

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

held with  
**BLACK JACK CHURCH**  
Pitt County, North Carolina  
November 6, 7, 1957

REV. HENRY MELVIN, *Moderator*  
REV. C. H. OVERMAN, *Clerk*  
REV. FLOYD CHERRY, *Conference Host*



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# Officers of the Conference

## MODERATOR

Rev. Henry Melvin, Winterville, N. C.

## ASSISTANT MODERATOR

Rev. J. W. Everton, Snow Hill, N. C.

## CLERK

Rev. C. H. Overman, Ayden, N. C.

## ASSISTANT CLERK

Rev. J. B. Narron

## TREASURER

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

# Boards and Committees

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Rev. J. W. Everton

Rev. C. H. Overman

Rev. C. J. Harris

Rev. W. B. Raper

## 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

Leo Tripp

Rev. L. B. Manning

Luther Barrow

M. S. Cowan

## Board of Trustees

*Rashie Kennedy*  
Mrs. H. L. Spivey

Mr. A. G. Mangum

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Rev. C. L. Patrick

Rev. R. T. Forrest

Rev. J. C. Smith

Rev. R. P. Harris

Rev. Charles Keith

## BOARD TO STUDY REPORT OF CONFERENCE HISTORIAN

Rev. Hubert Burress

Rev. F. B. Cherry

Mr. J. W. Rouse

## PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

Rev. J. O. Fort

## Stock IN Press

*Mrs. H. L. Spivey*

*Mrs. Margaret Bonhill*

*Mrs. Levi Worthington*

# Roll of Churches with Clerk and Address

## PITT COUNTY—

- 1 Ayden—Mrs. Thelbert Hart, Route 1, Box 192, Ayden, N. C.
- 2 Bethany—Mrs. Powell Speight, Route 1, Winterville, N. C.
- 3 Black Jack—A. G. Gaskins, Greenville, N. C.
- 4 Dilda's Grove—Mrs. Archie Horton, Macclesfield, N. C.
- 5 Elm Grove—Mr. Harry Jarvis, Route 1, Ayden, N. C.
- 6 Grace—Mrs. Burell Dixon, Route 4, Box 2, Greenville, N. C.
- 7 Greenville—Mrs. A. D. Lincoln, West 5th St. Extension, Greenville, N. C.
- 8 Grifton—Mrs. Percy Boyd, Grifton, N. C.
- 9 Gum Swamp—W. E. Bell, Route 6, Greenville, N. C.
- 10 Hickory Grove—B. E. Dixon, Conetoe, N. C.
- 11 King's Cross Roads—Mrs. I. C. Tugwell, Route 1, Box 254A, Farmville, N. C.
- 12 Marlboro—Mrs. Alice C. Parker, Route 1, Box 359, Farmville, N. C.
- 13 Parker's Chapel—Lloyd W. Johnson, 1113 S. Overlook Drive, Greenville, N. C.
- 14 Pleasant Hill—Norman Stanley, Greenville, N. C.
- 15 Piney Grove—Mrs. Bettie T. Forrest, Route 2, Greenville, N. C.
- 16 Reedy Branch—R. E. Smith, Box 44, Winterville, N. C.
- 17 Rose Hill—Bernie W. Wilson, Route 1, Winterville, N. C.
- 18 Sweet Gum Grove—Mrs. Lewis Whitehurst, Route 5, Box 231, Greenville, N. C.
- 19 Winterville—Clyde Hines, Winterville, N. C.

## GREENE COUNTY—

- 1 Free Union—Mrs. Frank L. Walston, Route 2, Walstonburg, N. C.
- 2 Friendship—H. Carl Tyson, Route 1, Farmville, N. C.
- 3 Grimsley—Jimmie Lee Jones, Route 1, Farmville, N. C.
- 4 Harrell's Chapel—R. E. Hart, Route 3, Snow Hill, N. C.
- 5 Howell Swamp—James E. Shackelford, Walstonburg, N. C.
- 6 Hull Road—Alfred Ginn, Route 2, Snow Hill, N. C.
- 7 Little Creek—Roy T. Forrest, Ayden, N. C.
- 8 Maury—Mrs. Leonard Cox, Maury, N. C.
- 9 Ormondsville—John Stephens, Route 1, Ayden, N. C.
- 10 Spring Branch—Mrs. Richard E. Owens, Walstonburg, N. C.
- 11 Sts. Delight—Mrs. C. H. Cox, Snow Hill, N. C.

## EDGECOMBE COUNTY—

- 1 Edgewood—Raymond Webb, Farmville, N. C.
- 2 Otter's Creek—Raymond Jefferson, Fountain, N. C.
- 3 Peace—Mrs. Hilda Moseley, Pinetops, N. C.
- 4 Rocky Mount—W. S. Wooten, 414 Cokey Road, Rocky Mount, N. C.
- 5 Tarboro—Mrs. A. L. Sumerlin, 905 S. David St., Tarboro, N. C.

LENOIR COUNTY—

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

WAYNE COUNTY—

1. Antioch—Mrs. T. B. Lancaster, Pikeville, N. C.
2. Watery Branch—Edgar Bent, Lucama, N. C.
3. Walnut Creek—Miss Ina Ruth Langston, Route 2, LaGrange, N. C.

