

**2003
YEARBOOK
FOR
ORIGINAL
FREE WILL
BAPTISTS**

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**Central
Minutes
of the
255th Annual Session
of the
Central Conference
of the
Original Free Will Baptists**

**Held with
Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Ayden
Pitt County, North Carolina
Thursday, November 6, 2003
The Reverend Franklin Baggett, Host Pastor**

Officers of the Conference

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

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**

Central

Board of Ordination

The Reverend C.H. Overman (2004) The Reverend Philip Wood (2005)
The Reverend Frank Flowers (2006) The Reverend Walt Tyndall (2007)
The Reverend Leon Grubbs (2008)

Board of Trustees

Mrs. Gladys Oakley (2004) Mr. Rex Wainwright (2005)
Mr. Darren Davenport (2006)

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

Mrs. Louise Whitehurst (2004) Mrs. Elma Beddard (2005)
The Reverend Jack Weathersby (2006)

Credentials Committee

The Reverend Walt Tyndall (2004) The Reverend Doug Owens (2005)
The Reverend Frank Cockrell (2006)

Memorial Committee

Miss Leah McGlohon (2004) Mrs. Faye Adams (2005)
The Reverend Charles Branch (2006)

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 Johnny Sullivan (2004) The Reverend David Langley (2005)
The Reverend Ronnie Hobgood (2006)

Church Growth Committee

The Reverend Tommy Yopp (2004) The Reverend Tony Glass (2005)
The Reverend Joey Williams (2006)

Proceedings

The Central Conference, being the continuation of the General Conference of Original Free Will Baptists of North Carolina, convened in its 255th annual session with the Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church of Ayden, North Carolina, on Thursday, November 6, 2003, at 9:30 a.m.

Central

The Conference opened with the hymn, "Victory in Jesus." Opening scripture and prayer were offered by Mr. Marc Boswell.

The Reverend Brad Williamson, clerk, called the 255th annual session to order. The Reverend Franklin Baggett from the host church extended a cordial welcome to the Conference.

The Reverend Gary Bailey, moderator, gave a challenging address from Acts 2: 42-47. The main point of the address was that the Church is to lead people to Christ and help them grow. He called this birth and growth. The Church is to show who Christ is and how to receive Him. The people must be taught the doctrines of the Bible and how to be ministers of Christ. The people can not be fed "spiritual junk-food." Every Christian needs to follow the example of Daniel and desire to be faithful to God. If we do these things then we will see a Church that is a reminder of the first century Church.

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

Twelve visitors were recognized and welcomed by the moderator.

The moderator appointed temporary committees as follows:

Nominating Committee: Reverends Ronnie Hobgood, Kevin Jackson, and C.H. Overman

Resolutions Committee: Reverends Joey Williams, Ray Williamson, and Barry Williamson

Parliamentarian: Dr. Michael Pelt

The report of the Executive Committee was read by the clerk. By motion, the report was adopted with the exception of the recommendation made in the November 6th meeting. [see Reports]

By motion, the recommendation to send two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00) to Home Missions for the Hurricane Isabel Disaster Relief fund was approved.

The report of the Board of Ordination was read by Reverend Walt Tyndall. By motion, the report was adopted. [see Reports]

The Reverend Gary Bailey, moderator, along with the Conference, extended a welcome to membership in the conference to Reverend Jacky Raper. The right hand of fellowship was extended to him through out the day.

At 10:15 a.m. the Conference business was set aside for the worship service. The service was opened with scripture reading from Hebrews 12:1-2, and the prayer of invocation was given by Reverend Joey Williams. The Reverend Charles Branch led the congregation in the singing of "Blessed Assurance," followed by the offering for the conference and the offertory prayer by Reverend Kevin Jackson. Special music was presented by Misty Mills. The Reverend Earl Glenn preached the conference sermon. His text came from Matthew 21:33-46. The main emphasis was that God has provided prophets through the history of our world. His challenge was for God's people today to be prophets in this dark time. The Reverend Earl Glenn shared examples from the Old Testament, the New Testament, and early Church history.

Central

He stated that these people had carried the torch that is the Light of the World throughout their lives. It is now our turn to carry the torch, those behind the pulpit and in the pew. We need to pray for more torchbearers and we need to pray for us as torchbearers that we may be able to run the race God has given us.

The worship service concluded with the singing of "Breath on Me."

The service closed in prayer by Reverend Carroll Bradbury.

The business session continued at 11:25 a.m.

