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to Joseph and Mrs. B
care of Ogden

MINUTES
of the
FOR-Y-SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
CENTER ASSOCIATION
of
FREE WILL BAPTIST

Convened with Non Church
at Non, Oklahoma. August 17, 1939.

— of —
The Next Annual Session of Center Association Will
Be Held with Stratford Church Beginning on
Thursday Night Before the Third Sunday
in August, 1940.

— of —
Officers

REV. EARLIN HASKINS.....Moderator
REV. GEORGE W. McCLAIN.....Assistant Moderator
FRED BARKER.....Clerk
VIRGIL HUNT.....Assistant Clerk and Treasurer

MINUTES

Of the Forty-Sixth Annual Session of the Center Association of Free Will Baptist

The 46th annual session of the Center Association of Free Will Baptist met with Non Church on Thursday night before the third Sunday in August, 1939.

Introductory sermon was delivered by the moderator, Rev. Earlin Haskins.

Friday Morning

Body called to order by the moderator. Song, "Amazing Grace." Prayer by Rev. D. McGehee. Scripture lesson, 4th chapter of 1st John.

Letters received and delegates seated as follows:

Happyland Church: George Wade, Ola Wade and Estelle Maden.

Ada Church: Annie Wilkinson, Voleta Hileman and Sister Anderson.

McCall's Chapel Church: Delbert Spain, Virgie Hemmingway and Mary Tillery.

Yeager Church: A. R. Cosby and Lena Wood.

Sulphur Church: Obra Howeth, Owen Wallen and W. J. Webb.

Oakman Church: Eugene Selph, John Walling and Virgil Wilson.

Stratford Church: Dee Hooper, Nellie Watts and Mary Helen Barker.

Petitionary letter from Bebee Church: Brother Roberts, Brother Parish and John Hood.

Cedar Grove Church: Pearl West, Minnie Baker and Vergie Chandler.

Oak Grove Church: George Nye and Joe Nye.

Black Rock Church: John Hawkins, Ray Meenix and Sylvania Hawkins.

Non Church: C. A. Tipton, D. M. Eubanks and E. J. Howell.

McGee Church: Sister Skinner, Sister Sliger and Vesta Henry.

Summers Chapel Church: Dessie Light and E. Haskins.

Gaar Corner Church: Mattie Bond, Gerty Wood and Hattie Hickey.

Election of officers of the Association resulted in the following officers being elected: Rev. Earlin Haskins, moderator; Rev. George W. McClain, assistant moderator; Fred Barker, clerk; Virgil Hunt, assistant clerk and moderator.

Rules of order were read by the moderator.

The following committees were appointed:

On Divine Service: Si Tipton, Joe Hemmingway and A. R. Cosby.

On Resolutions: John Bradom, F. M. Wood and Ezra Hunt.

On Editorials and Periodicals: Dessie Light, Jack Hester and Jack Madden.

On Sunday Schools: Sister Wilkinson, Mary Helen Barker and Vesta Henry.

On Obituary: Sister Hemmingway, Nellie Watts and Hattie Hickey.

On Temperance: Harry Patterson, Scott Jones and Brother Wilkinson.

Letter read from Missouri Association. Later motion carried to return letter and messenger, if any were there. Adjourned until 1:00 o'clock.

Message delivered at 11:00 o'clock by E. A. O'Donnel, followed by Austin R. Deaton. Text, 1st Cor. 10:4.

Friday Afternoon

Body called to order by the moderator. Song No. 14, "Remember Me." Prayer by Rev. W. E. Dearmore.

Committee on Temperance reported; Report read and received; committee discharged.

Committee on Editorials reported; report received and committee discharged.

Sunday School committee reported; report received and committee discharged.

Adjourned until Saturday morning at 9:00 o'clock.

Friday Night

Preaching Friday night by Rev. Scott W. Jones, followed by Rev. George W. McClain. Text, Matthew 25:31.

Saturday Morning

Body called to order by the moderator.

Devotional service by Rev. W. E. Dearmore. Prayer by Rev. D. McGehee.

Motion carried to elect the executive board and resulted as follows: F. M. Wood, Jack Hester, Austin Deaton and Scott W. Jones.

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LIBERTY

Motion carried to elect president and secretary for mission work and resulted as follows: for president, George W. McClain; for secretary and treasurer, Effie Wood.

Motion carried for moderator to appoint delegates to the State Association. The following were appointed: Si Tipton, Dessie Light, Sister Anderson and Sister Hemmingway. Alternates: Nellie Watts, Hattie Hickey, Sister Purcer and Sister Chism.

Motion carried to send \$5.00 to State Association for minute money.

