

**2002  
YEARBOOK  
FOR  
ORIGINAL  
FREE WILL  
BAPTISTS**

# Table of Contents

<b>Foreword</b>	7
<b>Directory of Ordained Ministers</b>	9
<b>Directory of Licensed Ministers</b>	33
<b>Directory of Churches</b>	37
<b>Directory of Denominational Ministries</b>	117
<b>Minutes of the Convention</b>	125
<b>Minutes of Conferences and Associations</b>	
Albemarle	139
Cape Fear	146
Central	158
Eastern	178
Pee Dee	189
Piedmont	198
Western	201
<b>Woman's Auxiliary Convention</b>	213
<b>Statistical Tables</b>	231

**Special Note:** This Yearbook contains statistical information for the period July 1, 2001 – June 30, 2002 and church officers as of September 2002. It is compiled from the church letters that were received by the Convention in August and September 2002. The Yearbook also includes the minutes of the 2002 Convention and the Conferences which met in the fall of 2002. It is therefore being published as the 2002 Yearbook of Original Free Will Baptists. This will correct the date on the Yearbook and correctly reflect the time period of the material contained inside for historical purposes.

*Fred P. Baker*

Central  
MINUTES  
of the  
254th ANNUAL SESSION  
of the  
CENTRAL CONFERENCE  
of the  
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Held with  
Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church of Winterville  
Pitt County, North Carolina  
Thursday, November 7, 2002  
The Reverend Leon Harris, Host Pastor

**Officers of the Conference**

Moderator: The Reverend Ray Williamson  
Assistant Moderator: The Reverend Joey Williams  
Clerk: The Reverend Franklin Baggett  
Assistant Clerk: The Reverend Carroll Bradbury  
Treasurer: The Reverend Walter Reynolds

**Boards and Committees**

Executive Committee (2002-2004)

The Reverend Gary Bailey, Moderator  
The Reverend Franklin Baggett, Assistant Moderator  
The Reverend Brad Williamson, Clerk  
The Reverend Carroll Bradbury, Assistant Clerk  
The Reverend Kevin Jackson, Treasurer

Board of Ordination

The Reverend Harry Grubbs (2003)                      The Reverend C. H. Overman (2004)  
The Reverend Philip Wood (2005)                      The Reverend Frank Flowers (2006)  
The Reverend Walt Tyndall (2007)

Board of Trustees

The Reverend David Langley (2003)                      Mrs. Gladys Oakley (2004)  
Mr. Rex Wainwright (2005)                      Mr. Darren Davenport (2006)

Representation of Membership in the Free Will Baptist Press Foundation, Inc.

Mrs. May Pitman (2003)                      Mrs. Louise Whitehurst (2004)  
Mrs. Elma Beddard (2005)                      The Reverend Jack Weathersby (2003)

Credentials Committee

Mr. Michael J. Rowell (2003)                      The Reverend Walter Tyndall (2004)  
The Reverend Doug Owens (2005)

Central

Memorial Committee

The Reverend Leon Harris (2003)

Miss Leah McGlohon (2004)

Mrs. Faye Adams (2005)

Conference Historian

Dr. Michael Pelt (2004)

Publicity Chairperson

Mr. Darren Davenport (2004)

Representative of Membership in Church Finance Association, Inc.

The Reverend Charles Branch (2004)

Continuing Education Committee

The Reverend Ed Thorton (2003)

The Reverend Johnny Sullivan (2004)

The Reverend David Langley (2005)

Church Growth Committee

The Reverend Kevin Jackson (2003)

The Reverend Tommy Yopp (2004)

The Reverend Tony Glass (2002)

**Proceedings**

The Central Conference, being the continuation of the General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, convened in its 254th annual session with the Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church of Winterville, North Carolina, on Thursday, November 7, 2002, at 9:30 am.

The Conference opened with the hymn, "To God Be The Glory." Opening scripture and prayer were offered by Mr. Doug Tyson.

The Reverend Franklin Baggett, clerk, called the 254th annual session to order. The Reverend Leon Harris from the host church extended a cordial welcome to the Conference.

The Reverend Ray Williamson, moderator, gave a challenging address from 1 Corinthians 15:58. The main point of the address was to stand fast. We are to stand fast and not compromise with the world. The message of Jesus Christ must be kept constant. As Free Will Baptists we need to make sure that we are standing in the right place. God wants us to be completely faithful. God will give us direction and purpose if we seek Him. After knowing that direction and purpose we need to follow it. God requires our obedience. Our obedience is essential to our Christian walk. We must stand fast.

The roll of churches was called with thirty-six churches responding with delegates.

Fourteen visitors were recognized and welcomed by the moderator.

