

MINUTES
of the
CENTRAL CONFERENCE
of the
(ORIGINAL)
Free Will Baptist Church

held with
MARLBORO CHURCH
Pitt County, North Carolina
November 7, 8, 1956

REV. HENRY MELVIN, *Moderator*
REV. C. H. OVERMAN, *Clerk*
REV. L. B. MANNING, *Conference Host*

Galen J. Durbau

MINUTES

of the

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

of the

(ORIGINAL)

Free Will Baptist Church

held with

MARLBORO CHURCH

Pitt County, North Carolina

November 7, 8, 1956

REV. HENRY MELVIN, Moderator

REV. C. H. OVERMAN, Clerk

REV. L. B. MANNING, Conference Host

Officers of the Conference

MODERATOR

Rev. Henry Melvin, Winterville, N. C.

ASSISTANT MODERATOR

Rev. J. W. Everton, Black Creek, N. C.

CLERK

Rev. C. H. Overman, Walstonburg, N. C.

ASSISTANT CLERK

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

TREASURER

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Rev. Henry Melvin	Rev. J. W. Everton	Rev. C. H. Overman
Rev. C. J. Harris		Rev. W. B. Raper

Boards and Committees

ORDAINING COUNCIL

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

TO WORK WITH THE EDUCATION BOARD

Rev. R. B. Crawford Rev. Adam Scott Rev. Willis Wilson

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Rev. C. D. Hamilton F. McCoy Tripp Rev. L. B. Manning
Rev. R. L. Norville Rev. Roger Tripp

TO REPRESENT STOCK IN PRESS

Mrs. H. L. Spivey Mrs. Margaret Barnhill
Mrs. Levi Worthington

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rev. Rashie Kennedy Mr. A. G. Mangum Rev. Clarence Little
Rev. Sam Kennedy Mr. J. T. Beddard Jr.

BOARD OF MISSIONS

Rev. C. L. Patrick Rev. I. J. Blackwelder Rev. J. C. Smith
Rev. R. P. Harris Rev. Charles Keith

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Rev. J. O. Fort

HISTORIAN

Rev. Hubert Burress

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.
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, Box 83, Selma, N. C.
Leonard Earl Harris, 269 Tarboro St., Rocky Mount, N. C.
J. D. Vernelson, Rt. 3, Washington, N. C.
R. C. Proctor, Rt. 3, Wilson, N. C.
C. L. Patrick, Rt. 2, Walstonburg, N. C.
C. J. Harris, Greenville, N. C.
T. P. Ellis, Rt. 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, Mount Olive, N. C.
Charles Craddock, 805 Lafayette St., Dothan, Ala.
Hubert Burress, Saratoga, N. C.
Frank Davenport, Rt. 1, Kinston, N. C.
Henry Melvin, Winterville, N. C.
Charles F. Keith, Rt. 3, Box 10, Washington, N. C.
R. L. Norville, Rt. 4, Greenville, N. C.
R. B. Crawford, 303 Meade St., Greenville, N. C.
J. B. Narron, Rt. 4, Box 72, Greenville, N. C.
R. P. Harris, 1200 Tarboro St., Rocky Mount, N. C.
Michael Pelt, Snow Hill, N. C.
S. R. Kennedy, 408 Greenview Drive, Greenville, N. C.
Roger Tripp, Rt. 1, Ayden, N. C.
F. B. Cherry, Rt. 3, Greenville, N. C.
I. J. Blackwelder, Ayden, N. C.
J. C. Lynn, Rt. 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, Rt. 1, Stokes, N. C.
Jack Paramore, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Gordon Hart, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
Billy Davidson, Columbia, S. C.
Adam Scott
C. H. Overman, Walstonburg, N. C.

LICENSED MINISTERS

Jerry Ballard, Columbia, S. C.
Milton Worthington, Columbia, S. C.
Melvin Worthington, Columbia, S. C.
Guy Owens, Fountain, N. C.
Charles Doss, Nashville, Tenn.
Walter Sutton Jr., Mount Olive, N. C.
Nathan Earl Eason, Tarboro, N. C.
J. R. Kennedy, Columbia, S. C.

Roll of Churches with Clerk and Address

PITT COUNTY—

Reedy Branch—R. E. Smith, Winterville, N. C.
Bethany—Mrs. Powell Speight, Rt. 2, Winterville, N. C.
Piney Grove—Mrs. Betty 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, Rt. 1, Box 150, Stokes, N.

C.

Rose Hill—Burnice W. Wilson, Rt. 1, Greenville, N. C.
Greenville—Mrs. Vernon Barnhill, 3805 Jefferson Drive, Greenville, N.

C.