Adjourned until 1:00 o'clock.

Preaching at 11:00 o'clock by Rev. F. M. Wood, concluded by Rev. W. L. Dunlap. Subject: "Our Church Covenant."

Saturday Afternoon

Body called to order by the moderator.

Scripture reading, 5th chapter of Ephesians. Prayer by Bro. J. F. Hooper.

Motion carried to seat the Association for next year resulting in it being sent to Stratford church.

First fifth Sunday meeting at Gaar Corner.

Second fifth Sunday meeting at Happyland.

Third fifth Sunday meeting at Ada.

Motion carried to set aside fourth Sunday in September to visit churches not represented in this Association.

Motion carried that we send corresponding letter to Missouri Association of General Baptists.

Resolutions committee discharged.

Adjourned to meet with Stratford Church on Thursday night before the third Sunday in August, 1940.

Resolutions

No. 1—Be it resolved, that we recommend that Bible course to our ministers offered by W. E. Dearmore, Box 283, Wanette, Okla.

No. 2—Be it resolved, that each church in this Association send Rev. J. G. Stone 50 cents each month for the fiscal year.

No. 3—Be it resolved, that we have 500 minutes printed, and that we give the clerk and treasurer power to have the work done.

No. 4—Be it resolved, that we extend to the Non church our heartfelt thanks for their kindness and hospitality during our stay here.

Signed: JOHN BRADOM,
F. M. WOOD,
EZRA HUNT.

Sunday Schools

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, beg to report as follows: We find all churches that reported have Sunday Schools. We urge all other churches not having Sunday Schools to organize Sunday Schools in order to study the word of God. We urge parents to go and take their children.

Sunday School	Superintendent	Literature	Av.	Att.	Secretary
Stratford	Guy Eoff	F.W.B.	18	Nola Suit	
Sulphur	Corbin Higgins	F.W.B.	70	Corene Wilkens	
Ada	John Woods	F.W.B.	85	Nora Dighton	
Yeager	L. Stonecipher	Union	35	Juanita Wood	
McGee	Don Burch	Union	40	Dorothy Ernest	
Happyland	Scott Wilson	Union	45	Lois Lamb	
Gaar Corner	Virgil Hunt	Union	40	Nina Hunt	
McCall's Chapel	Thos. Tillery	F.W.B.	20	H. Hemmingway	
Non	C. C. Chism	F.W.B.	60	Mavyce Chism	
Black Rock	Sister Martin	F.W.B.	26	Mr. Truitt	
Oakman	Jess Berryman	Union	60	Myrtle Smith	
Oak Grove	J. D. Nye	Union	60	B. L. Frazier	

Signed: MARY HELEN BARKER,
ANNIE WILKINSON,
VESTA HENRY.

Obituary

We, your Obituary committee, find that God has seen fit to call from our midst:

Sisiter S. M. Swetman, June 25, 1938; Brother Oscar Jones, January 2, 1939.

We extend our deepest sympathy for the bereaved families, yet our loss is Heaven's gain. We should not grieve for the departed ones, for they are much happier than we. We ask that this body stand a moment in silent prayer in memory of those gone on.

Signed: VIRGIE HEMMINGWAY,
NELLIE WATTS,
HATTIE HICKEY.

Editorials and Periodicals

We, your committee on Editorials and Periodicals, recommend more reading of clean literature, especially the Bible. We do not object to the reading of current news and keeping ourselves informed, but do object to the reading of literature that is contrary to the Bible, especially Judge Rutherford's books. We further recommend that if any of our members have any of the Rutherford literature that they immediately destroy it. We further recommend that Free Will Baptist Sunday School literature

be used in all our churches possible. We heartily recommend the Free Will Baptist Gem as good, clean reading matter for Free Will Baptist.

Signed: DESSIE LIGHT,
ESTELLE MADDEN,
JACK HESTER.

Temperance

We, the committee on Temperance, recommend as follows:

That we be temperate in all things, and abstain from all intoxicants, all worldly amusements, and shun the very appearance of evil. Be temperate in conversation, in anger, and be patient with all men. Scriptural references: 2nd Cor. 16:17; 1st Thess. 5:22; 1st Peter 2:11; 2nd Peter 1:6; 1st Cor. 9:25; Gal. 5:23; Titus 2:2; Gal. 3:8.

Signed: ELDER SCOTT W. JONES,
RAY WILKINSON,
HARRY PATTERSON.

