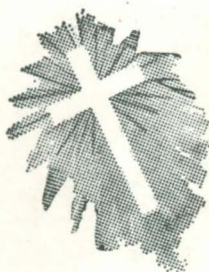


**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
Eightieth Annual Session  
OF THE  
**CENTER ASSOCIATION**  
OF  
**FREE WILL BAPTIST**  
AUGUST 9, 10, 11, 1973



OFFICERS 1973 - 1974

Moderator \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Delbert Akin  
940 West 22nd St, Ada, Okla. 74820—332-7339

Assistant Moderator \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. A. L. McAffery  
Route 1, Davis, Okla. 73030—622-5223

Clerk \_\_\_\_\_ Norma Bratcher  
118 South Center, Ada, Okla. 74820—332-8404

Asst. Clerk-Treasurer \_\_\_\_\_ Earl Collings  
704 West 21st St. Ada, Okla. 74820—332-0568

## Table of Contents

Rules of Order .....	1
Letter of Dismission .....	1
Proceedings .....	2
Committee Reports .....	5
Resolutions Adopted .....	6
Treasurer's Report .....	7
Youth Camp Report .....	8
Quarterly Meetings .....	9
Rules Governing Camp Ground Property .....	10
Constitution .....	11
Articles of Faith .....	13
Church Covenant .....	15
Boards .....	16
Church Directory .....	17
Ministers Directory .....	18

## 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. Petitionary letters called for.
6. Invite visiting Brethren to seats of Council.
7. Reading Rules of Order (By-Laws)
8. Appointment of Committees.
9. Unfinished business.
10. New business.
11. Report of Committees.
12. Election of Officers and Board Members.
13. Miscellaneous.

## QUARTERLY MEETINGS

First — November 17, 1973 \_\_\_\_\_ Stonewall  
Second — February 16, 1974 \_\_\_\_\_ Ada  
Third — May 18, 1974 \_\_\_\_\_ Oakman

## SPEAKERS AND OFFICIALS FOR NEXT ASSOCIATION AND CAMP MEETING

Introductory Speaker \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Bill Bratcher  
Alternate \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Claude Freeman  
Memorial Speaker \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. E. E. Morris  
Alternate \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Scott Jones  
Song Director \_\_\_\_\_ Roger Williams  
Alternate \_\_\_\_\_ Dow Thompson  
Pianist \_\_\_\_\_ Linda Geiger  
Alternate \_\_\_\_\_ Judy Hanks  
Camp Evangelist \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Bailey Thompson and son Bob  
Alternate \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Lynn Wood

## 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. In respect for the chair, anyone needing to leave the Assembly while business is in session, should ask leave of the Moderator, if possible. All delegates, elected and standing, are obligated to stay until the close of the Association.
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.

## LETTER OF DISMISSION

This is to certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a member  
in good standing of the Free Will Baptist at \_\_\_\_\_,  
and as such, we recommend him (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

## THURSDAY EVENING

The 80th Annual Session of the Center Association of Free Will Baptist met August 9-11, 1973 at the Camp Grounds.

The opening hymn, "Bringing In The Sheaves," was directed by Rev. Delbert Akin. Gayla Bratcher was pianist.

The opening prayer was led by Rev. Billy Ray Wood.

Special music was a solo, "Cleanse Me," sang by Evelyn Bryan.

Rev. Carl Shivers, Moderator, introduced Rev. L. D. Stonecipher, who brought the introductory message from John 15: 1-8. This was a very good message on the "Vine and The Branches." The service closed with the congregation singing "Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus," as we shook hands one with another. Rev. E. E. Morris led the closing prayer.

## FRIDAY MORNING

This session opened with the congregation singing "Kneel At The Cross," directed by Bro. A. L. McAffery. Bro. Joe Summers led in prayer. Evelyn Bryan sang "Heaven Came Down and Glory Filled My Soul," as a special number. The Moderator, Rev. Carl Shivers, called the Association into official session.

The following churches were represented with letters and delegates. The letters were read and delegates seated, with the right hand of fellowship extended one to another.

ADA—Oleta Pate, Linda Geiger and Naomi Pevehouse.

ASHER—Clara Birks and Iona Mullins.

CAMP GROUND—Impson Anderson, Annie Myers and Glenn Wood.

CEDAR GROVE—Hazel West, Lavern Scroggins and Edith Akins.

CENTER—Francis Bellar, Robbie Henry and Debbie Henderson.

EAST SULPHUR—Beulah Nye, Flora Kirby and Velma McAffery.

GAAR CORNER—Vera Bratcher, Bessie Bradley and Carol Holland.

HAPPYLAND—Marie Roundtree and Vivian Hogue.

MADILL—E. M. Bailey.

NON—Beulah Swetnam, Hilda Nichols and Vera Mooney.

OAKMAN—Sue Manuel, Flora Carter and Sandra Stovall.

PAUL SVALLEY—By letter only.

STRATFORD—Sandra Williams, Joe Ann Ballard and Ina Bacon.

STONEWALL—Judy Hanks, Evelyn Bryan and Vance Nolan.

