

Minutes

of the

Sixty-Fourth Annual Session

of the

CENTER ASSOCIATION

of

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Convened at Camp Ground

AUGUST 9-10 1957



OFFICERS

Moderator	Rev. Scott W. Jones
Assistant Moderator	Rev. Delbert Akin
Clerk	Bro. Lonnie Barnes
Assistant Clerk and Treasurer	Bro. Virgil Hunt

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Moderator.....Scott Jones, R. No. 3, Ada, Okla.
Asst. Moderator.....Delbert Akin, 420 So. Ash, Ada
Clerk.....Lonnie Barnes, Box 23, Vanoss, Okla.
Asst. Clerk-Treasurer.....Virgil Hunt, 501 N. Beard, Ada

CHURCH LETTER TO A QUARTERLY MEETING, YEARLY ASSOCIATION

Date _____

To the _____ Association of Free Will Baptists
when convened with the Free Will Baptist Church at _____
Oklahoma, _____ We send as delegates our beloved:

Whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your Godly deliberations.

Statistics

Finance

State of Religion _____	Paid Pastor	\$ _____
Members received this year _____	Paid Evangelist	\$ _____
Baptised _____ Dismissed _____	Home Mission	\$ _____
Condition of Prayer Meeting _____	Building and Repairs..	\$ _____
Condition of Sunday School _____	For Education	\$ _____
Average Number of Pupils _____	For Publication	\$ _____
No. of Offs. _____ Teach. _____	Enclosed for Minutes..	\$ _____

MINISTERS BELONGING TO OUR CHURCH

Names

Addresses

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Pastor's Name _____ Address _____

Done by order of the _____ Church assembled in
conference this _____ Day of _____, 19 _____

_____, Moderator
_____, Clerk

Remarks: _____

ORDER OF BUSINESS

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

LETTER OF ADMISSION

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

Done in Church Conference this _____ Day of _____, 19____
_____ County, Oklahoma.

_____, Pastor
_____, Clerk

PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Sixty-fourth Annual session of the Center Association of Free Will Baptists, when convened at Camp Ground, Pontotoc County, Oklahoma, August 9-10, 1957.

FRIDAY MORNING

The Association was called to order by Moderator, Rev. Claude Freenman, Jr. Song Service directed by Rev. Delbert Akin, accompanied by Rev. Earlin Haskins.

Devotional: Third Chapter of Proverbs read by Moderator.

Prayer by: Rev. Bill Bratcher, Assistant Moderator.

Letters called for, read, and received.

Delegates were properly seated.

The Delegates were as follows:

Church	Delegates	Alternates
Ada	three	none
Stratford	two	one
Stonewall	two	one
Camp Grounds	three	none
Gaar Corner	two	one
Happyland	one	two
Oakman	two	one
Cedar Grove	one	none
Wilson	three	none
East Sulphur	three	none

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

New Moderator: Rev. Scott W. Jones.

New Assistant Moderator: Rev. Delbert Akin.

New Clerk: Bro. Lonnie Barnes.

New Assistant Clerk and Treasurer: Bro. Virgil Hunt.

New member of Board of Trustees: Bro. Gurley Fowler.

Old members are: Bro. Virgil Hunt, Bro. Fred Barker.

New member of Examining Board: Rev. Earlin Haskins.

Old members are: Rev. F. M. Wood, Rev. Delbert Akin.

New members take their position, old members step out.

Prayer by Rev. L. D. Stonecipher on behalf of the new officers.

Petitionary Letters called for. The East Sulphur Free Will Baptist Church presents a letter requesting admittance into the Center Association.

Motion made and carried to remove the request from the table, that was tabled last quarterly meeting. This request was for investigation and recommendation concerning the East Sulphur Free Will Baptist Church.

The Request was granted by the Association one-hundred percent.

Motion made and carried to adjourn until one o'clock.

The Introduction Message was brought by Rev. Earlin Haskins.

Reading from II Tim. first Chapter, and Romans Thirteenth Chapter.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Song Service directed by Rev. Jimmy Ray Nichols, accompanied by Sis. Cleora Hendrix.

Prayer by Rev. Claude Freeman Jr.

Special Singing by the Non Trio.

Devotional: The Church Covenant.

Prayer by Bro. Virgil Hunt.

