

MINUTES
OF THE
Fifty-Second Annual Session
OF THE
CENTER ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST

**CONVENED WITH NON CHURCH, NON, OKLAHOMA,
AUGUST 16, 1945**

OFFICERS

Moderator	Rev. F. M. Wood
Ass't. Moderator	Rev. J. F. Hooper
Clerk	V. Hunt
Ass't. Clerk and Treasurer	Fred Barker

The next Annual Session of Center Association will be held
with Gaar Corner Church, beginning on Thursday night before
the Third Sunday in August, 1946.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. House called to order by the Moderator.
3. Letters called for, read and received.
4. Right hand of fellowship and seating of delegates.
5. Election of officers.
6. Petitionary letters called for.
7. Reading rules of order (By-Laws).
8. Invite visiting brethren to seats in council.
9. Appointment of committees.
10. Unfinished business.
11. New business.
12. Reports of committees.
13. Miscellaneous business.

LETTER OF DISMISSION

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

Done in Church Conference this _____ day of _____, 194_____

_____ P. O. _____
County, Oklahoma.

_____, Pasto
_____, Clerk

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Fifty second annual session of the Center Association. Convened with the Non church August 15, 16 and 17, 1945. Preaching Thursday evening by Rev. F. M. Wood.

FRIDAY MORNING

Body called to order by moderator, Rev. F. M. Wood.

Singing conducted by Bro. Fred Barker.

Scripture reading 1st Psalm. Read by the moderator.

Prayer by Bro. V. Hunt.

Letters read from the following churches:

Non—Delegates as follows: Bro. Jack Dodson, Sister Beula Sweetman and Sister Minnie Tipton.

Cedar Grove—Delegates as follows: Bro. Lewis Baker, Sister M Lee and Sister Virgie Chandler.

Stratford—Delegates as follows: Sisters Beulah Hunt, Anna Lee wright and Willie Sliger.

Gaar Corner—Delegates as follows: Sisters Metheney, Anna Hunt and Beatrice Phillips.

Ada—Delegates as follows: Sisters Mignon Woods, Helen Morris and Mittie Bond.

McGee—Delegates as follows: Bro. Garland Bucklew and Sisters Vesta Henry and Pearl Finch.

McCalls Chapel—Delegates as follows: Sister Helen Hemmingway and Bros. Delbert and Cecil Spain.

Letters received and delegates seated.

The right hand of fellowship given.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Election of officers results as follows:

Moderator, Rev. F. M. Wood.

Assistant Moderator, Rev. J. F. Hooper.

Clerk, Bro. V. Hunt.

Assistant Clerk and Treasurer, Bro. Fred Barker.

Rules of order read by the moderator.

Committees appointed as follows:

Divine Service—Bros. Ed Chism, Will Spain and Elmer Chandler.

Resolutions—Bros. Claud Chism, Louis Baker and John T. Masters.

Sunday School—Sisters Metheney, Vesta Henry and Helen Morris
Obituary—Bro. Garland Bucklew and Sisters Mittie Bond and Anna Hunt.

Temperance—Bros. Merle Wilson, Elmer Chandler and Walte Henry.

Home Mission—Sisters John Lee, Pearl Finch and Mittie Bond.

League—Sisters Anna Hunt, Mignon Wood and Minnie Tipton.

Visiting brothers invited to seats in council.

We adjourn until 1 o'clock P. M.

Dismissed by Bro. Claud Chism.

Preaching at eleven o'clock, by Rev. Ben Pixley, followed by Rev. J. F. Hooper. Theme, "Co-Operation".

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Met at one o'clock. Moderator in charge.

Singing conducted by Sister Mignon Wood.

Scripture reading, 12th chapter of Romans.

Report of Temperance Committee excepted.

Motion carried that we allow Non Church to pay the evangelists for the Camp Meeting and that we reimburse them.

Motion carried to take up collection at this time to pay at least part of the above bill. \$33.00 was collected.

The Non Church offers to pay the evangelist \$150.00, in addition to the amount collected.

Sunday School committee report accepted.

Treasurer report accepted.

Motion carried to elect 3 delegates to represent the League, in the State Association.

The following elected: Bro. Jack Dodson, Sisters Mignon Wood and Helen Morris.

Talk made on the Orphanage by Bro. Harry Stairs. Collection made for the same. \$367.32 collected.

We adjourned until 9 o'clock Saturday morning.

Preaching at night by Bro. E. E. Morris. Subject, "Our Inheritance".

SATURDAY MORNING

Met at nine o'clock. Bro. W. F. Hooper, Asst. Moderator in charge.

Devotional Reading, 23rd Psalm.

Prayer by Bro. Muriel Wilson.

Placing of next Association and Fifth Sunday meeting resulted

as follows: Association at Gaar Corner Church, Thursday night before 3rd Sunday in August, 1946; 1st Fifth Sunday meeting, Sulphur, Oklahoma, Sept. 1945; 2nd Fifth Sunday meeting, Cedar Grove, Dec 1945; 3rd Fifth Sunday meeting, McCalls Chapel, March, 1946. No Fifth Sunday meeting was set for June, 1946.

