

MINUTES

OF THE

Eighth Annual Session

OF THE

**Central Western Missouri and South-
eastern Kansas Association**

OF

FREEWILL BAPTISTS

**CONVENED WITH FAIR VIEW CHURCH
NEAR CHETOPA, KANSAS
AUGUST 16-20, 1916**

**THE NEXT SESSION WILL CONVENE WITH
VERDELLA CHURCH NEAR LIBERAL
AND HANNON, MO.
SEPT. 5-9, 1917**

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Central Western Missouri and South-
eastern Kansas Association
OF
FREEWILL BAPTISTS

OFFICERS

T. C. Ferguson, Moderator,	Stockton, Mo.
Myrtle Ferguson, Asst. Moderator	Stockton, Mo.
B. F. Brown, Clerk and Treas.,	Hannon, Mo.
J. E. Sims, Asst. Clerk,	R 5, Chetopa, Kans.

EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION BOARD

J. J. McCarty,	Faulkner, Kans.
B. F. Brown,	Hannon, Mo.
T. C. Ferguson,	Stockton, Mo.
L. C. Wade,	Hannon, Mo.
O. T. Fast,	R 3, Liberal, Mo.

MINUTES

OF

The Eighth Annual Session of the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Freewill Baptists, convened with Fair View church near Chetopa, Kansas, August 16-20, 1916.

WEDNESDAY EVENING SESSION

In accordance with our by-laws the meeting was called to order by the permanent clerk, After a song by congregation, the clerk read as a scripture lesson I John 3 : 11-24 and offered prayer.

There being standing members present from three or more churches and W. H. Potts, moderator at last session of Association, being absent, Rev. T. C. Ferguson was chosen moderator pro tem till delegates should be seated and a moderator elected.

A pulpit or program committee consisting of Mrs. A. F. Roush, Minnie Potts, Chas. Miller and J. A. Hutchinson was appointed by moderator.

Pulpit committee reported that the pulpit would be occupied at 11 o'clock, Thursday, by Thos. L. York and J. B. Sparks.

Motion carried to adjourn till 9 a. m., Thursday.

Divine services for the evening conducted by J. E. Bayless and J. R. Warren. Subject: Watch. From Mark 13 : 37.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

Session opened with song followed by scripture lesson from Psalm 24 by moderator and prayer by J. A. Hutchinson

Minutes of Wednesday evening session read and approved.

Church letters from Hannon, Verdella, Bluff, Hickory Grove, Stockton, Wagoner, Sylvandale, Fair View, Neola and Pleasant Valley were read and upon motion were received and representatives seated. A verbal report was received from Union Valley, and representatives seated.

Names of ministers, deacons and delegates, representatives of the various churches, in order as given above.

Name	Church	P. O. Address
B. F. Brown	Hannon	Hannon, Mo.
O. G. Bicknell	Hannon	Hannon, Mo.
Ina Bicknell	Hannon	Hannon, Mo.
Anna Reed	Hannon	Hannon, Mo.
T. C. Ferguson	Wagoner	Stockton, Mo.
Myrtle Ferguson	Wagoner	Stockton, Mo.
Chas. Miller	Wagoner	Wagoner, Mo.
Minnie Potts	Wagoner	Wagoner, Mo.
Vernie Douglas	Wagoner	Wagoner, Mo.
J. B. Sparks	Fair View	Chanute, Ks.
Mrs. J. B. Sparks	Fair View	Chanute, Ks.
J. R. Warren	Fair View	Chanute, Ks.
C. W. Mayfield	Fair View	R 5, Chetopa, Ks.
C. C. Pitts	Fair View	R 5, Chetopa, Ks.
W. A. Needham	Fair View	R 2, Chetopa, Ks.
John James	Fair View	R 5, Chetopa, Ks.
J. J. McCarty	Fair View	R 5, Chetopa, Ks.

