

dup

**MINUTES**

of the

**CENTRAL CONFERENCE**

of the

(ORIGINAL)

**Free Will Baptist Church**

held with

**ASPEN GROVE CHURCH**

Wilson County, North Carolina

November 9, 10, 1955

REV. N. B. BARROW, *Moderator*

LEO TRIPP, *Clerk*

REV. M. E. GODWIN, *Conference Host*



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## Officers of the Conference

### Moderator

Rev. N. B. Barrow, Lucama, N. C.

### Assistant Moderator

Rev. Henry Melvin, Winterville, N. C.

### Clerk

Leo Tripp, Winterville, N. C.

### Assistant Clerk

Rev. J. B. Narron, Greenville, N. C.

### Treasurer

Rev. C. J. Harris, Greenville, N. C.

### Executive Board

Rev. N. B. Barrow    Rev. Henry Melvin    Leo Tripp

Rev. C. J. Harris    Rev. C. L. Patrick

# Boards and Committees

## Ordaining Council

Rev. N. D. Beaman      Rev. F. B. Cherry      Rev. Michael Pelt  
Rev. J. C. Lynn      Rev. D. W. Alexander  
Rev. W. B. Raper

## To Work with the Education Board

Rev. R. P. Harris      Rev. R. B. Crawford      Alfred Ginn

## Committee on Finance

C. D. Hamilton      Mrs. Heber Briley      Marvin Smith  
Herman Owens      F. McCoy Tripp  
Mrs. A. L. Summerlin

## To Represent Stock in Press

Lee Jones      Mrs. Levi Worthington      Mrs. J. C. Moye

## Board of Trustees

J. W. Everton      Levi Hill      Clarence Little  
J. Cicero Smith      A. G. Mangum      J. C. Moye

## Board of Missions

Rashie Kennedy      Frank Davenport      Charles E. Keith  
I. J. Blackwelder      G. O. Mewborn

## Publicity Committee

J. O. Fort

## Historian

Hubert Burress

## Delegate to State Executive Board to Establish Boundaries

N. Bruce Barrow

# Roll of Ministers

D. A. Windham, Greenville, N. C.  
J. C. Moye, Snow Hill, N. C.  
D. W. Alexander, Bethel, N. C.  
W. B. Nobles, Winterville, N. C.  
W. L. Hart, Clayton, N. C.  
J. E. Wooten, Black Mountain, N. C.  
E. L. Abrams, Tarboro, N. C.  
M. A. Woodard, Retired, Winterville, N. C.  
W. A. Dail, Retired, Winterville, N. C.  
L. B. Manning, Fountain, N. C.  
R. H. Mason, Ayden, N. C.  
W. G. Ennis, 430 N. Second St., Smithfield, N. C.  
N. D. Beaman, Snow Hill, N. C.  
Marshall Joyner, Winterville, N. C.  
J. P. Barrow, 3824 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.  
C. D. Hamilton, Fountain, N. C.  
L. E. Ballard, Bladenboro, N. C.  
Leonard Earl Harris, 269 Tarboro St., Rocky Mount, N. C.  
J. D. Vernelson, Route 3, Washington, N. C.  
R. C. Proctor, Route 3, Wilson, N. C.  
C. L. Patrick, Route 2, Walstonburg, N. C.  
C. J. Harris, Greenville, N. C.  
T. P. Ellis, Route 1, Fountain, N. C.  
Graham Baker, Greenville, N. C.  
Clarence Little, Greenville, N. C.  
Rashie Kennedy, Box 913, Greenville, N. C.  
N. B. Barrow, Lucama, N. C.  
Roland Cherry, 624 W. Main St., Williamston, N. C.  
W. B. Raper, Snow Hill, N. C.  
Charles Craddock, 805 Lafayette St., Dothan, Ala.  
Hubert Burress, Saratoga, N. C.  
Frank Davenport, 2111 Main St., Tarboro, N. C.  
Henry Melvin, Winterville, N. C.  
Charles E. Keith, 308 E. 11th St., Washington, N. C.  
R. L. Norville, Route 4, Greenville, N. C.  
R. B. Crawford, 303 Meade St., Greenville, N. C.  
J. B. Narron, Route 4, Box 72, Greenville, N. C.  
R. P. Harris, 1200 Tarboro St., Rocky Mount, N. C.  
Michael Pelt, La Grange, N. C.  
S. R. Kennedy, 408 Greenview Dr., Greenville, N. C.  
Carroll G. Alexander, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.  
Roger Tripp, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.  
F. B. Cherry, Route 3, Greenville, N. C.  
I. J. Blackwelder, Ayden, N. C.  
J. C. Lynn, Route 3, Ayden, N. C.

J. O. Fort, Ayden, N. C.  
J. W. Everton, Black Creek, N. C.  
J. C. Smith, Kinston, N. C.  
Willis Wilson, Route 1, Stokes, N. C.

#### Licensed Ministers

Jerry Ballard, Ayden, N. C.  
Billie Davidson, Ayden, N. C.  
Gordon Hart, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.  
Joseph A. Leahman, Walstonburg, N. C.  
Jack Paramore, Winterville, N. C.  
Milton Worthington, Ayden, N. C.  
Melvin Worthington, Ayden, N. C.  
Guy Owens, Fountain, N. C.  
Mark C. Owens, Walstonburg, N. C.