Dilda's Grove—Mrs. Archie Horton, Macclesfield, N. C.
Winterville—Clyde Hines, Winterville, N. C.
Parker's Chapel—Lloyd Johnson, Rt. 5, Box 45-A, Greenville, N. C.
Pleasant Hill—Norman Stanley, Rt. 1, Winterville, N. C.
Elm Grove—Harry J. Jarvis, Rt. 3, Ayden, N. C.
Black Jack—A. G. Gaskins, Route 3, Box 396, Greenville, N. C.
Ayden, Mrs. Thelbert Hart, Rt. 3, Ayden, N. C.
Marlboro—Alice C. Parker, Rt. 1, Box 315, Farmville, N. C.
Gum Swamp—Willie Edger Bell, Rt. 4, Greenville, N. C.
Grifton—Mrs. Percy Boyd, Rt. 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, Rt. 1, Farmville, N. C.
Ormondsville—J. R. Stephens, Rt. 1, Ayden, N. C.
Saint's Delight—Mrs. C. H. Cox, Route 1, Snow Hill, N. C.

Little Creek—Roy T. Forest, Rt. 1, Ayden, N. C.
Spring Branch—Mrs. Richard Owens, Walstonburg, N. C.
Howell Swamp—James E. Shackelford, Box 425, Walstonburg, N. C.
Maury—R. L. Spivey, Maury, N. C.
Free Union—Mrs. Frank L. Walston, Rt. 2, Walstonburg, N. C.
Hull Road—Alfred Ginn, Rt. 2, Snow Hill, N. C.
Harrell's Chapel—R. E. Hart, Rt. 3, Snow Hill, N. C.
Grimsley—Jimmie Lee Jones, Rt. 1, Farmville, N. C.

LENOIR COUNTY—

Hugo—Mrs. Howard Holt, Rt. 1, Box 349, Kinston, N. C.
LaGrange—Mrs. Mary Hardy, Rt. 1, LaGrange, N. C.
Faith—Herman Spence Jr., Rt. 1, Kinston, N. C.

EDGECOMBE COUNTY—

Tarboro—Mrs. Albert Summerlin, 905 S. David St., Tarboro, N. C.
Rocky Mount—W. S. Wooten, 414 Cokey Road, Rocky Mount, N. C.
Edgewood—Raymond Webb, 108 Barrett St., Farmville, N. C.
Otter's Creek—Raymond Jefferson, Fountain, N. C.
Peace—Mrs. Hilda Mosley, Box 232, Pinetops, N. C.

WAYNE COUNTY—

Antioch—George C. Sasser, Rt. 2, Goldsboro, N. C.
Walnut Creek—Miss Ina Ruth Langston, Rt. 2, LaGrange, N. C.
Watery Branch—Edgar Bent, Lucama, N. C.

WILSON COUNTY—

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

MARTIN COUNTY—

Cedar Grove—Mrs. Rachel Wynn, Rt. 3, Williamston, N. C.
Rose of Sharon—Saith Briley, Rt. 2, Williamston, N. C.
Williamston—Mrs. Simon Gurganus, Williamston, N. C.

BEAUFORT COUNTY—

Piney Grove—Alton Gray Ausborn, Rt. 5, Box 256, Greenville, N. C.
Shiloh—Ernest Crillipher, Pinetown, N. C.
Washington—Maurice Cartwright, 814 E. 5th St., Washington, N. C.

HALIFAX COUNTY—

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

PASQUOTANK COUNTY—

St. Paul—H. I. Fowler, 102 W. Cyprus St., Elizabeth City, N. C.

PROCEEDINGS

The Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened its two hundred eighth session with the Marlboro Church, Pitt County, November 7, 8, 1956. The moderator, Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, was present and presided over the conference. Rev. Henry Melvin was the musical director for the day.

The clerk officially opened the conference after which the musical director led the congregation in singing "What a Friend." The devotions and prayer were conducted by Rev. N. D. Beaman.

The pastor of the Marlboro Church, Rev. L. B. Manning, gave the conference a very hearty welcome. The response was given by Rev. R. L. Norville. The moderator in his message urged that we let the Holy Spirit guide us in all of our thinking during this conference.

Motion was made and carried that we adopt the program as printed as a guide to carry on the work of the conference. All delegates from the various bodies were given seats in this conference.

The following Central Conference ministers were present: Revs. D. A. Windham, D. W. Alexander, W. B. Nobles, J. E. Wooten, M. A. Woodard, L. B. Manning, R. H. Mason, N. D. Beaman, C. D. Hamilton, L. E. Ballard, J. D. Vernelson, C. L. Patrick, C. J. Harris, Rashie Kennedy, N. B. Barrow, W. B. Raper, Frank Davenport, Henry Melvin, Charles Keith, R. L. Norville, R. P. Harris, Michael Pelt, S. R. Kennedy, F. B. Cherry, J. C. Lynn, J. O. Fort, J. W. Everton, J. C. Smith, Willis Wilson, Roger Tripp, J. B. Narron, R. C. Proctor, Clarence Little and Graham Baker.

Western Conference: Rev. James A. Evans, Adam Scott, Joe Haas, R. W. Allman and M. L. Johnson.

Eastern Conference: Revs. Billy Jackson, E. E. Edwards, Leslie Rowe, W. H. Willis and S. A. Smith.

Albemarle Conference: Revs. Walter Reynolds, Ralph Osborne and Tom Davenport.