WILSON COUNTY—

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

MARTIN COUNTY—

1. Cedar Grove—Mrs. Rachel E. Wynn, Everetts, N. C.
2. Rose of Sharon—Saith Bailey, Route 2, Williamston, N. C.
3. Williamston—Mrs. Simon Gurganus, Williamston, N. C.

BEAUFORT COUNTY—

1. Mizpah—Mrs. W. C. Spruill, Box 743, Washington, N. C.
2. Piney Grove—Rachael Manning, Route 3, Washington, N. C.
3. Shiloh—Ernest Cullifer, Pinetown, N. C.
4. Washington—Marrice Cartwright, 814 E. 5th St., Washington, N. C.

HALIFAX COUNTY—

1. Dawson's Grove—Hubert R. Dickens, Route 1, Enfield, N. C.
2. Hope—Mrs. Bessie Strickland, Route 1, Scotland Neck, N. C.

PASQUOTANK COUNTY—

1. St. Paul—Mrs. C. S. Lupton, Route 2, Box 190, Elizabeth City, N. C.

# 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, Wilson, N. C.
- J. E. Wooten, Black Mountain, N. C.
- E. L. Abrams, Tarboro, 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, Tennessee
- C. D. Hamilton, Fountain, N. C.
- L. E. Ballard, Box 83, Selma, N. C.
- Leonard Earl Harris, 269 Tarboro St., Rocky Mount, 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, Mount Olive, N. C.
- Charles Craddock, 805 Lafayette St., Dothan, Ala.
- Hubert Burress, Pinetops, N. C.
- Frank Davenport, Route 1, Kinston, N. C.
- Henry Melvin, Winterville, N. C.
- Charles E. Keith, Route 3, Box 10, Washington, N. C.
- R. L. Norville, Route 4, Greenville, N. C.
- R. B. Crawford, 303 Meade St., Greenville, N. C.
- J. B. Nairn
- R. P. Harris, 1200 Tarboro St., Rocky Mount, N. C.
- Michael Pelt, Mount Olive, N. C.
- S. R. Kennedy, 408 Greenview Drive, Greenville, N. C.
- Roger Tripp, Ayden, N. C.
- F. B. Cherry, Route 3, Greenville, N. C.
- I. J. Blackwelder, Turbeville, S. C.
- J. C. Lynn, Route 3, Ayden, N. C.
- J. O. Fort, Ayden, N. C.
- J. W. Everton, Snow Hill, N. C.
- J. C. Smith, ~~Kinston~~, N. C.

- Willis Wilson, Route 1, Stokes, N. C.
- Jack Paramore, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
- Gordon Hart, Warsaw, N. C.
- Billy Davidson, Nashville, Tenn.
- Adam Scott, Saratoga, N. C.
- C. H. Overmon, Ayden, N. C.
- Rev. Walter Reynolds, Winterville, N. C.
- Rev. Billy Walker, 1309 Gay St., Rocky Mount, N. C.
- Jerry Ballard, Wilson, N. C.
- Milton Worthington, Columbia, S. C.
- Melvin Worthington, Columbia, S. C.

➤ Raymond T. Sasser

➤ W. H. Willis

➤ Billy Jackson

#### LICENSED MINISTERS

- Guy Owens, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
- Charles Doss, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville, Tenn.
- Walter Sutton Jr., Mount Olive, N. C.
- Nathan Earl Eason, Tarboro, N. C.
- J. R. Kennedy, Columbia, S. C.
- R. H. Gregory
- Ray Harrison
- Henry Hagen
- Raymond Gaskins, Ayden, N. C.
- Billy Livesay
- Melvin Moore



# PROCEEDINGS

The Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina convened its two hundred ninth session with the Black Jack Church, Pitt County, November 6, 7, 1957. The moderator, Rev. Henry Melvin, presided over the conference.

In the absence of Rev. R. L. Norville, devotions were conducted by Rev. Wilbert Everton.

The clerk, Rev. C. H. Overman, officially opened the conference, and presented the moderator to the conference.

By motion the program was adopted as the official guide for this session.

The following Central Conference ministers were present and recognized during the conference: Revs. D. A. Windham, D. W. Alexander, W. B. Nobles, L. B. Manning, N. D. Beaman, C. L. Patrick, C. J. Harris, T. P. Ellis, Rashie Kennedy, N. B. Barrow, W. B. Raper, Hubert Burress, Frank Davenport, Henry Melvin, Charles E. Keith, R. B. Crawford, Michael Pelt, S. R. Kennedy, F. B. Cherry, J. C. Lynn, J. W. Everton, Willis Wilson, Adam Scott, C. H. Overman.

The following ministers were represented by letter: Revs. Graham Baker, R. L. Norville, J. B. Narron, J. O. Fort, J. C. Smith.

Western Conference: Revs. B. H. Griffin, Bobby Aycock, Ronald Creech.

Eastern Conference: Revs. S. A. Smith, J. W. Alford, J. C. Griffin, Daniel Gaskins.

Albemarle Conference: Revs. Ralph Osborne, T. F. Davenport, Walter Reynolds.

Cape Fear Conference: Revs. L. R. Ennis, Herman Hersey.

Piedmont: Rev. Walter Carter.

South Georgia: Revs. George Ludwig, James Pelt.

Mississippi Northeast Conference: Rev. Dean Dobbs.

Virginia Southeast Association: Rev. Fred Rivenbark.

There was a total of 51 churches reporting.