## Roll of Churches with Clerk and Address

### Pitt County—

Reedy Branch—R. E. Smith, Winterville, N. C.  
Bethany—Mrs. Phillis Dail, Route 2, Winterville, N. C.  
Piney Grove—Mrs. Bettie T. Forest, 304 Oak St., Greenville, N. C.  
King's Cross Roads—Mrs. I. C. Tugwell, Farmville, N. C.  
Sweet Gum Grove—Mrs. Lewis Whitehurst, Route 1, Box 150, Stokes, N. C.  
Rose Hill—Bernice W. Wilson, Route 1, Greenville, N. C.  
Greenville—Mrs. Vernon Barnhill, 3805 Jefferson Dr., Greenville, N. C.  
Dildy's Grove—Mrs. Archie Horton, Macclesfield, N. C.  
Winterville—Clyde Hines, Winterville, N. C.  
Parker's Chapel—Lloyd Johnson, Route 5, Box 45-A, Greenville, N. C.  
Pleasant Hill—Norman Stanley, Route 1, Winterville, N. C.  
Elm Grove—Levi G. Worthington, Route 3, Ayden, N. C.  
Black Jack—A. G. Gaskins, Route 3, Box 296, Greenville, N. C.  
Ayden—Mrs. Thelbert Hart, Route 3, Ayden, N. C.  
Marlboro—Sam V. Tugwell, Route 1, Farmville, N. C.  
Gum Swamp—Willie Edger Bell, Route 4, Greenville, N. C.  
Grifton—Mrs. Percy Boyd, Route 3, Ayden, N. C.  
Hickory Grove—B. E. Dixon, Conetoe, N. C.  
Grace—Mrs. L. H. Peed, 801 Ward St., Greenville, N. C.

### Greene County—

Friendship—H. Carl Tyson, Route 1, Farmville, N. C.  
Ormondsville—J. R. Stephens, Route 1, Ayden, N. C.  
Saint's Delight—Mrs. C. H. Cox, Route 1, Snow Hill, N. C.  
Little Creek—Earl McLawhorn, Route 2, Grifton, N. C.  
Spring Branch—Mrs. Richard Owens, Walstonburg, N. C.

Howell Swamp—R. S. Holloman, Walstonburg, N. C.  
Maury—Lynnell Spivey, Maury, N. C.  
Free Union—Mrs. Frank L. Walston, Route 2, Walstonburg, N. C.  
Hull Road—Alfred Ginn, Route 2, Snow Hill, N. C.  
Harrell's Chapel—R. E. Hart, Route 3, Snow Hill, N. C.  
Grimsley—Jimmie Lee Jones, Route 1, Farmville, N. C.

**Lenoir County—**

Hugo—Mrs. Howard Holt, Route 1, Box 349, Kinston, N. C.  
La Grange—Mrs. Mary Hardy, Route 1, La Grange, N. C.

**Edgecombe County—**

Tarboro—Mrs. Albert Summerlin, 905 South David St., Tarboro, N. C.  
Rocky Mount—W. S. Wooten, 414 Cokey Road, Rocky Mount, N. C.  
Edgewood—R. H. Harrell, Box 272, Greenville, N. C.  
Otter's Creek—Raymond Jefferson, Fountain, N. C.

**Wayne County—**

Antioch—George C. Sasser, Route 2, Goldsboro, N. C.  
Walnut Creek—Miss Ina Ruth Langston, Route 2, La Grange, N. C.  
Watery Branch—Edger Bent, Lucama, N. C.

**Wilson County—**

Owen's Chapel—A. R. Walston, Route 3, Elm City, N. C.  
Saratoga—Mrs. Paul Thigpen, Route 1, Stantonsburg, N. C.  
Aspen Grove—Robert Oakley, Fountain, N. C.  
Daniel's Chapel—Charlie Pittman Jr., Route 3, Wilson, N. C.

**Martin County—**

Cedar Grove—Mrs. Mae Jones, Route 3, Williamston, N. C.  
Rose of Sharon—Saith Bailey, Route 2, Williamston, N. C.  
Williamston—Mrs. Simon Gurganus, Williamston, N. C.

**Beaufort County—**

Piney Grove—Alton Gray Ausborn, Route 5, Box 256, Greenville, N. C.  
Shiloh—J. E. Foreman, Route 2, Washington, N. C.

**Halifax County—**

Dawson's Grove—Hubert R. Dickens, Route 1, Enfield, N. C.

**Pasquotank County—**

St. Paul—Mrs. Sadie Copeland, 715 Fleetwood St., Elizabeth City, N. C.



# PROCEEDINGS

The Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened its two hundred seventh session with the Aspen Grove Church, Wilson County, November 9 and 10, 1955. The moderator, Rev. N. Bruce Barrow was present and presided over the conference. Rev. Henry Melvin was the musical director for the day and Rev. R. P. Harris was pianist.

The musical director opened the conference by leading the congregation in singing a number of familiar hymns. The opening prayer was led by Rev. R. B. Crawford. The devotions were conducted by Rev. M. A. Woodard.