Representing the denominational ministries were as follows:

Children's Home: Dr. Bobby Taylor; Home Missions and Evangelism: Dr. Graham Lane; Minister's Program: Reverend Phillip Boykin; Cragmont Assembly: Reverend Bryant Hines; Mount Olive College: Reverend Jeff Daughtry; OFWB International: Reverend Chris Singleton; Retirement Homes: Reverend Bruce Dudley; Sunday School Board: Mrs. Mary Dudley

The Conference recessed for the noon meal at 12:05 p.m. with a prayer by Reverend Walt Tyndall.

Afternoon Session

The afternoon session was called to order at 1:20 p.m. with singing of "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."

Seeing that no ministers had passed away in the last year there was no report from the Memorial Committee.

Mr. Wesley Taylor representing Vandemere, and Dr. Michael Pelt representing the Convention of Original Free Will Baptists were given opportunity to speak.

The roll call of ministers was called with fifty ministers present.

The Reverend Gary Bailey, moderator, presented certificates to the following ministers in recognition of years of service: Reverend N.D. Beamon [70 years], Reverend Leon Grubbs [35 years], Reverend David Hill [35 years], Reverend Bobby Taylor [30 years], Reverend Ronnie Hobgood [25 years], and Reverend Grady Tucker [25 years].

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

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

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

Central

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

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

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

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

The Conference was adjourned by singing "Take the Name of Jesus with You."

The Conference was dismissed with prayer by the congregation as they recited "The Lord's Prayer."

Respectfully submitted,

The Reverend Gary Bailey, Moderator
The Reverend Brad Williamson, Clerk

Reports

Report of the Executive Committee

November 19, 2002

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on November 19, 2002, at 4:00 p.m. at the Gum Swamp Free Will Baptist Church, Belvoir. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Gary Bailey, Frankie Baggett, Brad Williamson, Carroll Bradbury, Kevin Jackson, and Ray Williamson. The Reverend Gary Bailey called the meeting to order and Reverend Carroll Bradbury opened with prayer.

The minutes of the 254th session of the Central Conference were read, corrected, and approved.

By motion, the committee agreed to print the revised Central Conference Constitution and By-laws in the 2003 edition of the Original Free Will Baptist Yearbook. [see Reports]

The Reverend Kevin Jackson presented the treasurer's report and it was discussed by the committee.

By motion, it was agreed to authorize Reverend Franklin Baggett to send Christmas gifts to all Central Conference ministers to remind them that they are appreciated.

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

Central

The Reverend Franklin Baggett was appointed as the representative to the Continuing Education Committee.

Executive Committee meetings were scheduled: February 6, May 1, August 7, and October 23. The meetings will be held at the Original Free Will Baptists Headquarters in Ayden, pending the availability of the boardroom.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Ray Williamson.

February 6, 2003

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on February 6, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at the Original Free Will Baptists Headquarters in Ayden. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Gary Bailey, Frankie Baggett, Brad Williamson, Carroll Bradbury, and Kevin Jackson. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Reverend Gary Bailey.

A Central Conference minister shared some personal concerns. The members of the Executive Committee gathered around the minister with Reverend Carroll Bradbury leading the group in prayer. Upon the minister's leaving, the committee continued with their business.

Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

The Reverend Kevin Jackson presented the treasurer's report and by motion the report was approved.

By motion, it was agreed to request Dr. Michael Pelt's attendance at the next meeting of the Executive Committee. Reverend Brad Williamson will contact him and determine if the date of May 1st is agreeable.

Discussion for the May 1st meeting will focus on a meeting site for the Central Conference in November, as well as a Pre-Conference worship speaker and Conference speaker.

Discussion was given on helping our ministers of the Central Conference grow spiritually as well as continue their education.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Brad Williamson.

May 1, 2003

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on May 1, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at the Original Free Will Baptists Headquarters in Ayden. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Gary Bailey, Frankie Baggett, Brad Williamson, Carroll Bradbury, Kevin Jackson, and Michael Pelt. The Reverend Gary Bailey called the meeting to order and Reverend Carroll Bradbury opened with prayer.

Central

Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

Dr. Michael Pelt was given the opportunity to speak concerning his role as the Central Conference Representative to the Convention Executive Committee. The dialog between the Executive Committee and Dr. Pelt focused on the needs of the Convention.

By motion, it was agreed to reimburse Dr. Michael Pelt for travel expenses pertaining to his role as Central Conference Representative, as requested by the Convention Executive Committee.

The Reverend Kevin Jackson presented the treasurer's report and by motion the report was approved.

By motion, it was agreed to transfer \$7,500.00 from the Church Growth Endowment Fund Interest account and place the money in an endowment with Church Finance; with the interest earned to be used for the annual training of Central Conference ministers and lay-leaders, as specified by the minutes of the Executive Committee's meeting on September 22, 1988.