## Central

The Moderator appointed temporary committees as follows:

Parliamentarian: Reverend Stanley Buck; Resolutions: Reverend Grady Tucker, Reverend Roger Hathcock and Irvin Mizelle;

Nominating Committee: Reverend Ronnie Hobgood, Reverend Philip Wood and Reverend Kevin Jackson

The report of the Executive Committee was read by the clerk. By motion, the report was adopted. [see Reports]

By motion, the proposed constitutional changes were laid on the table.

The report of the Board of Ordination was read by Reverend C.H. Overman. By motion, the report was adopted. [see Reports]

The Reverend Ray Williamson, moderator, along with the Conference extended a welcome to membership in the conference to Reverend Charlie Carroll, Reverend Woodrow Freeze, and Reverend Phillip Boykin. The Conference also extended the right hand of fellowship to Tony Parrish, Mr. Jay Tripp, Mr. Kelly Smart, Mr. Charles Russell, Mr. Charles Sutton and Mr. Doug Tyson.

The Constitutional changes were read by the clerk.

At 10:25 a.m. the Conference business was set aside for the worship service. The service was opened with scripture reading from Hebrews 2:1-3, and the prayer of invocation was given by Reverend Joey Williams. The Reverend Ray Williamson led the congregation in the singing of "How Great Thou Art" followed by the offering for the conference and the offertory prayer by Reverend Walter Reynolds. Special Music was presented by Rick Langley, Charlie Langley and Becky Miller. The Reverend C.H. Overman preached the conference sermon entitled "Meeting the Conditions for Service and Loyalty." His text came from Philippians 3:14. The main emphasis and challenge of this message was that we need to make ourselves available to serve the Lord. The Reverend Overman pointed out four conditions for service. 1. Each person must have had a spiritual encounter with the Trinity. 2. Each person must make a commitment. 3. Each person needs to understand they are part of a journey. 4. We need to strive to have the best outcome possible.

The worship service concluded with the singing of "I Surrender All."

The service closed in prayer by Reverend Carroll Bradbury.

The business session continued at 11:20.

Representing the denominational ministries were as follows:

## Central

Sunday School Board: Mrs. Mary Dudley; Minister's Program: Reverend Stanley Buck; Mount Olive College: Reverend Jeff Daughtry; Vandemere: Mr. Wesley Taylor; State Laymen's League: Mr. Russell Tyson; Home Missions & Evangelism: Reverend Walt Tyndall; Children's Home: Dr. Bobby Taylor; Retirement Homes: Reverend Bruce Dudley; Cragmont Assembly: Reverend Bryant Hines; OFWB International: Reverend Phil Wood

Remarks and greeting were given by Reverend Buddy Sasser, Vice-President of the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

The Conference recessed for the noon meal at 12:05 with a prayer by Reverend Kevin Jackson.

## Afternoon Session

The afternoon session was called to order at 1:15 p.m. with the singing of "Victory In Jesus."

The Reverend Harry Grubbs presented his book on Systematic Theology.

The Reverend Leon Harris, Miss Leah McGlohon and Mrs. Faye Adams gave the report of the Obituary Committee. By motion the report was adopted. [see Reports]

The Reverend Doug Owens gave the report of the Credentials Committee. By motion, the report was adopted. [see Reports]

The Reverend Walter Reynolds gave the Treasurer's Report. By motion, the report was adopted. [see Reports]

The Reverend Joey Williams gave the report of the Continuing Education Committee. By motion, the report was adopted. [see Reports]

The Reverend Tony Glass gave the report of the Church Growth Committee. By motion, the report was adopted. [see Reports]

The roll of ministers was called with forty-two ministers responding present.

By motion, the Constitutional changes were removed from the table.

By motion, the Constitutional change for Article VI was adopted. [see Executive Committee reports for constitutional changes]

By motion, the Constitutional change for Article IV section 12 was adopted. [see Executive Committee reports for constitutional changes]

## Central

By motion, the Constitutional change for Article IV section 2 was adopted. [see Executive Committee reports for constitutional changes]

By motion, the Constitutional change for Article X section 9 was adopted. [see Executive Committee reports for constitutional changes]

By motion, the Constitutional change for Article IV section 5 was adopted. [see Executive Committee reports for constitutional changes]

By motion, the Constitutional change for Article X section 12 was adopted. [see Executive Committee reports for constitutional changes]

By motion, the Constitutional change for Bylaws section 9 was adopted. [see Executive Committee reports for constitutional changes]

The Reverend Ronnie Hobgood gave the report of the Nominating Committee. By motion, the report was adopted. [see Reports]

The floor was opened for other nominations. There were no other nominations.

By motion, the nominations ceased, and the nominees were elected by acclamation.

The Reverend Roger Haithcock gave the report of the Resolution Committee. By motion, the report was adopted. [see Reports]

The moderator called for miscellaneous business. There was no miscellaneous business.