The pastor of Aspen Grove Church, Rev. M. E. Godwin gave the conference a hearty welcome and Rev. N. D. Beaman gave the response. The moderator in his message urged full cooperation in carrying on the business of the conference.

Rev. R. B. Crawford gave a report of the work of the national association.

The moderator gave the delegates and ministers seats in the conference.

The following ministers were enrolled:

**Central Conference**—Reverends D. A. Windham, D. W. Alexander, E. L. Abrams, M. A. Woodard, W. A. Dail, L. B. Manning, R. H. Mason, W. G. Ennis, N. D. Beaman, J. D. Verrelson, C. L. Patrick, C. J. Harris, T. P. Ellis, Clarence Little, Rashie Kennedy, N. B. Barrow, Hubert Burress, Frank Davenport, Henry Melvin, R. L. Norville, R. B. Crawford, J. B. Narron, R. P. Harris, S. R. Kennedy, I. J. Blackwelder, J. C. Lynn, J. W. Everton, J. C. Smith, Willis Wilson and C. D. Hamilton.

**National Association**—Rev. Homer Willis.

**Eastern Conference**—Rev. S. A. Smith.

**Western Conference**—Rev. James A. Evans.

**Piedmont Association**—Revs. Clyde Cox and Walter Carter.

**Rockfish Association**—Rev. Winfred Floyd.

Rev. D. W. Alexander gave a report of the state convention.

Motion was made and carried that we adopt the new state treatise as revised.

A motion was made and carried that we approve the work of the state convention in regards to a uniform questionnaire for ministers, and this was left in the hands of the ordaining council.

Rev. S. A. Smith spoke for Rev. W. B. Raper in the interest of Mount Olive College and he stated that \$8,558.59 came from the Central Conference during the past year.

Rev. R. B. Crawford spoke in the interest of East Carolina Fellowship Union.

Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, the delegate appointed to meet with the state executive board to establish boundaries for the various conferences, presented Rev. James A. Evans who explained the boundaries of this conference; by a motion the report was adopted.

Rev. R. H. Jackson, the superintendent of the orphanage, brought greetings and spoke in the interest of the orphanage. He also presented two small children

from the orphanage. An offering was taken for the orphanage amounting to \$134.86.

Rev. L. B. Manning preached the introductory sermon using as his subject, **The Growing Church.**

The body was dismissed for lunch by Rev. Walter Carter.

### Wednesday Afternoon

The afternoon song service was opened by the musical director. Prayer was offered by Rev. J. C. Lynn. Rev. C. H. Overman led the devotions, using as his subject a few verses from 1 Peter 4:1-11.

Memorial tributes were conducted by Rev. D. A. Windham and others.

Rev. Rashie Kennedy spoke in the interest of the state mission board.

Rev. James A. Evans spoke in the interest of Cragmont.

The following committees were appointed:

**Orphanage**—Rev. M. A. Woodard, J. E. Foreman and Rev. Clarence Little.

**Temperance**—Rev. N. D. Beaman, J. A. Fulford and Rev. T. P. Ellis.

**Resolution**—Revs. Hubert Burress, C. L. Patrick and J. B. Narron.

**Obituary**—Rev. S. R. Kennedy.

Motion that we give Rev. D. A. Windham a rising vote of thanks for his service as an obituary committee.

Rev. D. W. Alexander gave a report of the ordaining council, and by a motion the report was accepted. (See report.)

Motion that we accept Rev. J. W. Everton as a member of this conference and that his name be added to the list of ministers.

Motion that we accept the Washington Church as a member of this conference.

Motion that all the money which is sent to the conference from the churches be used in the bounds of this conference. A substitute motion that the moderator and clerk approve the bills before the treasurer can pay them. Motion that the moderator appoint a committee of three to study the above motions and report back to the conference tomorrow.

The committee was composed of Revs. Frank Davenport, J. B. Narron and D. W. Alexander.

Rev. J. W. Everton was elected on the board of trustees in the place of Kirby Wooten.

The historian, Rev. Hubert Burress, gave a report and announcement, regarding the conference history.

Rev. Rashie Kennedy gave a report of the conference mission board. Motion that we adopt the request of the conference mission board regarding the Five Dollar Club to help new churches get started with their building programs.

At the request of the conference mission board a motion was made and carried that we employ a full-time missionary to work within the bounds of this conference to establish new churches. (See report of mission board.)

The body was dismissed by Rev. Hubert Burress.

#### Thursday Morning

The conference reassembled at 9:30 a. m. with devotions and prayer by Rev. J. B. Narron.

The following ministers were enrolled that were not present yesterday: Revs. L. E. Ballard, W. B. Raper and Leonard Earl Harris of the Central Conference; Rev. Roy Rikard was visiting from the Piedmont Association and Rev. E. B. Joyner from the South Georgia Association.

Rev. Ralph Osborne asked for a letter of recommendation to unite with the Albemarle Conference and by a motion the request was granted.

Rev. J. B. Narron gave a report of the special committee appointed yesterday regarding the appropriation of funds sent to the conference, and by a motion the report was adopted. (See report of special committee.)

Rev. Rashie Kennedy gave a report of the conference mission board, and by a motion the report was adopted. (See conference mission report.)

