

MINUTES

of the

FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

of the

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION

of

FREE WILL BAPTIST

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of the

FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

of the

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION

FREE WILL BAPTIST

Convening at the

FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

McMinnville, Tennessee

Saturday, August 10, 1968



NEXT SESSION

Saturday August 9, 1969

10:00 A. M.

at the

SMITHVILLE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Smithville, Tennessee



Rev. Carlos Webb, Moderator

Route 5

Sparta, Tennessee

Rev. Allen Presley, Asst. Moderator

P. O. Box 392

Manchester, Tennessee

Rev. Kenneth W. Kirby, Clerk

204 Pace Street

McMinnville, Tennessee

Bro. Phillip Hawkins, Asst. Clerk

Route 5

Smithville, Tennessee

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ASSOCIATION OFFICIALS

MODERATOR Rev. Carlos Webb
Route 5 - Sparta, Tennessee
ASSISTANT MODERATOR Rev. Allen Presley
P. O. Box 392 - Manchester, Tennessee
CLERK Rev. Kenneth W. Kirby
204 Pace Street - McMinnville, Tennessee
ASSISTANT CLERK Bro. Phillip Hawkins
Route 5 - Smithville, Tennessee

COMMITTEES

Chrm.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Carlton Graham
(Smithville)

Linda Presley
(Tullahoma)

Debroah Houk
(Smithville)

TEMPERANCE

Oliver Houk
(Smithville)

Loyd Hale
(Smithville)

Mrs. Chester Kirby
(McMinnville)

HOME FOR CHILDREN

Sephronia Kirby
(McMinnville)

Judy Blaylock
(McMinnville)

Mrs. Carlos Webb
(Smithville)

HOME MISSIONS

Rev. Allen Presley
(Tullahoma)

Hazel Blaylock
(McMinnville)

Josephine Hale
(Smithville)

FINANCES

Phillip Hawkins
(Smithville)

Sandra Kirby
(McMinnville)

Leola Houk
(Smithville)

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Dow Yates
(McMinnville)

Ann Hawkins
(Smithville)

Harace Bratcher
(Smithville)

Appreciation

Chester Kirby
(McMinnville)

Lanis Bratcher
(Smithville)

Horace L. Bratcher
(Smithville)

Obituary

Janice Johnson
(McMinnville)

Sue Simmons
(McMinnville)

Marie Bratcher
(Smithville)

Resolution

Woodrow Bratcher
(Smithville)

Mrs. Dow Yates
(McMinnville)

Melba Graham
(Smithville)

RULES OF DECOURUM

OF THE

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

1. The Association shall be composed of the members chosen from the sister churches of the same faith and order.
2. This Association shall be opened by scripture reading and prayer to the Almighty God.
3. One of the members of the Association shall be elected from the floor to preside who shall be addressed by the name of Brother Moderator and to him every speech shall be directed and he shall not have the liberty of discussing any subject unless the chair is filled by someone else.
4. And we shall have liberty of electing our own clerk and there shall be opened for new churches into the association.
5. No complaint shall be brought into the association against transgressing churches until the aggrieved party complies with the directors given by our Lord in St. Matthew 18:15-16-17.
6. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association unless withdrawn by those who made it.
7. If the minority are at anytime aggrieved by the majority, they are hereby directed to make the same known immediately to the Association and if satisfaction cannot be obtained, it may be necessary in that case to call help from Associations.
8. If at any time the association should deem it necessary to make amendments, it may be done provided two thirds of said annual association be in favor of the same.
9. All business of the Association shall be recorded by the clerk and before the Association close, the same shall be read and corrected if need be.
10. It shall be the duty of the delegates of the different churches who have been elected, to bring up church letters reports in order to the annual Association.
11. It shall be the duty of the annual Association to convene every year and not oftener unless upon a call of the Moderator and Clerk.
12. No church shall be accepted into the fellowship of our Association except all said property be deeded to the trustee's of the said church.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE REPORT

We your Committee on Finance submit the following report. We find _____ was received from our churches and recommend _____ to be given to the Clerk for his services and mailing of Minutes.

Sandra Kirby

Leola Houk

Chairman: Phillip Hawkins

NOTE: Due to the fact that our Central Association was just recently organized, we have no funds as of now. We recommend that a means of finance be discussed at the First Quarterly meeting to provide financial support of the Association.

