

1982-83
Yearbook
for
Original
Free Will Baptists
of
North Carolina

Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.
Ayden, North Carolina 28513-0158

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**MINUTES
of the
234TH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
CENTRAL CONFERENCE
of the
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS
of
NORTH CAROLINA**

**Held with
First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville
Pitt County
Wednesday, November 10, 1982**

The Rev. Willis Wilson, *Moderator*
The Rev. Leon Grubbs, *Clerk*
The Rev. Harry Grubbs, *Host Pastor*

OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE

MODERATOR
The Rev. Willis Wilson

ASSISTANT MODERATOR
The Rev. C. L. Patrick

CLERK
The Rev. Leon Grubbs

ASSISTANT CLERK
The Rev. Bobby Futrell

TREASURER
Mr. Boyd Barrow

BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Rev. C. L. Patrick, Moderator
 The Rev. Jack Mayo, Assistant Moderator
 The Rev. Ronnie Hobgood, Clerk
 Mrs. Lou McLawhorn, Treasurer
 The Rev. O. B. Jones, Member at Large

BOARD OF ORDINATION

The Rev. Gary Bailey (1983) The Rev. Harry Grubbs (1985)
 The Rev. Royce Reynolds (1984) The Rev. N. B. Barrow (1986)
 The Rev. Ray Williamson (1987)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Mr. J. M. Langley (1983) Mr. Charles Gaskins (1985)
 Mr. Macon Page (1984) Mr. Jack Dall (1986)

BOARD OF MISSIONS

The Rev. Cedric Pierce (1983) Mr. Linwood Cobb (1985)
 Mr. Billy Gurkin (1984) Mr. Billy Churchill (1986)
 The Rev. Joseph Lehmann (1987)

BOARD OF FINANCE

The Rev. Charles Branch (1983) Mrs. Randolph Harris (1985)
 Mr. J. T. Beddard (1984) Mr. Leo Tripp (1986)
 The Rev. Edward Thornton (1987)

REPRESENTATIVES OF MEMBERSHIPS IN THE FREE WILL BAPTIST

PRESS FOUNDATION, INC.

The Rev. Billy Ray Jordan (1983) The Rev. Walter Reynolds (1985)
 Mrs. Alma Buck (1984) The Rev. Earl Glenn (1986)
 Mrs. Dot Dall (1987)

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Mrs. Julia Smith (1983) The Rev. Allan Sterbin (1984)
 The Rev. Leon Harris (1985)

OBITUARY COMMITTEE

The Rev. W. S. Burns (1983) The Rev. Tom Miller (1984)
 Mrs. C. L. Patrick (1985)

Central Conference

CONFERENCE HISTORIAN
The Rev. C. H. Overman (1984)

PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN
The Rev. Danny Braswell (1984)

REPRESENTATIVE OF MEMBERSHIPS IN CHURCH FINANCE
ASSOCIATION INC.
The Rev. Willis Wilson (1984)

ROLL OF MINISTERS

	1981	1982
L. B. Manning	P	P
N. D. Beaman	P	P
*J. P. Barrow	A	A
*C. D. Hamilton	A	A
*R. H. Proctor	A	A
C. L. Patrick	P	P
N. B. Barrow	P	P
Lt. Col. J. B. Narron	L	L
Dr. Michael Pelt	P	P
Willis Wilson	P	P
Raymond T. Sasser	P	P
Jack Mayo	P	P
C. H. Overman	P	P
Joseph H. Lehmann	P	A
Walter Pollard	A	P
Charles Edwin Branch	P	P
N. D. Wiggs	P	A
W. Bruce Jones	P	P
Clinton Davis	P	A
Gary Bailey	P	P
Walter Reynolds	P	P
Tom Miller	P	P
Harry A. Jones	P	P
Danny Braswell	A	P
O. B. Jones	L	P
Stewart Humphrey	L	L
Leon Grubbs	P	P
Bobby Taylor	P	P
Royce Reynolds	P	P

Robert Rollins	P	P
Bobby Futrell	P	A
Ronnie Hobgood	P	P
Cedric D. Pierce Jr.	P	P
Curtis Jones	A	P
Melvin Moore	A	P
W. S. Burns	P	A
Harry Grubbs	P	P
Calvin Heath	P	P
Earl Glenn	A	P
Billy Ray Jordan	P	P
Robert Strickland	P	A
Bob Murray	L	A
*R. P. Harris	P	P
Leon Harris	P	P
Clarence Harris	P	P
Clifford Ball	P	P
Edward Thornton	A	P
David Ricks	P	P
Ray Williamson	A	P
Allan Sterbin	P	P
James Owens		P
Dale Albertson		P
Reb Lancaster		P

(*Denotes Retired Minister)