Rev. W. B. Raper brought greetings from Mount Olive College. Motion was made and carried that we give Brother W. B. Raper a rising vote of thanks for his service at Mount Olive College. A motion was made and carried that we take an offering for Mount Olive College. The offering amounted to \$122.02.

After some congregational singing, Dr. Leonard Earl Harris sang a very beautiful solo entitled "Stranger of Galilee."

Rev. Ralph Osborne preached the conference sermon. His subject was **The Calling of God** based on Romans 11:29.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. Walter Reynolds.

#### Thursday Afternoon

The conference reassembled at 1:30 p. m. with song service conducted by the musical director. Rev. Clyde Cox sang a solo entitled, "I Bowed On My Knees." Rev. Michael Pelt led the devotions.

Dr. Leonard Earl Harris brought a special message in song, singing a solo entitled, "It's Real."

Rev. Homer Willis brought greetings from the national home mission board.

Rev. T. P. Ellis made a report of the committee on temperance, and by a motion the report was accepted. (See report.)

Rev. Hubert Burress gave a report of the resolutions committee. Resolutions 1 and 2 were adopted by a motion. (See report.)

Rev. M. A. Woodard gave a report of the orphanage committee, and by a motion the report was accepted. (See report.)

The historian, Rev. Hubert Burress, gave us some historical information which was received.

A rising vote of thanks was given Aspen Grove Church for their hospitality in entertaining the conference.

CHURCHES	Delegates	Contribution	Value Church Property	Number of Members	Number S. S. Members	Members of League	Members of W. A.	Church Members Gained	Church Members Lost	Paid Out to Pastor
<b>PITT COUNTY</b>										
Ayden	Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Dunn	\$10.00	\$90,000	280	198	25	0	20	5	\$3,407
Bethany	Mr. and Mrs. George Dail	20.00	35,000	183	190	10	30	5	2	1,200
Black Jack	W. L. Buck, Rufus Mills, Hally Mills, Vernice B. Hudson	10.00	40,000	424	378	130	70	48	8	1,800
Diddy's Grove	Mrs. Glenwood Wooten, Mrs. Fred T. Whitley	10.00	4,000	78	100	0	0	8	0	877
Elm Grove	W. R. Ball, C. W. Burney	10.00	95,000	340	192	60	32	9	12	3,120
Greenville	Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Moore, Mrs. J. R. Hawkins, Mrs. D. A. Windham, Mrs. Blanch Snell	10.00	36,000	726	550	104	77	78	33	4,500
Grifton	Mr. and Mrs. Zelbert Cox	5.00	5,500	63	100	0	24	14	0	360
Hickory Grove	Mrs. Martha Belle Rollins, Mrs. Nina O. Dixon	10.00	10,000	122	84	13	20	4	4	960
Kings Cross Roads	Mrs. Carson Baker, G. A. Fulford	20.00	10,000	229	210	5	21	23	10	1,120
Marlboro	Mrs. J. C. Brock, Mrs. Johnnie Parker	20.00	5,000	221	251	25	49	8	0	1,400
Parker's Chapel	D. R. House Jr.	10.00	50,000	234	215	0	26	47	6	1,150
Piney Grove	Mrs. Leslie Humbles, Mrs. H. R. Crawford	10.00	28,000	228	220	30	51	12	8	585
Pleasant Hill	Mrs. Normon Stanley, Mrs. Luthur Stanley	5.00	14,500	90	82	0	20	3	3	1,200
Reedy Branch	F. M. Tripp, R. E. Smith, C. F. Little, R. C. Little	25.00	25,000	271	200	30	52	0	0	3,600
Rose Hill	Marvin McLawhorn, A. D. Adams	20.00	17,500	281	197	0	21	15	5	1,950
Sweet Gum Grove	Mrs. Clarence Barnhill	20.00	10,000	184	123	0	35	0	6	1,406
Winterville	Mrs. J. L. Forlines, Miss Bessie Nobles	10.00	30,000	187	242	0	20	31	3	1,200
Gum Swamp	Mrs. H. L. Lewis, Mrs. Kellie Clark	10.00	30,000	524	135	0	0	7	12	1,200
Grace	Mrs. Roy Speight, Mrs. Hermon Benson	50.00	25,000	250	320	60	60	50	2	3,900
<b>GREENE COUNTY</b>										
Friendship	R. E. Cobb, Jessie L. Cobb	25.00	25,000	150	157	0	22	4	1	1,200
Free Union	Andrew Heath, Clarence Hinson, Mrs. Ada Jones, Mrs. Marion Edwards, Joseph Leahman	35.00	31,500	439	274	0	63	10	8	3,150
Grimley	Floyd Robinson, Herbert Graves	10.00	1,500	178	91	0	25	0	0	1,200
Harrell's Chapel	Mrs. Lloyd Harris, Mrs. Ernest Carraway	8.00	1,500	60	120	0	20	3	9	480
Hull Road	Mr. and Mrs. Carl Barrow, Noah Hemby	40.00	40,000	500	301	65	38	11	12	3,250
Little Creek	No Letter		15,000	114						
Maury	Mrs. H. L. Spivey, R. L. Spivey	5.00	5,000	60	40	0	8	6	0	300
Saint's Delight	Tom Wells, Mack Bowen	5.00	4,000	75	50	0	0	0	0	240
Ormondsville	Mr. Zeb Mooring	10.00	15,000	325	164	0	28	6	4	1,050
Howell Swamp	No Letter		15,000	137						
Spring Branch	Mrs. Thomas Strickland	25.00	5,000	230	80	35	20	4	4	1,300
<b>EDGECOMBE COUNTY</b>										
Edgewood	Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Baker	10.00	12,000	140	120	48	16	25	5	1,440
Otter's Creek	No Letter		5,000	141						
Rocky Mount	Mr. and Mrs. Jim Hill	5.00	30,000	137	119	34	15	3	16	3,666
Tarboro	J. M. Langley, A. L. Summerlin	25.00	35,000	142	180	31	34	26	6	3,101
<b>LENOIR COUNTY</b>										
La Grange	No Delegates	10.00	10,000	124	208	0	24	6	0	1,200
Hugo	Mrs. Wilton Faulkner, Mrs. Howard Holt	10.00	16,500	225	0	0	24	8	3	900
<b>MARTIN COUNTY</b>										
Cedar Grove	No Letter									
Rose of Sharon	M. S. Cowan, E. D. Mizelle	10.00	6,000	131	67	0	0	2	0	1,060
Williamston	No Letter									
<b>WILSON COUNTY</b>										
Aspen Grove	Mrs. Robert Oakley, Mrs. Eula Jefferson	10.00	30,000	200	204	30	23	5	2	1,200
Daniel's Chapel	Mr. and Mrs. Edward Pittman	10.00	25,000	140	219	33	28	6	0	1,200
Owen's Chapel	No Delegates	10.00	30,000	183	184	29	25	16	7	1,250
Saratoga	Mr. and Mrs. Albert Proctor	10.00	40,000	214	189	44	32	6	5	1,250
<b>WAYNE COUNTY</b>										
Antioch	Barney Kirby Sr.	10.00	30,000	168	126	20	26	1	0	1,200
Walnut Creek	Mrs. Nelson Whitfield, Mrs. Mildred Langston	5.00	10,000	54	75	0	0	0	1	582
Watery Branch	No Letter									
<b>BEAUFORT COUNTY</b>										
Piney Grove	Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Tayloe	10.00	3,000	89	69	0	19	0	4	525
Shiloh	Paul Boyd, J. E. Foreman	25.00	30,000	285	134	0	26	7	11	1,200
<b>HALIFAX COUNTY</b>										
Dawson's Grove	No Letter		2,500	64						
<b>PASQUOTANK COUNTY</b>										
St. Paul	No Letter		35,000	59						

