

MINUTES

OF THE

Fifty-Seventh Annual Session

OF THE

CENTER ASSOCIATION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTIST

CONVENED AT CAMP GROUND

AUGUST 17-19, 1950

OFFICERS

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-------|---------------------|
| Moderator | ----- | Rev. F. M. Wood |
| Assistant Moderator | ----- | Rev. Scott W. Jones |
| Clerk | | Fred Barker |
| Assistant Clerk and Treasurer | | Virgil Hunt |

The next Session of the Center Association will be held
at the Camp Grounds beginning on Thursday night
before the Third Sunday in August, 1951

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 _____ 195__

_____, P. O. _____
County, Oklahoma.

_____, Pastor

_____, Clerk

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Fifty-seventh Annual Session of the Center Association of Free Will Baptist convened at the Camp Ground, Pontotoc County, Oklahoma, August 17-18-19, 1950, A. D. Introductory message Thursday night delivered by Reverend Gilbert Pixley. Text Job 33:14.

FRIDAY MORNING

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

Song—"Standing on the Promises", directed by Rev. Weldon Wood.

Devotional reading II Thessalonians 3.

Prayer by Reverend Scott W. Jones.

Letters called for, and read. Every Church in the Association was represented, and the following delegates were seated:

Camp Ground Church—Josie McIntire, Sister Parish, Des-sie Light.

Sulphur Church—Emily Palmer, Linnie Sparks, Sister Atterberry.

Oakman Church—Flora Carter, William Carter, Florence Lee.

Cedar Grove Church—Virgie Chandler, Velma Chandler, Sister Norris.

Stratford Church—Myrtle Masters, Birdie Cosby.

Happyland Church—E. H. Simpson, Sister Simpson. Ruby Jones.

Wilson Church—Dewey Stone, Eva Stone, Francis Bellar.

Ada Church—Bro. Mathew, Irene Collings, Bro. Allen.

Gaar Corner Church—Grover Barker, Gertie Wood, Anna Hunt.

Owl Creek—June Foster, Sister Barnes, Sister Sliger.

Motion carried to receive the letters and seat the delegates. The right hand of fellowship was given.

Motion carried to adjourn until 1:00 P. M.

Eleven o'clock service was opened with singing, directed by Rev. Bert F. Rogers, "He Keeps Me Singing." Prayers by Fred Barker, and Rev. John Morgan.

Message by Reverend J. F. Hooper. Text—Matt. 24:4. A Good Message.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Body called to order by the moderator.

Singing directed by Reverend Wilson, from the Canadian Association. Song—"The Old Ship of Zion."

Devotional reading, Ephesians 4.

Prayer by Reverend M. L. Caton.

Election of officers resulted as follows:

Moderator—F. M. Wood.

Asst. Moderator—Scott W. Jones.

Clerk—Fred Barker.

Asst. Clerk and Treasurer—Virgil Hunt.

Member Camp Ground Board for Three Years—Luther Parrish.

Member Credentials Board—J. T. Masters.

Petitionary Letters called for—None presented.

Visiting Brothers and Sisters invited to set in council with the body.

Committees appointed as follows:

Divine Service—Bro. Clark, Bro. Simpson, J. T. Masters.

Resolutions—Rev. Earlin Haskins, Rev. Bert F. Rogers, Rev. John Morgan.

Obituary—Eva Stone, Sister Simpson, Sister Norris.

Temperance—Rev. J. F. Hooper, E. H. Simpson, William Carter.

Home Missions—Irene Collings, Gertie Wood, Linnie Sparks.

League—Grover Barker, Florence Lee, Ruby Jones.

Sunday School—Virgie Chandler, Sister Parish, Emily Palmer.

Examining Committee—Earline Haskins, Weldon Wood, Bert F. Rogers, Scott W. Jones, J. F. Hooper.

Report received from the Credentials Committee and accepted.

Report received from the treasurer and accepted.

Collection taken to finish paying for the girls dormitory, received approximately \$50.00.

Youth Camp Committee selected for years 1950-51 were as follows: Chairman—Walter Wood, Member—Lonnie Barnes.

Member—Earl Collings.

Motion carried that the Youth Camp Committee have authority to arrange all phases of the program for the youth camp. The same to be presented to the association at the first opportunity.

Motion carried to appoint two sponsors each for the boys and girls for the Youth Camp in 1951.

Motion carried to ask the Youth Camp committee to appoint four men to patrol the Camp Ground for the duration of the encampment in 1951.

Reverend Bert F. Rogers, and Reverend Wade Jernigan were selected to conduct the revival in the 1951 Camp Meeting.