By motion the delegates were seated for the conference.

The moderator gave his message reminding the ministers to be present for both days of the conference and also that they were not to withdraw without the consent of the moderator. He also reminded the delegates how to vote and make motions.

Rev. C. L. Patrick was appointed as parliamentarian.

The following committees were appointed:

Resolution: Rev. N. D. Beaman, chairman; Rev. Frank Davenport, J. Gordon Boyd, Leo Tripp, Mrs. L. C. Speight.

Temperance: Rev. Michael Pelt, chairman; Rev. Willis Wilson, T. N. Stocks.

Children's Home: Mrs. Sidney Strickland, Chairman; Mrs. Bill Taylor, Mrs. Miriam Edwards.

Digest: Rev. C. H. Overman, chairman; Rev. C. J. Harris, Titis Harrison.

The welcome was extended the conference by the pastor of the host church, Rev. F. B. Cherry.

The response was given by Rev. Willis Wilson.

After the singing of a congregational hymn, Rev. R. B. Crawford gave a report of the National Association. By motion it was received as information.

Rev. Michael Pelt gave a report of the State Convention. By motion it was received as information.

Rev. S. A. Smith gave a report on the Children's Home which was also received as information. It was reported that the Central Conference raised a total of \$16,744.12 for the Children's Home. The total offering received during the conference amounted to \$140.03.

The introductory sermon was delivered by Rev. James Pelt, pastor of Glennville Free Will Baptist Church, Glennville, Georgia. His text was Romans 12:4-8.

The conference dismissed for the noon hour.

#### WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON

The conference reassembled with devotions being conducted by Rev. C. J. Harris. His text was Galatians 1:6-9.

The memorial service was conducted by Rev. N. B. Barrow who requested that the conference stand in memory of Rev. M. A. Woodard, deceased. The service was closed with prayer.

Rev. W. B. Raper gave a report of Mount Olive Junior College which was received as information. An offering was received amounting to \$80.18.

The clerk gave a report of the executive committee meetings and by motion they were received. (See report.)

By motion two new churches, Hope and Mizpah, were received into the conference and their delegates were extended the right hand of fellowship by the moderator.

Rev. Wilbert Everton gave the report of superannuation and by motion it was adopted. (See report.)

Rev. J. C. Lynn gave the ordaining council report and by motion it was referred back to the ordaining council for clarification of point two in reference to education.

The following delegates were appointed to the various bodies: Jack's Creek Association—Rev. J. E. Wooten; Blue Ridge Association—Rev. J.

*Glory  
Honor  
Prestige*

E. Wooten; French Broad Association—Rev. W. B. Raper; 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. F. B. Cherry; Western Conference—Rev. N. B. Barrow; Albemarle Conference—Rev. Walter Reynolds; Eastern Conference—Rev. Wilbert Everton.

State Convention delegates: Marvin Taylor, H. A. Moore and Albert Proctor.

The report of the board of trustees was given by A. G. Mangum and by motion it was accepted. (See report.)

The following were appointed on the finance committee to replace those that were unable to attend: Leo Tripp, Luther Barrow and M. S. Cowan.

The report of the ordaining council came back to the floor and by motion it was adopted. (See report.)

The moderator extended the right hand of fellowship to two new members of the conference: Revs. Billy Walker and Walter Reynolds.

The conference dismissed until the next day.

#### THURSDAY MORNING

Reassembled at 9:30 with devotions conducted by Rev. Frank Davenport.

By motion the minutes of November 6 were accepted.

By motion the delegates of churches reporting for the day were seated.

There was one other Central Conference minister: Rev. L. B. Mason.

Visiting ministers were Rev. W. H. Willis, Eastern Conference; Leroy Forlines, Cumberland Association, Tennessee, and Dr. Frederick Jones, a Baptist minister of Greenville.

Rev. Michael Pelt gave the report of the temperance committee and by motion it was adopted. (See report.)

X The report of the conference historian, Rev. Hubert Burress, was given and by motion it was referred to a committee to study it and report back at the 1958 session.

By motion the part of the report in reference to the markers was tabled.

Rev. C. E. Keith gave the report of the conference board of missions. By motion it was adopted. (See report.)

The report of the Children's Home committee was given and by motion it was accepted. (See Report.)

Rev. Leroy Forlines gave a report from the Free Will Baptist Bible College which was received as information. By motion an offering was received at the worship hour for the college. The amount of the offering was \$109.41.

The convention sermon was delivered by Rev. Leroy Forlines who is a professor at the Bible College. His subject was "Perseverance of the Saints."

The conference was dismissed for the lunch hour.