CHURCHES	To Evangelist	To Orphanage	To Education	To Superannuation	To Church Finance Association	To Missions	To Cragmont Assembly	To Promotional Work	For Repairs and Improvements	Amount Paid Out For All Purposes
PITT COUNTY										
Ayden	\$151	\$ 205	\$ 296	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 105	\$25	\$ 99	\$ 130	\$ 5,343
Bethany	100	400	50	25	0	80	10	0	3,800	0
Black Jack	750	712	413	0	0	341	0	0	2,133	8,146
Billy's Grove	135	257	0	30	0	145	0	0	411	2,125
Elm Grove	286	344	27	14	8	48	7	0	3,460	7,971
Greenville	320	2,728	695	100	25	1,544	30	25	5,439	19,597
Gritton	114	62	74	15	8	14	0	10	392	1,603
Hickory Grove	300	163	20	10	10	39	0	32	729	2,264
Kings Cross Roads	100	566	0	26	0	76	0	0	0	2,216
Marlboro	400	409	50	0	0	55	0	0	4,024	2,021
Parker's Chapel	155	235	95	15	0	54	0	20	7,247	8,971
Piney Grove	250	275	49	3	0	57	0	0	3,851	6,010
Pleasant Hill	250	250	50	50	7	200	0	20	3,750	3,252
Reedy Branch	150	310	291	0	0	374	0	0	106	6,295
Rose Hill	203	627	150	100	0	96	2	20	854	4,022
Sweet Gum Grove	112	735	246	29	10	51	17	7	993	4,850
Winterville	100	640	85	25	0	18	0	0	1,865	4,680
Cum Swamp	327	77	32	0	0	113	0	0	243	2,605
Grace	842	144	0	0	0	158	0	0	0	12,608
GREENE COUNTY										
Friendship	450	495	50	50	50	150	0	25	17	2,578
Free Union	100	732	64	7	7	49	6	0	5,700	9,821
Grimley	201	117	29	23	25	54	23	15	0	1,925
Hanell's Chapel	100	100	50	10	10	25	10	25	35	845
Hull Road	350	1,505	1,849	39	45	1,327	56	0	1,161	11,810
Little Creek										
Maury	50	10	25	0	0	0	0	0	300	790
Saint's Delight	75	35	0	0	0	30	0	0	250	630
Ormondsville	492	734	157	8	164	72	1	0	397	682
Howell Swamp										
Spring Branch	200	615	20	45	15	45	15	10	416	2,482
EDGECOMBE COUNTY										
Edgewood	100	75	20	10	10	60	5	10	750	2,510
Otter's Creek										
Rocky Mount	190	200	231	0	668	247	25	129	1,864	
Tarboro	140	141	177	20	5	100	10	10	1,373	8,722
LENOIR COUNTY										
La Grange	150	417	201	47	0	87	29	0	0	3,057
Hugo	100	140	65	0	0	0	0	32	150	1,407
MARTIN COUNTY										
Cedar Grove										
Rose of Sharon	214	66	65	25	0	65	0	0	528	
Williamston										
WILSON COUNTY										
Aspen Grove	122	539	245	0	0	60	0	40	328	3,662
Daniel's Chapel	125	230	89	15	20	40	10	15	1,251	3,591
Owens' Chapel	200	180	20	50	10	50	10	10	75	2,344
Saratoga	170	150	15	0	0	48	0	69	19,725	22,133
WAYNE COUNTY										
Antioch	228	423	115	20	0	20	10	859	310	33,197
Walnut Creek	218	132	56	20	0	50	5	0	1,469	2,655
Watery Branch										
BEAUFORT COUNTY										
Piney Grove	249	63	4	0	0	5	0	0	1,484	2,523
Shiloh	202	110	10	0	10	45	0	0	11,000	13,602
HALIFAX COUNTY										
Dawson's Grove										
PASQUOTANK COUNTY										
St. Paul										