The Rules of Order read by Moderator.

Recess declared by Moderator for committee work:

Appointment of committees:

HOME MISSION

Delbert Akin
 Martha Wyrick
 Lorene Bratcher
 Lennie Sparks

RESOLUTIONS

Curtis Hogue
 Claude Freeman Jr.
 Bill Bratcher
 Joe Kee
 F. M. Wood

OBITUARY

Ed Price
 Lovie Chism
 Jess Berryman
 E. H. Simpson
 Impson Anderson

LEAGUE

Irene Collings
 Bernadeen Freeman
 Norma Bratcher
 Cleora Hendrix

TEMPERANCE

Earlin Haskins
 Vivian Hogue
 Nellie Blackwell
 Ruth Standley
 Christine Barnes

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Jimmy Ray Nickels
 L. D. Stonecipher
 Francis Wilson
 Fred Hooper
 Jewel Wilson

YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE

Name	Church
Jim Caton	Oakman
Everett Pannell	Camp Ground
Irene Collings	Ada
Garrett Beller	Wilson
Robert Wyrick	Happyland
Claude Freeman Jr.	Stratford
Lovie Chism	Cedar Grove
Joe Kee	Stonewall
Lonnie Barnes	Gaar Corner
Mildred Wallings	Non
Ruth Standley	East Sulphur

Rev. Scott W. Jones was elected as member of State General Board.

The Quarterly meetings are placed as follows:—

First: Happyland Second: Ada Third: Stonewall
 Fourth: Sulphur

The Speaker for the first Quarterly Meeting will be Rev. Ben Pixley, Alternate: Rev. Doyle Cox.

Introductory Speaker for next Annual Association will be Rev. Fred Hooper, Alternate: Rev. Delbert Akin.

Memorial Message to be brought by Rev. F. M. Wood, Alternate: Rev. L. D. Stonecipher.

The Association elected for Evangelist for the Camp Meeting of 1958. Rev. Gilbert Pixley and Rev. Rupert Pixley, both or one, Alternate: Rev. Wade Jernigan.

Moderator declares a thirty-minute recess for committee work.
Dismissed by Bro. Ed Price.

Association called to order by Moderator.

Song service directed by Rev. Claude Freeman Jr., accompanied by Sis. Cleora Hendrix.

Prayer by Bro. Jess Berryman.

Resolutions Committee reports given and received (see reports).

Motion made and carried to adjourn until 9:30 Saturday Morning.

Dismissed by Bro. E. H. Simpson.

SATURDAY MORNING

Meeting called to order by Moderator.

Song Service directed by Rev. Claude Freeman Jr., accompanied by Rev. Earlin Haskins.

Prayer by Rev. Bill Bratcher.

Devotional by Rev. L. D. Stonecipher, twenty-third chapter of Isaiah.

Prayer by Rev. L. D. Stonecipher.

Treasurer's financial report given and received. (see report).

Motion made and carried to accept the recommendations from the churches for State Delegates. They are as follows: Lois Gray, Mary Kee, Helen Turner, Dessie Light, Lennie Sparks, Dorothy Akin, Lovie Chism, Jewel Wilson, Wilford Lee, Christine Barnes, Mildred Wallings.

Moderator given authority to appoint alternates to State Delegates if some of them aren't present.

Report of Temperance committee given and received. (see report).

League Committee report given and received. (see report).

Sunday School Committee report given and received. (see report).

Home Missions Committee report given and received. (see report).

Obituary Committee report given and received. (see report).

Dismissed for Memorial Service by Bro. Wilford Lee.

Memorial Message rendered by Scott W. Jones.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

Meeting called to order by Moderator.

Song service directed by Rev. Jimmy Ray Nichols, accompanied by Earlin Haskins.

Prayer by Bro. E. H. Simpson.

The Delegation elected a Home Mission Board. They are as follows: one year—Rev. Bill Bratcher, two years—Rev. Claude Freeman Jr., three years and Chairman—Rev. Delbert Akin.

The election of the food committee is as follows:

Ollie Rogers	Ada
Vesta Henry	Stratford
Mildred Stonecipher	Wilson
Flora Carter	Oakman
Dessie Light	Camp Ground
Johnnie Bird	East Sulphur
Lessie Hendrix	Non
Estel Cox	Garr Corner
Martha Wyrick	Cedar Grove
Mary Lee	Stonewall

Resolutions Numbers 3 and 4 were submitted. These were adopted. (see report).