Churches	Delegates	Contributions	Value of Church Property	Paid Pastor	Paid Evangelist	To Orphanage	To Education	To Superannuation
<b>PITT COUNTY</b>								
Ayden	No Delegates		\$ 90,000	\$ 3,478.82	\$ 125.00	\$ 100.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 25.00
Bethany	Mrs. Alice Speight, L. C. Speight	10	62,000	1,950.00	100.00	50.00	80.00	20.00
Black Jack	Jim Boyd, George Hudson	10		1,800.00	531.84	850.75	214.84	
Oolda's Grove	Arthur Corbett, Greenwood Wooten	10	8,000	910.00	200.00	249.25	64.55	
Elm Grove	Mr. and Mrs. Willis Ball, Mrs. J. C. Lynn	10	100,000	3,180.00	300.00	564.34	494.30	10.00
Greenville	Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Moore, Mrs. Bill Taylor, Mrs. J. R. Hawkins, Mrs. D. A. Windham, Mrs. Sophia Hardee, Mrs. Marvin James	10	41,000	4,500.00	512.43	1,467.94	1,425.72	24.30
Grifton	Mrs. Blanche Snell, Mrs. J. W. Allen, Mrs. Alton Vincent	10	6,000	600.00	164.00	84.70	255.50	5.00
Hickory Grove	Herman Owens, Mrs. Percy Boyd, Mrs. John O'Quinn Jr.	10	10,000	1,190.00	314.83	136.00	40.00	10.00
King's Cross Roads	Mrs. Martha Bell Rollins, Mrs. Nina Dixon	10	10,000	1,300.00	116.38	501.54	157.25	35.45
Marlboro	Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Fulford	25	15,000	1,745.00	200.00	760.08	194.00	95.00
Parker's Chapel	Mrs. J. C. Brock, Mrs. J. T. Bundy	10	50,000	1,150.00	278.00	206.00	150.00	15.00
Piney Grove	Mr. and Mrs. House Jr.	10	33,000	1,440.00	412.00	179.56	330.50	32.50
Pleasant Hill	Mrs. Harvey Avery	5	15,000	1,440.00	150.00	200.00		60.00
Reedy Branch	Dan Mayo, Lonnie White	25	65,000	3,980.00	244.89	86.68	19.15	
Rose Hill	C. F. Little, R. L. Worthington	20	22,500	1,900.00	250.00	503.44	168.23	150.00
Sweet Gum Grove	Marvin McLawhorn, A. D. Adams	10	15,000	1,800.00	150.00	279.00	14.00	2.00
Winterville	Mrs. Clarence Barnhill, Mrs. Lena Barnhill, Mrs. Ethel Tyson	10	36,000	1,950.00	200.00	20.01	129.50	
Gum Swamp	Leo Tripp, Mrs. Claude Whitehurst	10	30,000	1,200.00	315.00	403.91	341.99	15.00
Grace	Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Morris	10	25,000	4,200.00	1,344.00	95.00	100.00	
<b>GREENE COUNTY</b>								
Friendship	Ray Sutton, T. N. Stocks	15		1,470.00	240.00	378.59	144.15	
Free Union	Jessie L. Cobb, H. Carl Tyson	35	55,000	3,600.00	300.00	855.33	325.05	20.00
Grimsley	Frankie Hardison, Bobby Harris, Ray Cunningham, James Harrell, Burren Letchworth	10	10,000	1,560.00	192.23	127.60	84.16	26.21
Harrell's Chapel	Mrs. Iona Moye, Mrs. Sallie Meadows, Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Robinson	8	15,000	700.00	265.00	250.00	120.00	50.00
Hull Road	Mr. and Mrs. Earl Mewborn, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Hart	25	40,000	3,640.00	200.00	1,031.45	2,125.50	35.00
Little Creek	Luther Barrow, Noah Hemby, Mr. and Mrs. Titus Harrison	10	35,000	1,400.00	100.00	100.00		15.00
Maury	Roy T. Forrest, C. T. Dail	5	4,500	420.00	115.46	30.00	77.24	
Saints' Delight	Mrs. Selma Smith	5	5,000	240.00	75.00	26.25		
Ormondsville	Mrs. C. T. Wells, Mack Bowen, Roy Hughes	10	15,000	1,800.00	225.00	300.00	80.00	16.00
Howell Swamp	Lawrence Newton	10	20,000	1,800.00	458.75	84.49	35.00	
Spring Branch	E. L. Jones, Carl Cobb	25	25,000	1,200.00	200.00	628.81	55.00	45.00
<b>EDGECOMBE COUNTY</b>								
Edgewood	Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Strickland	10	12,000	1,440.00	240.00	281.30	80.00	40.00
Rocky Mount	Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Abrams	5	30,000	3,570.00	174.70	281.04	115.96	85.15
Tarboro	Felton Dunbar, Larry Roberts	25	35,000	3,900.00	300.00	156.68	175.00	10.00
Peace	Mrs. Maybelle Tyndall, Mrs. Royce Godwin	5	17,000	1,385.00	170.00	43.22		
Otter's Creek	Mrs. Pattie Jones, Mrs. Irving Wooten							
<b>MARTIN COUNTY</b>								
Cedar Grove	No Report	5	7,500	960.00	150.00	15.00	15.00	12.00
Rose of Sharon	Mr. and Mrs. James G. Rogerson	15	6,000	1,105.00	200.00	87.00	75.00	20.00
Williamston	Ophesus Bailey, M. S. Cowan							
<b>LENOIR COUNTY</b>								
Hugo	No Report	10	16,500	1,715.00	200.00	123.25	47.88	7.50
LaGrange	Mrs. C. A. Eubanks, Mrs. Sam McCoy, Mrs. Ray Shephard, Mrs. Robert Grant, Mrs. Tom Miller							
Faith	No Report	25	16,000	1,642.00	200.00	50.00	74.61	
<b>WILSON COUNTY</b>								
Aspen Grove	Mr. and Mrs. Herman Spence Jr.	10	30,000	1,200.00	208.68	526.24	50.00	
Saratoga	Mrs. Lillie Baker, Mrs. Bessie Goff	10	30,000	3,067.50	268.00	190.00	145.00	
Owen's Chapel	Mr. and Mrs. Albert Proctor, Mrs. George Welton	10	20,000	2,886.00	250.00	100.00	37.00	50.00
Daniel's Chapel	Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Owens							
<b>WAYNE COUNTY</b>								
Antioch	No Report	10	20,000	1,200.00	118.50	222.54	509.86	25.00
Walnut Creek	Mrs. J. C. Edmundson	5	10,000	758.03	100.00	112.60	100.00	40.00
Watery Branch	Ben Rollins, George Bartlett							
<b>BEAUFORT COUNTY</b>								
Piney Grove	No Delegates	10	8,000	930.00	297.85	126.70		20.00
Washington	Mrs. James Waters, Mrs. Alton Ivey	10	33,000	3,570.00	250.00	25.00	126.84	20.00
Shiloh	Gordon Boyd, J. E. Foreman	15	30,000	1,440.00	150.00	150.00	60.00	25.00
Mizpah	W. C. Spruill, J. D. Alligood	5	7,000	140.00	100.00			
<b>HALIFAX COUNTY</b>								
Dawson's Grove	No Delegates	10	18,000	1,200.00	100.00	193.08	300.49	11.00
Hope	Nathan Eason, Mrs. Agnes Eason	10	100	1,225.96	180.00	5.00		
<b>PASQUOTANK COUNTY</b>								
St. Paul	No Delegates	5	35,000	3,380.00	280.00	114.65	82.00	4.00