Placing of the fifth Sunday Meeting resulted as follows:

- 1st. October, 1950 at Cedar Grove.
- 2nd. December, 1950 at Camp Ground Church.
- 3rd. April, 1951 at Stratford Church.
- 4th. July, 1951 at Wilson Church.

Motion carried to adjourn conference to meet at 9:00 A. M. Saturday morning.

Preaching Friday Night by Reverend Bert F. Rogers. Text Revelations 6.

SATURDAY MORNING

Body called to order by the moderator.

Song. "Standing on the Promises", directed by Reverend W. S. Mooneyham.

Devotional reading, Romans 12:1-16.

Prayer by Reverend Bert F. Rogers.

Reverend J. F. Hooper was selected to bring the Introductory message at the 1st fifth Sunday meeting.

Reverend Bert F. Rogers was selected to deliver the Introductory message at the association in 1951.

Motion carried that we grant our Women's Auxiliaries the privilege to paint the buildings on the Camp Ground.

Report given by committee to paint signs on the Camp Ground. Committee discharged.

Motion carried to retain our present orphanage board. They are to remain until moved from our association, or otherwise unable to serve. Members of the board are: A. L. Worstell, Sulphur, F. M. Wood, Ada, J. F. Hooper, Stratford.

Motion carried to adjourn conference until 1:00 P. M.

Our annual memorial message was delivered by Reverend Earin Haskins at 11 o'clock.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Body called to order by the moderator.

Song, "Stand up. Stand up For Jesus", directed by W. S. Mooneyham.

Devotional reading Psalms 1.

Prayer by Brother J. T. Masters.

Motion carried to send the food left from feeding the association to our Children's Home.

Reverend W. S. Mooneyham was selected to conduct the memorial service of the 1951 association.

The following were elected as delegated to the State Association: Bro. Mathews, Irene Collings, Laverda Mooneyham, Jimmie Nichols, Velma Chandler; as alternates, S. A. Allen, Oleta Pate, Emily Palmer, Vesta Henry, and Bertha Barker.

Motion carried to send \$25.00 with our letter to the State Association.

Motion carried that we establish a Ministers and Deacons conference to be held quarterly.

Committee appointed to plan date, and program for Ministers and Deacons meeting were: W. S. Mooneyham, J. F. Hooper, and Bert F. Rogers. First meeting to be with the Camp Ground Church on Friday night, December 1 at 7:30 P. M.

Motion carried that the host Church of the 5th Sunday Meetings, arrange the program for its particular meeting.

Motion carried that local Churches be requested not to recommend ministers for ordination until they have served at least one year under license.

Motion carried that we adjourn, to meet at the Camp Ground on Thursday night before the Third Sunday in August. 1951, A. D.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Report of Women's Auxiliary

Annual Convention of Center Association Women's Auxiliaries met August 17, 1950, at the Camp Ground.

Meeting opened with singing led by Sister Sparks.

Scripture, Exodus 14:15, read by President Sister June Crumb.
Prayer by Reverend W. S. Mooneyham.

Letters were received and delegates seated from the following Auxiliaries: Ada, Camp Ground, Gaar Corner, Stratford, Sulphur, and Happy Land.

Election of Officers as follows:

President—Laverda Mooneyham. 13 and Okla. St. Sulphur.

Secretary—Vesta Henry, Rfd. 1, Stratford, Okla.

Treasurer—Irene Collings, 720 West 4th St., Ada, Okla.

First Vice-President—Ollie Melton, 519 W. 3rd, St., Ada, Okla.

Sec. Vice-President—Morjoretta Wood, Rfd. 1, Stratford, Okla.

Third Vice-President—June Crumb, 716 W. 2nd St., Ada, Okla.

Fourth Vice-President—Helen Turner, Stratford, Okla.

Fifth Vice-President—Dessie Light, Rfd. 2, Ada, Okla.

Field Worker—Bertha Barker, Rfd. 2, Stratford, Okla.

Delegates to the State Convention—Laverda Mooneyham and Alice Wood. Alternates—Dessie Light and Marie Welch.

The time and place of Auxiliary Rallies for next year are as follows: Time—The second Tuesday in each quarter.

Places—October, Stratford; January, Camp Ground; April, Ada; July, Camp Ground.

Committee appointed to get food for Youth Camp next year as follows: Ada, Valeta Hileman—Camp Ground, Marie Welch—Happyland, Sister Smith—Gaar Corner, Estelle Cox—Sulphur, Linnie Sparks—Stratford, Mildred Greenlee.

Churches having no auxiliary who are asking to help in this project are as follows: Oakman, Sister Flora Carter—Wilson. Eva Stone—Cedar Grove, Virgie Chandler—Owl Creek, Sister Hoover.

