

MINUTES
OF THE
CENTRAL TEXAS FREE
BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
HELD WITH
Kurten Free Baptist Church
AT KURTEN, TEXAS
OCTOBER 11-14, 1928

The next session will be held with Cross Church, Grimes County, Texas,
Thursday Night before the Fourth Sunday in October, 1929.

OFFICERS

M. L. HOLLIS-----Moderator
J. W. HANDY-----Assistant Moderator
N. C. COLE-----Clerk

ORDAINING COUNCIL

M. L. HOLLIS-----Term Expires 1931
J. J. TATUM-----Term Expires 1929
C. B. THOMPSON-----Term Expires 1930

HOME MISSION BOARD

E. J. VAUGHN-----Term Expires 1931
J. L. BOUNDS-----Term Expires 1929
C. B. THOMPSON-----Term Expires 1930

**MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL TEXAS FREE BAPTIST
ASSOCIATION HELD WITH KURTEN
CHURCH AT KURTEN, BRAZOS
COUNTY, OCT. 11-14,
1928.**

The twenty-third Annual Session of the Central Texas Free Will Baptist Association convened Oct. 11, 1928, at Kurten, Texas.

Rev. M. L. Hollis delivered an interesting sermon at 7:30 p. m. from a text in Neh. 2:12.

Friday, Oct. 12; 9 a. m., song and prayer service conducted by C. F. Goen after which Rev. M. L. Hollis was elected moderator for the year, and C. F. Goen, Clerk for the session, and J. W. Handy, assistant Moderator, and W. K. O'Brien assistant Clerk.

Reports from the quarterly meetings were read and accepted. These reports were of an encouraging nature, showing an increased interest in all church activities with a marked increase in additions to the churches during the year. Delegates were seated and the Moderator appointed a committee on committees which appointed all committees for the year. The committee was the following named persons: W. J. Lawless, J. L. Edge and Mrs. W. G. Reynolds.

The Moderator was authorized to appoint all session committees. The following session committees were then appointed: Devotional, Chas. Rogers, Mrs. Della Wooten, Mrs. Emanuel Taylor; Resolutions, Rev. J. L. Bounds and J. L. Edge; Requests, Mrs. C. H. Holmes, Mrs. Zeff Jones and Mrs. Della Nevells.

The program committee presented a well arranged printed program which was adopted.

Mr. J. L. Edge was asked to give a report of the State Convention, of which he is president. The report contained much of interest to the Association and was listened to with earnest attention and the Association unanimously adopted the enlarged program of activities and pledged itself to support in every way the movement and to help "put it over." The Association was asked to give \$500.00 for Home Mission work to the state treasury, which they cheerfully voted to do. At 10:30 Rev. C. B. Thompson gave an inspiring address on the subject, "The Task of the Church." At 11 o'clock Rev. J. L. Bounds preached a very helpful and inspiring sermon. After which all enjoyed a splendid dinner spread by the ladies of the church under the shaded grove near the church. This the good ladies repeated each day of the Association, to the delight of all who were in attendance.

At 1:30 the Moderator called the meeting to order. After a brief business session, the following committees were called to report, which reports were adopted (see reports), Home Mission, Temperance and Executive.. Rev. E. J. Vaughn was elected to serve on the Home Mission Board, Rev. M. L. Hollis was elected as a member of the ordaining council, to serve for three years. The following named persons were appointed as a program committee to serve for the year: C. B. Thompson, A. L. Robertson and Rev. J. L. Bounds.

The twenty-fourth session of the Association was voted to be held with the Cross Church, beginning on Thursday evening before the 4th Sunday in October, 1929. And that Rev. M. L. Hollis is to preach the Association Sermon, Rev. J. L. Bounds his Alternate. By vote the office of Clerk was declared vacant, and N. C. Cole was elected to the place as clerk and C. F. Goen, assistant Clerk.

The Clerk was instructed to have 250 copies of the minutes printed and draw on the treasury for payment of the amount.

At this time Rev. M. L. Hollis delivered a most masterful address on the subject, "Winning the World to Christ," which was greatly appreciated by all.

Rev. J. J. Tatum delivered the sermon of the evening, after a most splendid devotional conducted by T. A. Cloud of Bryan.