The Reverend Joey Williams, assistant moderator, presented certificates to the following ministers in recognition of years of service: Reverend C.H. Overman [50 years], Reverend Billy Jordan [40 years], Reverend Harry Grubbs [35 years], Reverend Joseph Lehman [35 years] (Reverend Joseph Lehman's son accepted his certificate), Reverend Tom Miller [35 years], Reverend Gary Bailey [30 years], Reverend Gene Britt [30 years], Reverend Frank Flowers [30 years], and Reverend Ray Williamson [25 years].

The Conference was adjourned by singing "Blest Be The Tie That Binds".

The Conference was dismissed with prayer by Reverend Stanley Buck.

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Ray Williamson, Moderator  
The Reverend Franklin Baggett, Clerk

## Central

### Reports

#### Report of the Executive Committee

November 19, 2001

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on November 19, 2001, at 4:00 p.m. at the Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Ray Williamson, Joey Williams, Walter Reynolds, Carroll Bradbury and Frankie Baggett. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Reverend Walter Reynolds.

The Minutes of the 253rd Session of the Central Conference were read, corrected, and approved.

By motion a letter will be sent to all churches that did not send a letter, delegate or give a contribution to the Conference to remind them of their responsibility to the conference.

A discussion was held regarding the ministers who did not attend the conference. The Reverend Ray Williamson will make contact with the Board of Ordination on this matter.

The Reverend Joey Williams was appointed as the representative to the Continuing Education Committee.

The Reverend Carroll Bradbury was appointed as the representative to the Church Growth Committee.

The Reverend Franklin Baggett was appointed to be chairman of a study committee, which would study the status, duties and functions of all committees and present a report with suggestions on needed updates and changes to the Executive Committee before the next Annual Conference.

By motion it was agreed to send all ministers in the Central Conference a pin for Christmas to remind them that they are appreciated.

The pre-worship service for the 254th Annual Session of the Conference was discussed. It was decided to see if Anne Graham Lotz could come and speak. The Reverend Franklin Baggett was to make contact.

Executive Committee Meetings were scheduled: January 22, April 23, July 23, and October 1.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Ray Williamson.



Central

January 22, 2002

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on January 22, 2002, at 4:00 p.m. at the Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Ray Williamson, Joey Williams, Walter Reynolds, Carroll Bradbury, Frankie Baggett and C.H. Overman. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Reverend Carroll Bradbury.

The minutes of the November meeting were read, corrected, and approved.

A discussion was held regarding the letter that was sent to churches that did not send a letter, delegate or give a contribution to the 2001 Conference. It was noted that some churches had responded to the letter.

A discussion was held regarding a letter that was sent to the Board of Ordination. A letter from the Reverend Harry Grubbs [Board of Ordination chairman] was distributed and read. The Reverend C.H. Overman, representing the Board of Ordination, shared information and questions with the Executive Committee and issues were discussed.

The Reverend Joey Williams gave a report from the Continuing Education Committee. The committee is working on different seminars that will be offered this year. By motion, it was agreed to contribute \$100.00 for a seminar at LaGrange Free Will Baptist Church.

The Reverend Carroll Bradbury gave a report from the Church Growth Committee. Applications and letters will be sent to all churches and ministers of the Central Conference explaining the process and procedures for requesting money from the Church Growth Committee.

By motion, the treasurer's report was adopted.

By motion, it was agreed to approve the request from the Tarboro First Free Will Baptist Church to sell some of its' church property.

By motion, it was agreed that the Reverend Ray Williamson would contact either Dr. Page Patterson or Dr. Elmer Towns to speak at this years Pre-Conference Worship service.

By motion, it was agreed to ask Anne Graham Lotz to speak at the Pre-Conference Worship service the first free date she is available.

By motion, it was agreed to send a contribution to the Mount Olive College Library in memory of the Reverend Frank Robbins.

By motion, it was agreed that the Reverend Walter Reynolds would represent the Conference at the Church Finance meeting.

## Central

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on April 23rd at Friendship Free Will Baptist Church.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Ray Williamson.

April 23, 2002

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on April 23, 2002, at 4:00 p.m. at the Friendship Free Will Baptist Church, Farmville. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Ray Williamson, Joey Williams, Walter Reynolds, Carroll Bradbury, Frankie Baggett and Kevin Jackson. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Reverend Walter Reynolds.

The minutes of the January meeting were read and approved.

By motion, the treasurer's report was adopted.

By motion it was decided that the Treasurer could designate names of funds for clarity.

The Reverend Joey Williams gave a report from the Continuing Education Committee.

The Reverend Carroll Bradbury and the Reverend Kevin Jackson gave a report from the Church Growth Committee. Issues concerning the distribution of money and application process were discussed.