WILSON—Mildred Stonecipher and Lela Wall.

There were no petitionary letters.

New ministers in our Association, Rev. Donald Bryan and Rev. E. E. Morris were introduced and welcomed.

Motion carried for new ministers in our Association have voting privileges. The Moderator asked that the regular order of business be suspended, in order for the Treasurer to give his report, due to his having to leave on business.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

The rules of order were read by the Moderator.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting were read.

Motion carried to adjourn for preaching.

Dismissed by Rev. Curtis Hogue.

## Worship Time

The worship hour opened with Bro. A. L. McAffery leading the songs. Judy Hanks was the pianist. The hymns "Jesus Saves," and "Blessed Redeemer," were sung. Special music was "What A Day That Will Be," sung by Delbert Akin, Robbie Henry, Roger Williams and Debbie Henderson. Rev. E. E. Morris spoke from 2nd. Tim. 4:2 and various other scriptures, on "The Mission Of The Church." This was a very inspiring message, which was a challenge to the Christians. Following this message we shook hands one with another as we sang "Victory In Jesus."

Following the worship the committees below were appointed.

## COMMITTEES APPOINTED

**PULPIT**—Walter Wood, Ed Price, Jess Berryman, Judy Hanks and Annie Myers.  
**TEMPERANCE**—Flora Carter, Vera Bratcher, Mildred Stonecipher, Hilda Nichols and E. M. Bailey.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**—Bessie Bradley, Hazel West, Beulah Nye, Sue Manuel and Debbie Henderson.

**OBITUARY**—Oleta Pate, Jo Ann Ballard, Marie Roundtree, Beulah Swetnam and Iona Mullins.

**C T S**—Robbie Henry, Glenn Wood, Linda Geiger, Carol Holland and Vance Nolan.

## STATE DELEGATES

Ruth Morris, Iona Mullins, Myrtle Roberts, Robbie Henry, Velma McAffery, Myrtle Shivers, Hilda Nichols, Hallie Wood, Evelyn Bryan, Dorothy Akin, Oleta Pate, Flora Kirby, Hazel West, Zora Williams and Florence Allen.

## FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Bro. A. L. McAffery led "Redeemed," as our opening song.

Rev. Raymond Allen rendered the song, "He Washed My Eyes With Tears," as a special number.

Sister Vivian Hogue was seated as a delegate from Happyland. Bro. Shivers gave her the right hand of fellowship.

Bro. Carl Jackson read Matt. 4:8-11, as the devotional.

Motion carried to lay on the table the report of the committee appointed at the last Quarterly Meeting to study the Constitution. This report was in written form and passed out to the delegation, for study until Saturday.

Motion carried to accept State Delegates named in annual letters, and the Moderator to appoint ones for churches who did not name one, and to fill any future vacancies.

The Quarterly Meetings were placed. (See list).

The C T S and Obituary reports were read and accepted. (See reports).

Bro. A. L. McAffery was voted in as Asst. Moderator pro-temporary.

Rev. Delbert Akin, National Home Mission board member, gave a talk on that work.

Speakers for the next Annual Meeting were elected.

Resolution No. 1 was read and adopted. (See Reports).

Motion carried to adjourn. Dismissed by Bro. Claude Freeman.

## Friday Night Worship

Bro. Delbert Akin led the singing, accompanied at the piano by Gayla Bratcher. Songs sang were "I Would Not Be Denied," and "A Shelter In The Time Of Storm." Bro. Earlin Haskins led in prayer. Bro. E. E. Morris called the men in the congregation to the altar for an altar prayer, which was led by Bro. Scott Jones. As a special number Bro. Delbert Akin sang "Yesterday." Gayla Bratcher was pianist. Bro. E. E. Morris introduced Rev. Don Bryan who brought the message from 2nd Tim. 4:6-8, which was Pauls encouraging testimony to Timothy. Bro. Bryan admonished us to take care of God's gifts to us. He closed his message with prayer. The congregation was dismissed by Bro. Billy Ray Wood.

## Saturday Morning

This session opened with the congregation singing "Heavenly Sunlight," directed by Bro. A. L. McAffery. Judy Hanks was pianist.

Bro. Delbert Akin led in prayer. Special music was a trio, Roger and Erma Williams, and Linda Geiger, who sang "This Is What Heaven Means to Me." Also, Robbie Henry, Lonnie Barnes, Debbie Henderson and Leroy Ballard, sang, "Mansion Over the Hilltop." Bro. Wayne Patton read Matt. 16:13-19 as the devotional. Rev. Gilbert Pixley from Van Buren, Ark., was introduced and welcomed. He led a congregational song "I Am Thine Oh Lord."

The reports, Temperance, Sunday School and Examining were read and approved. (See reports).

Motion carried to bring from the table, the committee report on the study of the constitution, for discussion and disposition.

Motion carried to discuss report item by item.

Motion carried to dismiss for the preaching hour.

Dismissed by Bro. Scott Jones.