Saturday, Oct. 13 the session opened at 9:30 a. m. The devotional service was conducted by J. P. Gilpin. The Moderator called for the business of the morning.

The following committees made reports which were adopted (see reports): Foreign Missions, Evangelism, The Ministry, and Women's Work.

At 10:30 Mrs. F. L. Mangis gave a very interesting and helpful address on the subject, "Christianizing Our Social Relations," following this Rev. E. J. Vaughn delivered a splendid sermon.

At 1:30 Rev. J. W. Handy conducted the devotional service. After which the Moderator called for the business of the afternoon. The following committees reported and the reports were adopted (see reports): Young People, Denomination, Sunday School, Condition of Churches, Obituary and all session committees. Following these reports Rev. E. J. Vaughn delivered a very able address which was appreciated on the subject, "Winning Men to Christ." The report of J. P. Gilpin, the treasurer, was then read and referred to the auditing committee and later adopted.

The state executive committee advised that this Association appropriate \$500.00 to State Home Mission Work; recommendation was unanimously adopted.

The closing business was then attended to in which the officers of the Association were authorized to attend to any necessary business related to the Association after adjournment Oct 18. The following items of business were attended to by them and reported that the pastors of the Association with J. L. Edge, chairman, were to become a committee to recommend an apportionment for each church relative to amount for Home Mission purposes, asking the churches to adopt the same. Also the Treasurer, J. P. Gilpin, was instructed to pay the balance of \$60.00 due from the Association according to pledge for state work to J. J. Tatum, and the treasurer was instructed to pay \$2.75 to the Eagle Printing Co. for printing programs. Rev. J. H. Dowell was selected to preach at 7:30 p. m. Saturday and Rev. J. L. Bounds to preach Sunday at 11:00 a. m. This closed a very delightful session of the Central Texas Association.

M. L. HOLLIS, Moderator

C. F. GOEN, Clerk

PLAINVIEW QUARTERLY MEETING LETTER

To the Central Texas Free Baptist Association when convened with the Kurten Free Baptist Church at Kurten, Texas: We send as delegates our beloved brethren and sisters with Christian greetings: Arthur Lee and Wife, Aubrey Ferrell, Miss Hortense Bounds, E. F. Trant, Pascal Rice, R. Bains, Minnie Gibson, Dallas Guinn, Frank Burney, J. T. Payne, Brother Sealy and Wife, W. K. O'Brien, O. H. Moody, I. D. Cleghorn, and Bob Henderson. State of religion very good, Communion observed quarterly by some churches, and others are irregular in observing communion. Number received for the year 22, number baptized 17, number dismissed 5, number died 5, resident members 387, non-resident members 314, total 701. Condition of prayer meeting good. Condition of Sunday School very good, average number of pupils 215, officers 13, teachers 23, Woman's Missionary Society 1, members 12; Christian Endeavor 2, members 130. Amount paid Pastors, \$1,302.91. Amount for evangelistic work \$213.63, for Incidentals \$77.50, for Foreign Missions \$15.00, for Home Missions \$75.00, for Education \$154.62, for Building and Repairs \$110.25, for Charity \$7.00, Budget Fund \$25.00. Value of church property \$8,000.00. Names of Ministers—J. L. Bounds, C. B. Thompson, John Swanwick, J. H. Dowell, G. W. Robertson, J. W. Cook and Ollie Smith. Done by order of Conference at Blue Lake Free Baptist Church in Plainview Quarterly meeting assembled September 29, 1928

J. J. TATUM, Moderator

J. L. BOUNDS, Asst. Moderator

W. K. O'BRIEN, Clerk

BRAZOS COUNTY QUARTERLY MEETING LETTER

Report of the Brazos County Quarterly Meeting, to the Central Texas Free Baptist Association, when convened with Kurten Church Oct. 11-14-, 1928. We extend Christian greetings to you and pray God's richest blessings in all your efforts and activities. And may the Holy Spirit guide in all your deliberations and may His presence be felt in each and every one attending these sessions, and may God be greatly glorified and souls saved; Christians revived and much and lasting good accomplished as we meet in this annual session, is our prayer.