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES

Albertson, Dale, Route 2, Box 51, Walstonburg, NC 27888; phone 753-4340

Ball, Clifford, Route 1, Box 96-A, Grifton, NC 28530

Barrow, J. P., 7934 Charlotte Pike, Nashville, TN 37209

Barrow, N. B., Route 2, Snow Hill, NC 28580; phone 747-3688

Beaman, N. D., Route 4, Box 400, Snow Hill, NC 28580; phone 747-3503

Branch, Charles E., 116 Village Drive, Winterville, NC 28590; phone 756-7634

Braswell, Danny, Box 341, Pinetops, NC 27864; phone 827-5412

Burns, W. S., Route 3, Ayden, NC 28513; phone 746-2715

Davis, Clinton, Route 3, Snow Hill, NC 28580; phone 747-3087

Futrell, Bobby, 1103 West Washington Avenue, Kinston, NC 28501

Glenn, Earl, Route 3, Box 637, Wilson, NC 27530

- Grubbs, Harry, 3000 Briarcliff Drive, Greenville, NC 27834; phone 756-8585
- Grubbs, Leon, Route 2, Box 290, Snow Hill, NC 28580; phone 747-2678
- Hamilton, C. D., Fountain, NC 27829
- Harris, Clarence, Route 3, Box 179, Tarboro, NC 27886
- Harris, Leon, Route 3, Box 36, Ayden, NC 28513; phone 746-4320
- Harris, R. P., 1200 Tarboro Street, Rocky Mount, NC 27801; phone 442-3536
- Heath, Calvin, Route 2, Walstonburg, NC 27888; phone 747-8542
- Hobgood, Ronnie, Box 301, LaGrange, NC 28551; phone 566-9315
- Humphrey, Stewart, Box 6337, Asheville, NC 28816; phone (704) 254-5356
- Jones, Curtis, 303 Robin Lane, Clayton, NC 27520
- Jones, Harry A., Route 1, Box 430, Dover, NC 28526; phone 527-3262
- Jones, O. B., 108 Hope Lodge Street, Tarboro, NC 27886; phone 823-3964
- Jones, W. Bruce, Route 2, Box 650-A, Ayden, NC 28513; phone 746-6293
- Jordan, Billy Ray, 1506 Washington Avenue Extension, Weldon, NC 27890; phone 536-4270
- Lancaster, Reb, Route 1, Box 82-C1, Robersonville, NC 27871; phone 792-4276
- Lehmann, Joseph A., 407 East Church Street, Farmville, NC 27828; phone 753-3527
- Manning, L. B., Fountain, NC 27829; phone 749-4591
- Mayo, Jack, Route 1, Box 273-1, Winterville, NC 28590; phone 756-2805
- Miller, Tom, Route 1, Box 96, Hookerton, NC 28538; phone 747-5473
- Moore, Melvin, Route 3, Box 192, Elm City, NC 27822; phone 237-0581
- Murray, Robert, 700 Franklin Street, Roanoke Rapids, NC 27870; phone 535-3202
- Narron, Lt. Col. J. B., 1506 East Harris Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530; phone 734-0270
- Overman, C. H., 1201 Stokes Drive, Ayden, NC 28513; phone 746-3630
- Owens, James, 105 Kathryn Lane, Greenville, NC 27834; phone 752-1556
- Patrick, C. L., Route 1, Box 219, Winterville, NC 28590; phone 756-2391
- Pelt, Dr. Michael, Route 4, Box 363, Mount Olive, NC 28365; phone 658-2343
- Pierce, Cedric D. Jr., Route 3, Box 325, Greenville, NC 27834; phone 752-6485
- Pollard, Walter, 111 Glenwood Drive, Greenville, NC 27834; phone 756-2211
- Proctor, R. C., Route 3, Box 244, Wilson, NC 27893
- Reynolds, Royce, Route 1, Box 32, Pinetown, NC 27865
- Reynolds, Walter, Box 514, Winterville, NC 28590; phone 756-6587

Ricks, David, 614 Park Avenue, Ayden, NC 28513; phone 746-2021
Rollins, Robert, Route 7, Box 469, Kinston, NC 28501; phone 527-2730
Sasser, Raymond T., 517 Westover Avenue, Wilson, NC 27893; phone 291-5529
Sterbin, Allan, Route 1, Box 674, Greenville, NC 27834; phone 756-7430
Strickland, Robert, Box 3932, Wilson, NC 27893; phone 237-1850
Taylor, Bobby, Box 455, Pikeville, NC 27863
Thornton, Edward, Route 3, Box 22, Snow Hill, NC 28580; phone 747-5792
Wiggs, N. D., 23 Crescent Drive, Kinston, NC 28501
Williamson, Ray, Route 6, Box 147-A, Greenville, NC 27834; phone 758-4356
Wilson, Willis, Route 1, Box 18, Winterville, NC 28590; phone 756-1911

LICENSED MINISTERS

Ronald Braxton
Donald Ribeiro
Roger Heath
Frank Robbins
Frank Thigpen
Ray Everton
Jeffery Harrison

ROLL OF CHURCHES AND THEIR PASTORS

Aspen Grove—Edward Thornton
Ayden—David Ricks
Bethany—C. L. Patrick
Black Jack—Cedric D. Pierce Jr.
Cedar Grove
Community—Billy Ray Jordan
Daniels Chapel—Earl Glenn
Dawson's Grove—Kenneth Carter
Dilda's Grove—Clifford Ball
Edgewood—Robert Strickland
Elm Grove—Steve Hargrove
Free Union—Calvin Heath
Friendship—Walter Reynolds
Greenville, First—Harry Grubbs
Grimsley—Donald Fader
Gum Swamp—Ray Williamson

Harrell's Chapel—Franklin Brinson
Hickory Grove—Charles Branch
Howell Swamp—Joseph Lehmann
Hugo—Tom Miller
Hull Road—Leon Grubbs
King's Cross Roads—Bruce Jones
LaGrange—Ronnie Hobgood
Little Creek—Frank Flowers
Marlboro—Scott Sowers
Maury
Ormondsville—Jack Mayo
Otter's Creek—Ralph Aycock
Owens Chapel—Melvin Moore
Peace—Danny Braswell
Piney Grove (Beaufort)—Walter Pollard
Piney Grove (Pitt)—Allan Sterbin
Pleasant Hill—C. F. Bowen
Reedy Branch—Willis Wilson
Roanoke Rapids—Carlton Lucas
Rocky Mount, First—Mark Hobbs
Rose Hill—Leon Harris
Rose of Sharon—Reb Lancaster
Saints Delight—James Warren
Saratoga—J. C. Yates
Spring Branch—Dale Albertson
Sweet Gum Grove—David Hill
Tarboro, First—O. B. Jones
Walnut Creek—Larry Barbour
Watery Branch—David DeHart
Williamston, First—Ronnie Mohn
Winterville—Edward C. Taylor

PROCEEDINGS

MORNING SESSION

The Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, being the continuation of the General Conference, convened in its 234th annual session with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville, North Carolina, Pitt County, on November 10, 1982.