Motion carried to disperse with the Rule for today of requiring the churches to ask for a Fifth Sunday meeting, in their letter.

Motion carried that we have just three Fifth Sunday meetings for the next year.

Rev. W. V. Wood elected to preach the introduction sermon at the next Association.

Delegates elected to the State Association resulted as follows: Bros. Elmer Chandler, Manuel Priest and Sisters Bettha Barker, Vesta Henry and Sister Anderson.

As alternates: Bros. Garland Bucklew, Lewis Baker, and Jack Dodson, Sisters Mignon Wood, and Sister E. E. Morris.

Motion carried to send the Delegates to the State Association with the necessary funds required by the State Association.

Report of Obituary Committee accepted.

Report of Womens Auxiliary accepted.

Report of Committee on League work accepted.

TREASURERS REPORT

Balance carried over from last year -----	\$ 8.12
Collected 1945—General Fund -----	66.70
Collected 1945—Feeding Fund -----	80.00
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	\$154.82
Paid to Non church for feeding. Association -----	80.00
Balance in the hands of the treasurer -----	\$ 74.82
Orphanage fund collected -----	367.32

Motion carried to retain all the officers of the Womens Auxiliary for the ensuing year, Sister Anderson being elected as the 5th Vice President.

We adjourn to meet Thursday night before the 3rd Sunday in August, 1946, with the Gaar Corner Church.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Committee on League Work:

We your committee on League work beg to report that we have six active Leagues in our association. We meet four times a year for the associational orphans home and received \$297.75. Paid out and have wonderful services in the Lord. We have taken an offering \$2.46 tithes to the state rally, 50c for bills at state rally. Balance in

treasury now \$21.00. Total taken for the year \$339.71. Officers for the ensuing year: V. Hunt, president; Harlan Parsons, Vice President; Mignon Wood, Secretary; Anna Hunt, Sponsor. We recommend that each church use Freewill Baptist League literature and that the pastor of each church encourage and help organize more Leagues and that they encourage their young people to attend our League rallies. Signed by the Committee.

Womens Auxillary:

We your committee on Womens Auxiliary recommend that we strive more earnestly to carry on the work of the church, and that we encourage and help other churches who have no auxiliaries, to organize. We pray that our ministers will feel that we are ready to stand behind them and support them in any way we see fit. Signed by the Committee.

Obituary:

We your committee on obituary report that God has seen fit to call from our midst: Sister Cora Jackson of the Gaar Corner Church; Sister J. F. Christian and Brother John Odell Linton of the Non Church; Bro. Linton was killed in the defense of our country, also Bro. W. E. Lindsey of the Ada church. Also beg to report the death of Sister Lynn Pidcock who belonged to the Rockie Chapel Church which was formerly of this association. We express our deepest sympathy to the bereaved and ask that we stand a moment in silent prayer for those left to mourn. Signed by the Committee.

Temperance:

We your committee on temperance recommend that all children of God abstain from all intoxicating drinks. We also recommend that our preachers preach more on temperance. Signed by the committee.

MINISTERIAL REPORTS

Rev. Scott W. Jones: Sermons preached, 101; One two weeks meeting held, miles traveled unknown, pastored one church full time, money received \$514.00 Due to a trouble I was unable to attend the association. I am very sorry but it can't be helped.

Rev. J. F. Hooper: preached 50 sermons, held two revivals, pastored one church one fourth time, married two couples. Received \$159.75

W. V. Wood: pastored Sulphur Church full time, worked in four revivals, conducted 12 funerals. Money received \$1206.70.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Resolution No. 1. Be it resolved that we recommend that each church send \$10.00 to the associational treasury for the feeding of

the association; same to be sent to the last 5th Sunday meeting pre-

Resolution No. 2. Be it resolved that we give the League a voice in the association and that the League elect three delegates to the association.

Resolution No. 3. Be it resolved that we the Center Association while in session at Non, elect a preacher to preach the introductory sermon at the next association.

Resolution No. 4. Be it resolved that we extend to the Non church and community our sincere thanks and appreciation for their fine entertainment and hospitality shown us while we have been with them.