We send as delegates the following named persons, whom we deem worthy, to set in conference with you in all your deliberations, and council in all of your business for our common "King" and Lord. Whom we ask, to be seated as such. S. I. Dowling and wife, John Dowling, Mrs. C. H. Holmes, Mrs. Jack Bullard, W. G. Reynolds and wife, Mrs. C. H. Moehlman, P. K. Trant and wife, Mrs. J. T. Riggs, Pat Moore and wife, L. F. Mangis and wife, Charles Payne, Fort Martin and wife, C. F. Goen and wife, N. C. Cole and wife, Joe Hawthorn and wife, M. G. Buchanan, Dave Phipps and wife, W. J. Lawless, M. B. Easters, James Lang, Mrs. Willie Kelly, Mrs. Henry Kurten, T. A. Cloud and Mrs. C. A. Carson. We as Churches observe all the Gospel ordinances regularly and biblically.

There seems to be a splendid spirit of co-operation among our folks. Some of our Churches are at rather a low ebb spiritually, but are willing to help as best they can. The Churches manifesting the less spirituality are those not informing themselves regarding the Association's and our denominational activities. Some not observing nor heeding the requests of the Association nor the State Convention, have naturally suffered thereby. We are convinced that this Association is facing wonderful opportunities, and if we meet these opportunities properly, that, God will greatly bless our efforts and add to our numbers. May each Church in the bounds of this Association strictly observe, if possible, every obligation during the year, that there may be a deepening of God's work in all our hearts. Numerically we have just about held our own this year, receiving 30 into membership, baptizing 10, dismissing 6, 4 having died, we now have a resident membership of 350, non-resident membership of 173, giving a total of members 503. All of our Churches except one maintain an evergreen Sunday School, with an average attendance of 161 pupils, 15 officers, 22 teachers. But we only have 2 Missionary Societies, with a membership of 42. These societies are of great value to the Churches in which they operate. Our Young People's Societies only number 2, with a membership of 63 and these also are of great worth to the

Church in which they function. We have paid our pastors in salaries the past year, \$2,425.00; for evangelistic work, \$752.00; incidentals, \$125.00; foreign missions, \$15.00; home missions, \$115.00; for education, \$125.00; for building and improvement, \$2,385.00; for charity, \$75.00; as reported our church property is valued at \$23,400.00. This is rather low estimate.

The following ministers belong in our Quarterly Meeting: M. L. Hollis, Bryan, Texas; J. W. Handy, Bryan, Texas; J. J. Tatum, Bryan, Texas; J. L. Payne, Houston, Texas; John Orr, Hunt, Texas.

Done by order of the Brazos County Quarterly Meeting in regular session, August 17-19, 1928.

W. J. LAWLESS, Moderator

C. F. GOEN, Clerk

STANDING COMMITTEES

We, the committee on Committees, report and recommend the following committees:

EDUCATION—Mrs. F. Rumfield, Mrs. Minnie Gibson and Mrs. L. Taylor.

TEMPERANCE—T. A. Cloud, A. B. McSwain and J. A. Henry.

HOME MISSION—Mrs. A. Casey, Mrs. John Rumfield and Mrs. H. S. Edge.

FOREIGN MISSION—Mrs. Alice Cole, Mrs. P. K. Trant and Mrs. J. A. Andrews.

EVANGELISM—James Lang, B. F. Lloyd and Mrs. Willie Kelley.

STANDING OF THE MINISTRY—W. K. O'Brien, John Moody and J. L. Allen.

OBITUARY—Covey Windsor, Dallas Guinn and J. F. Reed.

WOMEN'S WORK—Mrs. Chas. Conlee, Mrs. E. J. Vaughn and Willie Moon.

PROGRAM—Rev. M. L. Hollis, A. S. McSwain and H. S. Edge.

CONDITION OF CHURCHES—N. C. Cole, C. F. Goen and M. G. Buchanan.

SUNDAY SCHOOL—A. L. Robertson, C. Wren and O. McWhorter.

BUDGET—J. P. Gilpin, Zeff Jones and M. B. Easters.

DENOMINATION—J. J. Tatum, C. B. Thompson and J. H. Dowell.