Ministers' Directory

Earlin Haskins, Route 2, Ada, Oklahoma.	W. G. Fields, Trousdale, Okla.
J. F. Hooper, Stratford, Okla.	F. W. Wood, R. 5, Ada, Okla.
J. N. Caton, R. 3, Ada, Okla.	Wm. Coggins, Blanchard, Okla.
J. T. Caton, Allen, Oklahoma.	A. A. Williams, address unknown.
E. D. Williams, R. 3, Ada, Oklahoma.	Ben. Fox, address unknown.
W. V. Wood, R. 4, Stratford, Oklahoma.	Thurman Huddleston, Allen, Oklahoma.
J. G. Stone, R. 1, Ada, Okla.	W. A. Huddleston, R. 3, Ada, Oklahoma.
J. P. Lewis, Sulphur, Okla.	J. E. Goodman, Non, Oklahoma.
J. W. Ragland, 631 W. 4th St., Ada, Oklahoma.	Alvis McAffery, Oklahoma City, Okla.
D. McGehee, R. 5, Ada, Okla.	I. W. Yandell, Asher, Okla.
Edna Buckelew, R. 4, Stratford, Oklahoma.	Jack Cupid, Stonewall, Okla.
L. V. Wood, R. 2, Stratford, Oklahoma.	Scott Jones, R. 4, Ada, Okla.
J. W. Smithey, Davis, Okla.	W. D. Dame, R. 5, Ada, Okla.
D. Hunt, Byars, Oklahoma.	M. M. McKee, Sulphur, Okla.
W. L. Dunlap, Sulphur, Okla.	J. A. Taylor, R. 1, Stratford, Oklahoma.
W. E. Lindsay, Ada, Okla.	Don Burch, R. 1, Stratford, Oklahoma.
W. G. Merrit, Sulphur, Okla.	George McClain, Ada, Okla.

Ministerial Report

M. L. CATON—Pastored no church; assisted in 4 revivals, with 22 conversions; preached 100 sermons; traveled 1,600 miles; received \$70.00.

J. F. Hooper—Preached 20 sermons; baptised 1; miles traveled unknown; performed 5 marriage ceremonies; received \$12.00.

SCOTT W. JONES—Sermons, 124; miles traveled, 1,479; held 2 funerals; revivals, 8 weeks; pastored 3 churches; baptised 17, marriages, 6; received \$97.82.

EARLIN HASKINS—Pastored 1 church half-time; sermons, 48; funerals, 2; marriages, 3; baptised 2; traveled 519 miles; received \$14.00.

MURIEL WILSON—Appointments, 2; sermons preached, 30; funerals, 1; received \$3.90.

JOHN A. LEE—Sermons, 9; no regular appointments.

E. D. WILLIAMS—Appointments, 1; sermons, 25; assisted in 1 revival; received \$4.00.

F. M. WOOD—Sermons, 104; baptised, 15; funerals, 3; pastored 3 churches; miles traveled, unknown; received \$129.71.

AUSTIN R. DEATON—Preached 25 or 30 sermons; assisted in 2 revivals; have 1 appointment; marriage, 1; miles traveled unknown; received \$2.50.

GEORGE W. McCLAIN—Sermons, 148; held 6 revivals; assisted in 2; witnessed 109 conversions; baptised 30; held 2 funerals; marriages, 5; traveled 1,160 miles; received \$749.60. Pastored Ada church full time.

T. A. SAMMONS—Sermons, 67; visited 15 churches; witnessed 57 conversions; traveled 1,765 miles; called to pastor 2 churches; marriages, 1; assisted in 5 revivals.

Order of Business

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Called to order by Moderator.
3. Letters called for and received.
4. Right hand of fellowship.
5. Election of officers.
6. Reading of the Rules of Order.
7. Petitionary Letters.
8. Invite visiting Brethern to seats in our council.
9. Appointments of committees.
10. New Business.
11. Report of Committees.
12. Miscellaneous Business.

Rules of Order

1. At every sitting the meeting shall be opened and closed with prayer by the moderator, or whomsoever he may request.
2. Those who speak shall rise and address the moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.
3. No motion shall be discussed without first being seconded.
4. When a motion has been made and seconded, the moderator shall ask, "Any discussion or remarks?" If none the question shall be disposed of as usual.
5. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or

- more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and the vote taken separately.
6. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the minutes unless ordered by the party making the motion.
 7. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the moderator.
 8. All questions shall be decided by the majority of members present.
 9. No member shall be absent while in session without leave of the moderator, and if so his name shall be left off the minutes.
 10. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected if necessary before the close of the Association.
 11. Arrangements shall be made at each session of the Association for two or more sermons or equivalent devotional exercises during each day.
 12. The rules of order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the body.
 13. Alteration may be made in these rules at any regular session.