J. E. Sims	Fair View	R 5, Chetopa, Ks.
Isaac Shipley	Fair View	R 5, Chetopa, Ks.
Wm. Holly	Fair View	R 5, Chetopa, Ks.
Sarah Roush	Pleasant Valley	Rose Ks.
J. A. Hutchinson	Bluff	R 1, Irwin, Mo.
T. L. York	Union Valley	Chanute, Ks.
J. T. Slaight	Union Valley	Dewey, Okla.
O. T. Fast	Verdella	R 3, Liberal, Mo.
Nellie Fast	Verdella	R 3, Liberal, Mo.
Mary Coles	Verdella	R 3, Liberal, Mo.
Edith Mayfield	Verdella	R 3, Liberal, Mo.

All privileges of the floor except voting were extended to all visiting brethren.

Officers of the Association for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

Moderator, T. C. Ferguson.

Assistant Moderator, Myrtle Ferguson.

Assistant Clerk, J. E. Sims.

Member of Home Mission Board for 2 years,
L. C. Wade.

Member of Home Mission Board for 5 years,
J. J. McCarty.

Moderator appointed as committee on publication and education: C. C. Pitts, J. R. Warren and Thomas L. York.

Moderator appointed as ordaining and licensing council, all ordained ministers and ordained deacons present.

Letter from Shiloh church of Baxter Springs, Kans., requesting this Association to ordain C. C. Pitts, was read by clerk and on motion same was referred to present ordaining and licensing council.

Motion carried to construe "year" in article 9

of by-laws to mean from one Association to the next.

The following by-laws were adopted:

By-law, No. 10. All committees shall be appointed by the moderator or by the assistant moderator when not otherwise provided for by the Association.

By-law, No. 11. Whenever practicable, all business of importance coming before the local churches shall be decided by secret ballot, a majority vote to decide.

By-law, No. 12. It shall be the duty of all the churches in this Association to send in to the clerk and treasurer, each year, the sum of two dollars to help pay for printing the minutes, clerk hire and other expenses of the Association.

By-law, No. 13. It shall be the duty of the preachers and the churches of this Association to try to work in harmony with the Home Mission Board of this Association.

A resolution was adopted making it the duty of next session of this Association to change article 3 of the constitution so as to provide for the office of assistant moderator and for that of assistant clerk.

Pulpit committee reported that B. F. Brown and Myrtle Ferguson would occupy the pulpit Thursday evening.

Motion carried to adjourn to meet at 2:30 p. m.
Benediction by moderator.

Divine services at 11 o'clock, conducted by Thos. L. York and J. B. Sparks. Subject: The Lord is My Shepherd. The preaching service was

followed by a testimony meeting, in which nearly all participated. It was a spiritual feast.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Praise by congregation.

Scripture lesson from John 15, by moderator.
Prayer by Sister Myrtle Ferguson.

Minutes of Thursday morning session read and approved.

Report of Rev. T. C. Ferguson.—I, your brother in Christ, beg to make the following report of my past year's work: I have been constantly in the work for the salvation of lost souls. I have been preaching one Sunday in each month for the Verdella church and have been doing evangelistic work the rest of the time. I have spent most of my time the past year among our churches in Wright county, Missouri. While I was there I organized three churches. One church that I organized was in the town of Hartville, the county seat of Wright county. Several of the business people of the town went into the new church.

I have held no revival meetings with the churches of this Association the past year, but have visited all of them and have preached some for all excepting two churches.

I have baptized and taken in several members into the churches of this Association and, altogether during the year, I have taken into Freewill Baptist churches more than 250 members, nearly all of which I baptized.

I have secured during the year 40 subscriptions for the New Morning Star, our beloved

church paper.

I still live at Stockton. My wife has been with me but very little the past year on account of sickness and other difficulties that got in the way.

