

# MINUTES

—OF THE—

Sixty - Ninth Annual Session

—OF THE—

Cave Spring Annual Meeting

— OF —

Freewill Baptist Churches

—HELD WITH—

Pleasant Ridge Church  
July 19, 20, 1956



— OFFICERS —

Moderator .....	Edith Johnson, Alton, Mo.
Asst. Moderator .....	Russel Spurgeon, Myrtle, Mo.
Clerk .....	J. W. King, Myrtle, Mo.
Asst. Clerk .....	George Brewer, Myrtle, Mo.
Treasurer .....	D. J. Bowers, Thayer, Mo.
Statistician .....	Howard Bell, Alton, Mo.

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The next session of the Cave Springs Yearly meeting will be held with the Alton Church at Alton, Mo., beginning at 9:00 a. m. on Thursday, before the fourth Sunday in July 1957. Brothers Russell B. Spurgeon and A. R. Campbell will preach the introductory sermon at 11:00 a. m.

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### EXECUTIVE BOARD

Term Expires

E. E. Simpson	.....	1957
Sam Johnson	.....	1958
I. E. Vaughn	.....	1959
Keith Johnson	.....	1960
Harry Beatty	.....	1961

### MISSION BOARD

Ernest Harding	.....	1957
Keith Johnson	.....	1958
J. E. Rolan	.....	1959
Paul Caldwell	.....	1960
Davie Combs	.....	1961

### ORDAINING COUNCIL

Ernest Harding	Joe Sisk	Billy Rogers
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### OBITUARY COMMITTEE

Bertha Brewer	Elizabeth Holmes	Agnes Darr
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### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Roscoe Mills	Raymond Williams	Charley Robinson
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### PRINTING COMMITTEE

J. W. King	George Brewer	N. H. Rhoades
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### TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

Millard Ehrhardt	N. H. Rhoades	Paris Wheeler
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### CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Ernest Harding	Virgil Blankenship	E. E. Simpson
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The Sixty-ninth Annual Session of the Cave Springs Yearly Meeting of Freewill Baptist Churches convened with the Pleasant Ridge church East of Alton, Missouri on Thursday, July 19, 1956.

Opening song — "We'll Work 'till Jesus Comes"

Scripture : 1st John 4:7-2; Romans 12: 9-12.

By-laws and Constitution read by Assistant Clerk, Davie Combs.

Church letters called for:

COTTON CREEK: Delegates, Floe Dunkin, Jessee McGhee, Marvin Cockman. 1 present. Ministers and Deacons recommended.

THAYER: Delegates, Herbert Allen, Maureen Holman, J. V. Holman. 3 present. Ministers and Deacons recommended.

GARFIELD: Delegates Inez Martin, Mittie Stogsdill, Walker Stogsdill. None present. Minister and Deacons recommended.

SHILOH: Delegates Albert Holmes, Claud Huff, Elfa Huff. 3 present. Minister and Deacon recommended.

WALNUT GROVE: Delegates, Daniel King, George Brewer, Bertha Brewer. 3 present. Minister and Deacons recommended.

BAILEY CHAPEL: Delegates, Bert Smith, Lula Smith, Eliza Bell. 3 present. Minister and Deacons recommended.

PLEASANT RIDGE: Delegates, Pearl Simpson, Jerry Johnson, Les Darr. 2 present. Ministers and Deacons recommended.

MILL CREEK: Delegates, Willie Wisehart, Ora Wisehart, Elba Harbison. 3 present. Ministers and Deacons recommended.

MT. ZION: Delegates, John Crawford, Viola Crawford, Ezra Manes. 3 present. Minister and Deacons recommended.

Motion carried to receive the Letters and seat the delegates named there-in.

Motion carried for Moderator to appoint divine Committee.

Brothers Les Dorr, Claud Huff, and Daniel King appointed.

Petitionary letters called for.

None present.

Letters from Corresponding bodies called for.

None present.

Visiting Brothers and Sisters invited into our body as Advisory members.

Motion carried Moderator appoint all Temporary Committees.

#### DENOMINATION

Willie Wisheart, Pearl Simpson, Bertha Brewer.

#### RELIGION

Elfa Huff, Viola Crawford, Maureen Holman.

#### SABBATH

Ezra Manes, Ora Wisheart, Elba Harbison.

#### LITERATURE

Pete Holman, George Brewer, Bert Smith.

Report of delegates that attended other associations.

Bros. E. E. Simpson, Ernest Harding, Keith Johnson reported enjoying the good service and a large crowd at Union Association. They seemed to be going forward for the Lord.

Bro. Harry Beatty reported going to South-east Missouri Association. They have added new churches to the Association and about three-fourths of the churches are on full time work.

Bro. Billy Rogers reported going to Social Band Association. He reported them as progressing. Some of the churches with full time and some with half time, and that they were having good results in revivals.