Rev. C. D. Hamilton gave a report of the finance committee, and by a motion the report was adopted. (See report.)

Rev. R. B. Crawford gave a report of the education committee, and by a motion the report was adopted. (See report.)

Marlboro Church, Pitt County, asked for the next setting of the conference, and by a motion the invitation was accepted. Marlboro delegates suggested Rev. Michael Pelt to preach the introductory sermon.

Motion that the moderator appoint someone on the ordaining council to fill the vacancy created by Rev. Ralph Osborne. The moderator appointed Rev. Michael Pelt for this vacancy.

At his request Rev. P. C. Wiggs was given a letter of recommendation to unite with the Albemarle Conference.

Today's minutes were read and approved.

A motion was made that this conference adjourn to meet with Marlboro Church in 1956.

The conference was dismissed by Rev. Michael Pelt.

Respectfully,

N. Bruce Barrow, Moderator

Leo Tripp, Clerk

## Meeting of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met in Ayden at the Free Will Baptist Press on September 26, 1955, with all members present.

The meeting was opened by the moderator. Prayer was offered by Rev. Henry Melvin. The program of the 1955 session was arranged and the clerk was asked to notify the ones on the program and to have five hundred copies printed. As there was no other business the meeting was dismissed with prayer by Leo Tripp.

Respectfully,

Rev. N. Bruce Barrow

Rev. Henry Melvin

Rev. C. L. Patrick

Rev. C. J. Harris

Leo Tripp

## Minutes of Board of Trustees

The new board of trustees met at the home of Rev. J. C. Moye. The meeting was held on November 15 to elect officers and to get organized.

The members present were: Mr. K. L. Wooten, Rev. Cicero Smith, Mr. Levi Hill, Rev. J. C. Moye and Mr. A. G. Mangum. Rev. D. W. Alexander met with us to help with our business, which was a great help to all of us.

Mr. K. L. Wooten was elected chairman, Rev. Clarence Little, vice-chairman and Mr. A. G. Mangum, secretary.

There were two representatives from the church in Tarboro asking for a loan of \$1,000. The board granted the request, deducting the interest at the time of the loan and paying over to them the sum of \$940.

There will be a new deed of trust drawn up and four notes of equal amounts made payable in 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, respectively.

The interest on the \$1,200 that was loaned early this year will be paid up until December 1, so all notes will be due at the same time each year.

There being no further business, the meeting was closed with prayer by Rev. D. W. Alexander.

A. G. Mangum, Secretary

## Ordaining Council Report

The Ordaining Council of Central Conference of Free Will Baptists of North Carolina makes the following report:

The council met December 9, 1954, at the Free Will Baptist Press, and examined Brother Willis Wilson for ordination. He passed the ordination examination, and the date for his ordination was set on Tuesday following the fourth Sunday in December, 1954, at Sweet Gum Grove.

The council met Tuesday night following the fourth Sunday in December, at Sweet Gum Grove, and ordained to the gospel ministry Rev. Willis Wilson, Stokes, North Carolina.

The council met February 12, 1955, at Reedy Branch Church. Examination was given to Brother Jack Paramore for license. He passed the examination, and his pastor, Brother Henry Melvin, was instructed to issue him the certificate of license.

The council met June 9, 1955, at the Free Will Baptist Press and examined Brother Cicero Smith for ordination. He passed the examination, and June 26 was set as the date for his ordination service.

The council met June 26, 1955, at Hugo Church, and ordained Brother Smith to the gospel ministry.

The council met August 29, 1955, at the Free Will Baptist Press. An examination was given to Brother Milton Worthington and Brother Melvin Worthington of Ayden, Brother Guy Owens of Aspen Grove and Brother Mack C. Owens of Spring Branch. It was recommended that each of these men be issued certificates of license to preach the gospel.

We recommend that the above names be added to our list of ministers.