The moderator called the Conference to order. The Rev. Harry Grubbs, host pastor, led the Conference in the singing of "Onward

Christian Soldiers." The Rev. Ed Thornton conducted the opening devotions.

A welcome was extended by the Rev. Harry Grubbs.

Response was made by Mrs. Lou McLawhorn.

The moderator gave a brief address to the Conference.

The moderator appointed the following temporary committees:
Nominating: The Revs. Walter Reynolds, Jack Mayo, Leon Harris.
Temperance and Resolutions: The Revs. O. B. Jones, Ed Thornton, Tom Miller, and Ray Williamson.

Parliamentarian: The Rev. C. L. Patrick.

The roll of churches was called.

The roll of ministers was called.

Visiting ministers were recognized. From the Cape Fear Conference: Bryant Hines, Frank Harrison, Dr. Burkette Raper, Ed Taylor, Mark Hobbs, David Hill, and Ed Miles; Eastern: Walter Sutton, Scott Sowers, and James Sowers; Albemarle: Ronnie Mohn and Steve Hargrove; Western: John Williams and Harold Jones.

Mr. Charles Watt was recognized as a visitor representing the Children's Home.

Three changes to the Constitution were proposed:

1. All places in the Constitution that have the name of the 1955 revision of our treatise, *Statement of Faith and Discipline for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina*, be changed to bear the name of the newly revised treatise, *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*.

2. The committee representing our memberships in the Free Will Baptist Press be increased from three to five members and that Article IV. Standing Boards and Committees, be revised accordingly.

3. Article IX. Meetings, be amended to read: "The Central Conference shall meet annually on Thursday following the first Sunday in November." It presently reads: "The Central Conference shall meet annually on Wednesday following the first Sunday in November."

By motion all three proposed changes were placed on the table until the afternoon session.

Reports of the denomination and its enterprises were given as follows: State Convention, by the Rev. Gary Bailey, president; Superannuation and Church Finance Association, by the Rev. Walter Reynolds, director of those enterprises; Mount Olive College, by Dr. Burkette Raper, president; Cragmont Assembly, by the Rev. John Williams, manager; Children's Home, by Mr. Charles Watt, fundraiser; Retirement Homes, by the Rev. Walter Sutton, director;

Foreign Missions, by the Rev. Harold Jones, director; and Home Missions, by the Rev. Charles Crisp, director.

The report of the Ordaining Council was given by the Rev. Harry Grubbs. By motion the report was adopted. (See Reports.)

The Conference adjourned its business session for worship. A hymn was sung, an offering received, and the Rev. Harry Grubbs rendered a solo. The Rev. Harold Jones brought the introductory message.

Following the worship service, the Conference adjourned for lunch.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The Conference reconvened following lunch with devotions conducted by the Rev. Allan Sterbin.

The Obituary Committee reported that no minister in the Central Conference had passed away since the Conference's last annual meeting.

By motion the proposed constitutional changes that had been presented in the morning session were brought off the table for debate, one at a time. Each was adopted by vote of the Conference. (See "Morning Session".)

The report of the Credentials Committee was given by the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood. By motion the report was adopted. (See Reports.)

The report of the Executive Board was made by the Rev. Leon Grubbs. By motion the report was adopted. (See Reports.)

The report of the Central Conference Missions Board was given by the Rev. Cedric D. Pierce Jr. By motion the report was adopted. (See Reports.)

The report of the Temperance and Resolutions Committee was made by the Rev. Tom Miller. By motion the report was adopted. (See Reports.)

The following resolution was presented from the floor: BE IT RESOLVED, that all committees and boards be composed of at least one-third laymen and laywomen. After some discussion it was noted that this would pose a problem for the Board of Ordination. The moderator asked the presenter, with her consent, to rewrite the resolution. While she did that other business was carried out.

The report of the Conference treasurer was given by the Rev. Leon Grubbs in the absence of Mr. Boyd Barrow, who could not attend. By motion the report was adopted. (See Reports.)

The report of the Nominating Committee was given by the Rev. Walter Reynolds. The report contained the names of the Rev. Leon

Grubbs for clerk and Mr. Boyd Barrow for treasurer, but it was pointed out that each had served two consecutive terms and according to the Constitution and By-Laws were not eligible for re-election at this time. By motion the names of the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood for clerk and Mrs. Lou McLawhorn for treasurer were substituted in the report. Because no person may serve on two standing boards or committees at the same time, the Rev. Ronnie Hobgood resigned from the Credentials Committee. The name of the Rev. Allan Sterbin was added to the report, by motion, to take his place. The Rev. L. B. Manning stated that he wished for his name to be deleted from the report for a place on the Obituary Committee. His wishes were met and, by motion, the name of Mrs. C. L. Patrick was added in his place. With these changes, the report was adopted. (See Reports.) The persons named therein were elected by acclamation.

The previously mentioned resolution was again presented to the body as follows: BE IT RESOLVED, that all committees and boards be composed of at least one-third laymen and laywomen with the exception of the Ordaining Council. By motion the resolution was passed.

The Rocky Mount Church extended an invitation for the Conference to meet with them in 1983. By motion the invitation was accepted.

A discussion concerning the financial woes of the Press ensued. Several questions were raised. There was not an official representative of the Press present, so there were no answers to be obtained. In view of this fact the following motion was passed: That the Central Conference ask the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation to call for an immediate meeting of the Memberships of the Press. A later motion passed asking that this meeting take place within thirty days of reception of this written request. (A letter stating this request was mailed by the clerk on November 15, 1982.)

The clerk read a letter from the Press Board stating that memberships in the Press may be purchased at the cost of \$100 per membership.

By motion we adjourned, leaving all unfinished business in the hands of the Executive Board.