Sister Bernice Cantrell reported going to the Nation Association. There were twenty States represented there. She reported the Denomination growing and that all services were a blessing.

Bro. Harry Beatty reported attending National Association and how the Spirit was manifest through the

preaching of three Cuban preachers in their native tongue. He also urges more cooperation with the National Association.

Motion carried to suspend the rules and call for church letters again.

**CLIFTON CHURCH:** Delegates Noah Hollis, Nola Hollis, May Caldwell. 2 present. Deacons recommended.

**PLEASANT VALLEY:** Delegates, Willie Wilkie, Martha Wilkie, Craton Todd. None present. Ministers and Deacons recommended.

Motion carried to receive these letters and seat their delegates.

Motion carried to proceed with other business.

Report of Evangelist called for and read.

Motion carried to receive evangelist report.

Motion carried this Yearly Meeting place an Evangelist on the field.

Nominations declared in order.

Bros. A. L. McGhee and Virgil Blankenship nominated.

Bro. Virgil Blankenship elected by majority vote.

Motion carried to guarantee our Evangelist the sum of \$5.00 per day of service.

Ministers reports called for.

Motion carried to adjourn for eleven o'clock services.

### **ELEVEN O'CLOCK**

Opening Song — "Just over in the Glory Land".

Prayer by Bro. H. C. Crase.

Services turned to Rev. Harry Beatty for Introductory Sermon.

Scripture: 1st Cor. 1:14 to 19. Text: Luke 9:23.

A wonderful message on the "Cross Way". Bear our Cross to the end and trade our Cross for a Crown.

Prayer by Bro. Raymond Williams.

### **THURSDAY EVENING**

Opening song: "I'm Getting Ready to go Home."

Scripture: Eph. 2:1-10.

Corresponding messengers called for.

Rev. Harry Stairs from First Mission Association in

Oklahoma reported as being happy to be with us and encouraged us to be more mission minded.

Motion carried to receive the report.

Report of Executive Board read.

Motion carried to receive the report of executive board.

Report of Ordaining Council read.

Motion carried to receive the Ordaining Council report.

Literature report given.

Motion carried to receive Literature report.

Divine Committee report read.

Religion report read.

Motion carried to receive this report.

Denomination Committee report read.

Motion carried to receive this report.

Committee on Sabbath report read.

Motion carried to receive this report.

Motion carried to change the committee on the Sabbath to the committee on the Lords Day.

Motion carried to release all temporary committees that have reported.

Motion carried to wait until tomorrow to read the Obituary Committee report and have Memorial Service.

## **REGISTRATION - MINISTERS, DEACONS and CLERKS**

### **Thursday**

#### **DEACONS**

John Shaw

Roy Wisheart

Dave Bowers

N. H. Rhoades

Charley Robinson

R. E. Mills

J. P. Wheeler

Cleo Barton

Raymond Williams

J. W. Harding

Lee Clark

Lee Lynch

Fred King

J. W. King

#### **MINISTERS**

L. R. Wheeler

Joe Sisk

Ernest Harding

E. E. Simpson

Davie Combs

Keith Johnson

A. R. Campbell

Virgil Blankenship

H. C. Crase

A. L. McGhee

Harry Beatty

Billy Rogers

Russel Spergeon

## VISITING MINISTERS

Harry Stairs

### CLERKS

Jaunita Roberts  
C. R. Romberger  
Clara Harper  
Georgia Crowder

Lois Peace  
Elizabeth Holmes  
Bertha Brewer  
Agnes Darr

Motion carried we move into tomorrows business.

Motion carried that Moderator appoint all Committees except those on Mission and Executive Boards.

Rev. Davie Combs nominated for a five year term on Mission Board.

Motion carried nominations cease and elect by acclamation.

Rev. Harry Beatty nominated for a five year term on Executive Board.

Motion carried nominations cease and elect by acclamation.

Committees appointed by Moderator.

### ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. Ernest Harding      Joe Sisk      Billy Rogers

### OBITUARY COMMITTEE

Bertha Brewer      Elizabeth Holmes      Agnes Darr

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Roscoe Mills      Raymond Williams      Charley Robinson

Motion carried to have Temperance Committee composed of three members.

### TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

Millard Ehrhardt      N. H. Rhoades      Paris Wheeler

### CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Ernest Harding      Virgil Blankenship      E. E. Simpson

Motion carried to accept those appointed by Moderator.

Motion carried to elect introductory preachers for next year.

Rev. Russell B. Spurgeon and Rev. A. R. Campbell nominated.

Motion carried nominations cease and elect by acclamation.

Motion carried that this body send (\$25.) twenty-five dollars to the entertainment fund of the State Association.

Motion carried to adjourn until tomorrow at nine o'clock.

Prayer led by Bro. D. J. Bowers.

### FRIDAY MORNING

Opening song: "The Way of the Cross Leads Home".

Scripture Reading: 1st John 5: by Assistant Moderator.

