo.
 L. R. Wheeler, Mammoth Spring, Ark.

VISITING MINISTERS

Wayne Tucker, Peach Orchard, Ark.
 Geo. W. Scott, Jr., Mountain Grove, Mo.
 J. P. Hendrix, Couch, Mo.
 J. H. Tally, Thayer, Mo.

DEACONS

E. L. Brewer
 Ezra Johnson
 John Pingleton
 Walter Barnett
 T. L. McDonald
 Hurvie Hackworth
 Robert Worel
 R. J. Wischart
 L. A. Martin
 Ralph Hoyt

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 1940

Money Received	\$ 37.16
Balance on hand	4.06
Harry Beatty sent in50
Ralph Hoyt sent in	2.00
Total	\$ 43.72
 Paid out: Clerk's salary	 \$ 10.00
Printing 200 church letters	1.50
Printing 400 Minutes	22.00
Total	\$ 33.50
Balance on hand:	\$10.22

E. L. Brewer, Treasurer

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

Received from the Churches:

Liberty	\$ 1.00; 75c for local Minutes, 25c state Min.	
Cotton Creek	2.00, local minutes	
Norman	1.20, local minutes	
Pleasant Ridge	2.66 local minutes	
Pleasant Hill	1.25 local minutes	
Pleasant Valley....	1.20 80c for local min. 40c state min.	
Mill Creek	4.10, \$3.10 for local min. \$1. for state min.	
Shiloh	2.55 for local min.	
Bailey Chapel	4.90, 1.30 State min. 3.60 for local min.	
Bethany	1.55 for local min.	
Rose Hill	1.00 local min.	
Smyrna	2.70 local minutes	
Cane Hill	1.25, for local min.	
Wilderness	0.75 for local min.	
Piney	1.20 for local min.	
Walnut Grove	3.00 for local min.	
Expense50	
Royal Oak	1.60 for local min.	
Mount Zion	1.00 for local minutes	
Cave Spring	2.00 local min, 50c state min.	
Billmore90, for local minutes	
Total	\$38.41	3.45 \$34.96

Financial Com. Tem Crawford, Mrs. Johnnie Pingleton, Edith Bell

OBITUARIES

Catherine Jane Fortune was born in Illinois Sept. 8, 1856, and departed this life December 15, 1940, at the age of 84 years, 3 mos., 7 days. She was married to Henry Wisehart Dec. 24, 1878. To this union five children were born, one dying in infancy. Mary preceded her in death. Surviving are Roy and William and one daughter, Mrs. Edith Cockman, all of Myrtle. The family came to this country January 12, 1899. Her husband passed away nine years ago. She has fifteen grand children, four great grand children. She was converted at the age of fifteen and lived a devoted christian life to the end. She was a member of the Freewill Baptist church at Myrtle in which she was a faithful worker, her main interest teaching little children. A kind and loving mother and grand-mother, though sadly missed, she is now sharing the rewards of glorified saints.

Funeral services were conducted by Revs. T. J. Dunkin and H. C. Crase on Monday, Dec. 16, 1940 and she was laid to rest in the Myrtle cemetery.

** † **

Mary Lou Vina Fisher was born August 14, 1850; died Oct. 4, 1940, age 80 years, 1 month, 20 days. She was married to Billie Harris August 11, 1881. To this union were born two children. Her husband and one infant preceded her in death. She married D. H. England in 1901 and he died in 1933. She leaves one daughter, Mrs. Ethel Doran, one sister, Mrs. Emma Smith, two grand-children, Mrs. Wayne Johnson and Mrs. Alma Hall, three great grand-children and other relatives. She professed hope in Christ 59 years ago, and has lived a faithful Christian life to the end.