Yearly collections as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Ada | \$ 884.79 |
| Camp Ground | 218.00 |
| Stratford | 172.49 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$1,275.28 |

This is an incomplete financial report, since we had six Auxiliaries represented at our Rally.

Respectfully Submitted,
Bertha Barker, Fourth Vice-President.

We, your Committee on Temperance and Lord's Day Observance urge the following:

"Every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptive crown; but we an incorruptible." (I Corinthians 9:25). The Christian should practice temperance in all things for the sake of Christ, for the furtherance of the kingdom of God, and for his own spiritual and physical welfare.

The liquor traffic is ruining multitudes of lives and is a menace to our land. We, therefore, urge our people not only to totally abstain from the use of alcohol beverages, but to exert every effort to curb its use in our local communities as well as on a nationwide basis. We should refuse to support anyone at the polls who has taken a stand for or has shown a leniency toward the use of intoxicating liquors.

At Creation, God set apart one day in seven for the spiritual and physical well-being of mankind, during which man was in a special way to worship his Creator. We believe that the Christian is to set apart the Lord's Day as a holy day for worship and praise, to attend and support the services of the church and to abstain from all unnecessary work and personal interests. The ministry is urged to exert every effort to promote the sanctity of the Lord's day by example and admonition not only among our people but in their communities.

Signed by Committee.

Camp Ground Board Report

We the Camp Ground Board of Directors recommend to the Resolution committee the following Resolution:

Signed by Board,

V. HUNT

G. O. PALMER

J. L. PARISH.

We the Resolution Committee recommend the following Resolution for your consideration:

Committee,

EARLIN HASKINS

BERT F. ROGERS

JOHN H. MORGAN.

Resolution No. 1

Whereas, we see the need of an addition being built to the girl's dormitory, and the necessity of seating the auditorium, and of recovering the auditorium, and other minor necessities, such as clearing the ground, etc., at an approximate cost of \$1,000.00 or about \$100.00 per church. Therefore, be it resolved that we ask our churches to donate \$100 each to be turned in by Jan. 1st for this purpose.

OBITUARY REPORT

We find since our last meeting, God has seen fit to call from us the following members: Sister Ova Howeth from Sulphur; Sister Sarah Sweat from Wilson; Sister Allie Chism from Cedar Grove; Bro. John McIntyre from the Camp Ground Church; Sister Russell from Stratford; Sister Ruth Ford from Ada.

We count our loss, Heaven's gain.

Signed,
Eva Stone
Fannie Simpson
Vinnie Norris.

REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

We, the credentials board, are pleased to find our ministers in good standing and preaching sound doctrine.

J. T. Masters. Member.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Examining Committee, after prayer and careful questioning of Brother Bill Bratcher, find him to be sound in faith and doctrine; therefore, we recommend him for ordination by this body or his Church.

Signed,
Rev. Earlin Haskins
Rev. J. F. Hooper
Rev. Scott W. Jones

REPORT OF LEAGUE COMMITTEE

We, your League Committee, submit the following report: It is our opinion that each Church should have a League. The league should try to influence all the youth of the community in the ways of Christ, and work toward the building of Youth Camp in every meeting.

We recommend all Sponsors, and Teachers be members of the Free Will Baptist Church and teach the Word of Christ, and leave off worldly pleasures as the children of today are leaders of tomorrow.

We find that all leagues in the association are prospering and same growing rapidly.

Signed,
Grover Barker
Mary Florence Lee
Ruby Jones

REPORT OF SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, submit the following report: It is our honest opinion that each church should have a Sunday School, and all officers and teachers should be Christians. Our Lord said, Let them alone, they be blind leaders of the blind, both shall fall in the ditch, Matthew 15:14.

| Church | Superintendent | Secretary | Ave. Att. |
|---------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------|
| Happyland — | Albert Pevehouse | Elois Britt | 62 |
| Cedar Grove — | Dual Chism | Marie West | 70 |
| Oakman — | Mart Massey | Marie Roundtree | 54 |
| Stratford — | Finis Cosby | Zella Barker | 97 |
| Ada — | Earl Collings | Rosalee Estes | 138 |
| Gaar Corner — | Ted Cox | Raymond Holland | 37 |
| Owl Creek — | Claude Kellion | Jean Foster | 35 |
| Camp Ground— | Judson Kirby | Geneva Haskins | 55 |
| Wilson— | T. A. Hooser | Francis Bellar | 50 |
| Sulphur— | D. E. Clark | Emily Palmer | 110 |

Signed,
Virgie Chandler
Dora Parish
Emily Palmer

PARTIAL REPORT OF THE YOUTH CAMP PROGRAM COMMITTEE FOR YOUTH CAMP 1951

Over-all Supt. ----- Virgil Hunt
Girls Sponsors-----Sister Williams, Sulphur and Vesta Henry
Stratford
Boy's Sponsors----Leo Nelson, Camp Ground and Weldon Wood,
Ada

Signed,
Youth Camp Committee,
Walter Wood, Chairman

We the Home Mission Committee report much work being done, but we see a greater need of more Home Mission work in our own communities.