Your brother in Christ,

T. C. Ferguson.

Report of Rev. C. C. Pitts.—I, your brother in Christ, beg to make the following report: Since I met with you at Stockton, a year ago, I have been quite active in the Lord's work. I have had the pastoral care of Shiloh church since last October and have done the best I could. I have filled appointments at Wagoner, Macedonia and my home church. Last winter I helped in revival meetings and this summer have been preaching in the mining district, having held one revival there. I feel that the hand of the Lord has been with me in all my work. I aim to do the best I can, God being my helper.

C. C. Pitts.

Report of Chas. W. Mayfield.—I haven't done very much preaching the past year. I have one regular appointment at the Solid South school house. There is no church there, both churches which were there having gone down. I earnestly ask the prayers of God's children for myself and the people there.

My determination is to go on and do all I can for my Lord and Master. I have preached some for my home church at Fair View. I am in the field to do all I can for the salvation of men and women and am willing to go wherever my Master calls.

Wishing one and all a great spiritual uplift

and a closer walk with God, I am

Yours for Christ,

C. W. Mayfield.

Report of Rev. W. A. Neeham.—I beg to make the following report: I have preached 20 sermons and conducted 1 funeral service since the last session of the Association.

W. A. Needham.

Report of Rev. Myrtle Ferguson.—My past year's work has not been as active and prosperous as in past years. I have not been engaged in revival work very much. I was in one meeting at Monett, Barry Co., Mo., and assisted Mr. Ferguson some last winter in Wright Co., Mo.; and on account of sickness was not able to preach very much.

I have pastored one church, the Macedonia church, in Barry Co., Mo., and have supplied some. I don't know how many sermons I have preached nor the number of professions resulting, nor do I know how many miles I have traveled. I have conducted two funerals.

I hope to do more in the future.

Myrtle Ferguson.

Report of the Chairman of the Home Mission Board.—The Home Mission Board has, during the past year, been doing all it could to help the churches within the bounds of this Association. I have visited nearly all the churches and done what I could to help them and revive them and get pastors for the churches that were pastorless and the board has done what it could to get evan-

gelists to hold revival meetings with our churches. As far as I know the Association has made a gain the past year of about 40 members.

T. C. Ferguson.

Motion carried instructing the treasurer to pay \$5.00 to the clerk for his past year's services.

Delegates were elected to the state Association as follows:

Delegate	Church
Mrs. Ed Washburn	Sylvandale
Mary Wade	Hannon
Minnie Potts	Wagoner
Mrs. A. Willsie	Stockton
Glen McCarty	Fair View
J. A. Hutchinson	Bluff
Frank Parsons	Pleasant Valley
Ida Nowlin	Hickory Grove
Fred Bowers	Union Valley
Bessie Paige	Verdella
Geo. Manis	Neola
Alma Martin	Neola
W. C. Loche	ElDorado Spgs.
Chas. Miller	Wagoner
Mollie Taylor	Hickory Grove
Gracie Mayfield	Fair View

Treasurer's report for the past year showing collections to the amount of \$23.00 and disbursements amounting to \$23.35 was read and upon motion was received.

In accordance with requests duly made, the ordaining and licensing council examined the credentials of Rev. J. B. Sparks and wife. J. R. Warren was examined for preacher's first license

and C. C. Pitts, C. W. Mayfield, W. A. Needham and B. F. Brown were examined for extension of license.

Council to report Friday morning.

W. J. Mayfield, Mrs. A. F. Roush, Minnie Potts, Chas. Miller and John James were appointed committee on ministerial standing.

Motion carried to adjourn till 9 a. m., Friday.

Benediction by T. C. Ferguson.

THURSDAY EVENING SESSION

Pulpit occupied by B. F. Brown and Myrtle Ferguson. Scripture lesson, Romans 5 : 1-11. Text, Romans 5 : 5.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Song by congregation; scripture lesson from Psalm 91 by moderator. Prayer by T. J. Gant.

Minutes of Thursday afternoon session read and approved.