The Reverend Ray Williamson reported that Dr. Page Paterson had accepted the invitation to preach at the 2002 pre-conference worship service to be held at Rose Hill Church on November 6th.

It was reported by the Reverend Frankie Baggett that Anne Graham Lotz would not be able to speak anytime in the next few years.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on July 23rd at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville beginning at 10:00.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Ray Williamson.

July 23, 2002

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on July 23, 2002, at 10:00 a.m. at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Ray Williamson, Joey Williams, Walter Reynolds, and Frankie Baggett. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Reverend Ray Williamson.

## Central

The minutes of the April meeting were approved as printed.

By motion, the treasurer's report was adopted.

The Conference pre-worship service was discussed and plans are being made.

The 254th session of the Central Conference was discussed. The Following Ministers will be recognized for faithful service: 50 years – C.H. Overman; 40 years – Billy Jordan; 35 years – Harry Grubbs, Joseph Lehman, Tom Miller; 30 years - Gary Bailey, Gene Britt, Frank Flowers; 25 years – Ray Williamson.

By motion it was agreed to invite the Reverend C.H. Overman to speak at the conference.

The process of nominating conference officers and committee members was discussed.

The constitution was discussed and the following changes were made to present to the Conference:

To change the wording in article VI from North Carolina State Convention to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptist Convention.

Article X section 9 to read: It shall be the duty of the board of finance to count all money received at the conference and review yearly treasurers report.

Article X section 12 to read: It shall be the duty of the obituary committee to prepare suitable memorial services for all ministers who die during the year preceding that conference and to present to the conference a suitable obituary for publication.

Bylaws section 9 shall read: The minutes of the conference shall be approved by the Executive Committee before publication.

It was decided that the clerk should send letters to the churches and ministers at the end of September to remind them of the Central Conference in November.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on October 1st at the Peace Free Will Baptist church near Pinetops beginning at 4:00.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Joey Williams.

October 1, 2002

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on October 1, 2002, at 4:00 a.m. at the Peace Free Will Baptist Church near Pinetops. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Ray Williamson, Joey Williams, Walter Reynolds, Carroll Bradbury and Frankie Baggett. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by the Reverend Ray Williamson.

## Central

The minutes of the July meeting were read, corrected and approved.

By motion, the treasurer's report was adopted.

By motion, it was agreed that the Central Conference provide and present a Christian flag to the family of a minister upon his death and that the Board of Ordination be charged with this responsibility.

The Conference pre-worship service and Conference sessions were discussed and plans were finalized.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held on November 7th at the Rose Hill Free Will Baptist church beginning at 8:30.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Frankie Baggett.

November 7, 2002

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on November 7, 2002, at 8:30 a.m. at the Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church near Winterville. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Ray Williamson, Joey Williams, Walter Reynolds, and Frankie Baggett. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Reverend Ray Williamson.

By motion, the program for the 254th session of the Central Conference was adopted allowing for necessary changes.

The minutes for the October meeting were read, corrected and approved.

After reviewing the recommendation from the Nominating Committee [which was asked to review all committees and boards] the following actions were taken:

By motion, it was agreed to present the Nominating Committees recommended changes to the Constitution concerning the Board of Trustees, Board of Finance and Obituary Committee.

By motion it was agreed to delete the office of Koinonia advisor.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Joey Williams.

## Constitution Changes

To change the wording in article VI from North Carolina State Convention to the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists.

## Central

Article IV section 12 to read: A board of trustees consisting of three members shall be elected. The term of office for members of this board shall be three years but shall be adjusted to terminate the office of one member annually.

Article IV section 2: A board of trustees, a board of ordination, and a board of finance, consisting of five members each shall be elected. The term of office for members of this board shall be five years but shall be adjusted to terminate the office of one member annually.

Article IV section 2 to read: A board of ordination, consisting of five members shall be elected. The term of office for members of this board shall be five years but shall be adjusted to terminate the office of one member annually.

Delete Article X section 9 which reads: 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.

Article IV section 5: A credentials committee and an obituary committee, consisting of three members each, shall be elected. The term of office for members shall be three years but shall be so adjusted as to terminate the office of one member annually.

Article IV section 5 to read: A credentials committee and a memorial committee, consisting of three members each, shall be elected. The term of office for members shall be three years but shall be so adjusted as to terminate the office of one member annually.

Article X section 12: 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.

Article X section 12 to read: It shall be the duty of the Memorial Committee to prepare and present a memorial service for all ministers who die during the year preceding the Conference. The Memorial Committee shall prepare a brief biographical sketch for the Historical Collection.

Bylaws section 9 shall read: The minutes of the conference shall be approved by the Executive Committee before publication.