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 Cragmont Assembly	To Promotional Work	For Repairs and Improvements	Paid Out for all Purposes
<i>Pitt County</i>																		
Ayden	276	172	32	25	20	10							\$ 650.00	\$ 140.95	\$ 10.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 136.27	\$ 4,331.04
Bethany	218	100	89	34	34	3								50.00			300.00	5,520.00
Black Jack	480	432	96	80	12	17								160.82			5,865.40	11,109.65
Dilda's Grove	81	101	32	20	13	6							5.00	58.98	5.00	3.38	638.32	2,813.53
Elm Grove	345	164	55	29	13	5							5.00	411.65	42.70	10.00	3,359.20	10,148.76
Greenville	806	685	70	67	103	86								1,577.78	70.45		16,452.78	35,234.08
Grifton	82	88	37	30	13	4								15.00	14.00	17.50	28.10	1,252.59
Hickory Grove	118	112	30	20	2	1							10.00	40.00	10.00	10.00	106.00	1,937.33
King's Cross Roads	342	185	50	33	10	5								207.46			613.34	1,966.42
Marlboro	232	248	25	46	5	20								324.50		153.00	85.00	3,556.58
Parker's Chapel	183	265	35	19	7									430.00			112.00	9,045.00
Piney Grove	246	217	40	51	20	11								84.27	13.44	24.00	1,624.07	5,626.39
Pleasant Hill	86	86												30.00			25.00	2,147.00
Reedy Branch	252	247	35	50	10	5								270.14	5.60		160.00	6,090.73
Rose Hill	288	194	30	16	16	3							2,259.39	67.00			418.48	5,736.44
Sweet Gum Grove	191	144	30	6	5								7.00	69.00	17.00	4.00	1,150.00	4,477.67
Winterville	225	214	30	35	21	5											375.00	2,684.51
Gum Swamp	528	206	44	17	12								21.00	202.00	24.00		974.30	3,507.20
Grace	353	350	80	60	101	28								347.58			3,128.46	13,992.49
<i>Greene County</i>																		
Friendship	153	140	70	24	2	12								130.00			2,909.25	
Free Union	481	291	58	42	7									43.14	11.80		9,805.81	17,150.73
Grimsley	166	105	35	4	6									99.22	15.22	13.00		2,403.28
Harrell's Chapel	86	160	34	16										50.00		25.00	900.00	2,360.00
Hull Road	486	328	50	35	17	13								944.50	35.00		5,303.43	13,339.38
Little Creek	80		16														762.00	3,778.59
Maury	35	50	21		2	1								52.05			303.70	1,003.45
Saints' Delight	75	67			9	2								33.04			25.00	569.29
Ormondsville	360	156	40	4	4									136.00			500.00	3,069.00
Howell Swamp	124	68	19	2									15.00	98.10	25.00	15.00	768.40	3,299.74
Spring Branch	215	103	35	47	6	7							15.00	198.18	70.00	66.00	4,397.74	8,033.13
<i>Edgecombe County</i>																		
Edgewood	119	126	36	15	5	17								80.00			248.00	2,369.30
Rocky Mount	149	103	44	28	9	1								561.34	45.86	132.66	392.27	5,413.98
Tarboro	178	187	50	50	36	15								128.42	25.00		968.69	10,781.38
Peace	30	77	17	7									800.00				6,750.91	9,299.13
Otter's Creek																		
<i>Martin County</i>																		
Cedar Grove	125	95	35	20	3	5								38.49	33.50	10.00	971.05	2,205.04
Rose of Sharon	139	72			7	3								53.00				1,660.30
Williamston																		
<i>Lenoir County</i>																		
Hugo	206		24	20	17									90.47	15.00	8.00	660.00	3,874.10
Faith	69	98	47	24	1									82.07			4,543.24	6,616.92
LaGrange																		
<i>Wilson County</i>																		
Aspen Grove	193	216	20	15	3	5								332.32			110.49	2,437.73
Saratoga	229	173	42	31	16	13								123.00	45.00		169.34	4,780.92
Owen's Chapel	138	159	30	32	6	6								60.00			200.00	4,200.00
Daniel's Chapel																		
<i>Wayne County</i>																		
Antioch	157	116	30	35		5								65.00		155.00	675.16	3,462.75
Walnut Creek	55	79			2	2								98.17			526.87	2,251.54
Watery Branch																		
<i>Beaufort County</i>																		
Piney Grove	114	60	20	14	1										20.00			1,711.19
Washington	193	174	50	25	52	26								255.53	15.00		1,416.58	7,801.30
Shiloh	305	148	30	22	12									300.00				5,810.23
Mizpah	38	76	8	38														
<i>Halifax County</i>																		
Dawson's Grove	69	78	33	14	12								3.00	261.74	13.00	3.60	1,428.77	4,562.06
Hope	90	93	27	67	1									71.80			33.23	2,960.44
<i>Pasquotank County</i>																		
St. Paul	89	110	30	14	5								4.00	155.03	4.00	4.00	146.56	4,966.74