Piedmont Association: Rev. Walter Carter.

East Cumberland Association of Tennessee: Rev. Billy Walker.

Cape Fear Conference: Rev. Herman Hersey.

Eastern Association of Florida: Rev. Charles Brown.

All standing boards and committees were given seats in this conference with all the privileges of the conference.

The following committees were appointed:

Resolution: Revs. J. W. Everton, J. D. Vernelson and M. A. Woodard.

Temperance: Revs. D. W. Alexander, L. B. Manning and C. L. Patrick.

Orphanage: Rev. Frank Davenport, Noah Hemby and Willis Owen.

Rev. J. W. Everton gave a report of the state superannuation work and stated that \$1,221.63 had come from the churches of the Central Conference during the past year.

Rev. W. B. Raper gave a report of Mount Olive Junior College and stated that about one-fourth of the contributions for the college was coming from this conference.

Motion was made and carried that we take an offering tomorrow for Mount Olive College.

Rev. J. O. Fort gave a brief report of the National Association.

Rev. D. W. Alexander gave a report of the State Convention.

The congregation sang "Blessed Assurance."

Rev. S. A. Smith gave a report of the Children's Home. Brother Smith reported that \$18,330.40 of the Children's Home funds for the past year came from this conference.

An offering was taken for the Children's Home amounting to \$200.00.

Rev. Henry Melvin sang a solo entitled, "I'm Going Higher Some Day."

The introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Michael Pelt who used Isaiah 55:1-6 as a basis for his sermon.

The congregation sang "Wonderful, Wonderful Jesus," after which we were dismissed for lunch by Rev. Ralph Osborne.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

Reassembled at 1:15 with the congregation singing "I Am Resolved." The devotions and prayer was led by Rev. C. H. Overman who used Hebrews 11:1-12 as a basis for his remarks.

A very impressive memorial service was led by Rev. Sam Kennedy and others.

A motion was made and carried that we have a nomination committee of three to nominate the officers for the next two years. The committee appointed was Revs. D. W. Alexander, J. C. Lynn and J. C. Smith.

Rev. J. C. Lynn gave a report of the ordaining council and by a motion the report was adopted. (See report.)

Black Jack, Pitt County, asked for the 1957 session of the conference and by a motion the invitation was accepted.

Rev. Frank Davenport gave a report of the conference mission work and asked that we wait until tomorrow for its adoption to give him time to get some copies printed.

The two newly organized churches, Faith and Peace, were given the right hand of welcome into this conference by the moderator. The moderator also gave Rev. C. H. Overman who comes to us from the Albemarle Conference the right hand of welcome.

The congregation sang "Wonderful Words of Life."

Motion was made and carried that we recess until tomorrow.

Dismissed by Rev. E. E. Edwards.

THURSDAY MORNING

The conference reassembled on Thursday morning, November 8, at 9:30 o'clock, with the musical director leading the congregation in singing "Love

Lifted Me." The devotions were conducted by Rev. Willis Wilson. The opening prayer was led by Rev. C. L. Patrick.

The following delegates were appointed to the various church bodies:

Jack's Creek Association—Rev. J. E. Wooten; Blue Ridge Association—Rev. J. E. Wooten; French Broad Association—Rev. C. J. Harris; Yadkin Valley Association—Rev. Michael Pelt; Piedmont Association—Rev. N. D. Beaman; Pee Dee Association—Rev. Charles Keith; Rockfish Association—Rev. Frank Davenport; Mount Moriah Association—Rev. Willis Wilson; Cape Fear Conference—Rev. D. W. Alexander; Western Conference—Rev. C. L. Patrick; Albemarle Conference—Rev. R. P. Harris; Eastern Conference—Rev. C. J. Harris.

State Convention delegates: R. E. Hart, Mrs. R. B. Crawford, H. C. Moore, M. L. Barrow and Mrs. J. B. Narron.

Brother A. G. Mangum gave a report of the board of trustees and by a motion the report was accepted. (See report.)

Rev. Rashie Kennedy gave a report of the board of missions and by a motion the report was accepted. (See report.)

Rev. S. A. Smith brought greetings and a brief report from the Children's Home at Middlesex.

The minutes of yesterday's activities were read and approved.

Rev. D. W. Alexander gave a report of the temperance committee and by a motion this report was adopted. (See report.)

Motion was made and carried that the clerk be asked to send copies of the temperance report to the representatives in the state legislature in each district that we have churches.

Rev. Wilbert Everton gave a report of the resolution committee and by a motion the report was adopted. (See report.)

A rising vote of thanks was extended the Marlboro Church for the warm welcome and the kind hospitality shown the conference during this setting.

Rev. Frank Davenport gave a report of the orphanage committee and by a motion the report was adopted. (See report.)

Rev. J. E. Wooten, superintendent of Cragmont Assembly, Inc. at Black Mountain, gave a very interesting report of the work and invited the public to visit the assembly more often.