### **Report of the Board of Ordination**

#### **Meetings**

The Board of Ordination has met five times since the last meeting of the Conference: January 14, April 8, April 15, July 8, and October 14. The board has also conducted one ordination service.

## Central

### Ordained

The Reverend Gregory K. Nethercutt was ordained at Saints Delight Church on August 14, 2002. His name is to be added to the list of ordained ministers.

### Membership Roll

The following ministers have requested membership in this Conference and their names are to be added to the membership roll:

The Reverend Charlie Carroll  
The Reverend Woodrow Freeze  
The Reverend Phillip Boykin  
The Reverend Tony Parrish

### Approved for work in the Conference

The Reverend David C. Hansley as pastor of Marlboro Church.

### Recommended for License

The following have met with the Board and have been recommended for License:

Jay Tripp  
Kelly Smart  
Charles Russell  
Charles Sutton  
Doug Tyson

### Regular Meetings of the Board for the Year 2003

January 14, April 15, July 15, and October 14. Meetings will be held at Reedy Branch Church.

### Respectfully Submitted,

Reverend Harry Grubbs, Chairman; Reverend Frank Flowers, Secretary; Reverend Calvin Heath, Reverend C. H. Overman, Reverend Philip Wood

### Report of the Credentials Committee

We, the Credentials Committee, respectfully submit the following attendance totals subsequent to the approval of the conference:

Central Conference Delegates	45
Central Conference Ministers	41
Visiting Ministers	10
Licensed Ministers	4
Visitors	17
Total Registered	117

Central

Respectfully Submitted,  
Reverend Douglas Owens  
Reverend Walt Tyndall

**Report of the Nominating Committee**

Executive Committee

Moderator:	Reverend Gary Bailey	[term to expire 2004]
Assistant Moderator:	Reverend Franklin Baggett	[term to expire 2004]
Clerk:	Reverend Brad Williamson	[term to expire 2004]
Assistant Clerk:	Reverend Carroll Bradbury	[term to expire 2004]
Treasurer:	Reverend Kevin Jackson	[term to expire 2004]

Board of Ordination	Reverend Walt Tyndall	[term to expire 2007]
Memorial Committee	Mrs. Faye Adams	[term to expire 2005]
Conference Historian	Reverend Dr. Michael Pelt	[term to expire 2004]
Publicity Chairperson	Mr. Darren Davenport	[term to expire 2004]

Representative of Membership in the Church Finance Association, Inc.		
	Reverend Charles Branch	[term to expire 2004]

Credentials Committee	Reverend Doug Owens	[term to expire 2005]
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Continuing Education Committee		
	Reverend David Langley	[term to expire 2005]

Church Growth Committee		
	Reverend Tony Glass	[term to expire 2005]
	Reverend Tommy Yopp	[term to expire 2005]

Respectfully submitted,  
The Reverend Ronnie V. Hobgood, Chairman  
The Reverend Kevin Jackson  
The Reverend Philip Wood

### **Report of the Obituary Committee**

Since our last meeting two ministers have passed from our midst. They are Reverend Robert Pittman Harris and Reverend Joseph Lehmann. We thank God for the contributions they have made to our Churches. This afternoon, we are reminded of what Jesus said about faithful servants in Matthew 25:21, "His Lord said unto him, Well done, *thou* good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Respectfully Submitted,

Reverend Leon Harris  
Mrs. Faye Adams  
Miss Leah McLawhorn

### **Report of the Resolution Committee**

We, the Resolution Committee, submit the following resolutions for your consideration:

1. Be it resolved that the 254th Annual Session of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists give a rising vote of thanks to the Rose Hill Free Will Baptist Church of Winterville, North Carolina, for extending its hospitality and kindness to the delegates and visitors of said conference.
2. Be it resolved that the 254th Annual Session of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists give a rising vote of thanks to the officers and board members of the Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptists.
3. Be it resolved that 254th Annual Session of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists give a rising vote of thanks to Reverend C.H. Overman for an inspiring sermon and in recognition of his fifty years of service.

Respectively submitted,

Reverend Grady Tucker  
Reverend Roger Hathcock  
Irvin Mizelle

### **Report of the Continuing Education Committee**

The Continuing Education Committee of the Central Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist denomination met once this year on January 21, 2002 at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville.



## Central

The committee endorsed a seminar, which was held at the La Grange Free Will Baptist Church. The seminar was entitled "User Friendly Church" and was a success. We would like to express thanks to the La Grange Free Will Baptist Church and their pastor, Reverend Brad Williamson, for all the work they did to make this seminar a success.

The committee also planned a new book reading program for 2002. This program would encourage each minister to read a specific book each quarter and then come together for a time of discussion. The committee planned the first session for April 16, 2002 at the First Free Will Baptist Church of Greenville. The book chosen for review was the "21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership" by John Maxwell. The review session was cancelled however for lack of participation.