By motion, it was agreed to ask Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church to host the Central Conference in November and for the Conference to be responsible for payment of the meal.

By motion, it was agreed that Reverend Brad Williamson would find a suitable person to be the pre-conference worship speaker.

By motion, it was agreed that Reverend Gary Bailey would ask Reverend Earl Glenn to deliver the Conference message.

Discussion was given in regards to the July 14th joint meeting with the Board of Ordination.

The Reverend Gary Bailey gave each committee member a copy of a survey from Reverend Donald Fader, Director of the Minister's Program. The committee is to answer the survey and mail it back to Reverend Fader.

The Reverend Franklin Baggett reported that the Continuing Education Committee would meet May 14th. The committee is seeking to host a seminar in the fall on computer education.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Kevin Jackson.

July 14, 2003

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met with the Board of Ordination on July 14, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at the Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church, Winterville. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Frankie Baggett, Brad Williamson, Carroll Bradbury, Kevin Jackson, Harry Grubbs, Philip Wood, C.H. Overman, and Walt Tyndall. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by Reverend Harry Grubbs.

Central

The Reverend Harry Grubbs explained why the Executive Committee was asked to meet with the Board of Ordination. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the possible ordination of women into the gospel ministry. Discussion was made concerning this issue.

The decision was made for the Executive Committee to discuss the issue more at its August meeting. Any suggestions will be passed on to the Board of Ordination.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Franklin Baggett.

August 7, 2003

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on August 7, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at the Original Free Will Baptists Headquarters in Ayden. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Gary Bailey, Frankie Baggett, Brad Williamson, Carroll Bradbury, and Kevin Jackson. The Reverend Gary Bailey called the meeting to order and Reverend Franklin Baggett opened with prayer.

Minutes from the last two meetings were read, corrected, and approved.

By motion, it was agreed to suggest to the Board of Ordination that the issue of possible ordination of women was moot until a church recommends a woman for licensing.

The Reverend Brad Williamson gave an update on the search for a suitable person to be the pre-conference worship speaker. He had made contact with a representative of the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association in regards to the worship service. The representative would contact Reverend Williamson with the details of the speaking engagement as soon as possible.

The Reverend Gary Bailey shared that Reverend Earl Glenn had accepted the invitation to deliver the Conference message.

The Reverend Kevin Jackson presented the treasurer's report and by motion the report was approved.

By motion, it was agreed to include the Executive Committee's November 2000 proposal of a Church Growth Committee in this year's report, so that there will be a record in the Annual Report. [see Reports]

The Reverend Franklin Baggett shared that Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church has agreed to host the Central Conference in November.

The Reverend Franklin Baggett reported that the Continuing Education Committee had met and he shared the minutes from that meeting. The committee is seeking to host a seminar in the fall on computer education. The Reverend Kevin Jackson is tentatively scheduled to lead the seminar.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Brad Williamson.

Central

October 23, 2003

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on October 23, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at the La Grange Free Will Baptist Church, La Grange. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Gary Bailey, Brad Williamson, Carroll Bradbury, and Kevin Jackson. The Reverend Gary Bailey called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

The Reverend Kevin Jackson presented the treasurer's report and by motion the report was approved.

The Executive Committee has been informed that the Press Board has turned over ownership of press stock from the dissolved Second Union to the Central Conference. The Conference now owns a total of 317 memberships.

The Reverend Brad Williamson gave an update on the search for a suitable person to be the pre-conference worship speaker. Mr. Jim Mullen, managing director for Ralph Bell Celebrations will be the pre-conference worship speaker. Reverend Franklin Baggett will prepare the order of worship for the worship service.

Plans for the Conference were discussed and plans will be finalized by the Conference meeting.

The Executive Committee will meet again on November 6th at 8:30 a.m. at Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Kevin Jackson.

November 6, 2003

The Executive Committee of the Central Conference met on November 6, 2003, at 8:30 a.m. at the Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Gary Bailey, Frankie Baggett, Brad Williamson, Carroll Bradbury, Kevin Jackson, and Michael Pelt. The Reverend Gary Bailey called the meeting to order and Reverend Carroll Bradbury opened with prayer.

Minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

The Reverend Kevin Jackson presented the treasurer's report and by motion the report was approved.

Dr. Michael Pelt presented two items of information. One, the Executive Committee of the Convention has asked each Conference to contribute to the disaster relief fund for those affected by Hurricane Isabel. By motion, it was agreed to recommend to the Conference that \$2,000.00 be contributed to the disaster relief fund. Two, Dr. Pelt gave an update concerning the search for a General Administrator for the Convention.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer by Reverend Franklin Baggett.