Prayer by Bro. Sam Johnson

Motion carried that Clerk choose an assistant clerk for today.

George Brewer chosen as assistant clerk.

Minutes of previous days business read.

Motion carried to receive minutes.

Church Letters called for.

ROYAL OAK: Delegates, John Lee Braswell, Gene Braswell, Freda Campbell. Three present. Deacons recommended.

DRY CREEK: Delegates, Roxy Roy, Joann Roy, Betty Pingleton. One present. Deacon recommended.

NORMAN: Delegates, Luther Blankenship, Ora Blankenship, Ruth Rhoades. Deacons recommended.

CAVE SPRINGS: Delegates, Hallie Norman, Lillie Barton, Silas Barton. Three present. Deacons recommended.

SMYRNA: Delegates, John Holmes, Mason Watson, Hettie Warren. Three present. Ministers and Deacons recommended.

DILES CREEK: Delegates, C. R. Romberger, Greely King, Rebecca King. Three present. Deacons recommended.

PINEY: Delegates, Lee Dethrow, Nora Dethrow, Arthur Nickles. Three present. Ministers and Deacons recommended.

BETHANY: Delegates, Cora, Cecil Ehrhardt, Goldie Dunkin. One present. Ministers and Deacons recommended.

**OAK GROVE:** In absence of letter Rev. E. E. Simpson gave verbal report. Delegates, Betty Robinson, Barbara Robinson. Two present.

Motion carried to receive letters and verbal reports and seat the delegates.

### **PETITIONARY LETTERS CALLED FOR**

A letter received from Alton Freewill Baptist church requesting membership in this body.

Motion carried to receive this church into the body.

Letter read.

**ALTON:** Delegates, Hayden Williams, Dan Cline, Florence Harding. Three present. Minister and Deacons recommended.

Motion carried to receive the letter and seat the delegates.

Corresponding letters called for.

One present from South-east Missouri Association.

Motion carried to receive this letter.

Rev. F. D. Johnson reports.

Rev. Edd Phillips of Fair Dealing Baptist Association gave a report and invited all to come and help them during this meeting.

Motion carried to accept these reports and seat these Brethren in our Council as Advisory members.

Motion carried that Rev. E. E. Simpson proceed with his job.

Report of Treasurer given.

Motion carried to receive this report and urge our people back our treasurer.

Election of delegates to other Associations.

Motion carried we send a return letter to Southeast Missouri Association and if any of this body go they may be entered as delegates.

Delegates to attend State Association:

Walker Stogsdill

Elba Harbison

Francis Harbison

Mack Warren

Sister Mack Warren

Lorene Pohnert

Virgil Cantrell

Bernice Cantrell

Sister Manuel Dunkin

Motion carried that the names of others going from this body might be entered as delegates.

Motion carried to read the Oak Grove letter.

Oak Grove letter read. Deacons recommended.

Motion carried to receive the letter that record may be placed in Minutes.

Motion carried to adjourn for 11:00 o'clock services.

Prayer by Bro. Roy Clark.

### **ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICES**

Opening song: "I'll Live in Glory".

Services turned to Rev. Staires.

Scripture: Jobe 14. Text: Jobe 14:10. "Man Giveth up the Ghost and where is he"?

### **FRIDAY EVENING**

Opening song: "I Choose Jesus"

Scripture: Psalms 24.

Prayer by Bro. Joe Sisk.

Quarterly meeting letter called for.

Delegates were, Ralph Prince, Will Crase, George Brewer. Three present.

Motion carried to receive the letter and seat the delegates.

Letter from Mission Association read.

Motion carried to receive the letter and seat the delegates as advisory members.

### **REGISTRATION OF MINISTERS, DEACONS AND CLERKS**

#### **DEACONS**

L. A. Boze  
Elgin Williams  
Manuel Dunkin  
John Shaw  
Roy Martin  
Roy Wisheart  
J. W. Harding  
Lee Lynch  
Fred King

Dave Bowers  
N. H. Rhoades  
Charlie Robinson  
R. E. Mills  
J. P. Wheeler  
Raymond Williams  
Lee Clark  
Mack Warren  
J. W. King

## MINISTERS

S. D. Johnson  
Ernest Harding  
Keith Johnson  
Virgil Blankenship  
Roy Crook  
Harry Beatty  
Russel Spergeon

Joe Sisk  
E. E. Simpson  
C. A. Dodson  
E. E. Hollis  
H. C. Crase  
Billy Rogers

## VISITING MINISTERS

Harry Stairs  
Edd Phillips  
O. L. Dixon  
Lena Rackley

F. D. Johnson  
George W. Scott  
Claudie Johnson

## CLERKS

Bertha Brewer  
Elizabeth Holmes

Agnes Darr

## REPORT OF STATISTICIAN

Motion carried that clerk change report.

Motion carried to receive report.