## THURSDAY AFTERNOON

The conference reassembled with devotions conducted by Rev. Rashie Kennedy.

Rev. Billy Jackson and Rev. Allen Bryan were recognized as visiting ministers. Respectively they are from the Eastern and Albemarle Conferences.

Rev. N. B. Barrow gave some informative remarks about the Free Will Baptist Press.

Rev. R. B. Crawford gave some informative remarks about the East Carolina College fellowship.

The report of the resolution committee was presented by Rev. Frank Davenport and by motion it was received. (See report.)

By motion to appoint a board of supranuation to work with the state board. Those appointed were Revs. Walter Reynolds, Billy Walker and R. L. Norville.

The report of the finance committee was given by Leo Tripp. By motion to accept the report with an amendment to give the conference board of missions \$100.00.

The treasurer's report was given by C. J. Harris. By motion the report was tabled for five minutes.

By motion that the action taken in 1955 session regarding the conference funds be suspended. (Pages 14, 15 of the 1955 minutes.)

By motion the treasurer's report was adopted.

By motion to appropriate \$100.00 for Mount Olive Junior College.

The report of the digest committee was given by Rev. C. H. Overman, and by motion it was accepted to be printed in the minutes.

By motion that the temperance committee be appointed twelve months in advance.

The committee to study the report of the conference historian was appointed as follows: Rev. Hubert Burress, Rev. F. B. Cherry and Mr. J. W. Rouse.

Rev. Roy T. Forrest was elected to fill the unexpired term of Rev. I. J. Blackwelder on the mission board.

By motion to accept the invitation of Parker's Chapel Church for the next conference.

By motion to adjourn this session of the conference. The congregation sang "Blest Be the Tie," and was dismissed by prayer.

Rev. Henry Melvin, Moderator

Rev. C. H. Overman, Clerk

# Meetings of the Executive Committee

## *First Meeting*

On January 18, 1957, the executive committee of the Central Conference met at Scotland Neck for the organization of the mission into Hope Free Will Baptist Church.

The service was opened by the singing of the hymn, "Come Thou Fount." The Scripture was read by Rev. Henry Melvin. The roll was called of the 22 persons who became charter members. The officers were elected as follows: W. T. Harris, deacon; Raymond Walston, Ralph Basden and Simon Dickens, trustees; Mrs. Bessie Strickland, clerk; Mrs. Alice Moore, treasurer; Mrs. W. T. Harris, assistant treasurer; Rev. Frank Davenport, pastor; and Rev. Nathan Eason, assistant pastor.

The Bible was presented by Rev. Wilbert Everton; the Statement of Faith and Discipline was read, in summary, by Rev. Henry Melvin; the Church Covenant was read by Rev. C. J. Harris, and the prayer of consecration was offered by Rev. C. H. Overman.

The right hand of fellowship was extended by the committee.

The service was dismissed by the singing of "Bless Be the Tie," and by a prayer of benediction.

Rev. Henry Melvin, *Moderator*  
C. H. Overman, *Clerk*

## *Second Meeting*

On January 25, 1957, the executive committee of the Central Conference met in East Greenville for the purpose of organizing the East Greenville Mission into Maranatha Free Will Baptist Church.

The service was opened by the singing of the hymn, "Come Thou Fount." Prayer was offered by Rev. Frank Davenport. The Scripture was then read. The roll was called of the 19 persons who became charter members. The officers were elected as follows: Henry C. Hagan, L. E. Anderson and M. C. Logan, deacons; Wilton Evans, Henry Ramsay and Joe Sutton, Trustees; Mrs. Joe Sutton, treasurer; Mrs. Lena Evans, assistant treasurer; Rev. Frank Davenport, pastor, and R. G. Gregory, supply pastor.

The Bible was presented by Rev. C. H. Overman; the Statement of Faith and Discipline was read, in summary, by Rev. Henry Melvin; the Church Covenant was read by Rev. Wilbert Everton; the prayer of consecration was offered by Rev. C. J. Harris; and the right hand of fellowship was extended by the committee.

The service was closed by the singing of "Bless Be the Tie," and by a prayer of benediction.