Willis Wilson, *Moderator*
Leon Grubbs, *Clerk*

REPORTS

REPORT OF THE ORDAINING COUNCIL

We, the Ordaining Council, are in a very delicate position. We have been elected to this capacity to serve the Conference, but we must also serve those individuals who come before the Council for any reason. In order to serve individuals, we do not divulge highly personal and very sensitive information in this report, and we will divulge such information only under the following circumstances:

1. The individual requests it;
2. The Conference requests it and the information is first examined by the Executive Committee;
3. The individual has made some disparaging or untruthful statement(s) about the Council's handling of his case;
4. The Council requires a minister to surrender his credentials.

There are times when charges are leveled against a minister of the Conference. These charges must be made in writing and signed by the person making the charge. Generally, we do not deal with unsigned accusations; however, we may notify a minister of such accusations.

It is the policy of the Central Conference for all pastors in the Conference to appear before the Ordaining Council to be approved for pastoral work in the Conference *before* they begin work in the Conference. So if your church calls a minister from outside the Conference, please notify the secretary of the Council and have the minister notify the secretary. In most cases this proves to be a formality, but it just might save your church some heartaches later.

Since last Conference Annual Session, the Council has recommended three men for licensing. On January 12, the Council recommended that Saratoga Church license Frank Thigpen on or after March 15, 1982, the date he would have been a member of that church for one year. On March 16, the Council recommended that Williamston Church license Ray Everton. On October 11, the Council recommended that Marlboro Church license Jeffery Harrison.

James Owens was ordained into the Gospel Ministry on November 10, 1981, at Otter's Creek Church. He is the only minister ordained since last Annual Session of the Conference.

Two ministers have transferred into the Conference and two have transferred from the Conference. On April 19, Dale Albertson was received into the Conference pending a letter of transfer from the Western Conference. That letter was received, dated May 5, 1982. On October 11, James Reb Lancaster brought a letter of transfer from the

Eastern Conference to the Council. He was received into the Conference. Vance Link joined the Western Conference in 1979. Neither he nor the Western Conference notified the Central Conference until this year. We granted a letter of transfer on March 31. David C. Hansley requested a letter of transfer to the Eastern Conference on September 10. We granted that request on September 20.

Three ministers were cleared this year to serve churches in the Central Conference without membership. Steve Hargrove was approved on January 12 to serve as pastor of Elm Grove Church. On October 11, Ronnie Mohn was approved to serve as pastor of Williamston Church and David DeHart was cleared to serve as pastor of Watery Branch Church.

The Council has worked long and diligently to prepare a new ordination examination. The new examination was approved on July 27. This is a comprehensive examination of Free Will Baptist history, doctrine, and polity. In addition, the candidate for ordination will have to demonstrate that he has given serious thought to the very difficult issues of today.

Sir, I move the adoption of this report and that the names of Frank Thigpen, Ray Everton, and Jeffery Harrison be added to the list of licensed ministers, and the names of James Owens and Charles Lacher be dropped; and that the names of James Owens, Dale Albertson, and Reb Lancaster be added to the list of ordained ministers in that order of seniority, and the names of Vance Link and David C. Hansley be dropped.

Respectfully submitted,
N. B. Barrow, *Chairman*
Harry C. Grubbs, *Secretary*
Jack Mayo
Royce Reynolds
Gary M. Bailey

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

Reading from the Constitution of the Central Conference, portions from Articles I and II: "This conference shall be composed of affiliated ordained ministers and churches within its bounds, who are in good standing, and all general officers and members of standing boards or committees of the conference"

"Each church shall represent with one delegate for each one hundred members or fraction thereof"

Therefore, we, the Credentials Committee, submit the following report:

1. We recommend that all delegates who have properly registered for the 234th annual session of the Central Conference be seated in the 1982 session.
2. We recommend that all ministers who are in good standing with the Conference be seated.
3. We further recommend that all ministers and delegates having identification cards and having registered properly be seated.
4. The following have registered today:
 - a. Central Conference ministers—44
 - b. Delegates—51
 - c. Visiting ministers—13
 - d. Churches represented—33
 - e. Licensed ministers—1
 - f. Visitors—16

Respectfully submitted,
 Julia Smith
 Ronnie Hobgood
 Leon Harris

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Executive Board met following the annual Conference on November 4, 1981, at Hugo Church. The following members were present: Willis Wilson, Boyd Barrow, C. L. Patrick, and Leon Grubbs.

The minutes of the Conference were read and approved.

We adjourned with prayer.

The Executive Board met on October 25, 1982, at Western Sizzlin' No. 2 in Greenville, following the quarterly meeting of the Central Conference Ministers' Fellowship. The following members were present: Willis Wilson, C. L. Patrick and Leon Grubbs.

The program for this year's Conference was arranged and given final approval.

We adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
 Willis Wilson, *Moderator*
 C. L. Patrick, *Assistant Moderator*
 Leon Grubbs, *Clerk*
 Boyd Barrow, *Treasurer*
 O. B. Jones, *Member at Large*

REPORT OF THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE MISSIONS BOARD

Thank you very sincerely for your support of our Central Conference Missions Program this year as well as what you have done in the past. A special thanks to the Woman's Auxillary Convention for their contributions, too! Note that our total income was up significantly this year. Your help has made it possible for your Missions Board to move forward again this year in its work.

Our phase-out program at Roanoke Rapids was completed on December 31, 1981, as planned. However, upon a change in pastoral leadership the church needed some additional assistance. Acting upon an official request from the church, the Missions Board approved a supplement to the Roanoke Rapids Church in the amount of \$87.50 per week beginning on April 4, 1982, for a period of six months after which an evaluation was made. Noting encouraging progress, the Board approved for the assistance to continue at the same rate for an additional six months or until the church is able to undertake more of the financial load. Both the congregation and the Missions Board are pleased with the very capable leadership being provided by the new pastor, the Rev. J. Carlton Lucas, who resides in Roanoke Rapids.