Motion carried to grant Rev. E. E. Hollis his Yearly Certificate on recommendation of Credential Committee.

Rev. Russel Spergeon and wife were elected as delegates to Mission Association.

Motion carried that others going from this body might be added as delegates.

Rev. Keith Johnson delegate to Liberty Association.

Motion carried that names of others going from this body be placed as delegates.

Brothers Roy Crook and Billy Rogers to attend Social Bond Association as delegates.

Motion carried that names of others going may be added to the delegate list.

Report of Printing Committee.

Motion carried to receive the report.

Report of Temperance Committee.

Motion carried to receive the report.

Report of Credential Committee.

Motion carried to receive the report and dispose of it by item.

ITEM I — Motion carried to follow instructions of Credential Committee.

ITEM II — Motion carried to hold Bro. Russell Muse papers for another year.

Report of Finance Committee.

Motion carried we accept this report.

Election of Officers . . .

Rev. Keith Johnson nominated for Moderator.

Motion carried nominations cease and elect by acclamation.

Motion carried Moderator choose an assistant.

J. W. King nominated for Clerk.

Motion carried nominations cease and elect by acclamation.

Motion carried for Clerk to choose Assistant Clerk.

Bro. George Bowers chosen.

D. J. Bowers nominated for Treasurer.

Motion carried nominations cease and elect by acclamation.

Motion that Moderator choose his Assistant withdrawn.

Rev. B. Spergeon and Rev. E. E. Simpson nominated for Assistant Moderator.

Bro. Spergeon elected.

Bro. Howard Bell nominated for Statistician.

Motion carried nominations cease and elect by acclamation.

Setting of place of next session. Alton and Walnut Grove considered. Alton chosen.

Obituary report read.

Motion carried to receive the report and make a part of record.

Services turned to Bro. Billy Rogers for Memorial Service.

Song: "Precious Memories."

Scripture: Job: 14.

Rev. Harry Beatty elected to conduct Memorial Service next year.

Printing Committee chosen:

George Brewer      N. H. Rhoades      J. W. King

Motion carried to extend our heartfelt thanks to this church and communities that have helped in this association.

Motion carried to adjourn to time and place set for next session.

Prayer by Bro. John Shaw,

### **PETITIONARY LETTER**

We, the Council of Ordained ministers, Brothers Clarence Dodson, Harry Beatty, Davie Combs, H. C. Crase, Billy Rogers, Keith Johnson, Ernest Harding, and Meril Shaw, and deacons, Lee Clark, W. B. Combs, Luke Boze, Andrew Moore, Lee Lynch, Roy Martin, Wallace Strain, Raymond Williams, Mack Warren and Dale Archer, met and organized Alton Freewill Baptist church, County of Oregon, State of Missouri, with 43 members by choice of the body. Clifton Wright, Jim Harding, and Elgin Williams were selected as deacons. Barbara James was chosen as church clerk September 16, 1955.

### **REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

We, your Executive committee met at the Clifton church July 23. We elected Bro. George Scott as chairman and Keith Johnson clerk. At this time we also revised the Order of Business.

We, the Executive Board met on December 31, and elected Bro. Davie Combs to fill the unexpired term of Bro. Geo. Scott. Bro. I. E. Vaughn was selected as chairman. At this time there was some discussion concerning acquiring a tent for the association.

E. E. SIMPSON  
KEITH JOHNSON  
DAVIE N. COMBS

### **REPORT OF ORDAINING COUNCIL**

We, your Ordaining Council of Cave Springs Freewill Baptist met with the Garfield church on Sunday night, August 21, and questioned Bro. Gordon Combs and found him worthy to be ordained as deacon of that church. Bro.

Jess. Rolen giving the charge, then after the charge he, being officially ordained by prayer and laying on of hands.

JOE SISK, Sec. of Ordaining Council  
ERNEST HARDING, Chairman  
J. E. ROLEN

### FINANCE REPORT

We, your Committee on Finance have received the following amount for Local and State Minutes.

	Local	State
Alton .....	\$ 2.80	
Bailey Chapel .....	1.50	.50
Bethany .....		
Cave Springs .....	1.30	
Clifton .....	1.00	1.00
Cotton Creek .....	2.00	.50
Dials Creek .....	2.45	.50
Dry Creek .....	1.00	.88
Garfield .....	3.00	1.00
Liberty .....		
Mill Creek .....	5.00	2.00
Mt. Zion .....	3.00	1.00
Norman .....	2.40	1.65
Oak Grove .....	2.00	1.00
Piney .....	1.45	
Pleasant Hill .....		
Pleasant Ridge .....	3.00	1.00
Pleasant Valley .....	1.40	1.00
Royal Oak .....		
Shiloh .....	1.90	
Smyrna .....	3.00	1.00
Thayer .....	3.00	2.00
Walnut Grove .....	3.00	2.00
Wilderness .....		
TOTAL .....	44.20	17.03

RAYMOND WILLIAMS  
J. W. HARDING  
ROSCOE MILLS, Committee

## **TREASURY REPORT**

Balance carried forward July 21, 1955 .....	\$ 111.84
Deposits made .....	184.43
Checked out .....	256.25
Balance on hand July 20, 1956 .....	\$41.02

DAVE BOWERS

## **REPORT OF LITERATURE COMMITTEE**

We, the committee on literature believe the Bible of Religious papers should be in every home especially for our young people. For they need the Bible and religious papers more than older people.