## Memorial Service

Bro. A. L. McAffery led the singing, Songs sang were, "I Would Not Be Denied," "Hallelujah, We Shall Rise" and "The Lilly Of The Valley." Bro. Gilbert Priest led in prayer. Sister Lorene Bratcher also led in prayer. As special music, Evelyn Bryan sang "Broken Pieces." The Williams Trio sang "When God Gathers Us Home," The Center Quartet sang "Oh The Glory Did Roll," and Judy Hanks sang, "He Cared That Much For Me." Bro. Carl Shivers brought the memorial message from Josh. 4:6, Heb. 12 1-2. His subject was "What Meaneth These Stones." As Bro. Shivers read the names of our deceased Brothers and Sisters, he asked that if anyone wished to say anything to do so. Several expressed things about some of them, among those who spoke, Judy Hanks read a lovely poem in memory of her Grandpa Bro. Dan Hoover, Bro. Delbert Akin spoke of Bro. Jesse Pevehouse, who at the time of his death was a member of one of our churches in Texas, but was for many years a member of the Ada church. We shall miss all these loved ones from our midst. It is ever a reminder that we too must answer this call one day, let us pray that we will keep ourselves ready for that call, and busy doing God's will while we wait. Following Bro. Shivers good message, he gave the benediction.

## Saturday Afternoon

This session opened with singing "Amazing Grace," led by Bro. A. L. McAffery. Prayer was led by Glenn Wood.

After discussion on the Committee report on revision of the Constitution, motion carried to accept this report in its entirety.

Motion carried to accept resignation of Bro. Delbert Akin from the Christian Education Board.

Motion carried to Accept resignation of Leon Scroggins from the Board of Trustees.

Motion carried to adopt Resolution No. 3. (See report).

Youth Camp report read and accepted.

Youth Camp delegates were seated. They are Roger Ballard, Mark Barnes and Rhonda Holland.

Motion carried to buy 12 bunks which we had borrowed from the Hope-well No. 2 Association paying \$12.00 each for them.

Motion carried to give the Board of Trustees full power to build a new dormitory, and to do what is necessary to build by time of the next youth camp.

Motion carried to amend the main motion by asking the Trustee Board to present plans at the next Quarterly Meeting for building the domitory.

Motion carried to give Zora Wilson a rising vote of thanks for her many years as serving as our clerk and the fine work she did.

Motion carried to give Leon Scroggins a rising vote of thanks for his untiring efforts, and work while serving on the Board of Trustees for his many years of service.

Motion carried to give a rising vote of thanks to our retiring officers for their past services in our Association.

Motion carried to adjourn. Bro. W. V. Wood dismissed.

In response to the standing vote of appreciation, I'm sure that I speak for all the retiring officers, when I say Thank You for your consideration, understanding, and confidence. It has been a pleasure to serve you. It is with sadness for me to lay down my job as Clerk. I love to do this work, it has been very rewarding. I have tried to do a good job, and I hope this 1973 Minute that I am preparing will turn out well. I would like to thank Bro. Lonnie Barnes for his fine co-operation, and Bro. Claude Freeman who always helped me to distribute the Minutes, and all you fine folks who had been good to help. Our very best wishes are extended to the new officers. God bless you every one.

Zora Wilson Williams, Clerk Retiring

## ELECTION OF OFFICERS, BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Moderator -----	Delbert Akin
Asst. Moderator -----	A. L. McAffery
Clerk -----	Norma Bratcher
Asst. Clerk-Treasurer -----	Earl Collings
Executive Board -----	L. D. Stonecipher
Board of Trustees -----	James Briggs, Lonnie Manuel, Earnie Mason, Joe Summers
Christian Education -----	Don Bryan, Norma Bratcher
Examining Committee -----	J. O. Kirby, Bill Bratcher, Claude Freeman, Cletus Nichols
Resolutions -----	Jimmy Ray Nichols
General Board for 1974 -----	E. E. Morris

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Temperance

Paul said in Phil. 4:5-7, Let your moderation be known unto all men and the peace of God which passeth all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ. If we strive to be honest, study the Word, keep ourselves pure, just, virtuous and of good report, there will be no time for trashy actions, base literature or any other unclean thing. Let us, therefore, keep our minds on the word of God and our bodies under subjection without which there is no peace with God.

### Sunday School

We are happy to report that all the churches in the Association have active Sunday Schools, and we have an increase of 10 over 848 last year. We grow as Christians, and we strengthen our churches through Sunday Schools. We recommend that all officers and teachers be Christians, and members of the church.

### Obituary

We the Obituary Committee report that God in His infinite mercy, has seen fit to call these beloved Brothers and Sisters to live in another and better place, where there is joy, peace and rest. Although lonely, we look forward to this wonderful hope.

ADA—H. W. Estes, Myrtle Kalley Baucom, J. L. Hendrix, Eugene C. Jamar, A. M. Monroe Waters, May Allen, Ethel Lance, Travis Crumb and Cora Davis.

ASHER—Etta Southwood.

CAMP GROUND—Marie Welch.

CEDAR GROVE—Delmar Crews.

HAPPYLAND—Grady Smith.

MADILL—Frank Black.

OAKMAN—Mary Lee Caton.