Constitution

From long experience, we the members of the Center Association, being regularly baptized upon the profession of faith in Jesus Christ and being convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union and communion among us, and to preserve and maintain a correspondence with each other, we do therefore ordain this constitution for our better associational government.

ARTICLE I—Membership. This Association is composed of ordained ministers and deacons with delegates chosen by the different churches in our union not exceeding three delegates from each church, who upon presenting their letters shall be entitled to seats.

ARTICLE II—Letters from each church to express their number of fellowship, the number of ordained and licentiate preachers and their postoffice address; the number of members received upon confession of faith, by letter or recommendation, by restoration or denominational choice, and the number dismissed by letter, excluded or died since last Association.

ARTICLE III—Name. The members thus chosen and convened to be denominated the Center Association of Free Will Baptist, being composed of the sundry churches in Oklahoma.

ARTICLE IV—Officers. The Association to have a moderator, clerk and treasurer, who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

ARTICLE V—New Churches. Newly constituted churches may be admitted into the Association, which are to petition by letter and delegates and if, upon examination, they may be received into to Association and given the right of fellowship.

ARTICLE VI—Questions. No question from any church shall come under consideration of the Association, except it has first been discussed in its own church.

ARTICLE VII—Motions. Every motion made and seconded

shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless it be withdrawn by the person making it.

ARTICLE VIII—Minutes. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the Association proportion to the number of members in each church, the distribution being at the discretion of the Association.

ARTICLE IX—Clerk. It shall be the duty of the clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes of the Association on a book kept by the Association for that purpose.

ARTICLE X—Signation. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the moderator and clerk before the close of the Association.

ARTICLE XI—Amendments. Amendments to the constitution may be made when necessary by two-thirds majority vote of the members present.

Amendment No. 1. Each ordained minister shall be a member of a church in the bonds of the Association, and he shall hold his letter for a period of three months when opportunities afford him, he shall surrender his credentials to the quarterly or yearly meetings.

Amendment No. 2. The meeting date of this Association shall be Thursday night before the third Sunday in August of each year.

ARTICLE I—Articles of Faith

We believe in the true and living God, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; and these three are equal in divine essence, power and glory. Romans 1:20; John 1:1.

ARTICLE II—The Bible.

The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by the inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice. 2nd Tim. 3:16-17; 2nd Peter 1:21.

ARTICLE III—The Fall.

Section 1—We believe God created man and gave him holy commandments, whereby we should live holy, but the man voluntarily disobeyed the commandments of God, transgressed the law and fell under just condemnation of the same, whereby all mankind are sinners, not by constraint, but by choice.

Section 2—Being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the fall.

Section 3—And that man is unable to save himself with his own power; but we see Jesus, by the suffering death, crowned with glory, that He, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man. Gen. 1:31; Heb. 2:9.

ARTICLE IV—Pardon.

Section 1—We believe that Christ by His death, suffering and resurrection, purchased our pardon.

Section 2—And offers it freely to all mankind upon the principle of "repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ."

Section 3—He now commands all men everywhere to repent therefore He sayeth "Look unto me and be saved all the ends of

the earth, for I am God and there is none else. Matt. 4:17; Isa. 45:22; Acts 20:21; 17:30.

ARTICLE V—Regeneration

We believe that adult persons must be regenerated and born of the Spirit of God if they inherit eternal life. John 3:3; Romans 5:1-13.

ARTICLE VI—Infants.

We believe infants and idiots are saved upon the mercies of the Son of God. Jonah 4:11; Mark 10:14; Luke 18:16.

ARTICLE VII—Apostasy

We believe that all Christians should persevere in grace and be faithful to the end if they inherit eternal life. "For blessed are they that do His commandments, that they may have a right to the tree of life and enter in through the gates of that city." Rev. 22:14; Gal. 5:4; Heb. 12:14-28; James 5:19-20.

ARTICLE VIII—Baptism Mode.

We believe that baptism by immersion is the apostolic mode, even the burial of believers in water, and that Christ, who is our life, showed His humble example to His children, and bids us to walk therein. Matt. 3:16; 28:19; John 3:22; Rom. 6:4-5.

Latin—to plunge, to submerge, baptizo; Greek, to dip, baptisma; Greek, a dipping. Baptism, Greek to wash, to dip.

ARTICLE IX—Ministry Call.

We believe that God, in His goodness, displays His power of grace in a great degree in calling and qualifying His servant by the teaching of the Holy Ghost and by the instruction of His blessed word to go forth and proclaim life and salvation. Eph. 3:7; Rev. 22:17.

ARTICLE X—Commandments.