Report of the Board of Ordination

Meetings

The Board of Ordination has met four times since the last Conference: January 13th, April 14th, July 14th, and November 23rd of this year.

No ministers were ordained.

Membership Roll

The Reverend Jacky Raper has requested membership in this Conference and his name is to be added to the membership roll.

Approved for work in the Conference

The Reverend Otis Hamm as pastor of Saratoga Free Will Baptist Church.

Recommended for License

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

Mr. Marc Boswell
Mr. Alex McCarter

Regular meetings of the Board for the Year 2004: January 12th, April 12th, July 12th, and October 11th. Meetings will be held at Reedy Branch Free Will Baptist Church.

Respectfully submitted,

Reverends Harry Grubbs, Chairman; Walt Tyndall, Secretary; Frank Flowers, C.H. Overman, 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	38
Central Conference Ministers	46
Visiting Ministers	8
Licensed Ministers	4
Visitors	<u>21</u>
Total Registered	117

Respectfully submitted,

Reverends Doug Owens, Walt Tyndall

Central

Report of the Continuing Education Committee

May 13, 2003

The Continuing Education Committee of the Central Conference met on May 13, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden. Present for the meeting were the Reverends David Langley and Frankie Baggett. The meeting was called to order and opened with prayer by the Reverend David Langley.

The past actions of the committee were discussed and reviewed.

It was discussed that seminars given by Mount Olive College need to be publicized as much as possible and that our ministers and laypeople need to be encouraged to attend.

Future topics for possible seminars were discussed including: using computers in ministry; evangelistic outreach for the church; how do we reach the unchurch today; how to encourage church members to give to new projects

It was decided to try and have a seminar on computer use in ministry sometime in the late fall.

The committee will meet again in late August or early September.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

September 11, 2003

The Continuing Education Committee of the Central Conference met on September 11, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. at Elm Grove Free Will Baptist Church, Ayden. Present for the meeting were the Reverends Johnny Sullivan, Kevin Jackson, and Frankie Baggett.

The past actions of the committee were discussed and reviewed.

It was decided to have a seminar on the Use of Computers within the Church on November 20th at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Greenville. The seminar will start at 6:30 p.m. with supper and be over no later than 9:00 p.m. It was agreed to ask Kevin Jackson to be the facilitator at this seminar. A charge of five dollars per person will be charged to help offset the expenses of the meal and seminar.

The meeting was adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Reverends Franklin Baggett, Ed Thorton, Johnny Sullivan, David Langley

Church Growth Committee Report to the 2003 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."

This year each Church Clerk and each Pastor were mailed letters of intent, which outlined the Church Growth program, and an application for funding to assist them in church growth and/or leadership development. All one had to do was fill out an application giving a brief explanation of how the funds would be used in their church and a total cost estimate of the project.

This past year we were able to assist Central Conference Churches as follows:

- 1) \$491.60 was allocated to a church to assist in purchasing the materials for the leadership training series entitled, "Learning the 17 Indisputable Laws of Teamwork," by John Maxwell. The pastor has informed us that there has been substantial spiritual growth as a result of this program and highly recommends this program to other churches of the Central Conference.
- 2) \$250.00 was allocated to a church to assist in their outreach program, "Ten for Him." The pastor has informed us that this program has been very effective with several new converts being added to the church.
- 3) \$489.00 was allocated to a church to help purchase 400 booklets titled, "Peace with God," written by Billy Graham. These booklets were distributed throughout their neighborhood during the Easter season targeting many non-church people.
- 4) \$245.00 was allocated to a church to assist in the purchasing of 2,500 gospel tracts, to be distributed during their community's centennial celebration. As a result over 1,000 people were exposed to the Word of God and the need for salvation.
- 5) \$430.00 was allocated to a church to assist in purchasing the outreach training series entitled, "Share Jesus Without Fear." This program assisted the pastor in training others on how to effectively share their faith to those outside the church.
- 6) \$439.00 was allocated to a church to assist in the cost of sending a group of young leaders under the age of 40 to the Catalyst Leadership Conference in Alpharetta, Georgia. The pastor has informed us this has substantially raised the level of spiritual growth and leadership among these young leaders.
- 7) \$350.00 was allocated to a church, which requested funding to send their pastor to the Catalyst Leadership Conference in Alpharetta, Georgia equipping him so that he could better equip the church body.