GEORGE BREWER

J. V. HOLMAN

BERT SMITH

## **CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, the Credential committee, find that Bro. Hoyt has joined another denomination and we recommend this body destroy his papers.

II. We have talked with Bro. Muse, and he is of the Free Will faith and he is undecided, and we recommend that we hold his papers longer.

VIRGIL BLANKENSHIP

ERNEST HARDING

E. E. SIMPSON

## **REPORT OF DENOMINATION COMMITTEE**

We, your committee on Denomination present the following report. We feel that there should be more prayer meetings. We feel like our denomination is going forward but there is still room for improvement. We also feel like we should follow the doctrine of our denomination closer.

BERTHA BREWER

PEARL SIMPSON

WILLIE WISEHART

## **EVANGELIST REPORT**

Supplied as pastor for Liberty church three months; held four Revivals; 44 days of service. Witnessed 19 conversions.

Received on field .....	\$ 57.75
Received from treasurer .....	162.25
Total Received .....	\$ 200.00

### **SABBATH COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, your committee on the Sabbath find in the Word Exodus 20:8, 9 and 10. We should all remember to keep the Sabbath day Holy and urge all businesses to close and to go to church of our choice and encourage someone to serve God that is in sin.

EZRA MANES  
MRS. W. H. WISEHART  
ELBA HARBISON

### **REPORT OF RELIGION COMMITTEE**

We, the Committee on Religion submit the following report. We think the Christian people are too slack in duty and too uncooperative in the church work. Therefore, the denomination is suffering as a whole. We must have very prayerful cooperation among christians. Everyone must realize more fully we all have a duty to perform if we ever secure the blessings of God and see our churches go forward.

MAUREEN HOLMAN  
ELFA HUFF  
VIOLA CRAWFORD

### **TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

We, your Temperance committee submit the following report.

We believe that we should not use alcoholic drinks or knowingly patronize businesses that handle such. We should always teach our children to not use such drinks and show them why it is harmful.

JOHN SHAW  
ROY MARTIN

### **PRINTING COMMITTEE REPORT**

We your printing committee caused 450 copies of the Minutes to be printed at a cost of \$55.00.

N. H. RHOADES  
DAVIE N. COMBS  
J. W. KING

## OBITUARY COMMITTEE REPORT

We your committee on Obituaries submit the following report, whereas it pleased the Heavenly Father to call from labor to their reward since our last association the following Brothers and Sisters. They are greatly missed in our churches and homes. We submit our will to our Heavenly Father who doeth all things well. Our loss is Heaven's gain.

LEANDER A. MARTIN

ROBERT PIERCE GERMAN

JAMES ROBERT CRAWFORD

MALISSA JANE HARRIS

LEVI GOINS

CHARLES W. ORR

ELIZABETH YOUNG

MALISSA PROCTOR

TENNIE ROGERS

MRS. ELIZABETH HOLMES

### CHARLES W. ORR

Charles W. Orr, the son of Sara and Asa Orr, was born Feb. 12, 1879 and passed away May 4, 1956.

He was married to Lillie Brooks who survives him, with their nine children; Mrs. Mary Howell, Alice Orr, Barbara James, Francis Bell, Helen Barton, Fred Orr, Edith Howell, Janette Willis, and Christine Warford; one sister, Mrs. Mary Nicholson; three brothers, Emery, John, and Lee; twenty-eight grand children, and ten great grandchildren.

Services were conducted by Bro. Harry Beatty, assisted by Bro. Keith Johnson.

### MALISSA JANE HARRIS

Malissa Jane Harris, daughter of Joshaway and Mary Harris, was born April 4, 1878 and departed this life October 2, 1955. She was united in marriage to John Gregory August 17, 1897, and to this union eight children were born; one son, Walter Francis preceded her in death.

She leaves to mourn her passing, her husband, three

sons, Hayden, Edward and Orville; four daughters, Edna Blankenship, Bertha Jackson, Jettie Bowers and Loma Rogers; 20 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren. One sister, Flora Miller; one half-brother, Charles Meltabarger, and a host of relatives and friends.

Services were October 4, 1955 at Carter Chapel in Thayer, Mo., by Bro. Harry Beatty and Bro. Ambrose Harriel.