YOUNG PEOPLE—L. Taylor, Lola Casey and Earl Combstock.

CONDITION OF CHURCHES

Most of the Churches are yet rejoicing over an ingathering during the revival season of the summer months.

The greater part of the Churches have been happily supplied with pastors who have rendered satisfactory service.

Many have already arranged with pastors to serve them for the next year.

One Church at Wellborn has disbanded during the year. Two have had no regular services, Hopewell and Union Hill.

During the past year there has been a decided forward movement regarding the financial support of the Churches. As well as in property values.

But there is an alarming spirit of apathy and indifference getting a hold upon our entire Association. Which is causing no little concern on the part of our membership who understand the situation.

This condition manifests itself in a number of ways, a few of which we shall mention. First, and perhaps the one to be most dreaded, in lack of the Spiritual fervor once possessed, the activities seem too formal and mechanical, lacking the warmth and the conscious presence of the Holy Spirit. Second, in a failure to have an interest sufficient to regularly observe Communion, or give heed to days set apart as denominational days. Third, in the sad neglect of attending and supporting the Quarterly Meeting and Associations, and etc.

The sadness of this is these conditions are shared in common with other people. Nevertheless the sadness and harmfulness is felt just the same by all who are concerned.

In view of the sad conditions just referred to we recommend that the attention of our Churches be called to these facts, and that their Deacons and pastors be asked and urged to help remedy this evil lest our cause suffer greater loss. Ours is a sacred heritage, and must be kept at the sacrifice of time and worldly pleasure, if we please God, serve the coming generations and fill our mission in the world.

D. D. VASBINDER

J. J. TATUM

H. S. EDGE

Committee.

OBITUARIES

Since God in his Providence has called from our midst during the last year our dearly beloved Brothers Sheffield, John Edge, John Dyess and Tom Berry and Sisters J. Q. Adams, Carnes, John Rice, Janie Davis, Lizzie Casey, Lucas, Elizabeth Graham and Mrs. W. G. Lloyd, we extend our sympathy to the bereaved ones and commend them to God for love and mercy.

Respectfully,

MRS. C. B. THOMPSON,

MRS. JAMES LANG,

MRS. W. T. KELLY.

EDUCATION

We, your committee on religious education, wish to submit the following report: We recognize the great educational systems of our country and a number of these are for religious instruction, and there are a great number for instruction in literary, science and mathematics. It would seem that these two systems should be kept separate one from the other, and we believe a religious education should be given first consideration because all else would seem of little value in the end if religious education is neglected because if evil constantly fills the minds of the growing youngsters they will be in no condition to receive a literary training much less a religious training, and you find many children growing up and starting out to school and are unable to make the grade simply because their minds have been blunted by indulgence in sinful living because their environment has been unwholesome and many quit school and loose all desire to continue in school of any sort, all because somebody has failed to be a teacher of wisdom. We recall that the Saviour sought the wisdom of the wise men when he was a mere boy, and when the mother and father found him in the environment of the wise men they may have felt satisfied. In order to educate others in either religious or literary science we must first fit ourselves to such a condition that we may receive Divine inspiration and be able to use the number of talents the good Master may see fit to give us. We are optimistic over the outlook for the future in religious education because the opportunities are greater than ever before and we must receive religious as well as literary training in order to be of the most service to mankind and every opportunity should be grasped to secure an education in both religious and literary lines. The preacher should be an educator in the Church, the father and mother educators in the home. The Sunday School, the Church Service, and the home should be the educational cents, and no opportunity should be overlooked not only to keep these alive but growing, and every one should try and get away from the habit of theorizing and put into practice the helpful ideas gained through spiritual contact. Every available source of help should be rendered to the educational institutions that are promoting religious training for ministers of the gospel because through these we must look for spiritual food upon which the soul must grow. spiritual food upon which the soul must grow.

OLLIE SMITH,
W. K. O'BRIEN,
LEMMIE ALLEN,
Committee.

DENOMINATION

We submit the following report: Our denomination has, for about one hundred and fifty years in the United States and more than fifty years in Texas, been actively and successfully functioning, which should be of great encouragement to us for greater efforts in the future.