After a period of congregation singing, Rev. M. L. Johnson gave a report of Mount Olive Junior College. An offering was taken for the college amounting to \$103.14. The offertory prayer was led by Rev. C. L. Patrick. Motion was made and carried that a copy of the Mount Olive College report be included in the minutes.

The musical director sang a solo entitled, "It's Real."

The conference sermon was preached by Rev. J. W. Everton. His subject was "Personal Relationship to God," based on Acts 9:1-18.

Dismissed for lunch by Rev. Charles Keith.

Churches	Delegates	Contributions	Value of Church Property	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	To Orphanage	To Education	To Superannuation
PITT COUNTY								
Ayden	No Delegates	\$20	\$90,000	\$3,380	\$268	\$ 338	\$ 500	\$ 50
Bethany	Nobles Craft, Mrs. Powell Speight	10	35,000	1,200	100	50	80	20
Black Jack	Hubert Mills, Loren Vainwright, Lucy Galloway, Helen Arnold	10	45,000	1,800	650	925		32
Dilda's Grove	Mrs. S. A. Wooten, Mrs. Fred Whitley	10	4,000	960	200	217		
Elm Grove	Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Murphy, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Dennis	10	95,000	3,120	333	286	106	19
Greenville	Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Moore, Mrs. J. R. Hawkins, Mrs. D. A. Windham, Mrs. Sophia Hardee, Alton Vincent, Mrs. Blanche Snell, Mrs. H. D. Nelson.	10	31,000	4,500	360	2,189	834	110
Grifton	Herman Owens, Joe Turnage	5	6,000	600	230	65	74	20
Hickory Grove	Mrs. Athlene Whitehurst	10	10,000	960	230	224	195	42
King's Cross Roads	C. A. Fulford, C. C. Corbett	10	10,000	1,310	100	424	67	17
Marlboro	Mrs. Anna Pearl Allen, Mrs. Alice R. Parker	20	10,000	1,300	300	192	79	25
Parker's Chapel	No Delegates	10	50,000	1,200	280	100	533	15
Piney Grove	Mrs. H. R. Crawford, Mrs. Leslie Humbles	10	32,000	1,260	265	257	229	7
Pleasant Hill	Mr. and Mrs. Luther Stonley	5	15,500	1,300	150	200	50	50
Reedy Branch	R. C. Little, F. McCoy Tripp, R. L. Worthington, C. F. Little	25	45,000	3,600	300	78	123	
Rose Hill	Marvin H. McLawhorn, A. D. Adams, Mrs. W. C. Wilson	20	22,500	1,800	225	270	212	176
Sweet Gum Grove	Mrs. Clarence Barnhill, Mrs. D. W. Alexander, Mrs. Lewis Whitehurst	25	10,000	1,725	100	565	97	20
Winterville	Miss Bessie Nobles, Mrs. Kennie McGlohon	10	35,000	1,200	200	37		
Gum Swamp	Mrs. Elizabeth Pollard, Mrs. Kellie Clark	10	30,000	1,265	250	256	287	
Grace	L. N. Stox, Mrs. Clarence Vincent	10	25,000	3,900	624	76	81	18
GREENE COUNTY								
Friendship	Linwood Cobb, Carlos Tyson	15	10,000	1,200	400	555	235	50
Free Union	Mrs. Ada Jones, Mrs. T. E. Tyndall, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hinson, Mrs. Miriam Edwards	35	40,000	3,600	200	728	307	42
Grimsley	Mrs. Sam Hobgood, B. T. Dail	10	15,000	1,450	291	244	131	25
Harrell's Chapel	Mrs. Doris Moore, Mrs. Raymond Hart	8	15,000	600	200	150	150	25
Hull Road	Daniel Barrow, Noah Hemby	40	40,000	3,640	250	1,058	1,778	67
Little Creek	Mrs. Henry Bunton, Mrs. William McLawhorn	10	15,000	1,200	100	50	10	
Maury	Mrs. Selma Smith, Mrs. H. L. Spivey		6,000	250	55	25	45	8
Saint's Delight	W. B. Nobles	5	5,000	240	75	12		
Ormondsville	A. E. Vandiford, Edward Bowen	10	18,000	1,275	300	474	110	16
Howell Swamp	E. B. Jones, Carl Webb	10	20,000	1,800	100	298	519	45
Spring Branch	Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Walston	25	15,000	1,200	200	590	58	45
EDGECOMBE COUNTY								
Edgewood	R. H. Harrell	10	12,000	1,440	240	50	60	
Otter's Creek	J. T. Jefferson, Raymond Jefferson	5						
Rocky Mount	J. A. Hill	5	30,000	4,435	363	128	206	45
Tarboro	No Report							
Peace	Irving Wooten, Lonnie Moore	5	6,500	310				
MARTIN COUNTY								
Cedar Grove	Mrs. Madolin Hollis, Mrs. Rachel Wynn	5	3,500	960	175	50		
Rose of Sharon	M. S. Cowan, Leamon Taylor	15	1,119	215	90	93	25	
Williamston	No Report							
LENOIR COUNTY								
LaGrange	No Report							
Hugo	Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Eubanks, Mrs. Sam McCoy	10	16,500	900	258	70	122	
Faith	Travis Hemby, Franklin Perry	15	15,000			50		
WILSON COUNTY								
Aspen Grove	Rufus Everette, A. G. Mangum	10	30,000	1,200	234	670	146	
Daniel's Chapel	Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Pittman	10	25,000	2,480	225	365	205	50
Owen's Chapel	Mrs. A. R. Walston	10	15,000	2,700	300	81	40	50
Saratoga	W. R. Owens	10	32,500	1,300	330	142	68	10
WAYNE COUNTY								
Antioch	No Report							
Walnut Creek	No Delegates							
Watery Branch	No Report	5	10,000	554	149	127	38	48
BEAUFORT COUNTY								
Piney Grove	No Delegates	10	5,500	620	174	96		
Shiloh	Tommie Windley, Gorden Boyd	15	30,000	1,200	150	100	60	25
Washington	Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Clayborne	10	35,000	3,600	270	130		
HALIFAX COUNTY								
Dawson's Grove	No Delegates	10		1,245	185	140	197	34
PASQUOTANK COUNTY								
St. Paul	S. M. Meekins, Mrs. Russell Millard	5	35,000	3,297	385	213	7	7