Rev. Henry Melvin, *Moderator*  
Rev. C. H. Overman, *Clerk*

### Third Meeting

On August 15, 1958, the executive committee met at Washington, North Carolina, for the purpose of organizing the River Road Mission into Mizpah Free Will Baptist Church.

The service was opened with a hymn and Scripture reading by Rev. Henry Hagan.

By motion the committee proceeded with organization.

The roll was called of the 31 members who became charter members.

The officers were elected as follows: Deacons, Ernest Clayborne, Daniel Alligood; trustees, W. C. Spruill, T. S. Eastwood, Johnny Johnson; clerk, Mrs. W. C. Spruill; treasurer, W. C. Spruill; pastor, Charles E. Keith; assistant pastor, Henry Hagan.

The Bible was presented by Rev. J. W. Everton.

The Statement of Faith and Discipline was explained by Rev. Henry Melvin.

The Church Covenant was read by Rev. C. J. Harris.

The prayer of consecration was offered by Rev. C. H. Overman.

The service was dismissed after the singing of "Blest Be the Tie."

Rev. Henry Melvin, Moderator

Rev. C. H. Overman, Clerk

## Reports

### ORPHANAGE REPORT

#### Central Conference

Superintendent's Account	\$13,346.94
Clothing	1,105.00
Concert Class	2,056.18
Dining Room Tables and Chairs	236.00
Total for Conference	\$16,744.12

### SUPERANNUATION REPORT

The following contributions were made to superannuation by the Central Conference, September 30, 1956, to August 31, 1957.

Churches	\$ 777.32
Auxiliaries	62.00
Sunday Schools	231.81
Leagues	37.70
Union Meetings	127.92

Total Contribution \$1,236.75

Rev. Wilbert Everton, Chm. Treasurer



## REPORT OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES

On December 3, 1956, the board of trustees met at Grace Free Will Baptist Church in Greenville, N. C. Those present were the Brothers Sam Kennedy, C. J. Little, C. J. Harris, J. T. Beddard Jr. and A. G. Mangum.

The meeting was opened with prayer by the Reverend C. J. Harris. Reverend Sam Kennedy was elected chairman, Reverend C. J. Little, vice-chairman, and A. G. Mangum, secretary.

The note that was due from the Tarboro Church was paid leaving two more in the amount of \$550.00 each for December 1, 1957, and December 1, 1958, plus interest.

The board of trustees gave the Wayside Presbyterian Church at Bear Creek, Chocowinity, N. C., a quitclaim deed clearing the way for them to borrow money to make repairs to improve their church.

There being no more business, the meeting was closed with prayer by the Reverend Sam Kennedy.

A. G. Mangum, Secretary

## REPORT OF ORDAINING COUNCIL

The council has ordained during this year Revs. Melvin and Milton Worthington.

We recommend their names be added with the ordained ministers of this conference. The council approved and recommends Rev. Billy Walker transfer from the Cumberland Association of Tennessee (by letter); and also Rev. Walter Reynolds, from the Albermarle Conference.

We recommend their names to be added to the list of ordained ministers.

The council has recommended licenses for the following: R. H. Gregory, Ray Harrison, Henry Hagan, Raymond Gaskins, Billy Livesay and Melvin Moore.

The council questioned the following and made recommendations as follows:

- (1) Jennis E. Wainwright to further prepare himself until he reaches the conference requirements and then return for questioning.
- (2) Elmer Laughinghouse requested to do the same as Wainwright.
- (3) Jack Finch requested to further prove himself and then return to council (he was new to the Free Will Baptist people).

The council called attention to the following unethical practices which were in violation of conference rules of government.

(1) Washington Mission and Washington pastor using a man who was not approved by our conference.

(2) Brother Mack Owens who transferred without securing a proper recommendation. He made amends and was forgiven with the suggestion that he familiarize himself with the state treatise.

Brother Hagan was approved by request as an associate worker with the Washington Mission and the pastor in charge.

The board requests the conference to reaffirm its standard for ministers as was passed in 1953 at Hugo Free Will Baptist Church.

(1) That all candidates for license be high school graduates.

(2) That two years of college credit beyond high school be required for all candidates for ordination. (This request is made because it was not recorded in said minutes.)

The council has sponsored, with the education board, a twelve weeks school for pastors and church leaders which we considered a great success. (No expense was involved for the conference.)

We have met six times during this year.

The council requests that Brother Johnny Vernelson's name be dropped from our regular roll of ministers because he has gone with another denomination.

Rev. J. C. Lynn, *Secretary*

### REPORT OF TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

The temperance committee, appointed at this session of the Central Conference, wishes to make the following recommendations to the ministers and churches of this conference:

1. We recommend the endorsement of the work of the Allied Church League in attempting to secure a state-wide referendum on the question of the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages.

2. We recommend that ministers and other community leaders among our people inform themselves concerning the availability of materials on alcohol education which may be used in our local churches, in our public schools and in our community organizations.

3. We recommend that our ministers familiarize themselves with the problem of alcoholism and the agencies outside of the church which are working with the victims of alcoholism. Some information may be secured by writing to the North Carolina Alcoholic Rehabilitation Board in Raleigh.

4. We recommend that the ministers and other church leaders of the Central Conference teach their people the principles of self-control as set forth in the Bible and in our Treatise.