Report of Publication and Educational Committee.—We, your committee on publication and education, submit the following report: We recommend that all our people subscribe for the New Morning Star published at Weatherford, Texas. It is issued twice a month and costs 65 cents a year. We also recommend the Freewill Baptist published at Ayden, N. C., a weekly paper costing \$1.00 a year. We also recommend that wherever practicable our Sunday schools use the Freewill Baptist Sunday School literature published at Ayden, N. C. Also, we endorse the Freewill Baptist Seminary and school at Ayden, N. C.

We also recommend that this Association endorse Miss Esterbrook as our missionary and that we send our foreign mission money to her through our foreign mission secretary, Mrs. H. McAdams, of Sulton, Nebr. We also recommend that all our preachers and christian workers try to take the correspondence course conducted by Rev. J. H. Wolfe of Pawnee City, Nebr., and Rev. G. S. Latimer of Haddam, Kansas.

C. C. Pitts	} Committee
Thos. L. York	
J. R. Warren	

Report of the ordaining and licensing council.— We beg to submit the following report: By unanimous vote it was agreed that preacher's license for one year be granted to J. R. Warren and that preacher's license be extended to B. F. Brown, C. C. Pitts, C. W. Mayfield and W. A. Needham for one year.

After examining the credentials of Rev. J. B. Sparks and Rev. Rosa Sparks of Chanute, Kansas, and finding them satisfactory by a unanimous vote recommend that they be received as ordained ministers in good standing in this Association. We further recommend that a list of the names of the ordained and licensed ministers of this Association be placed in the minutes in column form.

Myrtle Ferguson, Sec'y.

Report of the committee on ministerial standing.— We, your committee on the standing of the ministers of this Association, beg to make the following report: We recommend that T. C. Ferguson, Myrtle Ferguson, J. B. Sparks, Rosa

Sparks, Thos. L. York and J. T. Slaight be granted annual certificates of standing as ordained ministers and that B. F. Brown, W. A. Needham, J. R. Warren, C. C. Pitts and C. W. Mayfield be granted annual certificates of standing as licensed preachers in our Association.

We further recommend that the following ministers are entitled to have their names appear on the minutes.

Name	P. O. Address
J. T. Williams	R 2, Greenfield, Mo.
T. C. Ferguson	Stockton, Mo.
Myrtle Ferguson	Stockton, Mo.
E. F. Crabtree	Hannon, Mo.
W. H. Holman	
D. M. Carlock	Greenfield, Mo.
H. Seward	Neola, Mo.
J. T. Slaight	Dewey, Okla.
Thos. L. York	217 W. 6th st., Chanute, Ks.
J. B. Sparks	Chanute, Ks.
Rosa Sparks	Chanute, Ks.
J. R. Warren	Chanute, Ks.
B. F. Brown	Hannon, Mo.
W. A. Needham	R 2, Chetopa, Ks.
C. C. Pitts	R 5, Chetopa, Ks.
C. W. Mayfield	R 5, Chetopa, Ks.

We further recommend that churches which have not reported to the Association this year have their last report carried over in this year's minutes.

W. J. Mayfield, Chairman.

By a majority vote of the conference it was

decided to hold the next session of the Association at Verdella church, to convene on Wednesday evening before the second Sunday in September, 1917.

Rev. Thos. L. York was chosen to preach the introductory sermon at next session of the Association and Sister Myrtle Ferguson was chosen alternate.

Motion carried to adjourn till 2:30 p. m.

Benediction by B. F. Brown.

Divine services at 11 o'clock conducted by Sister J. B. Sparks and T. C. Ferguson. Text. Gal. 6 : 7.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Praise by congregation. Scripture lesson, Isaiah 12 by moderator. Prayer by Rev. Thomas.

Minutes morning session read and approved.

Program committee made complete report which was received and committee discharged.

Pulpit to be filled as follows:

Friday evening W. A. Needham and T. J. Gant.

Saturday at 11 o'clock, C. W. Mayfield and J. T. Slaight.

Saturday evening, T. E. Needham and Rev. Thomas.