PAULS VALLEY—Rev. Carl Walter.

STONEWALL—Finis Groves and Dan Hoover.

WILSON—Toss Hooser.

HONORARY—Jessie Peevehouse.

### Examining

The Examining Committee has met with Rev. E. E. Morris, Rev. Curtis Hogue and Rev. Don Bryan, and recommend they be accepted into the Center Association, subject to a letter from the Association from which they come.

NOTE: The clerk has written each Associational Clerk for letters for all the above Ministers.

### C.T.S.

We the C.T.S. Committee feel that the Free Will Baptist C.T.S. is one of the best organizations in the church for young people. One of our main goals is to train the youth of our churches for now and future service, that they may be better servants for Christ.

Some of our churches in the Association do not have C.T.S. We would like to encourage these churches to organize and support their young people in an active C.T.S. The district officers will help in assisting these churches in any way.



## DISTRICT C.T.S. OFFICERS

President ..... Mark Barnes  
Vice President ..... Dean Stone  
Secretary-Treasurer ..... Rhonda Holland  
Assistant Secretary ..... Kay Slaughter  
Promotional Secretary ..... Freddie Holman  
Song Leader ..... Brenda Allen  
Pianist ..... Cathy Allen  
Sponsors ..... Coy and Sandra Stovall

### Resolution:

We resolve that every church in the Center Association be represented by one or more members at each Quarterly Meeting. If for any reason a church cannot be represented, a letter of explanation must be submitted at the CTS Rally.

## CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION COMMITTEE

The Constitutional Revision Committee appointed at the Quarterly Meeting at Cedar Grove, met on June 28, 1973 at the Ada Church with three of the six members present. The following revised Constitution is presented for approval by the Association at the Annual Meeting. (See Constitution).

### Committee Members:

Delbert Akin, A. L. McAffery  
Earnie Mason, Cletus Nichols  
W. V. Wood, Raymond Allen

A request from the Stratford Church for the Examining Board to examine Bro. Wendell Wood to be licensed to preach the Gospel, was referred to the Examining Board.

## WOMAN'S AUXILIARY DISTRICT OFFICERS

President ..... Dorothy Akin  
Vice President ..... Ruth Morris  
Secretary ..... Robbie Henry  
Treasurer ..... Margaret Mouser  
Mission Action Chairman ..... Christine Barnes  
Mission Prayer Chairman ..... Jewell Slaughter  
Mission Study Chairman ..... Lorene Bratcher  
Field Secretary ..... Louise Jackson

The first meeting will be the first Thursday in October at 7:00 P.M. at the Ada Church.

If your church does not have a Woman's Auxiliary, and you are interested in organizing one, contact our Field Secretary, or any of the above officers, who will be glad to assist you.

Dorothy Akin, President

## RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

No. 1. Whereas, Bro. Dock and Sister Norma Caton must have a total of \$1,100.00 monthly financial support pledged to their account in order to go to Spain, their field of appointment by the Free Will Baptist Foreign Mission Board, Be it resolved, that the churches of Center Association give at least \$500.00 per month, (\$6,000.00 annually) for their support while they are on itinerant work, and during their term of service on the Mission Field.

No. 3. Be it resolved that the Association recommend to the Christian Education Board to raise the pay of the cooks. Also, be it resolved, that the present cooks be given an opportunity to keep the jobs if so desired.

# TREASURER'S REPORT 1970

## RECEIPTS

Ada -----	\$11,879.00	
Asher -----	186.50	
Camp Ground -----	180.34	
Cedar Grove -----	417.00	
Center -----	620.19	
East Sulphur -----	404.88	
Gaar Corner -----	910.00	
Happyland -----	288.08	
Madill -----	35.00	
Non -----	1,401.00	
Oakman -----	867.23	
Pauls Valley -----	253.51	
Stonewall -----	609.00	
Stratford -----	875.53	
Wilson -----	707.26	
Youth Camp -----	439.81	
Youth Fellowship -----	90.00	
Association Mission Offering -----	582.90	
TOTAL RECEIPTS -----		\$20,747.23
Balance From Last Year -----		322.04
		<hr/>
		\$21,069.27

## DISBURSEMENTS

State Association -----	\$18,205.75	
Bates Supply -----	200.00	
Waldo Young, State Delegate Fees -----	150.00	
Ada News, Printing Minutes -----	160.00	
Free Will Baptist Book Store -----	161.09	
C. H. Mays Lumber -----	207.43	
James Briggs, Stove -----	165.00	
Zora Wilson, Service and Supplies -----	69.76	
Peoples Electric -----	50.65	
Bell Telephone -----	9.49	
B. H. Brice -----	47.50	
Gene Stone -----	80.00	
C. O. Wall -----	108.00	
Septic Sanitation Services -----	25.00	
Youth Camp, Food -----	55.00	
Gregory Pest Control -----	40.00	
Waldo Young, Camp Evangelist -----	150.00	
Jack Richey, Camp Evangelist -----	150.00	
Homer Young, Camp Evangelist -----	150.00	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS -----		\$20,184.67
Balance in Treasury -----		884.60
		<hr/>
		\$21,069.27