5. Whereas the various media of communication such as radio, television, bill boards, daily and weekly papers and magazines have been used as a means of advertising the sale of alcoholic beverages, and whereas grocery stores and super markets display beer and wine among their other products for sale; be it resolved that we go on record in this 1957 session of the Central Conference as opposing and detesting such advertising.

Be it further resolved that copies of this resolution be sent to our church papers, and to representatives of the various newspapers which serve the area of the Central Conference.

Respectively submitted by your committee,  
Michael Pelt, *Chairman*  
Willis Wilson  
T. N. Stocks

## REPORT OF CENTRAL CONFERENCE HISTORIAN

During the year I have continued my search for the minutes, and other information about the Central Conference, that would help give to us more information about the history of Free Will Baptists in this conference.

Since within our bounds are the three oldest Free Will Baptist churches in existence, that we know of, may we request the conference to consider some type of marker for these three churches. They are: Little Creek, Grimsley in Greene County, and Gum Swamp, in Pitt County. (This matter was tabled.)

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Hubert Burress, *Historian*

## CENTRAL CONFERENCE FREE WILL BAPTIST MISSION REPORT FOR THE YEARS 1957-1958

I am happy to report to you that your Central Conference Mission Board has been busy during the year in the interest of missions in the conference bounds. We have had many problems. Soon after the settings of last year's conference our missionary, Brother Frank Davenport, resigned, then came the task of securing another worker for this great undertaking. After much prayer and consideration Brother Everett Bryan was contacted and placed as your full-time worker. He did a fine job, but because of lack of funds he too, was forced to seek other employment. Through an agreement with your mission board and Brother Frank Davenport he again agreed to assist in the work that was started at the DuPont Mission.

We do appreciate the support you have given this year through your churches, auxiliaries, Sunday schools, leagues, state mission board, mission points, new churches and individuals. We urge you to continue your support through your prayers and finance that we might be able to do more in 1958.

We are badly in need of a full-time missionary, one who can devote his efforts to the cause of missions in the bounds of the Central Conference, at least that is the thinking of your board. What is your thinking concerning this matter?

### *Churches Organized*

Hope Free Will Baptist Church, Scotland Neck, N. C.  
Maranatha Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville, N. C.  
Mizpah Free Will Baptist Church, Washington, N. C.

### *Missions Organized*

DuPont Mission, Route 2, Grifton, N. C.

### *Treasurer's Report*

Total Receipts	\$1,939.16
Total Disbursements	\$1,492.08
Balance in Treasury	\$ 447.08

Send all gifts to Charles E. Keith, Route 3, Box 10, Washington, N. C.  
Charles E. Keith, *Secretary-Treasurer*

# REPORT OF \$5.00 BUILDER'S CLUB OF CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF NORTH CAROLINA AS OF NOVEMBER 5, 1957

Paid Out	
Maranatha Free Will Baptist Church 7-3-57	\$250.00
10-12-57	5.00
11-4-57	5.00
Faith Free Will Baptist Church 8-7-57	5.00
Peace Free Will Baptist Church 5-21-57	5.00
8-24-57	10.00
Total Paid Out	\$280.00
Cash on Hand for Hope Free Will Baptist Church:	
Building and Loan	\$250.00
In Bank	15.00
Cash on Hand (Transferred from Planters Bank)	10.00
Total	275.00
New Church in Washington:	
Cash on Hand in Bank	15.00
Total Paid Out to New Churches in 1957	\$570.00

Rev. Hubert Burress, Secretary-Treasurer

## ORPHANAGE COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Children's Home committee, make the following report:

We urge the people of this conference to increase their monthly offerings to the Children's Home in order to better realize the needs of the institution, and to fervently pray for each person there.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Bill Taylor

Mrs. Sidney Strickland

Mrs. Miriam Edwards

## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Number of Churches Reported	51
Receipts	
Amount Received at this Setting:	
Children's Home Offering	\$140.03
Mount Olive College Offering	80.18
Bible College Offering	109.41
From 49 Churches	578.00
Total Received	\$907.62
Paid Out	
Children's Home	\$140.03
Mount Olive College	80.18

Bible College	109.41
Minutes	100.00
Conference Expense	168.94
East Carolina Student Fellowship	100.00

Total Paid Out	<u>\$698.56</u>
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Balance	<u>\$209.06</u>
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Respectfully submitted,

Leo Tripp

M. S. Cowan

Luther Barrow

Willis Wilson

L. B. Manning

### RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT

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

Respectfully submitted,

N. D. Beaman, *Chairman*

Frank Davenport

Leo Tripp

### DIGEST REPORT

Number of Churches in Conference	56
Number of Churches Reporting this Session	51
Number of Church Members	10,279
Sunday School	7,941
Leagues	1,277
Woman's Auxiliary	1,485
No. Members Gained	850
No. Members Lost	446
Net Gain	404
Total Contribution to this Conference	\$ 578.00
Total Value of Church Property	1,119,100.00
Paid out this year to Pastors	93,181.85
To Evangelists	11,513.90
To Orphanage	13,891.49
To Education	9,765.49
To Superannuation	1,125.26
To Church Finance Association	3,789.39
To Missions	9,027.74
To Cragmont Assembly	571.57
To Promotional Work	851.14
Paid Out for Repairs and Improvements	85,338.21
Total Paid Out for All Purposes	267,129.16