Work being done has been:
Cottage prayer meetings.
Bereaved families served.
Needy families helped.
Street services 20.
Visiting of the sick.

We urge all pastors to encourage the church more on Home Mission work.

Signed, Committee,
Irene Collings
Gertie Woods
Linnie Sparks.

CENTER ASSOCIATION TREASURE REPORT

YEAR 1949-50

COLLECTIONS—

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Balance Sept. 1st, 1949 | \$ 25.37 |
| Misc. collections during year | 238.59 |
| Girls Dormitory | 606.82 |
| Collection feeding Assoc. (1950) | 52.00 |
| Collection feeding youth (1950) | 272.30 |
| Collection feeding confectionery (1950) | 113.31 |
| Sent in by Churches (1950) | 98.00 |
| Total | \$1,266.53 |

DISBURSEMENTS—

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| R. E. A. | \$ 26.00 |
| State Association | 25.00 |
| 1949 Minutes | 60.00 |
| Girls Dormitory | 606.82 |
| Misc. Disb. | 15.10 |
| Cost feeding Assoc. (1950) | 43.46 |
| Cost feeding Youth Camp (1950) | 264.35 |
| Cost Confectionery | 72.19 |
| Balance August, 1950 | 153.61 |
| Total | \$1,266.53 |

ANNUAL LEAGUE REPORT

The Center Association leagues have met four times the past year. The average attendance for the year is 261.

The Banners have been won as follows:

| | Attendance | Program |
|----------|-----------------|-------------|
| Nov..... | Happyland | Stratford |
| Feb..... | Ada | Gaar Corner |
| May..... | Stratford | Ada |
| Aug..... | Stratford | Stratford |

The financial report as follows:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Amt. brought forward Aug. 1949 | \$ 45.08 |
| Tithes received from Aug. to May | 48.11 |
| Offering to speakers for year | 69.38 |
| Offering to Camp Ground Evangelists | 65.00 |
| Total | \$227.57 |
| Paid out for year | 194.38 |
| Balance | \$ 33.19 |

Earl Collings, President
Alice Wood, Secretary

The Center Association Leagues met Aug. 13, 1950, at the Camp Ground and elected the officers for the coming year. They were as follows:

President—Walter Wood.

Vice-President—James Murray.

Secretary—Geneva Haskins.

Asst. Secretary—Clara Wood.

Sponsor—Fred Barker.

We now have eight leagues in the Association since we received the Camp Ground Church into our leagues.

MINISTERS DIRECTORY

Rev. Roy Wood, Stratford, Oklahoma.

Rev. Bert F. Rogers, Francis, Oklahoma.

Rev. J. W. Ragland, 631 W. 4th, Ada, Oklahoma.

Rev. Jimmie Ray Nichols, Stratford, Oklahoma.

Rev. F. M. Wood, Route 5, Ada, Oklahoma.

Rev. J. G. Stone, Stratford, Oklahoma.

Rev. Scott W. Jones, Route 3, Ada, Oklahoma.

Rev. Murl Wilson, Route 3, Ada, Oklahoma.

Rev. W. L. Dunlap, Sulphur, Oklahoma.

Rev. J. P. Lewis, Sulphur, Oklahoma.

Rev. J. N. Caton, 511 W. 8th, Ada, Oklahoma.

Rev. H. H. Parsons, Hitchita, Oklahoma.

Rev. Edna Bucklew, ca. Tiptons Laundry, Ada, Oklahoma.

Rev. J. F. Hooper, Stratford, Oklahoma.

Rev. Earlin Haskins, Route 2, Ada, Oklahoma.

Rev. Alvis McCaffery, Lexington, Oklahoma.

Rev. Weldon Wood, Ada, Oklahoma.

Rev. W. S. Mooneyham, Sulphur, Oklahoma.

Rev. John Morgan, Francis, Oklahoma.

Rev. Bill Bratcher, Stratford, Oklahoma.

Rev. Don Dake, Ada, Oklahoma.

