

MINUTES
of the
26th Annual Session
of the
CENTER ASSOCIATION
of
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
of
CALIFORNIA

Convened at the
Memorial Free Will Baptist Church
4141 North Millbrook Avenue
Fresno, California
May 17-18, 1973

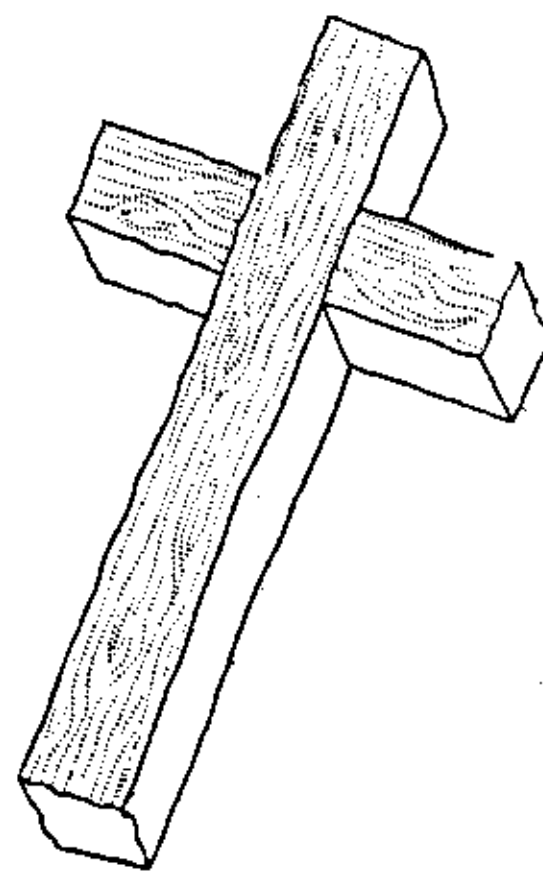


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The next session will convene with the

MEMORIAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

**4141 North Millbrook Avenue
Fresno, California**

May 17-18, 1974

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OFFICERS

Moderator - Jack L. Williams	
4881 E. University Ave., Fresno 93703	251-7234
Assistant Moderator - Nuel Brown	
15401 West "E" St., Kerman 93630	846-8228
Clerk-Treasurer - Winnie McLain	
1621 N. 6th Street, Fresno 93703	485-9727
Assistant Clerk-Treasurer - Mary Kelton	
744 W. Clinton Avenue, Fresno	229-0833

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Wade Jernigan	5 years
4881 E. University Ave., Fresno 93703	251-4215
Lonnie L. Rolen	4 years
2913 E. Northdale, Fresno 93726	229-2203
Nuel Brown	3 years
15401 West "E" Street, Kerman 93630	846-8228
Meryl Erickson	2 years
3312 N. Ezie Street, Fresno	291-2335
Jerry Watson	1 year
4415 Damsen Lane, Visalia 93277	732-7856

PROCEEDINGS

FRIDAY EVENING SERVICE

The Twenty-Sixth Annual Session of the Center Association convened at the Memorial Church, Fresno, California, May 18-19, 1973. The service opened with congregational singing. Prayer by Rev. Dale Vanderburg. Testimony time was led by Rev. Lonnie Rolen followed with prayer by Rev. Meryl Erickson. Rev. Nuel Brown brought the message on "Love in Action" using 1 John 4:7,8,18,19. Benediction by C. C. Bonds.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The session was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. Jack Williams. Sandra Jones acted as Clerk in the absence of the Clerk. The session opened with singing followed with prayer by Rev. Art Maynard. Rev. Larry Hampton brought devotional thoughts from Luke 23.

The welcome was given by Rev. Tom Hampton followed with response by Rev. Vern Gunnels.

Letters from the following churches were read and delegates seated: Calwa, Clovis, Harmony, Kerman, Memorial, Neighborhood, Orange Cove, Parlier, Sanger and Selma.

Rules of order were read by the Assistant Moderator, Rev. Nuel Brown.

The Moderator and Assistant Moderator appointed the following committees:

Pulpit

Jess Rolen
Bennett Hatcher
Herb Parker

Finance

Ben Bush
Bob Mann
Vern Gunnels

Resolution

G. B. Ramsey
Jerry Webb
Tom Hampton

Obituary

Margie Kennedy
Donna Hine

Pulpit committee reported that Rev. Art Maynard was chosen to bring the eleven o'clock message.