Though we find our denomination as a whole sound in doctrine, undisturbed by ism's of any kind, true to the evangelistic spirit which has always marked its pathway and insistant upon "Ye must be born again." She has not been tossed by the winds of doctrines but stands unshaken on the fundamentals of the Gospel which should give cause for thankful service.

Most of our Churches are making good progress, but it is with regret we report a few have not given proper support to the denomination in its effort to be of greater service. We feel that a remedy should be sought and applied which we feel will not be found in fault-finding of the individual, Church nor denomination. Pruning is a good process, but both pruning and grafting are better. Should one find in his or her life something that makes for hinderance, a little pruning might be well but let us not stop with this, but graft on new life that will bear fruit and much fruit. The following scripture will apply to the individual, church or denomination: "If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you. Herein is my Father glorified, that ye bear much fruit: so shall ye be my disciples."

OLLIE SMITH,
JOHN MOODY
W. K. O'BRIEN.

TEMPERANCE

We, the committee on temperance, submit the following report: We believe that the motive of those who advocated the adoption and continuation of national prohibition was worthy and patriotic. It is an honest, unselfish constructive effort to "promote the general welfare" by restriction of the activities of individuals, through the prohibition of the manufacture, sale, transportation exportation and importation of intoxicating liquors for beverage purposes. That the prohibition of the traffic in intoxicants is a proper exercise of the lawmaking power, and that the Eighteenth Amendment and the Volstead Act are beneficial measures has been proven. Labor, business, thrift, social and morals have been greatly helped through the prohibition enactments.

That the prohibition sentiment may be crystalized we urgently recommend the discussion of prohibition and law enforcement at denominational gatherings, as well as from the local pulpit and in the adult and young people's groups.

We urge the twelve hundred Free Baptists in this Association to support for public office only those candidates whose pledge, records and attitudes will guarantee the proper administration and enforcement of prohibition statutes, and further, to insist on the nomination of candidates whose records and attitudes are unquestionably favorable to the enforcement of the Eighteenth Amendment and the Volstead Act.

In view of the organized movement of the enemies of the Eighteenth Amendment to the Constitution to nullify the prohibition laws it is imperative that concerted action be taken by all Christians in behalf of the enforcement of temperance laws. Therefore: We recommend that in all the churches there be a thorough systematic instruction to build again the foundation of moral character, so that the rising generation may reflect in thought and action a respect for, and disposition to observe, all laws pertaining to the welfare of society.

We urge the membership of our churches and congregations to observe all laws and by example and precept discourage lawlessness at all times and in all places and to register and vote at all elections for measures and candidates favorable to prohibition and law enforcement.

S. I. DOWLING,
MRS. JAMES WADE,
MRS. A. B. McSWAIN,
Committee.

FOREIGN MISSION COMMITTEE

We, your committee on Foreign Missions, wish to make the following report: We have made some investigation concerning Foreign Missions, and find that we are doing very little along this line. Not, however, because we lack the spirit of missionary interest, for we find our people have a desire as Jesus said, "To carry the Gospel to all the world", but because we lack direct contact with the mission field. We would therefore recommend that our pastors seek to inform themselves regarding the mission field in which we are especially interested. And endeavor to lead our people to more concentrated effort to accomplish this work. We feel that if our pastors will thus inform their people that the people will respond more willingly to the Foreign Mission demand.

MRS. W. M. STEWART.

REV. SWANWICK

The following resolution was unanimously voted to be extended Rev. John Swanwick, who on account of his health, is not permitted to be at this meeting. Therefore, be it resolved by the members of this Association, That we sincerely regret that you are not able to be present and we trust and pray that you will speedily and entirely regain your health and strength. And further, that we appreciate your faithfulness and regret our having to elect another Clerk.