Licentate Ministers—

1. Sister Lorene Bratcher, Stratford, Oklahoma.

Sister Minnie Campbell, Ada, Oklahoma.

RULES GOVERNING THE CAMP GROUND PROPERTY

No. 1. No camping will be allowed on west side of Brook that runs across property.

No.2. No person or persons will be allowed to take up residence, permanent or temporary, on the property, unless by special permission of the Board of Trustees.

No. 3. Lots shall be located and numbered beginning with Lot 1, on east side of Brook where it comes into property on north side and numbered eastward consecutively to the NE corner of property thence southward still consecutively along east side of property to the SE corner of said property, said lots shall be 40 ft. square. A plat of same shall be kept by Board of Trustees also a record of the disposal of lots.

No. 4. Any Freewill Baptist belonging to any Church in our association may build a cabin on this property subject to the following regulations.

- a. No cabin or permanent camp shall be built on any part of the property except on lots mentioned in Rule No. 3.
- b. No person may build a cabin or permanent camp without getting written permission from the Board of Trustees.
- c. No person shall have the right to move any cabin or permanent camp off the property at any time or for any purpose.
- d. If and when the owner of a cabin or permanent camp shall move out of the State of Oklahoma he shall offer for sale said cabin or permanent camp and if not sold within one year from date of his departure to some person who is a member of some church in the Center Association it shall become the property of the Association or he may give it to the association or to some person, if such person is a member of some church in the Center Association.

No.5. All other matter shall be regulated by the Board of Trustees.

| CHURCH | PASTOR | CLERK | CL. ADDRESS | No. on roll | Received | Dismissed | Died | Meeting date | Value of Church property |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|----------|-----------|------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Ada | Weldon Wood | Valeta Hileman | 712 W. 17th, Ada | 315 | 21 | 2 | 1 | full time | \$8,000 |
| Sulphur | W. S. Mooneyham | Mrs. J. H. Hill | 1318 W. Wy'wood. | 152 | 35 | 13 | 1 | full time | \$5,000 |
| Gaar Corner | F. M. Wood | Bertha Barker | Rfd. 2 Stratford | 56 | 4 | 0 | 0 | full time | Com. Bl. |
| Stratford | J. R. Hall | Vesta Henry | Rfd. 1, Stratford | 85 | 10 | 3 | 1 | full time | \$3,500 |
| Cedar Grove | Bert F. Rogers | Kenneth Jones | Francis, Okla. | 129 | 7 | 3 | 1 | full time | \$4,000 |
| Wilson | J. F. Hooper | Bernie Morrison | Rfd. 1, Ada | 71 | 4 | 0 | 1 | hlf. time | Com. Bl. |
| Oakman | John Morgan | Flora Carter | Rfd. 4, Ada | 75 | 2 | 2 | 0 | full time | Com. Bl. |
| Happyland | Scott Jones | Zora Wilson | Rfd. 1, Ada | 72 | 6 | 2 | 0 | full time | \$3,000 |
| Camp Ground | Earlin Haskins | Jocie McIntyre | Rfd. 2 Bx. 201a, Ada | 37 | 9 | 0 | 1 | full time | \$3,000 |
| Owl Creek | Merl Wilson | Geneva Hoover | Rfd. 1, Stonewall | 23 | 0 | 0 | 0 | full time | \$2,000 |

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, as-
sembled with ----- at -----

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 -----, 19--

-----, 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 modera-
tor shall ask, "Any discussion or remarks?" If none, the ques-
tion 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 minu-
tes 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 memb-
ers 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 associa-
tion for two or more sermons or equivalent devotional exercises
during each day.

12. 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 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 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 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 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 if 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. Roman 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 I. 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. Genesis 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." Matthew 4:17; Isaiah 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 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 preserve 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." Revelation 22:14; Gallatians 5:4; Hebrews 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. Matthew 3:16, 28-29; John 3:22; Romans 6:4-5; Latin to plunge, to submerge, baptizo; Greek to dip, baptisma; Greek, a dipping baptiton; 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. Ephesians 3:7; Rve. 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, is an ornament which prepares and beautifies the soldiers of the cross to march onward in the army of the Lord. Matthew 26:26-29; John 13:2-17; Timothy 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. 1 Corinthians 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 if continued in. Matthew 19:3-11; 5:22; Luke 16:18; Mark 10:11-12; Romans 7:1-3; Proverbs 4:19-20; I Corinthians 7:10-11; Malachi 2:14-17.

ARTICLE XV—RESURRECTION

Section 1. 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. Matthew 25:31-32; I Corinthians 15:42-45; II Thessalonians 1:4-11; Revelation 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 devotion, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour, 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 evangelists 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.