We believe that baptism and the Lord's supper, and the washing of the saint's feet, and keeping the Lord's day holy, and abstain from all worldly lust and carnal cares, and to assemble ourselves together, in an ornament which prepares and beautifies the soldiers of the cross to march onward in the army of the Lord. Matt. 26:26-29; John 13:3-17; 1st Tim. 5:9-10; Luke 22:7-20.

ARTICLE XI—Baptismal Right.

Section 1—We believe that none have the right to baptism, only those who have obtained a living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Section 2—And none have the right to administer the same only those who are called of God and have come under hands of the presbytery of elders.

Section 3—And we shall receive none other. Matt. 3:13-17; Titus 1:5; Acts 14:23.

ARTICLE XII—Lord's Supper—Duty.

We believe it is the duty of each church to assemble themselves together once a month, and that it is the duty of the pastor of the church, when sitting the Lord's supper and washing the saint's feet, to invite all Christians. 1st Cor. 11:27-28.

ARTICLE XIII—Woman's Privilege.

We believe the bible teaches woman's privilege to preach the

gospel. Judges 4:4; Rom. 16:12; Acts 21:9; 2nd Kings 22:14; Acts 2:17-18.

ARTICLE XIV—Fornication.

We believe that nothing but death and fornication gives a lawful right to a second marriage, and a second marriage under divorce for any other cause than fornication is a sin as continued in Matt. 19:3-11; 5:32; Luke 16:18; Mark 10:11-12; Rom. 7:1-3; 1st Cor. 7:10-11; Proverbs 5:19-20; Mal. 2:14-17.

ARTICLE XV—Resurrection.

Section 1.—We believe in the resurrection of all the dead, both just and unjust.

Section 2.—The resurrection of the just to glory and immortality in the presence of God.

Section 3.—And the unjust to everlasting shame and banishment from the presence of God. Matt. 25:31-32; 1st Cor. 15:42-45; 2nd Thes. 1:4-11; Rev. 20:10; Job 19:26.

Church Covenant

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

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligation 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 forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conference, public worship, and the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay accordingly 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 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 of the Gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligation 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 Sabbath schools, 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.

Form of Church Letter to Association

_____ County, Oklahoma. We, the
Free Will Baptist Church of Christ, at _____
Church, to the Center Association, composed of Free Will Baptist,
assembled with _____ of
_____. We send as
delegates from our church, Bros. _____

whom we pray you to receive to aid in your deliberations. (Add
full statistical reports). Done in church conference _____
_____, 193_____.

_____, Moderator.

_____, Clerk

Letter of Dismission

This certifies that _____
is a member in good standing of the Free Will Baptist Church of
Christ, at _____
and as such we recommend him (or her) to the fellowship of God's
people, and is dismissed from us when joined with another church.
Done in church conference _____, 193_____.

_____ P. O. _____

County, Oklahoma

_____, Pastor.

_____, Clerk

CHURCH DIRECTORY

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK	Membership	Received	Dismissed	Died	Meeting Date
Happyland	T. A. Sammons.	Zora Wilson, Rt. 4, Ada.	74	17	2	0	4th
Oakman	Scott Jones	Eugene Self, Rt. 3, Ada.	79	16	2	0	3rd
Ada	George W. McClain	Estell Hester, Ada.	117	58	2	2	Full time
Yeager	L. V. Wood	A. R. Cosby, Stratford.	50	6	0	0	2nd
McCall's Chapel	F. M. Wood	Georgia Long, Allen.	68	5	0	0	1st
Cedar Grove	I. W. Yandell	Elmer Chandler, Rt. 4, Ada.	104	11	0	1	3rd
Black Rock	Truman Huddleston	Albert Hawkins, Rt. 2, Allen.	18	2	0	0	2nd
Sulphur	F. A. McCage	C. C. Higgins, Sulphur.	156	6	6	0	Full time
Oak Grove	L. V. Wood	Pearl Frazier, Sulphur.	39	0	0	0	4th
McGee	L. V. Wood	Vesta Henry, Stratford.	40	0	4	0	3rd
Summers Chapel	F. M. Wood	Dessie Light, Stratford.	44	22	0	0	3rd
Gaar Corner	F. M. Wood	Hattie Hickey, Rt. 5, Ada.	31	3	0	0	2nd
Non	I. W. Yandell	Frank Percer, Non.	161	5	0	1	3rd
Stratford	Earlin Haskins	Mrs. Fred Barker	19	4	0	0	2nd & 4th
Behée	T. A. Sammons.	Oma Hood	17	0	0	0	

(Knox, Center, Wilson and Culley Churches not represented)

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