James L. Barnes, Treasurer

## YOUTH CAMP REPORT

Total number of students registered .....	131
Pre-School .....	4
Juniors .....	40
Junior High .....	53
Seniors .....	34
Teachers, Sponsors and Other Adults .....	16
Cooks and Helpers .....	4
Total Attendance .....	<u>151</u>

### FINANCIAL REPORT OF CAMP

#### RECEIPTS

From Churches for Groceries .....	\$ 385.00
Fees, Insurance, Miscel. ....	763.00
Meals, Sale of Extra Groceries .....	149.49
Offering at Camp Meeting .....	219.40
Concession Income .....	558.26
TOTAL RECEIPTS .....	<u>\$2,075.15</u>

#### DISBURSEMENTS

Groceries, Supplies, Miscel. ....	\$ 979.37
Salaries, Camp and Association .....	500.00
Concession Expense .....	366.26
TOTAL EXPENSE .....	<u>\$1,845.63</u>
Balance on Hand .....	229.52
	<u>\$2,075.15</u>

## QUARTERLY MEETINGS

### November 1972

The First Quarterly Meeting met at the Center Church. Rev. Joel Kircher, Assistant Moderator, was in charge. All the churches except Madill, were represented. The Madill church was represented by their pastor.

The following business was transacted.

Motion carried to give Rev. Raymond Allen voting rights at this session.

A letter of recommendation from the Canadian Association was read in regards to Rev. Earnie Mason Jr.

Motion carried to allow Bro. Delbert Akin to serve as Asst. Moderator pro-temporary.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

Rev. Orville Romine was elected as a member of the Examining Committee, replacing Rev. Joe Conn who moved out of our Association.

The Examining Committee recommended that Bro. Arthur Williams from the Stratford church to be ordained as a deacon, and to receive Rev. Earnie Mason into our Association. Motion carried to accept this recommendation.

Rev. Claude Freeman was elected to be Alternate Memorial speaker for the annual Association, replacing Rev. Joe Conn.

Motion carried for the Association to conduct a Ministers and Deacons conference during the next quarter. This was clarified that all men and laymen were invited to participate, and that the officers of the Association were responsible for arranging this meeting, as to date, location and program.

Messengers for this session were Rev. Raymond Allen and Rev. Mark Barnes.

### February 1973

This session convened with the Non church, with Rev. Carl Shivers, Moderator presiding. All the churches except Madill and Stonewall were represented.

The following business was transacted.

The Treasurer's report was read and approved.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting was read and accepted.

Motion carried to not confine the meeting of Ministers and Deacons to any certain quarter.

Bro. Wayne Patton was granted voting rights during this session.

Motion carried to postpone action on a resolution regarding the Examining Board until next Quarterly Meeting.

The following churches sent recommendations to the Examining Board:

The Ada church asked the board to examine Bros. Lowell Watson and Norris Lillard for office of deacons.

The Cedar Grove church asked for Bro. Maurice Adams to be examined for office of deacon.

The Gaar Corner requested Bros. Joe Henry and Ronnie Rowe be examined for office of deacons.

The Pauls Valley asked the board to examine Rev. Raymond Allen to be accepted into the Center Association.

The clerk later notified the Board of these recommendations, since none of the board were present.

Visiting Ministers, Rev. Jerry Rhodes, from Hilldale College, and Rev. Brandon, pastor at the Allen church were introduced and welcomed.

Speaker for this session was Rev. Wayne Patton. Special singers were the New Life Singers from Hillsdale College.

Dismissed by Rev. Carl Jackson.

### May 1973

The third Quarterly Meeting met with the Cedar Grove church. Rev. Carl Shivers, Moderator, presiding. All the churches were represented.

A written Treasurer's report was passed to the delegation.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting was read and accepted.

Bro. Leon Scroggins, member of the Board of Trustees, gave an oral report on work being done toward new buildings and improvements at the Camp Ground. He also submitted one bid from a construction company for proposed expense on a building.

There was a motion made to build a building on the Camp Ground and for the expense to be flexible. This was discussed and tabled until afternoon.

Motion carried to bring from table business of building on the Camp Ground property. Motion carried to build.

A letter from the Fellowship Association recommending Rev. Raymond Allen to membership in our Association was read and accepted.

The Examining Board reported they had met and examined Maurice Adams, Joe Henry, Lowell Watson and Norris Lillard for office of deacons and recommend they be ordained. They also reported that Bro. Ronnie Rowe had declined to meet with them. They also had examined Rev. Raymond Allen and Rev. Wayne Patton and recommended they be given a standing vote in the Center Association subject to a letter from the Northeast and First Mission Associations respectfully. Motion carried to adopt these recommendations.

Motion carried to appoint a committee to study our Constitution and bring recommendation to the annual meeting. Appointed were Bros. Delbert Akin, A. L. McAffery, Earnie Mason, Cletus Nichols, W. V. Wood and Raymond Allen.

Motion carried to rescind the recommendation regarding a Fellowship Meeting and Ministers Conference.