A motion made and carried for Moderator to appoint a committee to promote a campaign for the State Association to be held in the Center Association in 1958.

These Committee Members are: Rev. Delbert Akin, Rev. F. M. Wood, and Bro. Virgil Hunt.

Youth Camp Financial Report Given and received.

Motion made and carried for the Center Association to pay the remaining indebtedness on the dining shed that was built.

Motion made and carried to have five-hundred minutes printed.

Motion made and carried to dismiss all temporary committees.

Motion made and carried to adjourn until the first Quarterly Meeting.

Dismissed by Bro. Ed Price.

RESOLUTIONS

1. Be it resolved that we buy twelve or more Army type bunk beds for the dormitories.
 2. Be it resolved that we buy one-hundred song books.
 3. Realizing that in most parts of our country that Saturday nights are given to the devil and his work; therefore, be it resolved that we commend the League workers and Young People of our Association on their Saturday Night Fellowship Meetings, which we think is responsible to a great extent for our good Youth Camp each year, and for splendid progress of our churches.
- church extend an invitation to the 1957 session of the State Association to bring the 1958 session of the State Association to Ada.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

HOME MISSION:

We, the Home Mission Committee wish to commend this Association for the support of the State and National Mission Programs.

We wish to report that active support has been given to Rev. and Mrs. Lonnie Sparks of Sulphur, who are now in preparation for service with the Foreign Mission Board of the National Association in Africa.

We recommend that our churches continue to support the State and National mission programs.

We recommend that a permanent Mission Board be elected by the Center Association, consisting of at least three members to be elected to rotate so that one member be elected each year. This Board shall have the responsibility of promoting the Mission program of the Center Association.

We further recommend that an additional five percent of Co-operative receipts be retained for support of this Mission Board.

We recommend that each church organize a Women's Auxiliary, and that an Associational Auxiliary be reorganized to convene preceding each quarterly meeting and on Thursday before each Annual Association.

LEAGUE:

It is our opinion that each church should have a League to influence all of the youth in the communities in the way of Christ, and work toward the building of the League Rally, Youth Fellowship, and the Youth Camp, at every meeting.

We recommend that all sponsors and leaders be dedicated to Christian service, as the children of today are the Church leaders of the future.

Our Rally day is on the first Sunday of each quarter.

League Sponsors are: Rev. and Mrs. Doyle Cox.

President: Bro. Wilford Lee, Vice-president: Bro. John Bill Martin, Secretary: Sis. Bonnie Kee, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer: Sis. Ruth Ruth Phillips.

TEMPERANCE:

We know that God's Word teaches that strong drink is contrary to his will. Prov. 20-1, 23-19, 20, 21, 1st Tim. 3-3, Rom. 14-21—Therefore we recommend to the body, that we take an active stand for the adoption of the "Local Option Bill," to be voted on this year: Furthermore, that we oppose any official, or candidate for office who is not against the liquor traffic. We will sign pledge cards with the United Drys, and pray that God will give us Victory.

OBITUARY:

We find that since our last Association, God has called from our midst the following:

Name	Church
Sister Lewis Wood.....	Stratford
Rev. Vosso Dame.....	
Sister Lareau Dame.....	Gaar Corner
Bro. Merryman.....	Gaar Corner
Bro. Sam Bittle.....	Camp Ground
Bro. Jack Muncrief.....	Ada
Bro. Everett A. Tucker.....	Ada
Bro. Robert West.....	Cedar Grove

We feel that our loss is Heaven's gain. We recommend that this body stand in a moment of silent prayer in memory of the deceased.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

We wish to submit the following report on the Sunday School work of our Association for which we are deeply thankful.