MINISTER'S DIRECTORY

Earlin Haskins, Ada, Okla.
J. F. Hooper, Stratford.
J. N. Caton, Route 3, Ada, Okla.
E. D. Williams, Route 3, Ada, Okla.
Cecil McKenzie, Holdenville.
W. V. Wood, Ada, Okla.
J. G. Stone, West 13th Street, Ada, Okla.
J. P. Lewis, Sulphur, Okla.
J. W. Ragland, 631 West 4th Street, Ada, Okla.
Edna Bucklew, Route 1, Stratford, Okla.
E. E. Morris, 420 South Ash, Ada, Okla.
L. V. Wood, Stratford, Okla.
D. Hunt, Stratford, Okla.
W. L. Dulap, Sulphur.
M. L. Caton, Holdenville, Okla.
F. M. Wood, Ada, Okla.
Wm. Coggins, Blanchard, Okla.
Ben Fox, Tupelo, Okla.
W. A. Huddleston, California.
Alvis McAffrey, Route 1, Stratford, Okla.
I. W. Yandell, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Jack Cupit, Stonewall, Okla.
Scott Jones, Route 3, Ada, Okla.
W. D. Dame, Route 5, Ada, Okla.
Don Burch, Route 1, Stratford, Okla.
F. A. McCage, McAlester.
O. Williams, Sulphur, Okla.
B. F. Gurley, Route 1, Roff, Okla.
Muriel Wilson, Route 3, Ada, Okla.
Truman Huddleston, California.
J. T. Caton, Allen, Okla.
W. H. Coonrod, Denison, Texas.
Paul and Cleo Pursell.

FORM OF CHURCH LETTER TO ASSOCIATION

_____ County, Oklahoma.

We, the Free Will Baptist Church of God, at _____
to the Center Association, composed of Free Will Baptists, assembled
with _____ of _____

We send as delegates from our Church _____
whom we pray you will receive to sit with you, and aid in your
Godly deliberations.

Follow with complete church statement.

Done in church conference _____, 194____

_____, Moderator

_____, Clerk

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting the meeting shall be opened and closed with prayer by the moderator, or whomever 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.

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 correspondence with each other, we do therefore ordain this Constitution for our better associational government.

ARTICLE I. Membership. This association is composed of churches in our union not exceeding three delegates from each church, dained ministers and deacons with delegates chosen by the different 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 preahcers and their post office 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 Baptists, being composed of the sundry churches in Oklahoma.

ARTICLE IV. Officers. The association shall have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

ARTICLE V.. New Churches. New 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 the association, and given the right hand 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 in proportion to the number of members in each church, the distribution being at 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 in a book to be kept by the association fo rthat 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 a two-thirds majority vote of the members present.

Amendment No. 1 Each ordained minister shall be a member of a church in the bounds 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 in each year.

ARTICLE I—ARTICLES OF FAITH

We believe in the true living God, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost; and these 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. II Timothy 3:16-17; II Peter 1:20-21.

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, tasteth death for every man. Gen. 1:31; Hebrews 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; Rom. 5:1-13.

ARTICLE VI—INFANTS

We believe that 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 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 believer 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. Baptizo; 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 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 to 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 Lrd. Matt. 26:26-29; John 13:2-17; I Tim. 1:9-10; 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. Matthew 3:13-17; Titus 1:5; Acts 14:23.

ARTICLE XII—LORD'S SUPPER—DUTY

We believe it 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. I Cor. 11:27-28.

ARTICLE XIII—WOMAN'S PRIVILEGE

We believe the Bible teaches woman's privilege to preach the gospel. Judges 4:4; Romans 16:12; Acts 21:9; II 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; Romans 7:1-3; Proverbs 4:19-20; I Cor. 7:10-11; Mal. 2:14-17.

ARTICLE XV—RESSURRECTION

Section 2. We believe in the resurrection of all 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; I Cor. 15:42-45; II Thess. 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 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 appearances of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of use and sale of intoxicating beverages, 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 the grace and knowledge" of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conference, public worship, and the observance of the ordinance 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 bond 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 enterprise 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 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.

Sunday School Report

Church	Supt.	Av. Att.	Sec'y.	Lit.
Cedar Grove	Louis Baker	25	Lucille Price	F. W. B.
Gaar Corner	H. H. Parsons	50	Nina Hunt	Union
Ada	Dallas Lamb	100	Edna May Hart	F. W. B.
McCalls Chapel	Bro. Waldon	20	Willie Sanders	F. W. B.
Stratford	Albert Turner	35	Beulah Hunt	F. W. B.
McGee	W. F. Wood	30	Pearl Finch	Union
Wilson	T. A. Roberson	30	Bro. Sliger	Union
Non	Claud Chism	50	Marcidine Talbot	F. W. B.
Sulphur	No Report			
Oakman	Jess S. Duvall	50	Geneva Cecil	Union

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Church	Pastor	Clerk	Mem.	Rec'd.	Dis.	Died	Meeting Date
Ada	E. E. Morris	Edna Hunt	150	35	0	0	Full time
Gaar Corner	F. M. Wood	Bertha Barker	45				2nd & 4th Sundays
Cedar Grove			122	3	0	0	Full time
McGee	F. M. Wood	Edna Buckelew	40	0	0	0	3rd Sunday
Non	Ben Pixley	Mavyce Chism	88	0	0	2	
Oakman	J. N. Caton	Flora Carter	65	2	13	0	3rd Sunday
Sulphur		No Report					
Stratford	Don Burch	Willie Seiger	33	0	0	0	Full time
McCalls Chapel	Odis Robertson	Georgia Long	63				1st & 3rd Sundays
Wilson		No Report					
Yeager		No Report					

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