Sunday at 11, W. A. Needham.

Sunday evening, H. E. Rolan.

Motion carried to leave the matter of printing the minutes in the hands of the clerk.

Report of Rev. J. B. Sparks.—I beg to submit the following report: I held a two weeks' meeting last fall in Wright county, Mo., where 10 were converted. I have preached about 35 ser-

mons during the past year in Chanute. I have conducted 3 funerals and have visited the sick and prayed with them and have done what I could. I am determined to do more for the Lord this year than I did last year.

May the grace of God abide with you all, both now and evermore.

Yours in Christ,

J. B. Sparks.

Report of Mrs. J. B. Sparks.—I beg to submit the following report: I have helped in 3 revivals the past year and have seen quite a number converted. I have been visiting the sick and administering to the needy and have conducted a Sunday School for the past 3 months. I have been doing all I could for the Lord, but I hope to do more this year than I did last year for the salvation of lost souls.

Your sister in Christ,

Mrs. J. B. Sparks.

The subject of Home Missions was discussed by Myrtle Ferguson. She said, "Three churches, Hannon, Wagoner and Pleasant Valley have missionary societies. It is hard to tell just how much good these societies are doing but there is no doubt about them doing much good."

Motion carried that Home Mission Board recommend that every church in this Association organize a Women's Home Missionary Society.

Motion carried giving the women time on the floor at next session of the Association to make a report of their work.

Motion carried to accept the report of the

committee on ministerial standing and to discharge the committee.

Motion carried to adjourn till 9:30 a. m., Saturday.

Benediction by moderator.

Friday evening service conducted by W. A. Needham and T. J. Gant. Text, Acts 16 : 30.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Praise by congregation. Scripture lesson from Romans 8, by moderator. Prayer by moderator.

Minutes of Friday afternoon session read and approved.

On request the roll was called and all delegates, deacons and ministers in attendance and belonging to this Association were found to be enrolled.

A collection to help out in the expense of the Association was taken, amounting to \$3.10.

Rev. T. C. Ferguson and wife were chosen Association evangelists to serve without salary, but are to have collections taken in the field.

Motion carried to adjourn till 2:30 p. m.

Benediction by T. C. Ferguson.

Divine services at 11 o'clock conducted by C. W. Mayfield and J. T. Slaight.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Praise by congregation.

Prayer by T. C. Ferguson.

Minutes of morning session read and approved.

Motion carried to adjourn to meet Wednesday night before the second Sunday in September, 1917,

at Verdella church in Barton county, Missouri.

Benediction by moderator.

Following the adjournment of the Association the church covenant was read and all present entered heartily into a covenant meeting. It was a gracious meeting.

SATURDAY EVENING

Pulpit occupied by T. E. Needham and Rev. Thomas.

SUNDAY MORNING

Pulpit occupied by W. A. Needham, it being his regular appointment.

SUNDAY EVENING

Divine services conducted by H. E. Rolan.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by his grace to love and obey him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work. We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bond of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society,

constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and his will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sabbath schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CONSTITUTION

ART. 1. This body shall be known as the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Freewill Baptists, and shall be composed of such consistent well regulated Freewill Baptist churches as shall, from time to time, unite with the body and agree to this constitution.

ART. 2. The acting members of this Association shall be such as are chosen by the several churches of which this Association is composed. Each church being entitled to one delegate and each church having twenty-five members two delegates, and one delegate for each additional twenty-five members or major part thereof, and all ordained deacons, ordained ministers and licensed ministers of the several churches of the Association.

ART. 3. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator who shall be elected at each session and shall hold office until his successor is elected, a Clerk and a Treasurer, who shall be

standing officers of the Association.

ART. 4. SEC. 1. This Association shall elect a board of five members, two of which shall be preachers. This board shall be called the Home Mission and Executive Board of the Association. One member of the board shall be elected to hold office for one year, one for 2 years, one for 3 years, one for 4 years and one for 5 years. After the first election one member shall be elected each year and each shall hold office for 5 years or till his successor is elected. This board shall have charge of the work of the Association when it is not in session.