## Special Committee Report

Since it is a customary policy among the Free Will Baptist churches of the Central Conference to make a contribution to said conference at each session, we

recommend the following for the promotion of the work of Christ in the name of the General Conference of Free Will Baptists of North Carolina:

- (1) That all churches of the conference make a liberal contribution to this conference each year, and that they be asked to contribute as much as 25c per member.
- (2) That the contributions from the various churches to the conference be used for the promotion of Christ's work within the proposed boundary lines of this conference. The idea of promotion of Christ's work to include the work of all the functioning boards or committees of this conference.
- (3) Since the handling of the Lord's money is a serious responsibility, we need to use wisdom and sound judgment in the spending of such monies. All functioning boards or committees should present a written statement as to their needs and budget for the coming year to the finance committee of this conference.
- (4) We further recommend that the finance committee study the needs of each board or committee as it is presented and that they be given the authority to appropriate the conference money according to their findings.
- (5) The finance committee is required to present a written report at the seating of the conference.

Since the mission board has presented a definite need for conference monies, we urge the finance committee to give them special consideration.

The committee,

J. B. Narron

D. W. Alexander

Frank Davenport

## Central Conference Mission Report November 10, 1955

**Past Progress**—Since the conference elected a mission board in 1951, four years ago, there have been four churches organized and brought into the conference, an average of one church a year. Two of these churches are on a full-time basis and the other two are making good progress.

**Present Possibilities**—With a full time conference missionary on the field it is all together possible to bring four churches to the conference next year. Through your prayers and full cooperation and support even more progress is possible.

**Present Plans**—The conference passed the recommendation for a \$5 Builders' Club yesterday. The mission board is appointing Rev. Hubert Burress of Saratoga, North Carolina, as the promotional secretary-treasurer of the \$5 Builders' Club to work under the direction of the board. All people desiring to join the \$5 Builders' Club may contact Mr. Burress.

**Full-Time Conference Missionary**—The conference in session yesterday passed the recommendation to employ a full-time missionary.



a. The mission board is recommending a budget for this conference missionary program of \$5,000 for this conference year.

b. As soon as the mission board has time to find, approve, work out a contract, and employ a man; the churches of the conference will be requested to raise their pro rata part of the \$5,000 budget. All money raised for this purpose will be sent to Mr. G. O. Mewborn, secretary-treasurer of Central Conference mission board, Walstonburg, North Carolina.

**State Mission Budget**—The churches of the conference are requested to help raise the state mission budget of \$36,000 and send to Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, Lucama, North Carolina, state mission board treasurer.

Each church is requested to raise \$1 per member for the state budget during the state convention year. The funds will be appropriated as follows: foreign missions, \$18,000; national missions, \$2,500; state missions, \$15,500.

**Present and Future Progress**—Progress now and in the future depends on four things: (1) Prayer support of all the pastors and members of the fifty churches in the conference, "Prayer Changes Things"; (2) faith plus hard work by the same group; (3) vision plus courage by the same group; (4) Bible stewardship giving of time in personal work, giving of talent for the Master's use and lovingly giving of our tithes and offerings for the Master's use for world-wide missions.

**Recommendations**—Present recommendations for mission points in the Central Conference are Scotland Neck, Bethel, Snow Hill, Stantonsburg, Dawson's Station, Pinetops, Grimesland and Weldon. The four first ones named are for special emphasis this year.

The board request your prayerful moral and financial support for this conference year.

The board request the executive committee to appoint someone to the board in case of a vacancy during any conference year.

Respectfully submitted,

Rashie Kennedy  
G. O. Mewborn  
I. J. Blackwelder  
Frank Davenport  
Charles Keith

## REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE

We, your finance committee, wish to submit the following report:

### Receipts

From Churches .....	\$618.00
Offering for Mount Olive College .....	122.02
Offering for Orphanage .....	134.86
Total Receipts .....	\$874.88

### Disbursements

Frank Davenport .....	\$ 15.00
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Charles Keith .....	12.50
G. O. Mewborn .....	12.50
I. J. Blackwelder .....	12.50
Rashie Kennedy .....	12.50
Ralph Osborne .....	19.60
Burkette Raper .....	6.00
D. W. Alexander .....	14.92
N. B. Barrow .....	5.40

#### Miscellaneous

F. W. B. Press, Printing .....	\$ 10.50
Clerk, Expense and Salary .....	35.00
Minutes .....	100.00
To Mount Olive College, Offering .....	122.02
To Orphanage, Offering .....	134.86

Total Paid Out .....\$513.30

Balance Lelt in Treasury .....\$361.58

By the committee,

C. D. Hamilton

F. McCoy Tripp

Mrs. Heber Briley

#### REPORT OF EDUCATION COMMITTEE

We, your Christian education committee, make the following report:

That we encourage the people to support the Bible college in Nashville, Tennessee, and Mount Olive College at Mount Olive, North Carolina, through prayers and offerings at all times, and that they observe the months designated by the state Christian education board for raising funds to support our colleges.

The five great needs are as follows: (1) More classroom space; (2) more dormitory space; (3) more facilities for social and recreational activities; (4) endowments; (5) greater number of churches contributing more liberally and more regularly.