#### **JAMES ROBERT CHAWFORD**

James Robert Crawford was born April 3, 1879 and departed this life Sept. 8, 1955. He leaves to mourn his passing his wife Della, three sons and four daughters. He professed faith in Christ August 12, 1939 and joined the Free will Baptist church at Bethany. He lived faithful to the Lord and spoke many times he was ready to go.

#### **LEANDER A. MARTIN**

Leander A. Martin, son of Lewis and Eliza Martin was born Feb| 3, 1884 and departed this life Sept. 27, 1955, at his home near Thayer, Mo.

He was united in marriage to Dora Strain on Oct. 24, 1906; to this union five children were born. One daughter Eunice Hays, preceded him in death.

He is survived by his wife, one son,, Lewis Martin, 3 daughters, Audrey Beatty, Myrtle Mills and Clessie Hays; one sister, Alma Beatty, one brother George Martin, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Services were Sept. 29, 1955 with Bros. Harry Beatty and Davie Combs officiating.

#### **ROBERT PIERCE GERMAN**

Robert Pierce German, son of A. J. and Virginia German was born Feb. 9, 1884 and passed away Jan. 20, 1956 at his home near Alton, Mo.

He was united in marriage to Mattie Luntsford on May 6, 1908, who preceded him in death. To this union four children were born: Gladys, who preceded him in death; Kenneth, Malcolm, and Fred; a sister, Mrs. Pluma Hoard, seven grandchildren, and five nephews and nieces.

He was converted at an early age and later became a member of the Freewill Baptist church at Shiloh.

Services were held Jan. 22, 1956 at Royal Oak church conducted by Bro. Davie Combs.

TENNIE SMITH ROGERS — No obituary available.

#### CLARINDA ELIZABETH YOUNG

Clarinda Elizabeth Young, daughter of William and Nannie McGinnis, was born May 1, 1862 and departed this life January 31, 1956.

She was married March 26, 1881 to G. L. Young, who preceded her in death. To this union four children were born; three preceded her in death.

She is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Nan Goins, one sister, Mrs. Jennie Brewer, 6 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren; 7 great-great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

She was converted at an early age and was a member of Walnut Grove Freewill Baptist church for many years.

Services were February 2, 1956 at the Walnut Grove church with Davie Combs and J. I. Willard officiating.

#### MALISSA JANE PROCTOR

Malissa Jane Proctor, daughter of Eli and Phebe Dethrow was born May 5, 1880 in Oregon county, Mo., and departed this life July 20, 1955 at Thayer, Mo.

She was united in marriage to Henry Proctor on Jan. 9, 1897; to this union four children were born, four preceded her in death. Survivors are her husband and two daughters, Neva Harriell and Nova Oliver; two sisters, Emma Hendrix and Hopie Sanders; three brothers, Dave, Roy and Elmer Dethrow; five grandchildren; three great grandchildren and a host of other relatives and friends.

She was a member of Piney Freewill Baptist church since an early age.

#### LEVI GOINS

Levi Goins, son of George and Mary Goins, was born at Elm Store, Ark., Oct. 22, 1881 and departed this life November 17, 1955.

He was married to Mrs. Nan Looney March 5, 1906. To this union six children were born, two dying in infancy.

He is survived by his wife and three daughters, Mrs.

Vercie Williams, Mrs. Alta James and Beula Hopper; one son, Don Goins; one stepdaughter, Mrs. Ella Dotson; one adopted son, G. R. Goins, three sisters, Mrs. Mattie Hall, Mrs. Oma Dunkin, and Mrs. Minnie Brewer, 11 grandchildren, 7 great grandchildren; several nieces and nephews and his friends were numbered by those who knew him.

He was converted when a young man and was a member of the Walnut Grove Freewill Baptist church.

Services were November 20, 1955 at Walnut Grove by Bro. Davie Combs.

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Singing, Scripture reading and Prayer.
2. Reading of By-Laws and Constitution.
3. Letters from the churches called for.
4. Quarterly meeting letter called for.
5. The appointment of Divine Committee.
6. Petitionary letters.
7. Letters from corresponding messengers.
8. Visiting brothers and sisters invited as advisory members.
9. The appointment of Temporary committees.
10. Report of delegates that have attended other associations.
11. Adjournment with prayer.
12. Eleven o'clock services.
13. Open with singing, scripture and prayer.
14. Miscellaneous business.
15. Enrollment of ministers, deacons and clerks.
16. Report of evangelist.
17. The ministers reports.
18. The treasurers reports.
19. The report of the obituary committee.
20. Memorial service.
21. Reports of other committee's.
22. Report of Divine committee.
23. Adjournment.
24. Evening service.