Motion carried to bring to floor Resolution regarding the Examining Board being present at every Quarterly Meeting which had been tabled at the last Quarterly Meeting. After discussion, the resolution was defeated.

Rev. Bill Jones, President of Hillsdale College, was present and brought the noon message. Bro. Cletus Nichols brought the afternoon sermon.

At each of the Quarterly Meetings, the host churches served fine meals, and extended their hospitality to members and visitors alike. The fellowship was wonderful, and our hearts were blessed. We thank God for our christian Brothers and Sisters.

## **RULES GOVERNING CAMP GROUND PROPERTY**

1. No camping will be allowed on the west side of the brook that runs across the property.
2. No person or persons will be allowed to take up residence, permanent or temporary, on the property, unless by special permission by the Board of Trustees.
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, thense southward still consecutively along the east side of property to the SE corner of said property, said lots shall be 40 feet square. A plat of same shall be kept by Board of Trustees, also a record of the disposal of lots.
4. Any Free Will 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 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 the 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.

# CONSTITUTION

## PREAMBLE

From long experience, we the members of the Center Association of Free Will Baptists 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

The Center Association of Free Will Baptists shall be composed of Free Will Baptist Churches in Oklahoma which maintain gospel order and are in agreement with denominational doctrines and practices.

Voting members shall include ordained ministers and deacons who are members in good standing of member churches in the Association, elected officers of the Association, and delegates chosen by the different churches in the union, not to exceed three (3) delegates from each church, who upon presentation of letters from their respective church to each meeting shall be entitled to seats.

## ARTICLE II—LETTERS OF REPRESENTATION

Letters from each church giving information requested on letter forms supplied by the associational clerk shall be presented at the annual session. Letters from each church to quarterly meetings shall include only the names of delegates and alternates from the churches.

## ARTICLE III—FEES

Each church shall send \$10.00 to the annual meeting for printing of minutes which shall be distributed at the discretion of the Clerk.

## ARTICLE IV—OFFICERS AND STANDING BOARDS

**OFFICERS:** Officers of the Association shall include a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk-Treasurer who shall be chosen by suffrage of members present at the close of each annual session and shall serve for the ensuing associational year.

**STANDING BOARDS:** All boards shall be composed of five (5) members who shall be elected at the annual meeting to terms of 5, 4, 3, 2, and 1 year. Vacancies in the boards may be filled at the quarterly meetings of the Association. Standing boards and duties are as follows:

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** This board shall hold title to all real property owned by the Association. It shall be responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the associational property.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD:** This board shall act for and in behalf of the Association when not in session. It shall examine all churches desiring to unite with the Association and shall act as an organizational council for newly constituted churches.

This board shall have the authority to call the Association into special session by notifying member churches at least ten (10) days in advance of the called session.

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD:** This board shall be responsible for arranging the program and selecting workers for the annual youth camp. They shall promote the Sunday School and Church Training Service programs in the member churches of the Association.

**EXAMINING BOARD:** This board shall examine all ministers for license and ordination including those who shall come from other Associations. It shall examine all deacons for ordination. The time of examination of candidates shall be at the discretion of the board with a written recommendation to be presented to the next meeting of the Association following the examination for approval by the body.

All candidates for ordination to the Gospel ministry shall be required by the board to answer the questions as adopted by the Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptists entitled "Questionnaire for Ministers to be Ordained" as printed in the minutes of the State Association.

#### ARTICLE V—PETITIONARY LETTERS

Any church, including newly constituted churches, may be admitted into the Association at any regular meeting when the names of delegates and a letter petitioning for membership are presented, and when the church has been examined by the Executive Board of the Association and are found orthodox and orderly.

#### ARTICLE VI—QUESTIONS

No question from any church in the Association shall come under the consideration of the Association except it has first been discussed in its own church conference.

#### ARTICLE VII—MOTIONS

Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it be withdrawn by the person making the motion.

#### ARTICLE VIII—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 IX—SIGNATION

The minutes of the Association shall be read, corrected when necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk at the close of the annual Association.

#### ARTICLE X—MEETINGS

The meeting date of this Association shall be Thursday night before the second Sunday in August of each year. Quarterly meetings of the Association shall be on the third Saturday of each quarter ending in November, February, and May of each calendar year.

No decision or ruling made and carried in the annual meeting shall be reversed by the quarterly meeting.

#### ARTICLE XI—AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the Constitution may be made at any annual meeting by a 2/3 majority vote when presented in writing at least one day in advance.

(Constitution Revised 8-11-73)

# ARTICLES OF FAITH

## ARTICLE I

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; 2 Pet. 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, but not by constraint, but by choice.—Gen. 3:1-13.

Section 2. Being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the fall.—Romans 5:14-19.

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.—Heb. 2:9.

## ARTICLE IV—PARDON

Section 1. We believe that Christ by His death, suffering and resurrection, purchased our pardon.—I Cor. 15:3.

Section 2. And offers it freely to all mankind upon the principle of repentance toward God with faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.—Eph. 5:2; Heb. 9:28.