As was announced in the 1981 sitting of the Central Conference, the new Free Will Baptist Mission in Rocky Mount was closed by vote of the State Home Missions Board on November 2, 1981. The Central Conference Missions Board received \$462 in refunds upon the final settlement of this work.

A new work has been started in Grifton, North Carolina, and is meeting in the old St. Jude Catholic Church. This work is a joint venture of the State Home Missions Board and the Central Conference Missions Board. Our assistance is based on \$50 per week supplement toward the pastor's salary which is shared equally between the State Board, the Conference Board, and the Mission. Our commitment is for 11 months (48 weeks) beginning on October 31, 1982—after this period a careful evaluation will be made by the State and Conference Missions Boards. The pastor is the Rev. Jimmy Sowers.

Your Missions Board has made every effort to fulfill the goals established by this Conference:

- (1) "AN ORIGINAL F.W.B. CHURCH IN EVERY TOWN";
- (2) Stand ready to assist any church in our Conference that might need help; and
- (3) Be prepared to launch out in the establishment of another mission or supporting a prospective group which feels led to organize.

To accomplish this we have committed more than our present rate of income, believing that our people in our Central Conference churches will support our efforts! To meet our obligations we project that we will need approximately \$6,750 during the next year. We can raise this amount for Central Conference Missions if every church, Sunday school, auxiliary, etc. in the Conference will contribute to our Conference Missions Program and those that are presently supporting will do a little more! We urge all of our churches and groups to give very liberally to Central Conference Missions so we can continue to carry on the work assigned and build a necessary reserve to be ready to "go" at all times!

We solicit your continued prayers for your Missions Board and all those working for the cause of missions as well as for your generous financial support!

All contributions to Central Conference Missions should be mailed to: Dr. Cedric D. Pierce Jr., Route 3, Box 325, Greenville, NC 27834.

Respectfully submitted

Joseph Lehmann, *Chairman*

Cedric D. Pierce Jr., *Secretary-Treasurer*

Linwood Cobb

Billy Gurkin

Billy Churchill

**CENTRAL CONFERENCE MISSIONS BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER
NOVEMBER 10, 1982 (YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1982)**

	<u>1979/80</u>	<u>1980/81</u>	<u>1981/82</u>
Aspen Grove	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00
Ayden	10.00	20.00	15.00
Bethany	10.00	10.00	10.00
Black Jack	10.00	105.00	175.00
Cedar Grove			
Community	5.00	5.00	5.00
Daniels Chapel	10.00	5.00	20.00
Dawson's Grove	15.00	10.00	25.00
Dilda's Grove	400.16	409.48	437.09
Edgewood			
Elm Grove	10.00	10.00	10.00
Free Union	10.00	10.00	5.00
Friendship	116.00	133.00	324.00

Central Conference

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Greenville, First	10.00	10.00	10.00
Grimsley		5.00	10.00
Gum Swamp	10.00	5.00	5.00
Harrell's Chapel			5.00
Hickory Grove	110.00	10.00	105.00
Howell Swamp	10.00	10.00	18.00
Hugo	5.00	5.00	
Hull Road	10.00	5.00	
King's Cross Roads	66.39	78.23	84.00
LaGrange	10.00	10.00	10.00
Little Creek	10.00	10.00	10.00
Marlboro	10.00	5.00	10.00
Maury			
Ormondsville	52.00	70.00	62.00
Otter's Creek			
Owens Chapel	101.00	96.00	96.00
Peace	5.00	10.00	
Piney Grove (Beaufort)	49.00	105.00	111.00
Piney Grove (Pitt)			
Pleasant Hill	10.00	10.00	10.00
Reedy Branch	10.00	10.00	5.00
Roanoke Rapids, First		22.44	
Rocky Mount, First	5.00	5.00	5.00
Rose Hill	10.00	10.00	10.00
Rose of Sharon	10.00		5.00
Saratoga	10.00	11.60	10.00
Spring Branch	10.00	5.00	5.00
Saints Delight			
Sweet Gum Grove	5.00	5.00	5.00
Tarboro, First	10.00	10.00	110.00
Walnut Creek			
Watery Branch			
Williamston, First			
Winterville	565.40	633.51	717.00
TOTAL, Churches, Sunday			
Schools, Woman's Auxiliaries	\$1,709.95	\$1,884.26	\$2,454.09
Second Union Meeting	52.51	57.56	47.08
Fourth Union Meeting			
Miscellaneous and Interest			
Earned	304.89	342.13	212.92
Grand Total	\$2,067.35	\$2,283.95	\$2,714.09

CENTRAL CONFERENCE MISSIONS BOARD

Treasurer's Report
Year Ended June 30, 1982

Balance, July 1, 1981		\$3,940.36
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Receipts

Churches, Sunday Schools, Women's		
Auxiliaries, etc.	\$2,454.09	
Second Union Meeting	47.08	
Miscellaneous and Interest on Savings	212.92	
Total Receipts		2,714.09

Refunds

State Home Missions Board		
Rocky Mount Mission: October, 1981		
Assistance	\$ 200.00	
Rocky Mount Mission: Final Settlement	262.00	
Total Refunds		462.00
Total for Which to Account		\$7,116.45

Disbursements

Roanoke Rapids Pastor Supplement	\$1,267.50	
Roanoke Rapids Insurance	72.00	
Roanoke Rapids Property Taxes	128.71	
(Represents 50% of city and 50% of		
Halifax County) Board Meetings' Expense	205.30	
Office Expense	166.73	
Rocky Mount Mission Supplement	850.00	
Disbursements		2,690.24
Balance on hand—June 30, 1982		
(Checking and Savings)		<u>\$4,426.21</u>

NOTE: \$3,000.00 of the above balance is on savings with the Church Finance Association.

REPORT OF THE TEMPERANCE AND RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

1. WHEREAS, Free Will Baptists have traditionally and historically opposed the abuse of alcohol and drugs, BE IT RESOLVED, that we reaffirm that position. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the public display, promotion, and use of pornographic materials be included in this resolution.