The quarterly Treasurer's report was read and accepted by motion. (No annual Treasurer's report was given.)

Rev. Vern Gunnels, Assistant Camp Director, gave a report of the Youth Camp to be held at Hartland Camp, June 25-29, 1973.

Placement of the quarterly meetings and the annual association with speakers were as follows:

First Quarterly Meeting

Calwa - Aug. 17-18, 1973

Speaker - Jack Williams

Alternate - Dale Vanderburg

Second Quarterly Meeting

Kerman - Nov. 16-17, 1973

Speaker - Larry Hampton

Alternate - Dennis Pettyjohn

Third Quarterly Meeting

Clovis - Feb. 15-16, 1974

Speaker - Dale Vanderburg

Alternate - Vern Gunnels

Annual Association

Memorial - May 17-18, 1974

Speaker - Nuel Brown

Alternate - Charles Harris

Benediction.

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

The service opened with singing. After offertory prayer by Rev. Nuel Brown, an offering of \$34.52 was received. Prayer by Rev. Jerry Watson.

Janis Williams, accompanied by Margie Kennedy, sang "What A Wonderful Saviour." Rev. Art Maynard brought the message on "Love the Brethren" using Psalms 133:1-3 and Hebrews 13:1.

Benediction and blessing on the noon meal was given by Rev. Wade Jernigan.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The session opened with singing. Mike Culbreath brought the devotional using 2 Cor. 11:7-9 followed with prayer.

Rev. Wade Jernigan gave a report of California Christian College.

Reports of the following committees were read and accepted by motion: Resolution, Finance and Obituary. (See reports.)

Report of the Executive Board was read and accepted by motion. (See reports.)

Motion carried that the Moderator have power to appoint the delegates to the State Association. They were Gary Cole, Margie Kennedy, Sandra Jones, Darwin Kelton, Bob Hoppie, Gene Fry, Mike Culbreath, J. R. Overman, Ernie Miller, Wanda Miller, Bob Mann, Shirley Irvin, Ron Briscoe, Rich Horner, Stan Barron and Linda Wells.

Motion carried that the Center Association extend an invitation to the Madera Church to join this Association.

Officers were elected as follows:

Moderator	Jack Williams
Assistant Moderator	Nuel Brown
Clerk-Treasurer	Winnie McLain
Assistant Clerk-Treasurer	Mary Kelton

Motion carried that Rev. Jack Williams write a letter of appreciation to Rev. Homer Willis for his many years of service on the National Home Mission Board.

There were 15 ordained ministers present and 53 others including delegates.

A standing vote of thanks was given the host church.

The Association was adjourned with the benediction by Rev. Meryl Erickson.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE

We recommend:

1. That the Clerk and Assistant Clerk mimeograph the Association minutes.
2. That the feeding fund be \$50.00 for the quarterly meetings and the annual association.
3. That an offering be received at the morning worship hour at each session to supplement the treasury.
4. That \$45.00 per quarter be given to California Christian College.
5. That one minute for every five members per church be printed.
6. That the churches send the following amount according to membership:

Members through 40.....	\$15.00 quarterly and \$20.00 annually
41-75 ..	\$20.00 quarterly and \$25.00 annually
over 75..	\$25.00 quarterly and \$30.00 annually
7. That the money be disbursed as follows:

Feeding -	\$200.00 (\$50.00 each session)
State Association Dues -	25 cents per member
Minutes -	\$150.00
Moderator -	\$10.00

Assistant Moderator - \$5.00
 Clerk-Treasurer - \$25.00
 Assistant Clerk-Treasurer - \$10.00
 Printing of Programs - \$12.00
 California Christian College - \$180.00 (\$45.00 per quarter)

RESOLUTION

We recommend that the host church be given a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality.

OBITUARY

We report that there were no deaths this past year.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

We recommend that Meryl Erickson serve as two year member and Wade Jernigan as the five year member.

ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT

Cash on Deposit May 1, 1972		\$ 77.23
Income		
Church Dues	\$ 855.00	
Offerings	251.79	
Special for CCC	77.71	
Hanford	<u>110.00</u>	<u>1294.50</u>
Total Income & Cash on deposit		\$ 1371.73
Disbursements		
Food Fund	\$ 200.00	
Officers	50.00	
California Christian College	257.71	
Home Mission (Dunn)	100.00	
Hanford	273.00	
Lonnie Rolen (Exec. Bd. Expense)	28.80	
State Dues	186.75	
Minutes	98.50	
License Certificates	13.13	
Checks	2.70	
Clerk's Supplies	<u>29.12</u>	
Total Disbursements		<u>1239.71</u>
Balance May 3, 1973		<u><u>\$ 132.02</u></u>

ORDAINED MINISTER'S ROLL

Brown, Nuel	15401 West "E" St., Kerman 93630	846-8228
Bush, Ben	2018 S. Maple Ave., Fresno 93702	485-5187
Colvin, Duane E.	17790 E. Lone Oak Rd., Sanger 93657	
Erickson, Meryl	3312 N. Ezie St., Fresno 93612	291-2335
Freeman, Joy	15177 "B" St., Kerman 93630	
Gunnels, Vern	10681 S. Highland, Selma 93662	896-3394
Hampton, Larry	4881 E. University Ave., Fresno 93703	251-6471
Hampton, Tom		
Harris, Charles	4091 N. Duke, Fresno 93727	291-3839
Jernigan, Wade	4881 E. University Ave., Fresno 93703	251-4215
Mooneyham, Joe	2841-151 Fowler Rd., Ceres 95307	
Pierce, Bob	27242 Ave. 13, Madera 93637	
Porter, Cecil	76 Elizabeth, Reedley 93654	
Ramsey, G. B.	1418 Evergreen St., Selma 93662	896-5935
Ramsey, Lee	315 S. Shasta Ave., Kerman 93630	
Rolen, Lonnie L.	2913 E. Northdale, Fresno 93726	229-2203
Scroggins, Delmar	765 Second St., Parlier 93648	646-2837
Spain, Delbert	700 Annadale, Sanger 93657	875-3032
Thurman, Cecil	6077 N. Calaveras, Fresno 93704	439-0542
Watson, Jerry	4415 Damsen Lane, Visalia 93277	732-7856
Webb, Jerry	1641 S. Gearhart, Fresno	268-5934
Williams, Jack	4881 E. University Ave., Fresno 93703	251-7234
Winters, Sam	1485 E. Fremont, Fresno 93710	431-2679

STATISTICAL REPORT

	Calwa	Clovis	Harmony	Kerman	Memorial	Neighbor- hood	Orange Cove	Parlier	Sanger	Selma	Total
Membership	13	40	81	213	166	70	58	33	33	69	776
Members Received	7	6	51	8	25	7	8	3	0	4	119
Members Dismissed	7		5	3	25	0	6	0	0	0	45
Members Deceased	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
Ordained Ministers	1	2	1	3	7	1	1	4	1	1	22
Licensed Ministers	3	5	3		4	0	0	0	0	0	15
Deacons	0	3	7	4	9	1	0	3	2	4	33
Sunday School Enroll.	30	35	300	94	169	72	15	36	45	94	890
CTS Enrollment		18		44	98	26	0	0	0	0	186
Woman's Auxiliaries		10		9	21	11				11	62
Master's Men						1					1

FINANCIAL REPORT

	Calwa	Clovis	Harmony	Kerman	Memorial	Neighbor- hood	Orange Cove	Parlier	Selma	Total
<u>Total Offerings Rec'd</u>	\$ 3,554.54	\$12,926.24	\$21,882.06	\$15,666.65	\$25,717.10	\$ 7,819.31	\$ 2,841.70	\$ 2,344.56	\$13,879.57	\$106,631.73
Pastor's Salary	825.00	3,445.00	2,700.00	6,610.00	9,374.37	1,948.68	2,050.00	1,560.00	4,800.00	33,313.05
Evangelistic Work	125.00	80.00	1,780.30		205.00	102.21		40.00	1,864.50	4,197.01
Building and Repairs	1,048.00	4,880.11	3,958.00	517.62	8,589.13	3,149.97	241.50	559.56	583.51	23,527.40
Literature	75.86	482.17	4,174.76	757.13	928.92	527.92	68.38		593.58	7,608.72
Advertising			215.00			5.25				220.25
Miscellaneous	756.59				2,432.11					3,188.70
Other		1,311.04	663.75	4,170.32	3,404.15	1,692.97		300.50	50.00	11,592.73
<u>Total Local Expend.</u>	2,830.45	10,198.32	13,491.86	12,055.07	24,933.68		2,359.88			65,869.26
Cooperative Plan					207.93		61.45			269.38
Foreign Missions	295.57	387.47	1,378.76	341.40	691.35	34.30	61.45			3,190.30
Home Missions	183.80		1,378.76	205.50	851.09	82.21	61.45	17.50	569.85	3,349.91
Education				82.84	1,944.05	64.43			105.65	2,196.97
Assn. Projects	65.00			105.00	623.00	85.00			94.60	972.60
Other		296.79	1,042.04	188.00	2,334.37	133.79	51.00			4,045.99
<u>Total Outside Expend.</u>	419.37	684.26	3,799.56		6,651.79	399.73	376.80	17.50	769.85	13,118.86
Value: Church Property	31,000.00	30,000.00		60,000.00	175,000.00	26,200.00	21,000.00	10,500.00	35,000.00	402,200.00*
Value: Parsonage Prop.	15,000.00			23,000.00					10,000.00	48,000.00