J. L. BOUNDS.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's disbursements from Oct. 14, 1927 to Oct. 13, 1928

Oct. 14, Balance ----- \$119.11

Collections

Bright Light Church Budget-----	10.00
Plainview Church Budget-----	10.00
Willow Hole Church Budget-----	5.00
North Zulch Church Budget-----	10.00
Cross Church Budget-----	5.00
Kurten Church Budget-----	10.00
Edge Church Budget-----	5.00
Bryan Church Budget-----	25.00

\$199.11

Disbursements ----- \$56.34

\$142.77

J. P. GILPIN, Treasurer.

Treasurer's Disbursements from Oct. 14, 1927 to Oct. 13, 1928

Oct. 14, 1927, Normangee Star, printing program----- \$ 4.00

John Swanwick, Clerk ----- 10.00

John Swanwick, for postage ----- 1.04

Rev. Bounds, Shipping Books for Ass'n.----- 1.30

Registration Fees

John Swanwick ----- 1.00

Rev. Bounds ----- 1.00

C. B. Thompson ----- 1.00

Covey Windsor ----- 1.00

J. J. Tatum ----- 1.00

N. C. Cole, by order of Ass'n.----- 10.00

Eagle Printing Co. ----- 25.00

\$56.34

REPORT OF REV. J. J. TATUM

Of the work for the year ending September 1, 1928, to the Central Texas Association of Free Baptists. Sermons preached, 191; revivals held, 1; members received by baptism, given by pastors; members received otherwise, given by pastors; amount of salary, \$1,080; collected on same, \$893.00; funerals conducted, 14; marriages solemnized 2; collected for all purposes, \$3,817; total for all purposes not including salary, \$3,817; calls made, 340; professions in meetings, 59; attended 25 associations, conventions, etc.; letters written, 340; miles traveled, a little more than 10,000; organized two Sunday Schools; made 60 hospital calls; dedicated one Church.

REPORT OF REV. J. H. DOWELL

Of work for the year ending September 1, 1928: sermons preached, 10; Churches pastored, none; marriages solemnized, 4; extra addresses, 5.

REPORT OF REV. C. B. THOMPSON

Of work for the year ending September, 1928, to the Central Texas Association of Free Baptists: sermons preached, 243; churches pastored, 4; names of same, North Zulch, Edge, Kurten, Cross; revivals held, 9; members received by baptism, 15; members received otherwise, 7; amount of salary, Edge \$125, Kurten \$220, Cross \$250, North Zulch \$500—\$1,095; collected on same, \$1,095; funerals conducted, 4; marriages solemnized, 4; collected for foreign missions, \$10; collected for home missions, \$40; collected for education, \$120; collected for other purposes, \$236.50; collected for incidental expenses of the church, \$56.25; total for all purposes not including salary, \$1,750; how many of your churches have S. S., 3; how many of your churches have C. E., 2.

REPORT OF REV. M. L. HOLLIS

Of work for the year ending Sept. 1, 1928, to the Central Texas Association of Free Baptists: Sermons preached, 173; churches pastored, 1; name of same, Bryan; revivals held, 8; members received by baptism, 87 members received otherwise, 34; amount of salary, \$1,800 collected on same, all; marriages solemnized, 1; collected for foreign missions, \$5; collected for home missions, \$115; collected for education, \$69; collected for other purposes, \$100; collected for incidental expenses of the church, \$100; total for all purposes not including salary, \$1,121; evangelism, \$732; Total, \$1,853. I have also given nine other public addresses besides my sermons. Only two of the revival meetings reported were held in Texas, in which we received 23 members, 3 of which were baptised, the balance by letter. This

being my first year in Texas, and being unacquainted, my evangelistic work here has not been satisfactory to me but hope for greater results for the incoming year.

REPORT OF REV. E. J. VAUGHN

Of work for the year ending Sept. 1928, to the Central Texas Association of Free Baptists: Sermons preached, 100; churches pastored, 2; names of same, Evergreen and Long Branch; revivals held, 3; members received by baptism, 25; members received otherwise, 10; amount of salary, \$440; collected on same, \$313; funerals conducted, 1; marriages solemnized, none, collected for home missions, \$52.80; collected for education, \$17.72; collected for other purposes, \$52.84; collected for incidental expenses of the church, \$2.93; total for all purposes not including salary, \$161.90; how many of your churches have S. S., 2; how many of your churches have C. E., none.

MINISTERIAL REPORT OF REV. J. W. HANDY

Sermons preached, 31; marriages solemnized, 2; miles traveled, 600; funerals conducted, 2.

Bryon. Church