2. WHEREAS, Mount Olive College will soon become a four-year college to fulfill the requests and meet the educational needs of Free Will Baptists, BE IT RESOLVED, that the churches of the Central Conference be encouraged to accordingly increase their financial support to help bear the increased costs of becoming a four-year institution.

3. BE IT RESOLVED, that we reaffirm our support of the newly revised and adopted *Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* and that we urge the ministers of the Conference to encourage the members of their pastorates to obtain and study it thoroughly; BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we reaffirm our traditional recognition of the individual's right of interpretation of the Scriptures.

4. WHEREAS, the officers of our Conference have served us faithfully and capably, BE IT RESOLVED, that a standing vote of appreciation be given them by this body.

5. WHEREAS, the First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville has graciously served this Conference as host church, BE IT RESOLVED, that a standing vote of thanks be given to it by this body.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Williamson

Tom Miller

Ed Thornton

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Checking Account Balance, November 2, 1981	\$ 260.34	
Savings Account Balance, November 2, 1981	2,322.41	
		<hr/> \$2,582.75
<i>Receipts</i>		
Dues and Yearbook Receipts	\$1,060.76	
Conference Collection (1981)	93.50	
Interest on Savings Account	111.71	
Total Receipts		<hr/> 1,265.97
Total to be Accounted for		<hr/> \$3,848.72

Disbursements

The Rev. Gary Bailey (Expenses)	\$ 117.30	
The Rev. Leon Grubbs ('81 Salary and Expenses)	84.58	
Mount Olive College	500.00	
Cragmont Assembly	500.00	
Press (I. D. Cards)	14.92	
Press (Church Letters)	6.04	
Carter Office Supply (Filing Cabinet)	52.22	
Mrs. Julia Smith (Name Tags)	6.84	
Press (Yearbooks)	789.04	
Intangible Tax (Savings Account)	2.23	
The Rev. Leon Grubbs ('82 Salary and Expenses)	82.20	
Total Disbursements		\$2,155.37
Total in Treasury November 1, 1982		\$1,693.35
Checking Account Balance November 1, 1982	\$ 61.46	
Savings Account Balance November 4, 1982	1,631.89	
Total	\$1,693.35	

Respectfully submitted,
Boyd Barrow, *Treasurer*

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We, the Nominating Committee, submit the following names for nominations:

- Board of Ordination—Ray Williamson (1987)
- Board of Trustees—Jack Dail (1986)
- Board of Missions—Joseph Lehmann (1987)
- Board of Finance—Edward Thornton (1987)
- Representative of Memberships in the Free Will Baptist Press—Walter Reynolds (1985), Earl Glenn (1986), Dot Dail (1987)
- Credentials Committee—Leon Harris, (1985), Allan Sterbin (1984)
- Obituary Committee—Mrs. C. L. Patrick (1985)
- Conference Historian—C. H. Overman (1983)
- Publicity Chairman—Danny Braswell (1983)
- Representative of Church Finance Association—Willis Wilson (1983)
- Moderator—C. L. Patrick
- Assistant Moderator—Jack Mayo
- Clerk—Ronnie Hobgood

Assistant Clerk—Leah McGlohon
Treasurer—Mrs. Lou McLawhorn
Member at Large—O. B. Jones

Respectfully submitted,
Walter Reynolds, *Chairman*
Jack Mayo
Leon Harris

CONSTITUTION

PREAMBLE

We, the Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination of North Carolina, desiring to be in fellowship in a bond of union, do ordain this constitution revised at annual session held November 10th and 11th, 1976.

NAME

This shall be the constitution of the Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist Church of North Carolina.

PURPOSE

The object of the Central Conference shall be to promote Christ's kingdom among men by means in strict conformity to the Holy Scriptures.

Article I. COMPOSITION

This conference shall be composed of affiliated ordained ministers and churches within its bounds, who are in good standing, and of all general officers, and members of standing boards or committees of the conference. It shall operate under *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*. No church corporation whose articles of incorporation or constitution and bylaws conflict with the *Articles of faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)* shall be permitted membership in the Central Conference.

Article II. REPRESENTATION

Each church shall represent with one delegate for each one hundred members or fraction thereof. The delegation from each church shall carry to the conference a letter certifying their appointment, and giving the statistics and financial condition of the church, together with a statement of all funds received and disbursed for denominational and benevolent purposes during the year.

Article III. OFFICERS

The officers shall be a moderator, an assistant moderator, a clerk, an assistant clerk, and a treasurer, who shall be elected for a term of two (2) years. After serving two (2) full terms of two (2) years each, no

member shall be eligible for nomination to the same office until after an interval of one (1) year. The duties of said office shall be entered into at the close of the session in which they are elected.

Article IV. STANDING BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

It shall be the policy of this conference to elect as many boards and committees as may be necessary in carrying out its program. These shall keep records of their proceedings and make a report at each annual session of the conference.

A board of trustees, a board of ordination, a board of finance, and a board of missions, consisting of five members each, shall be elected. The term of office for members of these boards shall be five years but shall be adjusted to terminate the office of one member annually.

A committee to represent the conference's memberships in the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., a credentials committee, and an obituary committee shall be elected. There shall be five representatives of memberships in the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc., their five-year terms so adjusted as to terminate the office of one member annually. There shall be three members each on the credentials and obituary committees. Their terms of office shall be three years but shall be so adjusted as to terminate the office of one member annually.

A committee of one shall be elected to serve as conference historian; the term of office shall be two years.

A committee of one shall be elected to serve as publicity committee; the term of office shall be two years.

The executive committee shall be composed of the moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, treasurer, and one member elected by the conference at the time of the official election of officers.

Temporary committees shall be appointed at the option of the conference for whatever purposes may be deemed necessary.

No member of a standing board or committee shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms on the same board or committee. He may, however, serve on said board or committee again after an interval of at least one (1) year.