** † **

John Samuel Campbell of Royal Oak was born in Holt Co., Missouri Sept. 24, 1863 and departed this life March 3, 1941 at the age of 77 years, 5 months, 7 days. He was married to Mildred Frances Foley in December 1884, who preceded him in death October 8, 1933. To this union were born eleven children, ten of whom survive, Curtis, of Mound City, Mo., Frank of Alton, Leeta Miller and Homer Campbell of Thomasville, Mo., Lee of Alton, Susan Trantham, Walnut Ridge, Ark., Mary Miller, Alton, Cora Reese of West Plains, Worth of Fort Collins, Colo., and Sam of Alton, Mo. Also surviving are 48 grand-children, and 11 great grand children, and a host of relatives and friends. He

was converted at an early age, and was baptized into the Free will Baptist church of Royal Oak. Funeral services were conducted at Royal Oak school house by Rev. H. C. Crase and he was laid to rest in the Huddleston cemetery. We feel so sad and lonesome without his smiling face; but God needed another worker, so took Daddy to fill that place. Sleep on dear Daddy and take thy rest; God called thee home, He thought it best.

** † **

Rev. J. E. S. Pentecost was born Jan. 28, 1867, and departed this life Feb. 4, 1941. He was a minister of the gospel, a devoted Christian, a member of the Cane Hill church, and leaves a wife, twelve children and a host of friends to mourn his death. Following are their children: Mrs. Ina Hopkins, Anchorage, Alaska, Norman and Clarence A., of Koshkonong, Mo., Archie D. of Pattonville, Mrs. Villa E. Johnston, R. 1, West Plains, Mrs. Ruth Oma West, St. Joseph, Mrs. Georgia A. Barnett, R. 1, West Plains, Mrs. Richie E. Helmick, Prescott, Wash., Mrs. Alma Verbick, Fort Worth, Texas, Mrs. Ida Smith, Anchorage, Alaska, Mrs. Anna Featherstone, Caldwell, Ida., Eli B. Koshkonong, Mo.

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John Redburn Winfield Harbison, born 3 miles north-east of Myrtle, Mo., on Sept. 10, 1867, the son of Geo. C., and Margaret M. Harbison. He was converted July 10, 1884 and in the following September was baptized into the Missionary Baptist church by Manuel Jackson, was married to Rena E. Campbell January 13, 1887. To this union were born 6 children: Geo. O. of Zeigler, Ill., Elmore C. of Bono, Ark., Elba of Myrtle, Ora Wisehart of Myrtle, Verna S. Smith, of Batesville, Ark., Jessie F., of Moorewood, Okla., he is also survived by 26 grand-children, 3 having preceded him in death. He joined the Freewill Baptist church as a charter member of the Bethany church. He was licensed to preach by the Cave Spring Association in August 1903, ordained in August 1904, at Oak Grove church.

He joined the Elm Store Odd Fellow lodge No. 442 on Saturday night before the fourth Sunday in September 1907. The lodge was discontinued, but he cherished the principles of the order. He passed away Nov. 6, 1940, at the age of 73 years, 1 month, 26 days, the funeral being conducted by Revs. Clarence Dodson and Sam Bell on Nov. 8, with burial under direction of Leo Carr.

** † **

Sarah Ann Longley, was born August 2, 1871 at Smithville, Ark., and at the age of 7 she came to Oregon county, Mo. She passed away Nov. 19, 1940, age 69 years, 3 months and 17 days. She married Geo. Denton in 1904 and seven children were born to them. One son preceded her in death. Her companion passed on four years ago. Surviving are Isaac, of New Glarius, Wis., John and Milo, both of the home, and three daughters, Jennie Owens, Granby, Mo., Florence McHugh, Mammoth Spring, Ark., and Callie Allen of the home. Other close relatives are three sisters, Mrs. Josie Melton, Denver, Colo., Mrs. Dora Woods, Gas, Kansas, Mrs. Doner Dunham, Walnut Ridge, Ark., two brothers John and Jim of Thayer, Mo., and six grand-children. She was converted several years ago, and became a faithful member of the Freewill Baptist church.

We trust our loss is her Heavenly gain, and extend our heartfelt sympathy and prayers for her family. Funeral services were conducted by Elder H. H. Beatty, with burial at Jeff, Mo., under direction of Leo Carr, undertaker.

Done by order of the church while in conference January 12, 1941.
Elder H. H. Beatty, Moderator.