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 all persons reaching the age of accountability, or the knowledge of right from wrong, must be regenerated and born of the Spirit of God if they inherit eternal life.—John 3:3, 1:12-13; 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; I John 2:12.

## 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—BAPTISMAL 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, baptism: Greek, a dipper, bapton; Greek to wash, to dip.—Matt. 3:13-17, 28:19; Rom. 6:4-5; I Peter 3:21.



## 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; I Tim. 1:8-9; Rom. 15:15-16.

## 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.—Matt. 26:26-29; John 13:2-17; I 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.—Acts 10:47.

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.—Acts 13:1-4; Matt. 28:19-20.

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 as oft as they assemble themselves together for the observance of the Lord's Supper, and washing the Saint's feet, to invite all Christians to participate in the observance of the ordinances.—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; Rom. 16:12; II Kings 22:14; Acts 2:17-18.

## ARTICLE XIV—FORNICATION

We believe that nothing but death and fornication, gives a scriptural right to a second marriage, and a second marriage under divorce for any other cause than fornication, is a sin of adultery and contrary to the will and Word of God.—Matt. 19:3-11, 5:32; Luke 16:18; Mark 10:11; Rom. 7:1-3; Prov. 5:19-20; I Cor. 7:10-11; Mal. 2:14-17.

## ARTICLE XV—RESURRECTION

We believe in the resurrection of all dead both just and unjust.—John 5:28-29.

The resurrection of the just to glory and immortality in the presence of God.—Matt. 25:34; Job 19:26.

And the unjust to everlasting shame and banishment from the presence of God.—Matt. 25:31-32; Matt. 25:41; I Cor. 15:52; II Thes. 1:4-11; Rev. 20:14-15.

## Church Covenant

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God, in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from 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 observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and to seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring and as far as we are able, to promote the success of the church and the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and 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 enterprise, 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.

# STANDING BOARDS & COMMITTEES

## EXECUTIVE

L. D. Stonecipher .....	5 Years
Cletus Nichols .....	4 Years
Bill Bratcher .....	3 Years
A. L. McAffery .....	2 Years
W. V. Wood .....	1 Year

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

James Briggs .....	5 Years
Lonnie Manuel .....	4 Years
Earnie Mason .....	3 Years
Joe Summers .....	2 Years
Lonnie Barnes .....	1 Year

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Norma Bratcher .....	5 Years
Troy Henry .....	4 Years
Patsy Stone .....	3 Years
Bessie Scroggins .....	2 Years
Don Bryan .....	1 Year

## EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Bill Bratcher .....	5 Years
J. O. Kirby .....	4 Years
Claude Freeman .....	3 Years
Cletus Nichols .....	2 Years
Scott Jones .....	1 Year

## RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

Jimmy Ray Nichols .....	5 Years
Orville West .....	4 Years
W. V. Wood .....	3 Years
Ted Cox .....	2 Years
Luther Parish .....	1 Year

## GENERAL BOARD

Walter Wood .....	1973
E. E. Morris .....	1974

The 1974 Session will be at Tulsa, Oklahoma.

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

Church—Pastor	Clerk	Membership				Value of Church Property
		Re-ceived	Dis-missed	De-ceased	Total	
Ada—Delbert Akin	Erma Williams, 816 Charles Drive, Ada	31	14	9	570	\$135,000
Asher—Ernie Mason	Beulah Fry, Route 1, Asher	0	0	1	18	8,000
Camp Ground—Bill Bratcher	Annie Myers, Route 3, Ada	0	0	1	76	17,000
Cedar Grove—Claude Freeman	Lorene Harris, Route 3, Ada	3	0	2	66	6,500
Center—Larry Weatherman	Robbie Henry, Route 5, Box 249, Ada	15	3	0	41	10,000
East Sulphur—A. L. McAffery	Osie Higgins, 1400 West 18th St. Sulphur	17	0	0	50	5,000
Gaar Corner—Carl Shivers	Roberta Summers, Route 5, Ada	6	0	1	97	
Happyland—Curtis Hogue	Willie Smith, Route 4, Box 362, Ada	4	4	1	56	12,000
Madill—	Alice Van Winkle, Route 1, Madill	4	2	1	31	8,000
Non—Cletus Nichols	Lessie Hendrix, Star Route, Calvin	4	1	0	152	20,000
Oakman—Carl Jackson	Flora Carter, Route 4, Box 468, Ada	23	1	1	68	
Pauls Valley—Raymond Allen	JoAnn Ballard, 108 High St., Pauls Valley	12	7	1	39	10,000
Stonewall—Don Bryan	Judy Hanks, 910 West 10th St., Ada	11	10	2	65	15,000
Stratford—Wayne Patton	Lana Wood, Box 524, Stratford	18	4	0	181	30,000
Wilson—L. D. Stonecipher	Patsy Stone, Route 1, Ada	2	0	1	40	
Total—15 Churches		150	46	21	1550	\$276,500