### FRIDAY

25. Singing, scripture reading and prayer.
26. Reading of constitution and by-laws.
27. Reading of minutes of previous day's work.
28. Call for letters from churches.
29. Vacancies in committee filled.
30. Reports of other committees that have not reported includ-

- ing Divine committee report.
31. Releasing of all temporary committees.
  32. Adjournment with prayer.
  33. Eleven o'clock services.
  34. Open with singing, scripture reading and prayer.
  35. New business.
  36. Appointment of all standing committees.
  37. Report of statistician.
  38. Election of delegates to other associations.
  39. Election of officers.
  40. Election of Introductory preachers.
  41. Ordaining council proceeds with their work.
  42. Business suggested by letters.
  43. A vote of heartfelt thanks to the church and community for their kindness to the association meeting.
  44. Setting of place for the next meeting.
  45. Other things that may come before the body.

### CONSTITUTION

This organization shall be known as the Cave Springs yearly meeting of Freewill Baptist and shall be composed of such well regulated quarterly meetings and churches as may embody themselves under this constitution.

1. It shall be the purpose of this organization to co-operate with the State and National Associations in their efforts to combine and direct the energies of the Freewill Baptist church, for the promotion of Home and Foreign missions, Christian Education, Sunday Schools, Freewill Baptist Leagues, and Womans Auxiliary and for the extension of the Kingdom of God in general.

2. The acting members of this yearly meeting shall be three (3) delegates from each church chosen by the church, three (3) delegates from each quarterly meeting, together with all ministers, deacons, church clerks, quarterly meeting clerks, and associational clerk belonging to this body.

3. The officers of this yearly meeting shall consist of a moderator, an assistant moderator, a clerk, treasurer, and statistician. Each shall hold their office until their successor is elected. The clerk shall receive an honorarium of ten dollars (\$10.00) for his services each year.

4. An executive board composed of five members shall be elected. It shall be the duty of this board to transact the business of this body between the regular sessions. The members of the board shall be elected in the following manner: one for one year; one for two years; one for three years; and one for

four years; and one for five years, thereafter, one board member shall be elected each year, whose term of office shall be five years. If any vacancies should occur between sessions of the Yearly Meeting, the board shall have power to fill such vacancy until the next session of the yearly meeting.

5. Any regularly organized Freewill Baptist church maintaining Gospel order, agreeing with the denomination in doctrine, in favor of benevolent enterprises such as Sunday schools, missions, temperance, and education may be received into this yearly meeting by presenting a petition asking for membership, by a majority vote of all members voting.

6. This yearly meeting shall have power to discipline its churches and exclude them for disorderly conduct if labor proves unsuccessful; to ordain deacons; to license and ordain ministers such as give evidence of being qualified and called of God, by request of the church of which he belongs; to settle questions of discipline and doctrine as the church or quarterly meeting may refer to it. To make rules and by-laws necessary and not inconsistent with its constitution, but in no case shall this body have power to reverse a decision of one of its churches or quarterly meetings, nor in any way interfere with its internal regulations, nor hold any ecclesiastical authority over the churches or quarterly meetings composing this yearly meeting.

7. Each session of this yearly meeting shall convene annually beginning on Thursday at nine a. m. before the fourth Sunday in July and shall adjourn at the close of the Friday afternoon session.

8. This yearly meeting shall decide at each session where the next session shall convene. It shall consider each invitation from its churches and shall decide by a majority vote of all members voting.

9. This constitution may be amended at any regular session of this body by a two-thirds vote providing notice of the contemplated change has been read and placed on the table one day previous to the time of voting.

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## IN MEMORY

Of the Ministers of the Cave Spring Association of Free-will 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 Standley  
Rev. W. M. Johnson  
Rev. J. R. W. Harbison  
Rev. J. E. Pentecost  
Rev. T. J. Dunkin  
Rev. W. P. Stogsdill  
Rev. Nathan Combs  
Rev. James McGhee  
Rev. C. H. Williams

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### SHILOH CHURCH

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

### PINEY CHURCH

Organized in 1885 by Rev. K. A. Jones. Members unknown.

### LIBERTY CHURCH

Organized September 25, 1921, with members by Rev. J. R. W. Harbison, Rev. John Combs, Rev. James McGhee 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.

### **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.

### **PLEASANT RIDGE CHURCH**

Organized May 28, 1933, by Rev. E. E. Simpson, Nathan Combs, W. M. Johnson and Elmer Hodges 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.

### **BAILEY CHAPEL CHURCH**

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

### **MILL CREEK CHURCH**

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

### **MT. ZION CHURCH**

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

### **PLEASANT VALLEY CHURCH**

Organized in June 1940, by Rev. B. H. Woodring, J. E. Rolen and E. E. Simpson. Organized with 8 members, and Robert Worel 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.

### **GARFIELD CHURCH**

Organized August 17, 1942, by Rev. Harry H. Beatty, Billie Rogers, and Fred Dodson; organized with 22 members and Edd Rogers and Noah Hollis as deacons.

### **DILES CREEK CHURCH**

Organized August 14, 1927, by J. H. McGhee and Billie Rogers, with seven members. J. A. Evans and S. P. Scott were elected as deacons. This church later dropped out of the Conference and was reinstated August 9, 1947 by Harry H. Beatty and Davie N. Combs assisted by deacons R. L. Campbell and Rufus. Evans. Wilbur Jenkins and Millard Ehrhardt were elected deacons at this time.