We submit this information:

Church	Superintendent	S. S. Secretary	Avg. Att.
Ada.....	Leonard Wilson	Marie Hickey	207
Camp Ground.....	J. O. Kirby	Lorene Harris	30
Cedar Grove.....	Clarence Baulch	Marie Welch	65
Gaar Corner.....	Tony Walker	Bobbie Voyles	43
Happyland.....	Robert Wyrick	Eloise Britt	40
Non.....	Willie Linton	Irma Wellington	95
Oakman.....	L. A. Vanhorn	Connie Lancaster	76
Stonewall.....	Gerald Brown	Christine Henry	42
Stratford.....	Herman Mink	Bernadeen Freeman	79
Sulphur.....	Lewis Sparks	Mary Beth Chaffin	35
Wilson.....	James Briggs	Marzell Briggs	43
Total Average S. S. At.			755

TREASURER'S FINANCIAL:

Balance brought forward.....	\$192.50
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RECEIPTS

Stratford.....	\$ 95.76
Ada.....	981.46
Non.....	283.24
Happyland.....	83.04
Oakman.....	86.54
Camp Ground.....	79.34
Wilson.....	10.00
Stonewall.....	58.67
Gaar Corner.....	15.00
Total	\$1693.05.....\$1693.05

Received from 1956 Ass'n.....	358.30
Minute money 1956 Ass'n.....	140.00
Received from Youth Fellowship.....	24.56
Refund on Stove.....	1.00
Offering for Evangelist at Camp 1957.....	100.00
Offering at Camp for improvement.....	43.20
TOTAL RECEIVED FOR THE YEAR.....	\$2444.45
Received during the year.....	\$2444.45
Balance brought forward.....	192.50

GRAND TOTAL	\$2636.95
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Paid Out

C. M. Mays Lumber Co.....	\$427.07
Parker Supply (Stove).....	30.00
Swanson Supply (Refrig.).....	40.00
People's Electric.....	29.14
Shawnee Amer. Printing.....	61.41
Labor	52.00
Eby-McCauley Insurance.....	58.88
Biddy Printing.....	22.05
Mounger Refrigeration.....	26.00
Evangelist	200.00
Postage and Supplies.....	2.94
State Cooperative Plan.....	1454.13
TOTAL PAID OUT.....	\$2403.62

	2403.62
BALANCE ON HAND, AUGUST 8, 1957.....	\$ 233.33

Church.....	Pastor.....	Clerk.....	Clerk's Address.....	Value of Church Property.....	Membership.....	No. Received.....	No. Dismissed.....	No. Died.....
Ada.....	Delbert Akin	Ina Nelson	Gen. Del., Ada, Okla.	\$42,250	481	30	15	2
Stratford.....	F. M. Wood	Kesta Henry	Rt. 1, Ada, Okla.	15,000	155	18	10	1
Non.....	Ben Pixley	Lessie Hendrix	Star Rt. Calvin, Okla.	5,000	205	21	2	1
Camp Ground.....	Curtiss Hogue	J. O. Kirby	Rt. 2, Ada, Okla.	7,000	77	--	7	1
Stonewall.....	Muriel Wilson	Margie Martin	Gen. Del. Tupelo, Okla.	10,000	32	6	6	--
Gaar Corner.....	Bill Bratcher	Norma Bratcher	Roff, Okla.	none	48	--	2	2
Cedar Grove.....	Earlin Haskins	M. E. Harris	Francis, Okla.	4,000	46	1	7	1
Happyland.....	Doyle Cox	Willie Smith	Rt. 4, Ada, Okla.	8,000	71	6	2	--
Oakman.....	Scott W. Jones	Flora Carter	Rt. 4, Ada, Okla.	none	39	18	--	--
Wilson.....	L. D. Stonecipher	Grace Hooser	Rt. 1, Ada, Okla.	none	76	--	--	--
East Sulphur.....	Fred Hooper	Oleta Finley	503 E. Tah. Sulphur, Okla.	5,000	43	13	4	--