## MINISTERS DIRECTORY

NAME	ADDRESS	ZIP	PHONE
Akin, Delbert	940 West 22nd St. Ada, Okla.	74820	332-7339
Allen, Raymond	Rt. 3, Box 241 Ada, Okla.	74820	332-0207 <sup>2541</sup>
Ballard, Leslie	Box 70 Stratford, Okla.	74872	759-2854
Bratcher, Bill	Route 2 Ada, Okla.	74820	332-9162
Bratcher, Lorene	Route 2 Ada, Okla.	74820	332-9162
Bryan, Don	231 West 6th St. Stonewall, Okla.	74871	<del>264-3339</del> 3341
Caton, Dock	421 West 14th St. Ada, Okla.	74820	332-1107
Freeman, Claude, Jr.	Box 387 Stratford, Okla.	74872	759-2217
Grider, Robert	Route 3 Ada, Okla.	74820	332-8970
Harris, Floyd	Box 264 Madill, Okla.	73446	
Haskins, Earlin	Route 2 Ada, Okla.	74820	332-6157
Hogue, Curtis	819 N.W. 49th St., Lawton, Okla.	73501	248-4440
Holman, Leroy	Route 1 Ada, Okla.	74820	332-7195
Jackson, Carl	Box 224 Fittstown, Okla.	74842	678-2344
Jones, Scott	Route 3 Ada, Okla.	74820	332-6510
Kircher, Joel	Route 5 Ada, Okla.	74820	332-6989
Mason, Ernie Jr.	Box 214 Lexington, Okla.	73051	527-6234
McAffery, A. L.	Route 1 Davis, Okla.	73030	622-5223
Morgan, John	1507 West 59th St., S. Tulsa, Okla.	74107	
Morris, E. E.	515 No. Francis Ada, Okla.	74820	332-7227
Nichols, Cletus	Star Route Calvin, Okla.	74531	892-3332
Nichols, Jimmy Ray	530 N. Pine Stratford, Okla.	74872	759-2374
Patton, Wayne	Stratford, Okla.	74872	759-3313
Shivers, Carl	Box 225 Stratford, Okla.	74872	759-2195
Stonecipher, L. D.	Route 1 Stratford, Okla.	74872	759-2719
Weatherman, Larry	Route 5, Ada, Okla.	74820	
Wood, F. M.	610 W. 1st St. Ada, Okla.	74820	332-5430
Wood, W. V.	Box 134 Stratford, Okla.	74872	759-2555



CHURCH	G.F.	NEW BLDG.	COOP	HILLSDALE G.F. Pr.IV	CEP	DOCK CATON	HOME MISSIONS	MEX.	SPARKS	TOTAL
Center	\$10.00	332.30		70.00		30.00	8.00			\$450.30
Madill	22.66		22.63		1.33		*			46.62
Stratford	85.21		129.33	60.00	7.60	108.65		1.00		391.79
East Sulphur	25.48		85.84		7.47					118.79
Cedar Grove	20.00	60.00				80.00				160.00
Wilson	51.28		163.28	79.00	6.89	80.00				380.45
Campground	35.00									35.00
Happyland	36.31		54.02		2.76	120.00				213.09
Non	35.00			95.00						130.00
Asher	17.40		20.40		1.20					39.00
Pauls Valley	25.00					21.55				46.55
Stonewall	10.34	25.00	87.96	15.00	5.16					143.46
Gaar Corner		110.00		90.00					15.00	215.00
Oakman	8.34		70.89	30.00	29.19	66.07				204.49
Ada	76.30	500.00	648.55	944.00	418.00	324.15	537.25	85.00	86.00	75.00
Youth Camp	229.52									229.52
TOTALS	\$1027.30		\$1383.00		\$385.75		\$93.00		90.00	
TOTALS	\$687.84	\$1282.90	\$418.00		\$1043.52			87.00		\$ 6498.31

TREASURER'S REPORT CENTER ASSOCIATION  
AUGUST 10-NOVEMBER 15, 1973

BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD.....	\$-884.60
RECEIVED FOR FIRST QUARTER.....	6498.31
TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR.....	\$7382.91
DISBURSEMENTS FOR FIRST QUARTER.....	5559.11
BALANCE IN TREASURY (General Fund \$214.50--Building Fund \$1609.30)	\$1823.80

DISBURSEMENTS FOR QUARTER

National Association CTS Department (Camp Literature)	\$108.90
Lonzo Qualls (egg bill for camp)	15.00
Ada New Printing (programs for camp)	39.75
Southwestern Bell Telephone (camp telephone bill)	16.65
Peoples' Electric Company	21.60
Ada New Printing (ads for camp meeting)	12.60
J.W. Plumbing (work at campground)	10.00
Checks for treasurer	10.89
Peoples Electric Company	7.35
Ada New Printing (Minutes for 1973)	160.00
C.M. Mays Lumber Co. (materials)	26.18
James L. Barnes (bunks \$43.00, Labor 10.00)	53.00
Hopewall #2 Ass'n for camp bunks)	144.00
Okla. State Ass'n for designated funds and Coop	4933.19
Total Disbursed	\$5559.11

Earl Collings, Treasurer  
704 West 21st  
Ada, Oklahoma, 74820