** † **

Will Cartee was born June 15, 1875 in Oregon County, Mo., and passed away near Myrtle, Mo., May 7, 1941. He was married to Ida Whitehead December 22, 1931. He was converted in early life and lived an earnest christian life, joining the Freewill Baptist church at Myrtle.

Besides his wife he leaves three children to mourn his death, Lillie Davis, Thayer, Mo., Ralph Cartee, Dorothy McFry, both of Alton, Mo. He leaves many friends and relatives to mourn his departure. Funeral services were conducted by Elder H. H. Beatty.

** † **

Mrs. Hettie Huddleston, daughter of G. W. and Mary Childers, was born at Franklin, Ark., Aug. 7, 1892, and departed this life Dec. 16, 1940, at the age of 48 years, 4 months, 9 days. She was married to William Huddleston August 23, 1909. To this union six children were born. One preceded her in death. Those living are: George, Esther Joliff, Grace English, Don and Billie. She was converted in 1916 at the age of 24.

** † **

Berend B. Meinders, son of Jacob and Aaska Meinders, was born in Reison, Germany, Sept. 3, 1866 and died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Peter Toppe, at 203 Titus Ave., Des Moines, Iowa on January 16, 1941, age 74 years, 4 months, 13 days.

When 13 years of age he came to America locating near Bevington, Iowa becoming a citizen at 21. He married Minnie Boatwright in 1898, and to this union three children were born; two girls and one boy. In 1929 he moved to Missouri, locating 10 miles east of Thayer. Being converted in 1934, he joined the Freewill Baptist church in the Pleasant Hill community, later moving to Des Moines, Iowa. He was a good neighbor, a real Christian and left an enviable record.

** † **

Wayne Bennett, son of Johnny and Virgie Bennett was born in Oregon County near Myrtle, Mo., July 23, 1897, and departed this life on October 31, 1940 at the age of 43 years, 3 months and 8 days.

He grew to manhood at Myrtle. On August 2, 1914 he was married to Miss Virgie Looney of Elm Store, Ark. To this union were born four children. One son died in infancy. He leaves to mourn his passing, his mother, Mrs. Virgie Hall, of Myrtle, his devoted wife, two sons and one daughter, Ruford, Willard and Maxine; two grand-children of Dalton, Ark., four brothers, King Bennett of Guymon, Okla., Willie and Waif Bennett and Harry Hall of Myrtle, Mo.; two sisters, Mrs. Shelley White of Bolegee, Ala., Mrs. Shirley West of Guymon, Okla.

In early life he give himself to the Lord and united with the Freewill Baptist church at Walnut Grove, where he lived a devoted christian life until the Lord called him home.

At the time of his death he was superintendent of the Union Hill Sunday School near his home.

Wayne had many friends, the night was never too dark or cold for him if he could befriend someone in time of trouble or sorrow.

Funeral services were conducted at the Freewill Baptist church at Myrtle Saturday morning, November 2, by his pastor, Rev. Billy Rogers, who had played with him when they were boys. The Union Hill choir had charge of the song service.

** † **

Violet Rose Beatty was born October 24, 1916, on the farm near Jeff, in Oregon County, Missouri, where she lived until her marriage.

She became a disciple of Christ in 1930, and affiliated with the Freewill Baptist church of Christ at Rose Hill, where she remained a member until her death.

She received her education in Oregon county and became very active in the social affairs of her community, and was a member of the Missionary Society at Mammoth Spring, Arkansas, her home at the time of her death.

On March 23, 1935, she became the bride of John A. Drye, Jr., to whom she was loyal and true, and to whom she gave her best forever. She was a friend of sinners and an angel to the unfortunate, and was loyal and true to her church and pastor, to whom she often spoke of the beauty, the strange sad glory, the hurt of life, and the immeasurably glory soon to be. The smile so characteristic of her spoke always of her purity and genuine Christian character.

She wearied with the struggle of life's hurt until she lay down her soft hand resting on the book she loved best, opened at Psalms, 26th Chapter, which tells the story of her peace of mind as she passed beyond. "I have trusted the Lord, therefore I shall not slide."