* Includes Value of Sanger Church Property at \$13,500.00.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION MINUTES

The Annual Session of the Center Association Woman's Auxiliary Convention met with the Selma Free Will Baptist Church on March 3, 1973, using "Proclaim His Name In Every Season" as the theme. Mrs. June Rolen presided as President.

The convention opened with the congregation singing "I Love To Tell The Story." Prayer was led by Mrs. Donna Smith.

The minutes were read and approved.

The Treasurer's Report was read and accepted.

The following were elected to serve on the Nominating Committee: Janis Williams, Geneva Hatcher, Nora Hampton, Versie Pearson and Imogene Wells.

The following committees were appointed by the President:

Credentials

Donna Hine
Odessa Nickel
Bernice Osborn
Versie Pearson
Delma Gunnels

Resolution

Janis Williams
Lizzie Stiggins
Kay Hampton
Betty Watson
Imogene Wells

Finance

Marge Winters
Mary Kelton
Cheryl Rogers
Betty Watson
Paula Gordon

Registration

Margie Kennedy
Alma Stiggins
Nancy Little
Versie Pearson
Elza Cope

Mrs. Lydeen York was elected to serve on the State Nominating Committee.

Dismissed in prayer by Mrs. Elva Parker.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE'

The services opened with the congregation singing "Sing The Wonderful Story". Prayer led by Mrs. Alice Grimes.

"Proclaiming His Name Every Month" was presented as follows:

January	Lydeen York	May	Catherine Henry
February	Joyce Horner	June	Kay Hampton
March	Bernice Osborn	July	Cheryl Rogers
April	Nora Hampton	August	Sandra Jones

September	Winnie McLain	November	Phyllis Fite
October	Nettie Lou Jernigan	December	Betty Watson

Mrs. June Rolen led in the offertorial prayer.

Benediction and blessing on the noon meal was offered by Mrs. Onema Erickson.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session opened with singing "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart". Prayer by Mrs. Imogene Wells.

Mrs. Janis Williams sang "He Loves Me".

The Committee Reports were read and accepted. (See reports.)

Motion carried that each local Auxiliary send \$5.00 to the District Treasurer to cover cost of cake for the State Convention.

The Convention closed with a united prayer of dedication by the newly elected district officers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

1. Be it resolved that the District Officers be elected every two years at the Annual Meeting.
2. We recommend that the district meetings be held the first Saturday in March and October.
3. We resolve that the Selma Woman's Auxiliary be given a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

1. We recommend that each local Auxiliary represent with \$1.50 per member to be paid 75¢ at each convention.
2. We recommend that \$10.00 be paid the guest speakers that are not in the Center Association.

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

There were 40 members present, with 1 visitor - total present 41.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

We, the Credential Committee, have examined the reports of the Neighborhood, Selma, Clovis, and Memorial Auxiliaries' Letters and find the

reports in order and all dues paid.