Churches	Number of Members	Sunday School Members	League Members	W. A. Members	Church Members Gained	Church Members Lost	To Church Finance Association	To Missions	To Gragmont Assembly	To Promotional Work	For Repairs and Improvements	Paid Out for All Purposes
<i>Pitt County</i>												
Ayden	281	209	27	20	2	3	\$	\$ 512	\$ 30	\$171	\$ 104	\$ 6,610
Bethany	182	80	15	15				50	10		300	
Black Jack	480	402	92	75	36	9		278			3,948	10,568
Dilda's Grove	89	102	37	20	13	4					2,674	4,060
Elm Grove	351	205	30	11	8			219	22	15	1,596	5,735
Greenville	720	625	108	86	63	81	35	1,341	102		10,657	24,033
Grifton	69	102	27	27	6			19	10	82	450	1,573
Hickory Grove	117	76	11	17	1	6	15	104	45	35	140	2,000
King's Cross Road	232	210	50	24	11	4	15	113				2,233
Marlboro	230	248	25	50	9	4					2,664	4,784
Parker's Chapel	235	220	26	3	7			105		126	2,870	6,565
Piney Grove	237	229	50	50	19	10		83	10		3,333	6,895
Pleasant Hill	120	89	20	2	1		12				250	2,512
Reedy Branch	285	219	41	53	14	2		83			5,000	10,907
Rose Hill	283	202	35	21	23	10	5	90	2	2	399	3,195
Sweet Gum Road	190	144	26	8	2	10		46	55	10	154	3,308
Winterville	209	241	40	17	3			25				1,901
Gum Swamp	529	161	2	7				30		39	309	3,014
Grace	284	375	100	40	59	8	11	8	5	3	3,365	13,239
<i>Greene County</i>												
Friendship	160	136	67	23			25	130		25	1,200	3,820
Free Union	446	289	60	12	9			45	11		4,650	9,620
Grimsley	166	107	20	23	2	5		173	23	106	30	2,634
Harrell's Chapel	70	135	20	10			25	25	25	25	225	1,500
Hull Road	471	321	60	36	11	30		1,540	45	40	779	12,180
Little Creek	126	125	17	7				10			1,977	3,490
Maury	54	75	17	9	1			30			850	1,263
Saint's Delight	75	60	6	6				25			450	300
Ormondsville	300	150	28	7	18	15		109		6	4,119	7,313
Howell Swamp	126	76	19	6	15		15	95	35	15	151	3,074
Spring Branch	221		7	4	6	15		72	15	10		2,498
<i>Edgecombe County</i>												
Edgewood	110	120	49	16		12		96			500	
Otter's Creek												
Rocky Mount	145	98	24	26	14	4		236	35	141	1,716	
Tarboro												
Peace	24	50	14	24				115				2,212
<i>Lenoir County</i>												
LaGrange	124											
Hugo	211	157	24	2	13			39	30		239	1,668
Faith	62	105	14	62								12,500
<i>Martin County</i>												
Cedar Grove	140	95	2	8	1			10			600	
Rose of Sharon	146	78	18	3				72			300	2,053
Williamston	131											
<i>Wilson County</i>												
Aspen Grove	200	217	27	20	10	5		50				2,173
Daniel's Chapel	153	150	40	22	9	2	25	225	25	25	2,541	7,100
Owen's Chapel	134	159	32	36	8	8	10	50	10	10	521	4,112
Saratoga	225		31	14	4			56	16	41	54	2,690
<i>Wayne County</i>												
Antioch												
Walnut Creek	53	99		2	2			36			657	1,781
Watery Branch												
<i>Beaufort County</i>												
Piney Grove	87	62	19		2					48	2,088	3,021
Shiloh	294	156	25	8	8			120			299	1,969
Washington	160	170	52	25	27	13		190	64	48	3,227	8,737
<i>Halifax County</i>												
Dawson's Grove	81	64	35	16	8	9	3	210	86	3	166	3,933
<i>Pasquotank County</i>												
St. Paul	83	106	20	20	25	4	7	75	7	4	157	4,063

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Reassembled on Thursday afternoon at 1:00 o'clock with the congregation singing "I am Thine, Oh Lord." The devotions and prayer was led by Rev. Roger Tripp. Brother Tripp made a short talk on "The Works of God," based on John 9:4, 5.