Her mother preceded her in death when she was four years of age. To mourn her passing she leaves her husband, John A. Drye, Jr., the father, Robert G. Beatty, his wife, Ida Beatty, of Thayer, Mo., who was very devoted to her. Also six brothers, Charley, Otis, Ed and Harry, all of Thayer; Ralph, whose address is unknown, and Herbert of Perryton, Texas; one sister, Mrs. Edith Cantrell, of New Albany, Indiana; a step-brother, Harold Dunsmore of West Plains, Mo., and a host of relatives and friends. In her passing we have lost a real friend and a true Christian.

Funeral services were conducted Sunday, July 27, by Elder Hugh Cooper at Mammoth Spring, Ark., and Rose Hill. Burial was made in the Rose Hill cemetery, under direction of Leo Carr Funeral Home.

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IN MEMORY

Of the Ministers of the Cave Spring Association of Freewill Baptist, who have given their lives for His Cause, and gone on to receive their reward.

Rev. J. A. Jones
 Rev. A. H. Peace
 Rev. E. R. Whitman
 Rev. C. E. Whitman
 Rev. W. W. Pierce
 Rev. Thomas Bennett
 Rev. Daniel R. Johnson
 Rev. G. W. Putman
 Rev. S. O. Buckley
 Rev. David Johnson
 Rev. W. C. Norman
 Rev. John Combs
 Rev. Milo Stanley
 Rev. W. M. Johnson
 Rev. J. E. Pentecost

SHILOH CHURCH

Organized October 19, 1930, by Rev. W. P. Stogsdill and Rev. Billy Rogers. It was organized with 14 members. C. H. Crews and Lee Clark as deacons. Elizabeth Holmes church clerk.

UNION CHURCH (Cane Hill)

Organized November 23, 1930, by Rev. N. Combs, Elzie Simpson and Rev. Jesse Rolan, with 23 members.

PINEY CHURCH

Organized in 1885, by Rev. J. A. Jones, members unknown.

LIBERTY CHURCH

Organized September 25, 1921, with 9 members, by Rev. J. R. W. Harbison, Rev. John Combs, Rev. James McGeehee, and Rev. G. H. Miller.

BETHANY CHURCH

Organized January 20, 1902, by Rev. H. C. Crase, Rev. T. J. Dunkin and Rev. N. Combs. Organized with 7 members, T. U. Cockman and Will Williams as deacons.

WALNUT GROVE CHURCH

Organized in 1889 by Rev. H. C. Crase and Rev. E. R. Evans with 7 members.

DIALS CREEK CHURCH

Organized August 14, 1927, by Rev. James McGeehee and Billy Rogers, with 7 members. J. A. Evans and S. P. Scott were elected as deacons.

COTTON CREEK CHURCH

Organized August 6, 1893, by Rev. J. H. Herlson and Rev. N. Combs, with 13 members. T. J. Dunkin and G. W. Robertson were elected as deacons.

ROYAL OAK CHURCH

Organized on the first Sunday in October, 1930, by Rev. H. C. Crase and Elmer Hodges, assisted by Deacon J. P. McCullough, with 23 members.

NORMAN CHURCH

Organized October 3, 1914, by Rev. W. P. Stogsdill and supposedly Rev. W. C. Norman, with 18 members. D. M. Crews and G. W. Moore as deacons.

PLEASANT HILL CHURCH

Organized October 6, 1918, by Rev. E. J. Vaughn and Rev. H. C. Crase, with 17 members.

ROSE HILL CHURCH

Organized July 16, 1916, by Rev. Milo Stanley and Rev. W. C. Norman, with 7 members. H. F. Young and G. W. Denton as deacons and R. G. Beatty, church clerk.

BILLMORE CHURCH

Organized November 25, 1928, by Rev. E. E. Winfree and Rev. T. J. Dunkin, with 9 members. C. R. Bryan and W. H. Blankenship as deacons.