Central

- 8) \$500.00 was allocated to a church to assist them with their ongoing youth outreach program. The goals of this program are to win souls for Jesus Christ, to challenge young people to find ways to serve in the church and its work, and to provide them with a Christ-centered worship atmosphere for youth.

Last year we were budgeted with \$5,000. We distributed \$3,255.60 to the churches that submitted completed applications.

We respectfully make the following recommendations to the Central Conference:

- 1) This report to the Central Conference be accepted.
- 2) The Central Conference pray for the growth and leadership of our churches.
- 3) The Central Conference again budget \$5,000 for Church Growth the upcoming 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 Kevin Jackson
Reverend Tommy Yopp
Reverend Carroll Bradbury

Report of the Nominating Committee

Board of Ordination:	The Reverend Leon Grubbs	[term to expire 2008]
Credentials Committee:	The Reverend Frank Cockrell	[term to expire 2006]
Memorial Committee:	The Reverend Charles Branch	[term to expire 2006]
Continuing Education Committee:	The Reverend Ronnie Hobgood	[term to expire 2006]
Church Growth Committee:	The Reverend Joey Williams	[term to expire 2006]

Respectfully submitted,
The Reverend Ronnie V. Hobgood, Chairman
The Reverend Kevin Jackson
The Reverend C.H. Overman

Report of the Resolution Committee

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

1. Be it resolved that the 255th Annual Session of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists give a rising vote of thanks to the Elm Grove Original FWB Church of Ayden, North Carolina, for extending its hospitality and kindness to the delegates and visitors of said conference.
2. Be it resolved that the 255th 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 the 255th Annual Session of the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists give a rising vote of thanks to Reverend Earl Glenn for an inspiring message.
4. Whereas, a great moral victory in our nation was won yesterday when President Bush signed the Partial Birth Abortion Ban into law, be it resolved that the Central Conference of Original Free Will Baptists send a congratulatory letter thanking Congress and the President and pledging our prayer of support for the continued defense of this ban as it faces legal opposition in the courts.

Respectfully Submitted,
The Reverend Joey Williams
The Reverend Barry Williamson
The Reverend Ray Williamson

Central

CENTRAL CONFERENCE

Treasurer's Report

November 1, 2002 to November 1, 2003

Balance brought forward – November 1, 2002		\$8,151.06
Receipts		
Pre-Conference Worship Offering	\$298.19	
Conference Offering	\$257.00	
Church Contributions	\$2,455.00	
Church Contributions since Conference	\$800.00	
Transferred from Endowment Fund	\$2,196.61	
Interest on Checking	\$15.90	
Miscellaneous		
Missions	\$100.00	
Total Receipts	<u>\$6,122.70</u>	<u>\$6,122.70</u>
Total to account for in Checking Account		\$14,273.76
Disbursements		
Centura Bank (Bank Charges)	\$49.00	
Conference Secretary	\$40.00	
Executive Committee Expenses		
(Meals, travel, telephone, etc.)	\$533.88	
Convention of OFWB (Year Book)	\$1,400.00	
Office Supplies (Executive Committee, Board of Ordination,		
Conference Newsletter)	\$124.00	
Pre-Conference Worship Service Expenses	\$600.00	
Church Growth Expenses	\$3,305.60	
Miscellaneous	\$261.61	
Total Disbursements	<u>\$6,314.09</u>	<u>\$6,314.09</u>
Total in Checking Account as of November 1, 2003		<u>\$7,959.67</u>
<hr/>		
Central Conference Endowment Fund	\$67,605.06	
<i>(see minutes from Central Conference 11-09-01, Mission Board & Executive Committee Proposal)</i>		
Interest 12-31	\$591.54	
Interest 03-31	\$375.00	
Interest 06-30	\$377.34	
Interest 09-30	\$379.70	
Total	\$69,328.64	
Transfer to Central Conference Endowment Interest	\$6,000.00	
Transfer to Checking Account	\$2,196.60	
Total		\$61,132.04

Central

Central Conference Endowment Fund Interest	\$26,640.64	
Deposit	\$31.07	
Interest 12-31	\$133.20	
Interest 03-31	\$100.52	
Interest 06-30	\$123.39	
Interest 09-30	\$123.86	
Deposit from Endowment Fund	\$6,000.00	
Total		\$33,152.68
Transfer to Maury Endowment Fund	\$7,500.00	
Total		\$25,652.68
Central Conference of FWB (Savings)	\$25,959.96	
Interest 12-31	\$129.80	
Interest 03-31	\$97.84	
Interest 06-30	\$98.20	
Interest 09-30	\$98.57	
Total		\$26,384.37
Maury Endowment Fund (For Annual Training Conference)		
<i>(see minutes of Executive Committee 09-22-88)</i>		
Transfer from Central Conference Endowment Interest	\$7,500.00	
Total		\$7,500.00

Note: Interest from the Central Conference Endowment Fund is transferred to the Central Conference Endowment Fund Interest every January.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PROPOSAL TO THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE

In response to the motion adopted by the Central Conference during its Annual Session, November 9, 2000, for the Executive Committee to study the possibilities of establishing a committee to supervise the money for missions and outreach previously held by the Central Conference Missions Board [which was dissolved at the 252nd annual session of the Central Conference], the Executive Committee submits and recommends this proposal, as described within this report.