### **DRY CREEK CHURCH**

Organized Sept. 10, 1950 by Virgil Blankenship, F. D. Johnson, J. M. Cloven, E. E. Simpson, S. D. Johnson and Cleo Barton. There were thirteen members and L. A. Roberts elected as deacon, and Roxie Sisk as church clerk.

### **CLIFTON CHURCH**

Organized June 23, 1949, by Billie Rogers, F. D. Johnson and E. E. Simpson. There were 15 members and Billie Rogers was elected Pastor, Nova Coble, Church clerk, Billie Joe Lovelace, Treasurer; Elmer Coble, deacon. One month later Paul Caldwell was elected and ordained as a deacon.

### **THAYER CHURCH**

Organized July 31, 1954 with 33 Charter members, by Rev. Davie Combs. Joe Sisk, J. E. Rolen and Harry Beatty.

Ordained deacons elected as deacons, J. W. Jewell, Otto Harrison and Fred King.

### **ALTON CHURCH**

Organized on September 16, 1955 by Rev's. C. A. Dodson, Harry Beatty, Davie Combs, H. C. Crase, Billy Rogers, Keith Johnson, Ernest Harding and Meril Shaw and deacons, Lee Clark, W. B. Combs, Luke Boze, Andrew Moore, Lee Lynch, Roy Martin, Wallace Strain, Raymond Williams, Mack Warren and Dale Archer with 43 members. Clifton Wright, Jim Harding and Elgin Williams selected as deacons.

## PETITIONARY LETTER FORM

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 .....

### 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 — This Conference shall elect or (cause to be appointed) a standing committee composed of three (3) members. Their duty shall be to examine, pass upon or recommend suitable action to the Conference, on all Credentials referred to them by the Conference or by the Business Committee of the conference.

ARTICLE 5 — At each session of this conference standing committee shall be appointed on each subject as the following "Printing," "Ministry," "Missions," "Business," "Obituary," "Ordaining," and "Finance," 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 messenger 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 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 proceedings 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 member of the conference.

ARTICLE 16 — No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member of any committee provided the brother nominated be elected.

ARTICLE 17 — The yeas and nays may be taken on any question before the conference by request of one-fifth of the members present.

ARTICLE 18 — The constitution and by-laws of this conference shall be read at each session near its commencement.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

THE BIBLE — The Scriptures 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 in '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 Saviour and Lord.

THE HOLY SCRIPTURES — The Scriptures assign the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

**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 his 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 sin, and become guilty before God.

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

**THE TERMS OF SALVATION** — The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith, or the unreserved, committal to 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 to 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 whomsoever will may come and take of the water of Life freely.

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

#### **GOSPEL ORDINANCE**

**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, or universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

**THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH** — The divine law requires that one day in seven be set aside from secular employ-

ments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communication 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 the righteous to 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 faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake 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.

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.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of edu-

## Statistical Table of Cave Springs Yearly Meeting of Freewill Baptist Churches

[illegible]

# Ministers' Yearly Report

	No. churches pastored	Sermons at other places	Miles traveled	Received into church	Number Baptized	Conversions Witnessed	Rec'd. for my labor	Churches Visited	Appointments Fulfilled	Marriages Solemnized	Funerals preached
Harry Beatty	1		20,000	29	8	75	2520.00	all			10
Virgil Blankenship	1	22	1,625			15	\$110.84	5	2	2	
Ward Brewer	1	7	1,000	2		15	10.00	20	all		
C. R. Bryan											
A. R. Campbell											
Davis N. Combs	2		5,000	43	48	65	830.15	3		9	12
Willie Combs											
H. C. Crase											
Roy Crook		52						12	all		
C. A. Dodson	3	10	890	10	5	25	548.86			5	6
Jesse H. Dunkin			1000			10	79.91	9	all		
Millard Ehrhardt											
Herbert Garrison											
Samuel Harding	2		3811	5	6	9	535.15	10	all		
James Hodges											
E. E. Hollis	2	30	1500	1			89.22	4	all		
A. D. Johnson	1	4		1	1	8	208.92	4	12		
Keith Johnson	3	8	12,000	2	7	2	683.75	6	105	2	1
A. L. McGhee		20	400			8	?	6	all		
W. E. McGhee											
J. E. Rolen											
Billy Rogers	2	15		12	6	75	424.05			4	6
Meril Shaw	1	25	1500			20	100.00	10	45		
E. E. Simpson	1		3404	3	3	19	578.59	8		2	3
Joe Sink						10	122.42	3			2
Russell B. Spurgeon	2	25	18,000	3		14	1560.00	3	all	1	
I. E. Vaughn											
L. R. Wheeler		10	220				10.00	3	20		