BLUFF SPRINGS CHURCH

Organized in August, 1912, by Rev. J. R. W. Harbison and Rev. S. O. Buckley, with 9 members.

PLEASANT RIDGE CHURCH

Organized May 28, 1933, with 13 members.

CAVE SPRING CHURCH

Organized July 12, 1879, with 24 members, by Rev. David Johnson, Rev. J. A. Jones and Rev. S. J. Thornberg.

SMYRNA CHURCH

Organized in November 1882, by Rev. David Johnson and Rev. J. A. Jones, with 13 members.

OAK GROVE CHURCH

No information available.

MILL CREEK CHURCH

Organized in October, 1903. Levi Taylor and Henry Wisheart were elected deacons.

BAILEY CHAPEL CHURCH

Organized August 28, 1938, by Rev. E. E. Simpson, Rev. C. A. Dodson and Rev. Elmer Hodges, with 55 members. John Nichols, W. M. Huddleston and Elgin Williams as deacons.

MT. ZION CHURCH

Organized July 30, 1939, by Rev. J. E. Rolan, B. H. Woodring and Rev. J. E. S. Pentecost. Organized with 14 members, Dave Bowers and A. C. Harrison as deacons.

PLEASANT VALLEY CHURCH

Organized in June 1940, by Rev. J. E. Rolan, Rev. E. E. Simpson and Rev. B. H. Woodring. Organized with 8 members and Robert Worrel and Walter Barnett as deacons.

WILDERNESS CHURCH

Organized August 2, 1940, by Rev. Clarence Dodson, S. W. Bell and Deacon Elgin Williams. Organized with 22 members and Mack Simpson, Hosea Simpson and Other Neal as deacons.

PETITIONARY LETTER FROM

We, the council of Ordained Ministers,
 organized church, county of
 state of; number of members,;
 by choice of the body
 were selected as deacons; church clerk;
 on the day of 19.....

We therefore petition the Conference to accept our Church
 into your body as a member of
 Conference or Association.

Council

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Opening of Conference by clerk, scripture reading, singing and Prayer.
2. Moderator takes charge of the business; appointment of committee on Divine Service.
3. Reading of constitution and by-laws and minutes of previous meetings.
4. Letters from various churches called for, read and received; verbal reports of pastors of churches.
5. Petitionary letters called for, read and received.
6. Visiting Brethern and Sisters invited to seats as advisory members.
7. Corresponding messengers called to seats as advisory members.
8. Eleven o'clock devotional service.
9. Appointment of all committees.
10. Election of Officers.
11. Moderator inquires: Are all churches represented?
12. Enrollment of deacons and ministers present.
13. Are there any churches without a pastor, and can they be supplied.
14. Have all churches observed the Communion?
15. Business suggested by letters or delegates.
16. Reports of committees.
17. Reports of ministers.
18. General and new business.
19. Setting of place for next conference.
20. Ordaining council proceeds with work.
21. League reports.
22. Home Mission reports.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE 1—Each session of this conference shall be called to order by the standing clerk when present, and in his absence by the member having seniority in years.

ARTICLE 2—Each session and adjourned session of the conference shall be opened and closed with prayer.

ARTICLE 3—Ten members shall be required to constitute a quorum to transact any business of this conference. But any less number may adjourn from time to time.

ARTICLE 4—After the opening of each session of this conference a chairman shall be appointed and a committee of not less than three persons shall be chosen to examine credentials for

membership in this conference. After the report of this committee and enrollment of a moderator and to the transaction of other business.

ARTICLE 5—At each session of this conference standing committees shall be appointed on each subject as the following: "Printing Establishments," "Ministry," "Slavery," "Missions," "Moral Reform," "Popery," "Peace," "Church-Polity," "Petitions and Requests," "State of Religion," "Observance of the Sabbath," "Doctrine," and "State of Denomination". All petitions and committees on particular subjects shall be referred to appropriate committees. Special committees may be appointed at the pleasure of the conference.

ARTICLE 6—This conference may hold correspondence by message or otherwise with religious bodies as it may deem advisable.