The congregation sang "Wear a Crown."

Rev. Rashie Kennedy gave a report of the state mission work. Brother Kennedy reported that the quota for the state was one dollar and twenty cents per member. This includes national and foreign missions. Motion was made and carried that we go on record as trying to meet this quota.

Motion was made and carried that the clerk send two copies of the church letter to each church just before each conference instead of the usual one.

Rev. Henry Melvin reported that the Bible College at Nashville, Tennessee, was making progress but it was badly in need of additional dormitory space. He outlined the plans for the building program and urged the churches to support the Bible College.

A special prayer was offered for Dr. and Mrs. L. C. Johnson, the Bible College and Mrs. Tripp of the Marlboro Church.

Rev. Hubert Burress gave a brief report of his work as conference historian. He reported that he had a good collection of the conference records.

The moderator read the report of the finance committee and by a motion the report was adopted. (See report.)

Motion was made and carried that we allocate \$100 of the conference funds to the board of education and ask them to give it to the Bible College at Nashville. Substitute that we take an offering.

A request came for prayer and this prayer was led by Rev. Rashie Kennedy.

Rev. D. W. Alexander gave a report of the nominating committee and after a few changes a motion was made and carried that we accept the report.

The list of officers for the next two years are found on Pages 1 and 2 of this minute.

The moderator asked Rev. D. W. Alexander to install the officers of the conference.

The closing song was "I Surrender All."

Motion was made and carried to adjourn.

Conference was dismissed by Rev. R. C. Proctor.

REV. N. BRUCE BARROW, Moderator
LEO TRIPP, Clerk

Meetings of the Executive Committee

First Meeting

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met at the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, on December 6, 1955.

Members present were Revs. N. Bruce Barrow, C. L. Patrick, C. J. Harris and Leo Tripp.

The moderator, Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, opened the meeting, followed with prayer by Rev. C. J. Harris.

A letter was read from Rev. Frank Davenport who offered his resignation as a member of the mission board. By a motion his request was granted. Rev. Willis Wilson was elected to fill this vacancy.

A request for funds was presented from the mission board and by motion the request was sent to the finance committee.

The clerk reported that some churches had not been represented at the conference for a number of years and the moderator was asked to visit these churches in the spirit of good will.

As there was no other business the meeting was dismissed with prayer by Leo Tripp.

REV. N. BRUCE BARROW, *Moderator*
LEO TRIPP, *Clerk*

On December 20, 1955, Brother W. G. Mangum was elected as a member of the board of missions to fill the vacancy created by the death of Brother G. O. Mewborn. This was transacted by letter.

LEO TRIPP, *Clerk*

On February 3, 1956, Rev. Carroll Alexander asked for a letter of recommendation to unite with the Central Association of South Carolina. The clerk granted this letter. There was no meeting.

LEO TRIPP, *Clerk*

Second Meeting

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met at Hull Road Church on March 23, 1956. All the members were present.

The meeting was opened by the moderator, Rev. N. Bruce Barrow. Rev. C. L. Patrick led the prayer.

The mission board presented a request asking that the executive committee organize the Faith Mission at Dawson's Station into Faith Free Will Baptist Church.

Motion was made by Rev. Henry Melvin and seconded by Rev. C. L. Patrick that we grant its request. All members voted in favor of granting the request.

As there was no other business the executive committee proceeded to organize the Faith Free Will Baptist Church.

The service was opened by Rev. Frank Davenport, the Central Conference missionary. The clerk called the roll of 34 persons who wished to become charter members of the church. Most of these were present.

The following officers were elected: Clerk, Herman Spence Jr.; treasurer, Floyd Taylor; acting pastor, Rev. Frank Davenport; board of trustees, Floyd Hemby, Larry Taylor and Marvin Taylor; board of deacons, Von Spence, Marvin Taylor, Larry Taylor, Floyd Hemby and Herman Spence Jr.; ushers, Heilig Hoffman, Ben Taylor, Nelson Taylor and Carroll Spence.

Rev. N. Bruce Barrow gave the charge, Rev. C. L. Patrick the Bible, Leo Tripp read the church covenant, and the prayer of consecration was offered by Rev. C. J. Harris.

REV. N. BRUCE BARROW, Moderator
LEO TRIPP, Clerk

Third Meeting

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met at the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, June 11, 1956. All members were present.

The meeting was presided over by the moderator, Rev. N. Bruce Barrow. Prayer was led by Rev. Henry Melvin. The business was then entered into.