Phillip Hawkins

Chairman

HOME MISSIONS REPORT

We recommend that our church be urged to support home missions by gifts and love offerings. That much prayer be made concerning the mission program of the National Association, especially the accounts of missionaries in the red. Because the Bible reads as following:

"Go ye therefore and teach all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son and Holy Ghost."

Chairman: Rev. Allen Presley

Josephine Hale

Hazel Blaylock

HOME FOR CHILDREN REPORT

We the committee meet and would like to recommend to help support the Children Home.

Chairman: Sephronia Kirby

Mrs. Carlos Webb

Judy Blaylock

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

We recommend that we use literature from the Free Will Baptist Book store. We also recommend to have a study period for the teachers of our Sunday School classes.

Chairman: Carlon Graham

Deborah Houk

Linda Presley

TEMPERANCE

We your committee on temperance believe alcohol is a dangerous habit forming beverage and extremely harmful to society, detrimental to our morals and is damning to the soul of man. It's nationwide use in America has caused the majority of wrecks on the highways. It's caused many habitual drinkers, whiskey, wine, and beer has no respect for person, age or sex. We should denounce it as deceptive and dangerous. Let us as Christians pray that we may speedily rid our land of this satanic menace. Let us teach our children to stay away from habit forming beverages.

Chairman: Oliver Houk
Gertie L. Kirby
Loyd L. Hale

OBITUARY REPORT

We the obituary committee submit the following report. We find that the enemy of death has not entered our ranks within this year. For this we earnestly thank the Lord.

Thankfully submitted,
Chairman — Mrs. Marie Bratcher
Mrs. Sue Simmons
Mrs. Janice Johnson

APPRECIATION REPORT

We your appreciation committee sincerely express our deepest appreciation:

1. To the Lord for the presence and Leadership of the Holy Spirit in our midst.
2. To the officers, speakers and musicians for their helpful assistance of this sitting.
3. To the cooks and their helpers for the wonderful meal well prepared which was enjoyed by all present.
4. To the membership of the McMinnville First Church for the hospitality shown in hosting this sitting.
5. We give all the above mentioned a standing vote of appreciation.

Thankful Submitted,
Chairman — Chester Kirby
Lanis Bratcher
Horace Lee Bratche.

REPORT OF RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

1. Seeing the need of interest in our Sunday School Department: Be it resolved that we urge our pastors and superintendents with the responsibility of helping to inform their people and themselves as to the importance of our Sunday School Department.
2. Due to the fact of our Association being newly organized and small: Be it resolved that each church accept their responsibility to support the Associational spiritually, morally and financially.

Prayerfully submitted.

Chairman — Melba J. Graham
Woodrow W. Bratcher
Mrs. Don Yates

ASSOCIATIONAL PROCEEDINGS

The first annual meeting of the CENTRAL ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS convening with the Free Will Baptist Church of McMinnville, Tennessee on August 10, 1968, opened at 9:45 A. M. with singing "When the roll is called up yonder" and "I dreamed I searched Heaven for you" led by Bro. Phillip Hawkins with Mrs. Sandra Kirby at the piano. The Moderator gave the Scripture reading of Psalm 133. A wonderful time was enjoyed by all as we gathered around the altar to seek God's help and the leadership of the spirit. The prayer was let by Rev. John L. Barnes.

MODERATOR'S OPENING MESSAGE

In his opening address to the assembly, the Moderator emphasized the problem with most people and organizations was the fact that we only look at our own power and not beyond. Also that we should place ourselves not first, or second, but last. He mentioned putting God in front and trust him to show us his will. He further stated that we should ask God to show us an open American history as well as the Scripture for a basis of these remarks. These were certainly words of wisdom which are good for each of us in this day.

The moderator further explained that the purpose for this organization was not because of any malice, but rather for the purpose of closer fellowship of the sister churches.

ORGANIZATION

Next in order was the organization of the Association for the next year.

Rev. Carlos Webb was nominated for moderator. No other nominations being made, a motion was made that all nominations cease and we elect Bro. Webb by acclamation. Motion carried.

Rev. Allen Presley was nominated for assistant moderator. No other nominations being made, motion was made that all nominations cease and we elect Bro. Presley by acclamation. Motion carried.