ARTICLE 7—This conference may sit with open doors except when it may go into a committee of the whole.

ARTICLE 8—Any person not a member of this Conference may be allowed to take part in its discussions by obtaining permission of the conference.

ARTICLE 9—It shall be the duty of the standing clerk to furnish each session of the conference with a book or records containing the doings of the previous session.

ARTICLE 10—The conference may determine the time when its daily sessions shall commence and close.

ARTICLE 11—It shall be the duty of the members of this conference to be present at the time appointed for each daily session and anyone wishing to retire shall first obtain leave of the moderator.

ARTICLE 12—No member shall absent himself from conference during the sessions without first obtaining permission from the conference.

ARTICLE 13—Every member wishing to speak in conference shall first address the moderator.

ARTICLE 14—No person shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes at any one time nor more than twice on any subject without leave of the conference.

ARTICLE 15—No debates shall be allowed on any motion except the same be submitted in writing and seconded by a mem-

ber of the conference.

ARTICLE 16—No whispering shall be allowed during conference without leave of the moderator, but all members shall pay strict attention to the business of the conference.

ARTICLE 17—No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee provided the brother nominated be elected.

ARTICLE 18—The yeas and nays may be taken on any question before the conference by request of one-fifth of the members present.

ARTICLE 19—The constitution and by-laws of this conference shall be read at each session near its commencement.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

THE BIBLE—The Scripture of the Old and New Testament were given by the inspiration of God and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

GOD—There is one living and true God revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver and Righteous Governor of the Universe and in Scripture as Father, Son and Holy Ghost, as one God infinitely wise and good whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.

CHRIST—Christ is God manifest in the flesh, in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified He is now risen and glorified and is our ever-present Savior and Lord.

THE HOLY SPIRIT—The Scriptures assign the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men.

THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD—God Exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

THE SINFULNESS OF MAN—Man was created innocent, but by disobedience, fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability of sin, and become guilty before God.

THE WORK OF CHRIST—The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

THE TERMS OF SALVATION—The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith, or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord, with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

ELECTION—God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

FREEDOM OF WILL—The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit and live, or to resist them and perish.

SALVATION FREE—God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of Life freely.

PERSEVERANCE—All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have the promise of eternal salvation.

GOSPEL ORDINANCES

BAPTISM, or the immersion of believers in water, and the **LORD'S SUPPER**, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; **FEET WASHING**, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH—The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

WAR—War destroys the lives of the innocent, and is contrary to the New Testament, therefore we are opposed to war.

RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT, AND FINAL RETRIBUTION—The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked shall "go away into eternal punishment, but righteous eternal life."

FREEWILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things to avoid the appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world; from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

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

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

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observances of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

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

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MINISTER'S YEARLY REPORTS, 1940-41

	Received for my services	Funerals preached	Marriages solemnized	Appointments filled	Churches visited	Conversions witnessed	Baptized	Received into churches	Miles traveled	Sermons at other places	Number churches pastored
Harry Beatty	\$256.48	5 10	10			20		8	3000	10	4
S. W. Bell		3				53	25				0
H. C. Crase	15.70					5		0	200	15	2
C. A. Dodson	240.94	3		44	1	53	30	35	2000	4	4
Jesse Dunkin	36.25			24		3	0	0	280	8	2
Ernest Harding	11.80	0	0	9	10	3	0	4	400	11	0
Elmer Hodges	10.45	2	0	16	8	10	0	1	383	5	0
Samuel D. Johnson	11.18	0	0	10	4	3	0	0	212	4	0
Billie Rogers	257.72	10	3			8	0	8		30	4
J. E. Rolen	2.58	0	0	20	7	4	0	0	404	28	0
E. E. Simpson	144.72	5	1	22		9	5	5	1297	25	2
W. P. Stogsdill	10.00		1	8	4	1		0	75	10	0
L. R. Wheeler	1.00			2	4			3	316	37	0
Dale Williams	37.75	2		20		40			1000	20	1
Ben Woodring	48.52				6	4		1		24	3