A request came from the mission board requesting that the Peace Free Will Baptist Mission at Pinetops, Edgecombe County, be organized into Peace Free Will Baptist Church.

The committee was asked to study the request and meet again on June 28, 1956.

Motion was made and carried that we ask the National Association to draw up a uniform charter to be given to all of the newly organized churches.

There being no other business a motion was made that we recess until further notified.

The executive committee continued the meeting at Edgewood Church, Edgewood County, June 28, 1956.

Motion was made and carried that we organize the Peace Mission as requested. All voted in favor.

The organization continued as follows:

Rev. N. D. Beaman led the congregation in singing "How Firm a Foundation" and "Faith of Our Fathers." Prayer by Rev. Hubert Burress.

The officers were elected as follows: Deacons, J. L. Fuller, Irvin Wooten and Woodrow Wooten; trustees, Lester Langley, Edward Mosley and J. L. Fuller; clerk, Mrs. Hilda Mosley; treasurer, Mrs. Audrey Wooten; pastor, Rev. Hubert Burress.

Twenty-six people presented themselves as charter members. The Bible was presented by Rev. N. D. Beaman, proxy for Rev. C. L. Patrick. The church covenant was read by Rev. N. B. Barrow who also gave the charge. Rev. Henry Melvin led the prayer of consecration.

The executive committee was then dismissed.

REV. N. BRUCE BARROW, Moderator
LEO TRIPP, Clerk

Fourth Meeting

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met at the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayden, September 24, 1956. The moderator, Rev. N. Bruce Barrow, was present and presided over the meeting. All the members of the committee were present. Visitors present were Revs. D. W. Alexander and Rashie Kennedy. Prayer by Rev. C. J. Harris.

The program of the fifty-sixth session was arranged. The clerk was asked to have 500 copies printed to be handed out at the conference. Mount Olive College offered to do the work.

As there was no other business the meeting was adjourned. Dismissed by Rev. Rashie Kennedy.

REV. N. BRUCE BARROW, Moderator
LEO TRIPP, Clerk

Reports

Ordaining Council Report

The council met June 11, 1956, at the Free Will Baptist Press in Ayren, North Carolina, and examined Charles Doss, Walter Sutton Jr. and Nathan Earl Eason for license to preach. They passed the examining and their pastors were instructed to issue each of them the certificate of license.

At the same meeting of June 11, 1956, Brothers Gordon Hart and Jack Paramore were given the examination for ordination. They passed the examination and the date of July 28, 1956, was set for the ordination service.

The ordaining council met on July 28, 1956, with the Second Union of the Central Conference at Pleasant Hill Church and ordained Rev. Gordon Hart and Rev. Jack Paramore to the gospel ministry.

The council met August 16, 1956, at the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church and examined Brother R. J. Kennedy for license to preach. He passed the examination and his pastor was instructed to issue him a certificate of license.

At the same meeting Billy Davidson was examined for ordination. He passed the examination and the date was set for his ordination service.

The ordaining council met August 17, 1956, at the Ayden Free Will Baptist Church and ordained Rev. Billy Davidson to the gospel ministry.

The council met at the Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church November 7, 1956, and examined Rev. Adam Scott and Rev. C. H. Overman. They passed the examination.

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

At the meeting of the Central Conference held with the Hugo Free Will Baptist Church in Lenoir County, November 4, 5, 1953, the ordaining council asked the conference to purchase a steel cabinet to preserve all records of the council. A partial report was read by Rev. D. W. Alexander and

Rev. N. Bruce Barrow read the complete report and by a motion the report was adopted.

The ordaining council has purchased this cabinet with the necessary supplies for the sum of \$69.86. This filing cabinet is located at the Free Will Baptist Press.

The council,
REV. D. W. ALEXANDER, *Chairman*
REV. J. C. LYNN, *Secretary*
REV. MICHAEL PELT
REV. N. D. BEAMAN
REV. F. B. CHERRY
REV. W. B. RAPER

REPORT OF MISSION BOARD

The mission board has been working during the year in the interest of missions in the conference bounds. We have had many problems: First—Right after we got started our treasurer, Brother G. O. Mewbern, died. He served faithfully and efficiently on our board until his death. We miss him and shall always remember his kind and business-like motives. Second—Our greatest needs have been sufficient funds with which to carry on the full-time missionary program voted by the conference last year. For the lack of funds we have had to confine our missionary to half time. Brother Frank Davenport has been doing the half-time work. Third—We now have the problem of finding a man who will go for us on a full-time basis. If any of you know of such a man let us know.

In the last meeting of our board the following motion was made: A motion was made and approved by the Central Conference Mission Board that it recommend to the conference the continuation of its work in the same capacity as has been carried on this year with a view to going on a full-time program as soon as support will justify the effort.

We do appreciate the support coming from the individuals, churches, Sunday schools, leagues, auxiliaries, state mission board, and from the mission points and new churches. With their continued and increased support by prayer and finance we believe more can be done in 1957.

Churches Organized

Faith Free Will Baptist Church, Route 1, Kinston, North Carolina, and Peace Free Will Baptist Church, Pinetops, North Carolina.