The committee has talked about other opportunities for continuing education but has not taken any action due mainly to lack of participation. The committee will continue to meet in the coming year to provide opportunities for churches and ministers to enhance their lives through Christian Continuing Education.

Respectfully submitted,  
Reverend Joey Williams  
Reverend Johnny Sullivan  
Reverend Ed Thorton  
Reverend David Langley

### **Church Growth Committee Report to the 2002 Central Conference**

At the Central Conference Meeting on November 9, 2001, the Central Conference formed the Church Growth Committee. As stated by the Conference the purpose of the Church Growth Committee is, "to promote and provide financial support for church growth and/or leadership development. Through the work of the committee, Central Conference Churches will be more fully equipped to effectively reach people without Christ in their communities."

Since this was a new program in our conference, each Church Clerk and each Pastor were mailed letters of intent, which outlined the Church Growth program, and an application. All one had to do was fill out an application giving a brief explanation of how the funds would be used in their church for Church Growth and/or Church Leadership training and a total cost estimate of the project. We also provided information in the Conference Newsletter.

#### **Last year we were able to assist five churches as follows:**

- 1) A church hosted a "User Friendly Church Seminar" which not only benefited the host church but other churches in the community. The Church Growth Committee gave \$100.00 toward this project.

## Central

- 2) A church distributed 300 booklets titled, "He Did This For You", written by Max Lucado as an outreach event. The Church Growth Committee approved payment of the total cost of the booklets, which was \$447.00.
- 3) A church canvassed every home within 2 miles placing a Bible, Jesus Video, Gospel coloring book, Roman Road to Salvation and area church information in each home. They requested \$500.00 to purchase Bible, which the Church Growth Committee approved.
- 4) A church purchased 192 "He Did This Just For You" New Testaments and outreach literature for their "Ten For Him" program. Volunteers were trained to canvas the community. The total cost of the project was \$553.00 of which the Church Growth Committee paid \$500.00.
- 5) A church canvassed their community with New Testaments, tracts, pens, note pads, coloring books and crayons, church information, and Jesus Videos. They requested \$480.00 to purchase 96 Jesus Videos, which the Church Growth Committee approved.

Last year we were budgeted with \$5,000. We distributed \$2,027.00 among the five churches who sent in completed applications. We respectfully request the same funding of \$5,100.00 for this year. It is our prayer that more churches will take advantage of this opportunity to receive funding to assist them in church growth.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Reverend Tony Glass, Chairman  
Reverend Carroll Bradbury  
Reverend Kevin Jackson  
Reverend Johnny Sullivan

### Report of the Treasurer

#### CENTRAL CONFERENCE

#### Treasurer's Report

November 1, 2001 — October 31, 2002

Balance brought forward—November 1, 2001	\$ 4,350.79
Receipts	
Pre-Conference Worship Service Offering	\$ 490.11
Conference Offering	241.00
Church Contributions	1,460.00
Church Contributions since Conference	1,415.00
Transferred from Church Growth Funds	4,840.00
Interest on Checking	13.35

Central

Miscellaneous	191.07	
Total Receipts	\$ 8,650.53	\$ <u>8,650.53</u>
Total to account for in Checking Account		\$ 13,001.32

Disbursements

Southern Bank (Bank charges)	22.00	
Conference Secretary	40.00	
Executive Committee expenses (Meals, travel, postage, telephone, etc.)	251.29	
Convention of FWB (Year book)	1,120.00	
Office Supplies (Executive Committee, Ordination Council)	490.05	
CFA for Church Growth Funds	31.07	
Pre-Conference Worship Service Expenses	600.00	
Church Growth Expenses	2,076.07	
Miscellaneous	219.78	
Total Disbursements	\$ 4,850.26	\$ <u>4,850.26</u>

Balance in bank as of October 31, 2002 \* \$ 8,151.06

Central Conference Funds on deposit as of 9-30-2002:  
Church Finance Association \$ 25,959.96

Central Conference Saving Funds on deposit as of 9-30-2002:  
Church Finance Association \$ 26,671.71

Endowment Fund on deposit as of 9-30-2002:  
Church Finance Association \$ 67,605.06

Respectfully submitted,  
Rev. Ray Williamson, Moderator  
Rev. Walter Reynolds, Treasurer