Rev. Kenneth W. Kirby was nominated for clerk. No other nominations being made, motion was made that all nominations cease and we elect Bro. Kirby by acclamation. Motion carried.

Bro. Phillip Hawkins was nominated for assistant clerk. No other nominations being made, motion was made that all nominations cease and we elect Bro. Hawkins by acclamation. Motion carried.

CHURCH ENROLLMENT

Due to the fact that we are a new association, we only have two churches at present. Representation from the churches were as follows:

McMINNVILLE FIRST: Mrs. Chester Kirby, Mrs. Kenneth W. Kirby, Miss Judy Blaylock, Mrs. Allen Presley.

SMITHVILLE FIRST: Loyd Hale, Debroah Houk, Carlon Graham, Mrs. Carlos Webb.

VISITING MINISTERS RECOGNIZED

Those present were, Rev. Don Sexton from the Union Association. Rev. John L. Barnes from the western division of the Stone Association. Also, Rev. Ricky Presley, 18, year old brother of Rev. Allen Presley. Bro Ricky has just announced his calling to the ministry.

Motion was made and carried that we seat these brethren as advisory council in any business matters that might be transacted in this meeting.

The rules of decorum read by the assistant clerk. After which time was given for question or discussion on these rules. They were adopted unanimously as the governing rules of this association.

Opportunity was given to new churches to unite with the association. There were none.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED

The moderator proceeded to appoint the following committees to serve during this session: Sunday School, Temperance, Home For Children, Home Missions, Finance, Christian Education, Resolution, Appreciation and Obituary. (Members of the committees shown on page 3)

No further business to come before the morning session, a motion was made that we adjourn for the morning message.

MORNING WORSHIP HOUR

The morning worship service was opened with singing "Tell it to Jesus" alone, "I'll be listening" and "Higher Ground, led by Bro. Phillip Hawkins with Mrs. Sandra Kirby at the piano. Special singing by a group from the Smithville church was enjoyed by all.

The moderator then introduced Rev. Don Sexton pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Chattanooga Tennessee as speaker of the hour. Bro. Sexton read from Acts 11:19-30 and Acts 13:1-30 and Acts 13:1-5. He spoke on the thought of "A New Testament Church". He emphasized the fact that the first church went out on their own and witnessed to people about their soul. He assured us that this is the only way the church can grow to the scripture. He further mentioned many places where we have submitted false means for the Bible way and that God will hold somebody responsible.

This was a thoroughly inspiring, biblical and spirit filled message and was enjoyed by all. A time of fellowship among the brethren was enjoyed following the message.

Following announcements by the host pastor, prayer of dismissal of the morning service was offered by Rev. Allen Presley.

The prayer of blessing on the food was prayed by Rev. Sexton, after which the lunch was enjoyed.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The business session resumed at 1:15 P. M. with singing "How beautiful Heaven must be" led by bro. Phillip Hawkins with Mrs. Linda Presley at the piano.

The moderator expressed sincere thanks to the ladies who provided the food. Also, added appreciation to Rev. Sexton for the message.

MINISTER'S CONFERENCE

Motion was made and seconded that the ministers' conference meet two weeks prior to our quarterly meetings. Motion carried. First ministers' conference will be September 21, 1968.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Reports from committees on Sunday School, Home Missions and Childrens Home were received and adopted. Motion made, seconded and carried that other reports be presented to the clerk and received and placed in the minutes as such.

Motion was made and seconded that each church share equal expense in the minutes. Motion carried.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

An offering of \$9.17 was received to meet the expenses of the association. Also donations of \$7.50 totaling \$16.67.

Rev. Sexton also informed us on some advantages of uniting the state association and recommended that the Central Association do so.

After much discussion and explanation on the state association, the motion was made and seconded that we do unite with the state. It was unanimous that we do so at the next session meeting November 11-12-13, 1968 at Church Hill, Tennessee. Delegates to the state association were Rev. Kenneth W. Kirby, Rev. Carlos Webb and Rev. Allen Presley.

CONCLUSION AND NEXT YEAR LOCATION

The business session being concluded, motion was made and seconded that we adjourn. Motion carried.

We were adjourned until Saturday before the second Sunday in August 1969 (August 9) when we will convene with the First Free Will Baptist Church of Smithville, Tennessee.

Respectfully Submitted:

Rev. Carlos Webb, Moderator

Rev. Kenneth W. Kirby, Clerk

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