Missions Organized

Free Will Baptist Mission, Scotland Neck, North Carolina, and East Greenville Free Will Baptist Mission, Greenville, North Carolina.

Treasurer's Report

Total Receipts	\$2,263.62
Total Disbursements	2,237.37
Balance in Treasury	\$ 26.25

Report of \$5.00 Builder's Club of Central Conference of North Carolina
As of September 23, 1956

Total number members, 101; total number paid members: Faith, 78; Peace, 81; and Scotland Neck, 1.

Receipts

Received for Faith Free Will Baptist Church	\$ 390.00
Received for Peace Free Will Baptist Church	402.20
Received for Scotland Neck Church When Organized	10.00
Total Received	\$ 802.20

Disbursements

Total Paid Out to Faith Church	390.00
Balance on Hand	\$ 412.20

REPORT OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

On December 2, 1955, the board of trustees met at Piney Grove Free Will Baptist Church in Pitt County. Those present were the Brothers D. W. Alexander, J. C. Smith, Clarence Little, Wilbert Everton and A. G. Mangum. Brother Clarence Little presided over the meeting.

Brother Alexander gave a report on the sale of the Bell Arthur Church and reported that all payments had been completed and the matter closed.

Mr. Rudolph Davis and Mr. J. M. Langley of the Tarboro Free Will Baptist Church met with the board of trustees and brought a check for \$622.00, a payment of a note and interest. Three more notes of \$550.00 each, plus interest, are due December 1, 1956, 57 and 58.

It is the wishes of the board of trustees that in electing new members that two old members be retained each time so that the board will be more familiar with the business of the past.

There being no further business, the meeting closed with a prayer by Brother Wilbert Eberton.

A. G. Mangum, Secretary

REPORT OF TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

Since it has become so evident that the use of alcoholic beverages is responsible for a large part of the crimes against society and of the sins against God, be it resolved:

- 1-That this conference take a firm stand against the manufacture, sale and consumption of alcoholic beverages.
- 2-That every effort possible be made to discourage the use of intoxicants.
- 3-That this conference go on record as deploring the action of our state legislature in continuing its defiance of the rights of the people to vote in an alcoholic beverage referendum.
- 4-And that this action be implemented by this conference working with

the Allied Church League of North Carolina in securing petitions for a state-wide alcoholic beverage referendum.

D. W. Alexander
L. B. Manning
C. L. Patrick

ORPHANAGE COMMITTEE REPORT

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

We urge our people to continue monthly offerings for its support, and that we encourage our people to visit the home that they might know better the needs of it.

Respectfully,
Frank Davenport
W. R. Owens
N. R. Hemby

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Number of Churches Reported 49

Receipts

Brought Forward from Last Report	\$ 141.72
Children's Home Offering	200.00
Church Reports	608.00
Mount Olive College	103.14
Total Receipts	<hr/> \$1,052.86

Disbursements

Mission Board

Rashie Kennedy, 300 Miles	\$ 15.00
Charles E. Keith, 512 Miles	25.60
Willis Wilson, 210 Miles	10.50

Total Mission Board	<hr/> \$ 51.10
---------------------	----------------

Board of Trustees

Cicero Smith, 65 Miles	\$ 3.25
------------------------	---------

Ordaining Council

Filing Cabinet	\$ 69.86
J. C. Lynn, Keys and Telephone Call	3.20
D. W. Alexander, Mileage, Telephone, Postage	10.09

Total Ordaining Council	<hr/> \$ 83.15
-------------------------	----------------

Executive Committee

N. Bruce Barrow, Mileage and Telephone	\$ 25.05
Henry Melvin, Mileage and Telephone	9.25

Total Executive Committee	<hr/> \$ 34.20
---------------------------	----------------

Total Money to Account For \$1,052.86

Disbursements

Mission Board	\$ 150.00
Clerk	35.00
Minutes	100.00
Orphanage	200.00
Mount Olive	103.14
Board Expenses	171.80

Total Disbursements 759.94

Balance in Treasury \$ 292.92

Respectfully,

C. D. Hamilton, *Committee Chairman*

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

Be it resolved that we extend to Marlboro Free Will Baptist Church a rising vote of thanks for the warm welcome and the kind hospitality shown the conference during this setting.

Wilbert Everton

J. D. Vernelson

M. A. Woodard

SUPERANNUATION REPORT

The following contributions were made to superannuation by the Central Conference, September 30, 1955 to August 31, 1956:

Churches	\$ 781.55
Auxiliaries	97.32
Sunday Schools	239.60
Leagues	31.46
Union Meetings	71.70

Total \$1,221.63

Wilbert Everton, *Chairman-Treasurer*

ORPHANAGE REPORT
CENTRAL CONFERENCE

General Fund	\$14,095.32
Piano Fund	161.00
Hawkins Educational Fund	51.00
Clothing	1,305.00
Laundry Equipment and Building Fund	502.33
Concert Class	2,215.75

Grand Total \$18,330.40