- Conference Funds \$5,227.13
- Church Growth Funds \$ 2,923.93

Central

**Roll of Central Conference Ministers By Seniority**

<b>Minister</b>	<b>Ordained</b>	<b>1996</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>1998</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
N.D. Beamon	12/4/1933	P	P	P	P	P	P	A
N. Bruce Barrow	9/19/1935	P	P	L	P	P	P	P
J.B. Narron	10/13/1950	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Michael Pelt	9/30/1950	P	P	L	P	P	P	L
Willis Wilson	12/28/1954	P	P	P	P	P	P	A
C.H. Overman	8/30/1952	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Stewart Humphrey	11/10/1966	L	L	P	L	L	L	L
Charles Branch	1/25/1969	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Bruce Jones	9/5/1971	P	P	P	P	L	P	P
Gary Bailey	7/12/1972	P	P	P	L	L	P	P
Walter Reynolds	7/30/1949	P	P	L	P	P	P	P
Tom Miller	7/2/1967	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Bobby Taylor	11/2/1973	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Leon Grubbs	9/5/1968	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Ronnie Hobgood	8/13/1978	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Melvin Moore	12/31/1959	P	P	P	L	L	P	P
Harry Grubbs	2/24/1967	P	P	P	P	P	A	P
Frank Flowers	6/2/1972	P	P	P	L	P	P	L
Earl Glenn	11/2/1949	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Billy Ray Jordan	10/17/1962	L	L	L	L	L	L	L
Leon Harris	5/17/1981	P	P	P	L	P	P	P
Clifford Ball	8/20/1981	L	P	P	P	P	P	P
Ray Williamson	5/11/1977	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Ronald Braxton	2/3/1983	P	P	L	L	L	P	L
Donald Ribeiro	10/27/1983	L	L	P	L	P	A	L
David Hill	10/31/1968	P	P	P	P	L	P	A
Mark Hobbs	11/20/1980	A	A	P	L	L	L	L
Stanley Buck	9/17/1976	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
David T. Langley	10/5/1987	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Philip Wood	5/12/1979	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Norwood Futrell	9/20/1951	P	P	L	A	A	L	A
Calvin Heath	10/31/1976	P	P	P	P	P	P	A
Thomas Bowen	11/25/1990	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Harry A. Jones, Jr.	10/27/1991	L	L	P	L	A	A	A
Carroll Bradbury	8/23/1992	P	P	P	L	P	P	P
Larry Letchworth	8/23/1992	P	P	A	P	P	P	P
Walter R. Tyndall	9/8/1993	P	P	L	L	P	P	P
Jack E. Weathersby	2/27/1994	A	P	A	P	P	P	P
Joey Williams	1/15/1995	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Mark Hogan	9/6/1986	P	P	P	A	A	A	A
Frankie Baggett	10/22/1987	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Grady Tucker	12/6/1978			P	P	P	P	P

Central

Roll of Central Conference Ministers By Seniority Cont.

Minister	Ordained	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Brad Williamson	6/28/1998			P	P	P	P	P
John Robert Harris	8/27/1998			P	P	P	P	P
Edward Thornton	3/10/1981			P	P	P	P	A
Tony Glass	3/28/1999				P	P	P	P
M.E. Cox					P	L	L	L
Frank Cockrell	11/15/2000					P	P	P
Johnny Sullivan	5/21/2000					P	P	P
Gene Britt	9/10/1972					P	P	P
Kevin Jackson	12/26/1982					P	P	P
Barry W. Williamson	9/17/2000					P	P	P
Todd Sutton	2/11/1996					P	P	P
John C. Simpson	4/29/2001						A	P
Douglas Owens	5/6/2001						P	P
Roger Haithcock	8/26/2001						L	P
David Pooser	6/24/2001						P	L
Tommy Yopp							P	P
Charlie Carroll								A
Woodrow Freeze								P
Phillip Boykin								P
Tony Parrish								P
Gregory Keith Nethercutt								A

Licensed Minister	Licensed	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Alan Joyner	10/17/1999				A	P	P	P
Michael James Rowell	5/14/2000					P	P	L
Jay Tripp								P
Kelly Smart								P
Charles Russell								P
Charles Sutton								P
Doug Tyson								P

# Central

Church	Letter	Delegates	Contributions
Aspen Grove	Y	Y	N
Ayden	Y	Y	N
Bethany	N	Y	N
Black Jack	Y	Y	Y
Community	Y	N	Y
Daniel's Chapel	Y	Y	Y
Dilda's Grove	Y	Y	Y
Edgewood	Y	Y	Y
Elm Grove	Y	Y	Y
Free Union	Y	Y	Y
Friendship	Y	Y	Y
Greenville, First	Y	Y	Y
Grimsley	Y	N	Y
Gum Swamp	Y	Y	Y
Harrell's Chapel	Y	Y	Y
Hickory Grove	Y	Y	Y
Hillside	Y	N	Y
Howell Swamp	Y	Y	Y
Hugo	Y	N	Y
Hull Road	N	Y	N
King's Cross Roads	Y	Y	Y
LaGrange, First	Y	Y	Y
Little Creek	Y	Y	Y
Marlboro	N	Y	Y
Ormondsville	Y	N	N
Otter's Creek	Y	Y	Y
Owen's Chapel	Y	Y	Y
Peace	Y	Y	Y
Piney Grove (Beaufort Co.)	Y	Y	Y
Piney Grove (Pitt Co.)	Y	Y	Y
Pleasant Hill	Y	Y	Y
Reedy Branch	Y	Y	Y
Rocky Mount, First	Y	Y	Y
Rose Hill	Y	Y	N
Rose of Sharon	Y	Y	Y
Saint's Delight	Y	Y	N
Saratoga	Y	N	Y
Spring Branch	Y	Y	Y
Sweet Gum Grove	Y	Y	N
Tarboro, First	Y	Y	Y
Walnut Creek	Y	N	Y
Watery Branch	N	N	N
Williamston, First	Y	Y	Y
Winterville	Y	Y	Y