Article V. FINANCE

Each church shall contribute to the conference according to its membership.

Article VI. ADMISSION OF CHURCHES

Any properly organized church that gives evidence of adherence to the doctrines of Christianity as taught by Original Free Will Baptists of

North Carolina and desires to help promote the program and work of the Central Conference and the North Carolina State Convention, may present its petition to the regular session of the conference. If the petition for membership is approved, the moderator shall extend the hand of fellowship to the delegates.

Article VII. DISMISSION OF CHURCHES

A church may be dismissed from membership in the conference by vote of the conference.

Article VIII. VISITORS

The Central Conference may extend to visiting brethren all the privileges of the body save that of voting.

Article IX. MEETINGS

The Central Conference shall meet in annual session on Thursday following the first Sunday in November. The host church shall be selected by vote of the conference in annual session or by the executive committee. The place of a future meeting thus selected may be changed by an act of the executive committee should such a change become necessary.

Article X. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Section 1. The duties of the moderator shall be to preside, according to accepted parliamentary procedure, over the sessions of the Central Conference; to appoint temporary committees, delegates, and representatives; to serve as ex officio member of all standing boards and committees; and in general to perform the duties of the office of moderator.

Section 2. The duties of the assistant moderator shall be the duties of the moderator when that officer is not present and he shall assist the moderator when called upon. In the event of the resignation or death of the moderator, the assistant moderator shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the conference.

Section 3. The clerk shall record and preserve a permanent record of the proceedings of all sessions of the Central Conference. He shall prepare and cause to be published the minutes of the annual sessions of the conference, hold in trust all documents not otherwise preserved, and surrender same at the direction of the conference. He shall conduct the official correspondence and sign such documents and instruments as require his signature.

Section 4: The duties of the assistant clerk shall be the duties of the clerk when that officer is not present, and he shall assist the clerk when called upon. In the event of the resignation or death of the clerk, the assistant clerk shall fill the vacancy until the next session of the conference.

Section 5. The treasurer shall hold in trust all money that belongs to the conference, except that held by other boards and committees of the conference. He shall keep an accurate account of all funds received and paid out and make an annual report accordingly to the conference.

Section 6. It shall be the duty of the executive committee to transact the business of the conference when the conference is not in session. The executive committee shall plan the program for the annual session of the conference.

Section 7. It shall be the duty of the board of trustees to hold in trust title to all tangible property belonging to the conference. It shall have power to convey such property when authorized by the conference.

Section 8. It shall be the duty of the board of ordination (1) to examine and recommend the license of ministers; (2) to examine, ordain, and discipline ministers in keeping with the provisions of *The Articles of Faith and Principles of Church Government for Original Free Will Baptists (of the English General Baptist Heritage)*, and (3) examine ordained ministers seeking membership in this conference and make recommendations in keeping with their findings.

Section 9. It shall be the duty of the board of finance to check and verify all money to be received by the treasurer; they shall make recommended allocations and report same to the conference.

Section 10. It shall be the duty of the board of missions to cooperate with the churches and the conference in furthering the establishment of churches within the bounds of the conference. The mission board shall endeavor through cooperating with the State Board of Missions to raise money, arrange itineraries, and keep the work of missions before our churches.

Section 11. It shall be the duty of the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation committee to represent the conference's stock in the Free Will Baptist Press and to do so at any stockholders' meeting.

Section 12. It shall be the duty of the credentials committee to check each church report for verification as to their delegates and make recommendations to the conference as regarding their seat during the annual session. The credentials committee shall check registration cards of the enrolling minister and make recommendations of same to the conference.

Section 13. It shall be the duty of the obituary committee to prepare suitable memorial services for all ministers who die during the year preceding the conference and to present to the conference a suitable obituary for publication in the conference minutes and in *The Free Will Baptist*. Copies of the obituary are to be presented to the family of the deceased and to his local church.

Section 14. It shall be the duty of the conference historian to collect and preserve any historical data concerning the conference.

Section 15. It shall be the duty of the publicity committee to see that proper publicity is given to the activities and work of the conference.

BYLAWS

Section 1. A board or committee will be recognized as having a quorum when there is a majority of the members present for a meeting, providing all the members of said board or committee have been duly notified concerning the said meeting.

Section 2. All reports, resolutions, and recommendations shall be considered properly presented to the conference in written form only.

Section 3. Each minister and delegate in good standing shall duly attend each day while the conference is in session or be subject to censure by the conference and reported to his local church.

Section 4. If any member, in the judgment of the conference, shall show anger in his discussion on any subject, he shall forfeit his seat in that session.

Section 5. No member shall be excused from any session of the conference without leave of the moderator.

Section 6. The conference shall adjourn by a majority vote.

Section 7. Each officer and member of standing committees and boards in good standing shall be entitled to a seat and vote in the conference.

Section 8. The conference shall open and close with suitable devotional services.

Section 9. The minutes of the conference shall be signed by the moderator and clerk.

Section 10. This constitution and its bylaws may be altered or amended by a two-thirds favorable vote of the members present, provided that said amendment shall be presented in the morning session for action in the afternoon session.