We recommend that the Kerman Auxiliary be seated and that their report and dues be sent in within ten days.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We, the Nominating Committee, recommend the following women to serve as District Officers for the next two years:

President	Mrs. June Rolen 2913 E. Northdale Ave., Fresno	229-2203
Vice President	Mrs. Cheryl Rogers 1502 N. Millbrook Ave., Fresno	237-2291
Secretary-Treasurer	Mrs. Marjorie Winters 1485 E. Fremont Ave., Fresno	431-2679
Field Worker	Mrs. Geneva Hatcher 6112 W. Ashlan Ave., Fresno	485-9292
Mission Study	Mrs. Lydeen York 493 W. Keats Ave., Fresno	222-1012
Mission Prayer	Mrs. Mary Kelton 4881 University Ave., Fresno	251-0227
Mission Action	Mrs. Betty Watson 4415 Damsen Lane, Fresno	732-7856

Monthly Meetings of the Local Auxiliaries are as follows:

Clovis	Last Thursday, 7:30 p.m.
Kerman	Second Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.
Memorial	Second Monday, 7:30 p.m.
Neighborhood	Second Tuesday, 10:00 a.m.
Selma	First Monday, 7:00 p.m.

Placement of the Conventions for the next year are as follows:

FIRST CONVENTION

Selma Free Will Baptist Church
10681 S. Highland Ave., Selma
October 6, 1973

ANNUAL CONVENTION

Neighborhood Free Will Baptist Church
5084 Avenue 308, Goshen
March 2, 1974

CENTER ASSOCIATION C.T.S. MINUTES

The rally convened with the Memorial Church April 15, 1973. The theme was "A.W.O.L. - A Work of Love." After congregational singing and prayer by Rev. Larry Hampton, Tim Rolen, President, read John 13:34-35.

After the letters were read and accepted the President appointed the following committees:

Finance	Resolution	Nominating
Brenda York	Mark Kelton	Vicki Jernigan
Kathy Watson	Betty Watson	Bob Hoppy
Darwin Kelton	Cheryl Rogers	Jerry Watson
		Larry Hampton

Quiz Leader, Cheryl Rogers, conducted a mock Tic Tac Toe game with the Memorial team playing against Tim Rolen, Rick Vanderburg and Rick Childers.

Mark Kelton gave a declamation entitled "A Tough Assignment."

Minutes and Treasurer's reports were read and accepted.

The Finance and Resolution committee reports were read and accepted. (See reports.)

September rally was placed at Neighborhood and March rally at Clovis.

The Nominating Committee report was read and officers were elected as follows:

President	Tim Rolen
Vice President	Mark Kelton
Secretary-Treasurer	Brenda York
Corresponding Secretary	Kay Hampton
Competitive Activities Leader	Cheryl Rogers
Music Director	Darwin Kelton
Pianist	Vicki Jernigan
Directors	George & Cheryl Rogers

A motion was made and accepted that since there would only be two rallies a year, a team must have two wins to become a contestant at the State Rally.

Worship hour began with congregational singing followed with prayer by Howard York. Darwin Kelton and Loye Turner sang "Fill My Cup, Lord" and "After All." Rev. Jack Williams, Dean of California Christian College, brought the message on "A Work of Love" using James 1:27. Benediction.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLUTION

1. Be it resolved that the CTS Rally convene bi-annually, the third Saturday of September and March at 7:00 p.m.
2. Be it resolved that each church in the Center Association be sent a program and special invitation prior to each Rally.
3. Be it resolved that the host church be given a standing vote of thanks.

FINANCE

1. We recommend that \$20.00 be sent to the State CTS Rally for expenses of National Contestants.
2. We recommend that \$5.00 be given to the speaker.
3. We recommend that \$15.00 be given to California Christian College.

RULES OF ORDER

1. The Moderator or Assistant Moderator, or in their absence, the oldest minister present shall call the Association to conference.
2. Each session shall be opened and closed by prayer.
3. Five members from two or more churches shall constitute a quorum. A less number may adjourn until such time as a quorum is present.
4. Visiting brethren are invited to sit as advisory members.
5. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Personal reflection shall be avoided in all debates.
6. If any propositions or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and a vote taken.
7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.
9. The Moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in a Christian spirit.
10. The ruling of the Moderator may be over-ruled by a two-thirds majority membership voting.
11. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has been discussed at its own church.
12. At each Association arrangement shall be made to insure two or more sermons or their equivalent -- devotional services -- each day.

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 all appearance of evil, to abstain from 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 scripture, secret prayer, family devotion, and social worship, and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "Grow in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ." We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance 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 to seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring and as far as we are able, to promote the success of the church and the Gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principles 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 educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday School and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of Peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.