CHURCHES	2002	Active	Inactive	GAIN			LOSS			Net Change	Sunday School	Avg. SS Attend.	Ave. MW Attend.
				Baptism	Letter	Other	Deceased	Letter	Other				
Central Conference													
Aspen Grove	184			0	0	0	4	1	0	179	80	45	55
Ayden	112			0	6	0	2	2	0	114	45	27	45
Bethany	184	110	74	5	1	0	0	0	2	188	88	63	94
Black Jack	609	411	198	3	0	0	9	11	0	592		256	247
Community	176	52	122	0	0	0	1	1	0	174	50	31	60
Daniels Chapel	434			26	7	2	3	2	0	464	172	110	225
Dilda's Grove	94	58	36	0	0	0	1	0	0	93	39	32	55
Edgewood	40	40	0	15	6	0	2	0	3	56	56	49	49
Elm Grove	410	181	229	8	13	0	4	9	0	418		141	189
Free Union	348	209	139	1	0	0	3	7	0	339	150	120	225
Friendship	315	160	155	6	1	0	4	1	0	317	150	115	150
Greenville, First	284	284		5	7	0	6	0	0	290	148	95	161
Grimsley	148	72	76	1	4	0	0	1	0	154	66	54	60
Gum Swamp	514	121	393	1	5	0	3	1	0	516	75	66	106
Harrells Chapel	142	120	22	4	1	0	4	0	0	143	142	110	110
Hickory Grove	98	43	55	0	2	0	0	0	2	98	36	34	40
Hillside	73	60	8	0	1	0	2	4	0	68	4	4	30
Howell Swamp	140			7	3	0	1	1	0	148	61	37	70
Hugo	147	91	56	2	3	0	5	0	0	147	75	61.8	103.3
Hull Road	304			5	1	0	4	1	0	305	136	100	150
Kings Cross Roads	291	188	103	5	10	1	5	0	0	301	198	145	213
La Grange	191	131	60	4	1	1	5	1	0	191	92	73	
Little Creek	138	122	16	0	0	1	0	0	0	139	60	45	55
Marlboro	325			29	3	4	4	6	17	334	225	122	173
Ormondsville	249	177	72	9	1	0	2	0	0	247	130	115	180
Otters Creek	55	55	13	3	7	0	3	0	0	62	22	18	40
Owens Chapel	214	95	119	0	0	0	3	4	0	207	97	82	100
Peace	103	62	45	3	3	0	2	0	0	107	62	51	75
Piney Grove-Beaufort	36	24	12	1	0	1	1	0	0	37	20	14	28
Piney Grove-Pitt	38	38		1	0	0	0	0	0	39	25	15	31
Pleasant Hill	81			4	2	0	1	0	1	85	100	45	70

CHURCHES	2002	Active	Inactive	GAIN			LOSS			Net Change	Sunday School	Avg. SS Attend.	Ave. MW Attend.
				Baptism	Letter	Other	Deceased	Letter	Other				
Reedy Branch	177	150	240	3	11	0	6	7	0	178	132	84	125
Rocky Mount, First													
Rose Hill	397					40	6	6	0	425		125	225
Rose of Sharon	221	120	101	19	1	0	2	4	0	235	138	90	120
Saint's Delight	97	76	21	7	2	12	1	2	0	115	60	40	90
Saratoga	206	206		2	2	0	1	4	0	205	114	79	100
Spring Branch	168	148	20	11	11	0	2	0	11	179	81	65	130
Sweet Gum Grove													
Tarboro, First	371	155	216	5	4	0	7	4	17	352	108	99	145
Walnut Creek	107	64	43	0	3	0	0	0	0	110	71	60	70
Watery Branch													
Williamston, First	94	42	52	1	6	0	2	0	0	99	32	23	
Winterville	309			7	5	3	6	2	0	316	179	110	190
Central Conf. Totals	8624	3865	2696	203	133	65	117	82	53	8766	3519	3050.8	4384.3