Eastover Mission													
Eastwood													
Faith	81	52	12							195,000	5,480	1,080	6,560
Goldsboro, First	255	135	9	8	62			10	31	300,000	70,357	5,771	76,128
Haymount	38	48			11	10				70,000	23,712	2,871	26,583
Hopewell	283	180	16	10	73	18		18	23	282,240	47,574	6,208	53,782
Johnston Union	277	156	8	10	23			6		200,000	25,902	5,681	31,583
Lanwood Chapel	16	27			6					35,000	2,108	415	2,523
Lee's Chapel	270	190	16	32	52					130,000	38,028	9,508	47,536
Mount Olive	10										10	1,581	1,591
Oak Grove	146	125			30					75,000	11,529	4,236	15,765
Palmer Memorial	171	102	19	10	24	10		5		350,000	62,799	5,502	68,301
Pleasant Grove	206	157	18	20	31			15			34,207	2,250	36,457
Powhatan	222	124	2		16					100,000	24,675	1,969	26,644
Riverside	64	70			15					100,000	13,194	2,780	15,974
Robert's Grove	214	168	21	14	34	42		8		300,000	35,408	4,165	39,573
Saint Mary's Grove	217	155	12	10	39					130,000	34,720	2,269	36,989
Saint Paul	150	107			29					200,000	200	3,068	3,268
Shady Grove	331	126	25	15	20			10		350,000	41,538	11,264	52,802
Smithfield, First	143	82	6		21					125,000	22,905	3,518	26,423
Smyrna	138	108			10							700	700
Steven's Chapel	129	75											
Tee's Chapel	250	158	11	15	16			16		250,000	32,732	3,055	35,787
Victory Mission	72	93	8	12	5	8				54,000	3,717	1,240	4,957
West Clinton	42	36			8						3,506	658	4,164
Wooten's Chapel	128	23			9							1,082	1,082
Yelverton Grove	144	95	23		12					85,000	11,820	1,885	13,705
Totals	4,488	2,879	240	166	603	86		96	54	3,849,240	596,201	89,757	685,958
CENTRAL CONFERENCE													
Aspen Grove	177	170			26	15			25	100,000	17,646	5,073	22,719
Ayden	163	83	5	4	35	16		4		265,000	25,874	2,726	28,600
Bethany	131	75	8	12	27					265,000	39,803	5,639	45,442

Churches	MEMBERSHIP									Total Property Value	TREASURER'S REPORT		
	Church	SS	YFA	AFC	WA	LL	Scouts	CA	League		Total Used Locally	Denom- national Enterprises	Grand Total
Black Jack	718	475			50		25			650,000	63,126	11,020	74,146
Cedar Grove													
Community	94	92	8	12	12	4				150,000	21,686	321	22,007
Daniels Chapel													
Dilda's Grove	105	81			18					150,000	8,952	4,342	13,294
Edgewood	65	48			12						14,111	1,793	15,904
Elm Grove	167	110	8	8	34			6		260,000	43,439	6,809	50,248
Free Union	318	160		13	64	40	22			200,000	34,370	7,238	41,608
Friendship	293	190	12	9	74	15	27		40	500,000	42,561	12,617	55,178
Greenville, First	203	120	10	8	25	6		5		250,000	67,047	5,500	72,547
Grimsley	75	65	6	4	20	20		4		110,000	14,306	2,370	16,676
Gum Swamp	206	129	16	16	30			16		275,000	32,267	8,403	44,670
Harrell's Chapel	194	169	14	17	19				12	95,000	25,171	3,810	28,981
Hickory Grove	89	78			23	17				200,000	60,682	3,222	63,904
Howell Swamp	143									200,000	11,000	1,359	12,359
Hugo	92	84			18					140,000	18,431	4,537	22,968
Hull Road	352	120	12	15	35			10		280,000	34,088	6,033	40,121
King's Cross Roads	220	107	11	8	40	15		10	25	100,000	39,176	10,579	49,755
LaGrange													
Little Creek	118	87			31	20				150,000	13,438	2,746	16,184
Marlboro	222	193	13	18	34	25	7	12	25		32,648	4,966	37,614
Maury													
Ormondsville	209	110	20	12	35	15				250,000	41,695	2,847	44,542
Otter's Creek	63	62	13		12	10				100,000	11,284	2,216	13,500
Owens Chapel	205	103	14	7	16	6				238,000	21,057	2,902	23,959
Peace	59	60		7	17	7				154,043	21,346	1,635	22,981
Piney Grove (Beaufort)	40	33			14					60,000	7,959	1,171	9,130

Piney Grove (Pitt)													
Pleasant Hill	119	109			23					75,000		2,910	2,910
Reedy Branch	310	175	15		25					305,000	40,903	6,048	46,951
Roanoke Rapids, First	20	19			7					20,000	6,301	62	6,363
Rocky Mount, First	103	35		13	14					75,000	35,960	3,467	39,427
Rose Hill	196	96			12	26		14		200,000	17,909	6,427	24,336
Rose of Sharon	162	121	17	9	29	24		7		165,000	3,519	4,352	7,871
Saint's Delight													
Saratoga	222	106	8	6	26	7		6		250,000	25,254	5,545	30,799
Spring Branch	252	132	12	11	25	20				140,000	29,987	3,647	33,634
Sweet Gum Grove	216	90	12		43								
Tarboro, First	381	213	24	16	64	22							
Walnut Creek	95	62								100,000	11,918	1,996	13,914
Watery Branch													
Williamston, First	100	70			20	18				120,000	22,626	9,614	32,240
Winterville	239	138	11	9	27			30		480,000	221,703	11,974	233,677
Totals	7,136	4,370	269	234	1,036	348	81	80	171	7,072,043	1,183,243	177,916	1,361,159

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Angola	56	60								25,000	8,127	561	8,688
Antioch	325	185			40					190,000	32,637	3,920	36,557
Arapahoe	231	187	15	24	25	18						2,380	2,380
Beaufort	60		4	8		10				40,000	14,173	3,285	17,458
Bethel	66	48		10	18			24		75,000	11,292	2,003	13,295
Bethlehem	163	107	10	12	25			8		175,000	30,443	2,930	33,373
Beulaville	218	125			12					232,540	27,729	2,532	30,261
Bridgeton	100	80	10	6	18			5			18,056	2,154	20,210
British Chapel	127	88		10	20						10,398	1,590	11,988
Cabin	185	95	17			15	5			400,000	21,765	2,635	24,400
Christian Chapel	224	114	14	16	24					235,000	22,900	2,355	25,255
Core Creek	125	88		10	14						19,000	8,000	27,000