R. P. Harris, Chairman

R. B. Crawford

Alfred Ginn

#### REPORT OF ORPHANAGE COMMITTEE

We, the orphanage committee, beg to submit the following report:

1. That we go on record as approving the present program under which it now operates.

2. That we urge our people to continue monthly offerings for its support, and that we make this Thanksgiving offering the largest in its history.

M. A. Woodard, Chairman

## REPORT OF RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

We, your resolution committee, wish to submit the following report:

1. That we extend a rising vote of thanks to the Aspen Grove Free Will Baptist Church and all who have made this a successful conference.
2. That a biographical sketch of each deceased minister be inserted in our next minutes following his death. This work to be the responsibility of the obituary committee.

J. B. Narron, Chairman  
C. L. Patrick  
Hubert Burress

## TEMPERANCE REPORT

We, your committee on temperance, beg to make the following report:

Whereas, the beer and liquor industries have played up their drink of alcohol as having no evil effect, but rather trying to portray its beauty and harmlessness through our papers and on our televisions; therefore we urge upon every minister and layman to use equal vigor from the pulpit and whethersoever opportunity avails itself to portray the bad and evil effect which are the consequence of indulgence.

Further, that we urge upon every minister to acquaint himself with his local A. A. groups (alcoholic anonymous) and work in cooperation with them whenever it may be possible and of value to use their testimony in seeking to bring about a better condition with the alcoholic.

By the committee,  
N. D. Beaman  
J. A. Fulford  
T. P. Ellis

## MOUNT ALLEN JUNIOR COLLEGE

Mount Olive, North Carolina

*Report of W. Burkette Raper, President of Mount Allen College, to the Central Conference, in regular session, November 10, 1955.*

Greetings:

We are now confronted with the greatest opportunity, challenge and responsibility ever to come before us. The following information will show you what I mean:

There are 47,000 students in North Carolina alone who are enrolled in institutions of higher learning this fall. The percentage of high school graduates who will further their education is expected to steadily increase during the next generation so that each year the college population in North Carolina will increase by approximately 4,000. By the year 1970, the state department of education estimates that there will be 100,000 college and university students in this state.

The above figures are true in face of the fact that North Carolina is next to the bottom in the percentage of high school graduates who continue their education.

Only South Carolina has a smaller percentage of high school graduates who go on to college. The national average of high school graduates who further their education is 44%; the percentage in North Carolina is 31%. On Tuesday and Wednesday of this week I attended the North Carolina College Conference which was held in Winston-Salem. This conference is an annual meeting of the presidents, deans, and special representatives of the colleges in North Carolina. At this conference plans were discussed and made to increase the percentage of high school graduates in this state who will enter college. Almost all the colleges in North Carolina are filled to capacity, and a number of them had to refuse students this fall. The question arises, "Where are these 4,000 additional college students going to find admission?"

Dr. D. Hidden Ramsey, chairman of the North Carolina State Board of Higher Education, in an address to the college conference this week, strongly recommended that the junior college should play a major role in helping to solve the problems of increased college enrollment. He pointed out that the junior college brings education within the geographic and economic reach of a larger segment of our youth. Dr. Ramsey further suggested that the establishment and operation of these junior colleges could best be managed by the church. He warned, however, that if the church failed to meet the higher educational needs of our youth that the state would be compelled to do so. Already 53% of the college students in North Carolina are in state supported institutions; 47% are in church or privately supported schools. It is impossible for me to conceive how we can build a Christian nation when the majority of our youth receive their training for life's work in institutions which claim no allegiance to the Bible or the church. We have already surrendered elementary and secondary education to the state; for God's sake, let us hold on in the field of higher education. If we lose our Christian colleges and our youth, it will be but one step more to the loss of our religious freedom.

We may now approach our problems from a denominational viewpoint. There are approximately 500 Free Will Baptists in colleges and universities in North Carolina this fall. This number of Free Will Baptist college students will reach 1,000 within the next fifteen years. Many of these young people will turn to us for their college education if we are prepared to meet their needs. If we fail to provide the kind of educational program they seek, they will go from us and many of them will never return. We can have an enrollment of 250 students by 1960 if we will grow and build an adequate educational institution. This is our hour, and to fail now is to forfeit our right to ever succeed again. Never could so little mean so much to so many. Our response to the opportunity, challenge, and responsibility now before us will reveal whether we are Christians or hypocrites. We have the youth, the money, and this decade; but do we have the dedication equal to this hour? God and history will record the answer.

# Statistical Summary

The church letters this year were very encouraging and showed that much progress has been made during the past year. Most of them were complete and accurate while others were very incomplete. Your conference secretary wishes to ask you to keep records of your church activities, so that your church clerk can fill out your church letter properly for the next conference. This will enable me to give you a more complete summary of the churches of this conference.

There are fifty churches in this conference with a membership of 9,676, with a total property value of \$1,169,000.00 dollars. These churches have 7,158 enrolled in Sunday school. There are only 862 enrolled in the leagues and there are 1,124 enrolled in the woman's auxiliaries.

The fifty churches have gained 537 members during the year and have lost 217 members.

The above statements give a few of the figures compiled by your conference secretary and were taken from your church letters. Although this report is very good, I am asking that we do a little bit more in the coming year.

Thank You

Leo Tripp, Secretary