The Executive Committee recommends that the endowment (\$60,000) held with Church Finance Association be maintained as such, with the annual accrued interest and the balance of the existing funds to be held in deposit by the Central Conference Treasurer. These funds will be allocated for church growth, leadership development, or for any other use as voted upon by the Central Conference during the Annual Session.

Perceiving the need for stronger churches, not more churches, within the bounds of the Central Conference, the Executive Committee hereby proposes the establishment of a CHURCH GROWTH COMMITTEE to promote and support local church growth through outreach ministry and leadership development. The purpose of the Church Growth Committee will be 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.

Central

The duty of the Church Growth Committee will be to establish and coordinate a process and method whereby local churches of the Central Conference may apply for funds to subsidize the cost of special church growth projects and/or leadership development programs. The Church Growth Committee will evaluate requests by churches and authorize funds according to the following general guidelines:

1. The Church Growth Committee will submit an annual budget to the Central Conference for approval.
2. The maximum amount of allocated funds will not exceed \$500 per quarter per church.
3. Funds must be used for the purpose of church growth and/or leadership development.
4. The Church Growth Committee will strive to equally fund (contingent upon church requests) growth projects and leadership development programs.
5. Approvals of funds by the Church Growth Committee will be submitted to the Central Conference Treasurer for actual disbursement.
6. The first year's budget will be \$5000.00

The Church Growth Committee will make an annual report to the Central Conference and a quarterly report to the Executive Committee. It is further proposed that the Church Growth Committee be composed of five members: one member from the Executive Committee, one member from the Continuing Education Committee, and three at-large members being elected by the Central Conference, serving three year terms, with one rotating off each year.

We are fully aware that man proposes and God disposes. We prayerfully submit this proposal to the Central Conference in hope and belief that our churches will make renewed and fervent effort to reach the lost for Jesus Christ, and that all of our churches will grow and become stronger spiritually as we seek to do what God has called us to do first and foremost!

CENTRAL CONFERENCE 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 November 7, 1979, November 4, 1981, November 10, 1982, November 8, 1984, November 5, 1998, November 9, 2000, November 8, 2001 and November 7, 2002.

NAME

This shall be the constitution of the Central Conference of 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.

Central

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 distributed 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 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

Section 1. 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.

Section 2. A board of ordination, 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.

Section 3. A committee of one shall be elected to represent the conference's membership in the Free Will Baptist Press; the term of office shall be two years.

Section 4. A committee of one shall be elected to represent the conference's membership in the Church Finance Association, Inc.; the term of office shall be two years.

Section 5. A credentials committee and an 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.

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Section 6. A committee of one shall be elected to serve as conference historian; the term of office shall be two years.

Section 7. A committee of one shall be elected to serve as publicity committee; the term of office shall be two years.

Section 8. The executive committee shall be composed of the moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, assistant clerk, and treasurer elected by the conference at the time of the official election of officers.

Section 9. Temporary committees shall be appointed at the option of the conference for whatever purposes may be deemed necessary.

Section 10. A committee of five shall be elected to serve as a Continuing Education Committee with three members being elected to serve three year terms, one rotating off each year, and one member elected by the Ordaining Council annually (from its membership) and one member to be elected by the Executive Committee annually (from its membership).

Section 11. A committee of five shall be elected to serve as a Church Growth Committee with three members being elected to serve three year terms, one rotating off each year, and one member elected by the Executive Committee annually (from its membership) and one member to be elected by the Continuing Education Committee annually (from its membership).

Section 12. 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 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 Convention of Original Free Will Baptists 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 before the second Sunday in November of each year. 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 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 session 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) to examine ordained ministers

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seeking membership in this conference and to make recommendations in keeping with their findings.

Section 9. 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 membership meeting.

Section 10. 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 ministers and make recommendations of same to the conference.

Section 11. 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.

Section 12. It shall be the duty of the conference historian to collect and preserve any historical data concerning the conference.

Section 13. It shall be the duty of the publicity committee to see that proper publicity is given to the activities and work of the conference.