MINISTERS' DIRECTORY

Name	Address
Delbert Akin.....	420 S. Ash, Ada, Oklahoma
F. M. Wood.....	Box 725, Stratford, Oklahoma
Scott W. Jones.....	Route 3, Ada, Oklahoma
Bill Bratcher.....	Route 1, Stratford, Oklahoma
L. D. Stonecipher.....	Route 1, Stratford, Oklahoma
Ben Pixley.....	Gen. Del., Calvin, Oklahoma
Muriel Wilson.....	Box 911, Francis, Oklahoma
Lorene Bratcher.....	Route 1, Stratford, Oklahoma
Curtis Hogue.....	Route 3, Ada, Oklahoma
Donald Dake.....	2111 Honeysuckle, Dr., Nashville, Tennessee
Wilbur Shultz.....	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
Don Earl Simpson (licensed).....	700 W. 16th, Ada, Oklahoma
Clyde W. Bennett (licensed).....	529 W. 15th, Ada, Oklahoma
Earlin Haskins.....	Route 2, Ada, Oklahoma
Claude Freeman Jr.....	Box 264, Stratford, Oklahoma
Fred Hooper.....	Route 1, Stratford, Oklahoma
Lewis Wood.....	Stratford, Oklahoma
E. L. Biles.....	Stratford, Oklahoma
Roy Wood.....	Stratford, Oklahoma
Jimmy Ray Nickels.....	Tulsa, Oklahoma
Dewey Wood.....	California
Cecil McKinzy.....	Sasakwa, Oklahoma
Doyle Cox.....	1006 N. Francis, Ada, Oklahoma
J. L. Henry (licensed).....	Tulsa, Oklahoma

DEACONS' DIRECTORY

NAME	CHURCH
Bill Miller.....	East Sulphur
Leo Bird.....	East Sulphur
Vaudry Finley.....	East Sulphur
Toss Hooser.....	Wilson
Garrett Beller.....	Wilson
J. W. Berryman.....	Oakman
Jim Roundtree.....	Oakman
Claude Caton.....	Oakman
Archie Sloan.....	Happyland
Auther Lamb.....	Happyland
Clyde Wilson.....	Happyland
Lloyd Lee.....	Cedar Grove
Edd West.....	Cedar Grove
John Baker.....	Cedar Grove
Fred Barker.....	Gaar Corner
Ted Cox.....	Gaar Corner
Lonnie Barnes.....	Gaar Corner
Everett Dame.....	Gaar Corner

Willie Linton.....	Non
Gilbert Priest.....	Non
Lloyd Mauldin.....	Non
J. O. Franks.....	Camp Ground
Vance Price.....	Camp Ground
E. M. Pannell.....	Camp Ground
J. O. Kirby.....	Camp Ground
Dan Hoover.....	Stonewall
Lester Henry.....	Stonewall
Joe Kee.....	Stonewall
Will Jervis.....	Stratford
Albert Turner.....	Stratford
Homer Strictland.....	Stratford
John T. Masters.....	Stratford
Walter Henry.....	Stratford
Rixie Suit.....	Stratford
Newt Jervis.....	Stratford
Joe Turner.....	Stratford
Herman Mink.....	Stratford
Leroy Ballard.....	Stratford
Troy Henry.....	Stratford
Virgil Hunt.....	Ada
Leonard Wilson.....	Ada
Gurley Fowler.....	Ada
Audie Nelson.....	Ada
Robert Johnson.....	Ada
Clyde Bennett.....	Ada
Earl Collings.....	Ada
Haskell Dighton.....	Ada
Walter Dighton.....	Ada
W. R. Hayes.....	Ada
Albert Crow.....	Ada
T. A. Crumb.....	Ada
Ed Price.....	Ada
A. E. Lawhorn.....	Ada
Ted Pate.....	Ada

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 separately, 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 and equivalent devotional exercise 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 baptised upon the profession of faith in Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of 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 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. 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 by 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 of 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, given the right hand of fellowship.

ARTICLE VI.—Motion. Every motion made and seconded 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 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 meeting.

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

ARTICLE I.—ARTICLES OF FAITH

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

ARTICLE II.—THE BIBLE

The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by the inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.—II Tim. 3:16-17; 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 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; Hebrew 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 30:21; 17:30.

ARTICLE VI.—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.—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; Rom. 6:4-5; Latin to plunge, to submerge, baptizo; Greek to dip, baptisma; Greek, a dipping, bapton; 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 servants 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 saints' 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.—Matt. 22:26-29; John 12:2-17; 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.—Matt. 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 duty of the pastor of the church, when setting the Lord's Supper and washing the saints' feet to invite all Christians.—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 21:19; 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.—Matt. 19:3-11; 5:22; Luke 16:18; Mark 10:11-12 Rom. 7:1-3; Prov. 4:19; I Cor. 7:10-11 Malachi 2:14-7.

ARTICLE XV.—RESURRECTION

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

Article 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 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 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 sanctions 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 Savior, Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, 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.