SEC. 2 The Home Mission and Executive Board of this Association shall be the trustees of the Association and shall have charge of its property.

ART. 5. SEC. 1. This Association shall meet annually at such a time and place as shall meet with the pleasure of the Association and it shall be the duty of all churches of which it is composed to represent themselves by letters and delegates.

SEC. 2. It shall be the duty of all ministers of this Association to attend each session or report by letter. And all ministers reporting by letter or in person shall be entitled to a certificate of ministerial standing from the Association.

ART. 6 This constitution may be altered or amended by vote of any session of the Association, notice of such intended change having been given in writing at least three months before such change shall be voted upon, to the Executive Board.

BY-LAWS

1. Each session of this Association shall be called to order by the clerk when present, and in his absence by the member having seniority of years.

2. Each session of this Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

3. Delegates from three (3) or more churches shall constitute a quorum to transact business for the Association but any less number may adjourn from time to time.

4. A member wishing to speak in conference shall arise and address the moderator, and be recognized by same, and shall not be allowed to speak longer than five minutes nor more than twice on any subject without the consent of the conference.

5. New churches may be admitted to this Association by majority vote of conference.

6. The yeas and nays may be taken on any question by the request of one-fourth of the members present.

7. These by-laws may be amended at any session of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

8. A committee of five lay members, delegates present at the Association, shall be elected to look into the standing of the ministry, and make their report to the Association before it adjourns for approval or rejection.

9. No one shall be ordained to the gospel ministry in this Association till they have carried preacher's license for at least one year; and must have received a call to pastor some church.

The call for ordination must come from the church that has call him or her to pastor the church or from the church in which he or she holds membership.

10. All committees shall be appointed by the moderator or by the assistant moderator when not otherwise provided for by the Association.

11. Whenever practicable, all business of importance coming before the local churches shall be decided by secret ballot, a majority vote to decide.

12. It shall be the duty of all the churches in this Association to send in to the clerk and treasurer, each year, the sum of two dollars to help pay for printing the minutes, clerk hire and other expenses of the Association.

13. It shall be the duty of the preachers and the churches of this Association to try to work in harmony with the Home Mission Board of this Association.

Received of B. F. Brown \$16.90 for printing minutes and 200 certificates of ministerial standing.

J. P. MOORE.

STATISTICAL TABLE

Showing Churches of Association, Church Clerks with the Address of Each, Amount Contributed by Each Church for Association Expenses, Membership, Increase and Decrease of Membership.

Churches	Clerks	Address	Contribution	Membership	Increase	Decrease
Wagoner.....	Alice Brown.....	Wagoner, Mo.....	\$2 00	110		
Neola.....	Alma Martin.....	Neola, Mo.....	2 00	78		
Bluff.....	J. H. Long.....	Irwin, Mo., R 1.....	2 00	76	7	
Sylvandale.....	W. P. Hopkins.....	Moundville, Mo.....	1 55	27	2	
Fair View.....	J. E. Sims.....	Chetopa, Kans., R 5.....	2 00	49		
Stockton.....	J. D. Bough.....	Stockton, Mo.....	2 00	29		
Verdella.....	Amy Thomas.....	Liberal, Mo., R 3.....	2 00	45		
ElDorado Springs.....	W. C. Loche.....	ElDorado Springs, Mo.....		7		
Pleasant Valley.....	F. L. Parsons.....	Rose, Kans.....	2 00	40		13
Union Valley.....	Mrs. Fred Bowers.....	Chanute, Kans.....	2 00	38		
Hannon.....	Mary Wade.....	Arcadia, Kans., R 3.....	2 00	143	3	
Hickory Grove.....	J. W. Moul.....	Freeman, Mo., R 2.....	2 00	110	10	

T. C. FERGUSON, Moderator

B. F. BROWN, Clerk