Section 14. It will be the duty of the Continuing Education Committee to set guidelines concerning what materials, classes, seminars, and other forms of training and instruction will be recognized as qualified disciplines for our ministers to receive credits as Continuing Education and to set the number of units that can be credited for such work. Also, this committee is to plan and promote seminars and training opportunities which will be recognized as qualified disciplines for our ministers to receive credits as Continuing Education. Furthermore, this committee is to review annually such applications as may be submitted by our ministers for Continuing Education Units of Credit and report them to the Conference in session.

Section 15. It shall be the duty of the Church Growth Committee to promote and support local church growth through outreach ministry and 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. The committee shall establish and coordinate a process and method whereby local churches of the Central Conference may apply for funds to subsidize the cost of special church growth projects and/or leadership development programs.

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.

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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 approved by the Executive Committee before publication.

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.

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Roll of Central Conference Ministers By Seniority

Minister	Ordained	2001	2002	2003
N.D. Beamon	12/4/33	P	A	A
N. Bruce Barrow	09/19/35	P	P	P
J.B. Narron	10/13/50	P	P	P
Michael Pelt	09/30/50	P	L	P
Willis Wilson	12/28/54	P	A	P
C.H. Overman	08/30/52	P	P	P
Stewart Humphrey	11/10/66	L	L	L
Charles Branch	1/25/69	P	P	P
Bruce Jones	9/5/71	P	P	P
Gary Bailey	7/12/72	P	P	P
Walter Reynolds	7/30/49	P	P	P
Tom Miller	7/2/67	P	P	P
Bobby Taylor	11/2/73	P	P	P
Leon Grubbs	9/5/68	P	P	A
Ronnie Hobgood	8/13/78	P	P	P
Melvin Moore	12/31/59	P	P	L
Earl Glenn	11/49	P	P	P
Billy Ray Jordan	10/17/62	L	L	L
Harry Grubbs	2/24/67	A	P	P
Frank Flowers	6/2/72	P	L	P
Leon Harris	5/17/81	P	P	P
Clifford Ball	8/20/81	P	P	P
Ray Williamson	5/11/77	P	P	P
David Hill	10/31/68	P	A	L
Mark Hobbs	11/20/80	L	L	L
Ronald Braxton	2/3/83	P	L	L
Donald Ribeiro	10/27/83	A	L	L
Stanley Buck	9/17/76	P	P	P
David T. Langley	10/5/87	P	P	L
Philip Wood	5/12/79	P	P	P
Norwood Futrell	9/20/51	L	A	A
Calvin Heath	10/31/76	P	A	A
Thomas Bowen	11/25/90	P	P	P
Harry Allen Jones, Jr.	10/27/91	A	A	A
Larry Letchworth	8/23/92	P	P	P
Carroll Bradbury	8/23/92	P	P	P
Walter R. Tyndall	8/8/93	P	P	P
Jack Weathersby	2/27/94	P	P	P
Joey Williams	1/15/95	P	P	P
Mark Hogan	9/6/86	A	A	L
Frankie Baggett	10/22/87	P	P	P
Grady Tucker	12/6/78	P	P	P
Brad Williamson	6/28/98	P	P	P

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Minister	Ordained	2001	2002	2003
John R. Harris	8/27/98	P	P	P
Edward Thornton	3/10/81	P	A	P
Tony Glass	3/28/99	P	P	P
M.E. Cox		L	L	L
Frank Cockrell	11/15/00	P	P	P
Johnny Ray Sullivan	5/21/00	P	P	P
Gene Britt	9/10/72	P	P	P
Kevin Jackson	12/26/82	P	P	P
Barry Wayne Williamson	9/17/00	P	P	P
Todd Sutton	2/11/96	P	P	P
John C. Simpson	4/29/01	A	P	P
Douglas Owens	5/6/01	P	P	P
Roger Haithcock	8/26/01	L	P	L
Tommy Yopp		P	P	P
Phillip Boykin			P	P
Charlie Carroll			A	P
Woodrow Freeze			P	P
Greg Nethercutt	8/4/02		A	A
Tony Parrish			P	P
Jacky Raper				P
Licensed Minister	Licensed	2001	2002	2003
Alan Joyner	10/17/99	P	P	L
Michael James Rowell	5/14/00	P	L	L
Jay Tripp	4/8/02		P	P
Kelly Smart			P	P
Charles Russell			P	P
Charles Sutton			P	L
Doug Tyson			P	L
Marc Boswell				P

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Church	Letter	Delegates	Contributions
Aspen Grove	Y	Y	Y
Ayden	Y	Y	N
Bethany	N	Y	N
Black Jack	Y	Y	N
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	N	Y
Friendship	N	Y	N
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	Y	Y
Hull Road	N	N	N
King's Cross Roads	Y	Y	Y
La Grange, First	Y	Y	Y
Little Creek	Y	Y	Y
Marlboro	N	N	N
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	N	N
Pleasant Hill	Y	Y	Y
Reedy Branch	Y	Y	N
Rocky Mount, First	Y	Y	N
Rose Hill	Y	Y	N
Rose of Sharon	Y	Y	Y
Saint's Delight	N	Y	N
Saratoga	N	N	N
Spring Branch	Y	Y	Y
Sweet Gum Grove	N	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	2003	Active	Inactive	GAIN			LOSS			Net Change	Sunday School	Avg. SS Attend.	Ave. MW Attend.
				Baptism	Letter	Other	Deceased	Letter	Other				
Central Conference													
Aspen Grove	178				2		4			176	64	40	55
Ayden	114			0	3	3	1	0	0	119	45	29	45
Bethany	188	114	74	1	0	0	0	1	0	188	88	63	94
Black Jack	589	420	169	19	3	0	4	0	0	607		274	271
Community	174	52	122	3	3	0	3	13	0	164	41	30	50
Daniels Chapel	443			3	6	2	4	6	0	444	184	115	225
Dilda's Grove	93	52	41	0	0	1	1	0	0	93	46	34	55
Edgewood	46	46	17	11	6	0	0	0	0	63	565	48	58
Elm Grove	423	205	218	7	7	0	8	8	0	421		135	183
Free Union	392	212	179	1	0	0	4	3	0	386	140	110	225
Friendship	317	160	157	3	1	0	3	4	0	314	130	100	150
Greenville, First	290	290		4	3	1	3	0	0	295	163	100	158
Grimsley	131	76	55	1	0	0	1	1	0	75	68	58	65
Gum Swamp	417	110	307	0	1	0	0	1	0	417	82	76	105
Harrells Chapel	142	120	22	1	0	0	3	0	0	140	142	110	110
Hickory Grove	98	43	55	0	0	0	2	0	0	96	36	34	40
Hillside	65	43	22	0	0	0	2	0	0	63	2	2	25
Howell Swamp	148			3	1	0	1	2	0	149	57	40	75
Hugo	147	91	56	2	3	0	3	0	0	149	62	51.7	96.8
Hull Road													
Kings Cross Roads	302	199	103	2	18	4	5	1	0	320	198	137	227
La Grange	191	135	56	4	1	1	1	5	0	191	83	79	103
Little Creek	136	121	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	136	60	45	55
Marlboro	334			4	0	0	5	2	0	331	201	112	158
Ormondsville	255	185	70	8	4	0	4	0	0	262	139	118	150
Otters Creek	51	51	15	0	0	0	4	0	0	47	20	17	35
Owens Chapel	200	95	105	1	5	0	2	1	0	203	96	30	95
Peace	105	67	38	0	4	0	0	1	7	101	61	50	75
Piney Grove-Beaufort	34	24	10	1	2	0	2	0	0	35	25	16	30
Piney Grove-Pitt	39	39		3	1	5	1	0	0	46	23	20	40
Pleasant Hill	85	70-80	90-100	0	0	0	3	1	0	81	90	45	70

CHURCHES	2003	Active	Inactive	GAIN			LOSS			Net Change	Sunday School	Avg. SS Attend.	Ave. MW Attend.
				Baptism	Letter	Other	Deceased	Letter	Other				
Reedy Branch	389	150	239	0	8	0	3	3	0	391	127	82	135
Rocky Mount, First	112	50	62	0	0	0	1	0	0	111	40	35	62
Rose Hill													
Rose of Sharon	235	126	109	5	2	0	3	4	0	235	138	95	120
Saint's Delight	115	94	21	0	6	9	1	4	10	115	25	25	60
Saratoga	204	204		0	2	0	0	0	0	206	100	83	100
Spring Branch	176	165	16	3	4	0	2	0	0	181	81	70	125
Sweet Gum Grove													
Tarboro, First	352	160	192	6	2	0	7	3	0	350	120	105	160
Walnut Creek	110	67	43	3	0	0	0	2	0	111	71	60	70
Watery Branch													
Williamston, First	100	48	52	2	1	0	1	0	0	103	34	27	50
Winterville	316			6	8	0	5	4	0	321	160	120	189
Central Conf. Totals	8236	4014	2640	107	107	26	97	70	17	8236	3805	2870.7	4194.8