

MINUTES

OF THE

Seventeenth Annual Session

OF THE

CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI

AND

SOUTHEASTERN KANSAS

ASSOCIATION

OF

Free Will Baptists

Held with Hannon Church, at Hannon, Missouri,
August 26-30, 1925.



The next Session will be held with our Fair View Church,
near Chetopa and Faulkner, Kansas, beginning
on Wednesday night before the fourth
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OFFICERS

O. T. Fast, Moderator,	Rt 3, Liberal, Mo.
Ed. Washburn, Ass't Moderator,	Moundville, Mo.
W. H. York, Clerk-Treas.,	Hannon, Mo.
Lee Hammonds, Ass't Clerk,	Rt 2, Freeman, Mo.

EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION BOARD

W. H. York,	Hannon, Mo.
T. C. Ferguson,	Springfield, Mo.
L. C. Wade,	Rt 2, Bronaugh, Mo.
Ed. Washburn,	Moundville, Mo.
O. T. Fast,	Rt 3, Liberal, Mo.

PROCEEDINGS

The Central Western Mo. and Southeastern Kans. Association of Free Will Baptists met in its Seventeenth Session with the Hannon church, Hannon, Mo., at 8 o'clock Wednesday evening, August 26th, 1925.

Conference was called together by the clerk B. F. Brown. Scripture Lesson Acts 4:23-31, prayer by the Clerk.

A quorum was declared present and both the Moderator and Assistant being absent and according to our rule, the eldest minister present, W. H. McGovern, was called to the chair.

The pastor and deacons of the Hannon church were appointed to serve as temporary Program Committee.

Eld. W. H. York was to preach the introductory sermon, but gave way to the Evangelist in charge, Eld. M. B. Clift, who was conducting a revival meeting at that time. The Scripture Lesson being read from Luke 12. Text Isa. 5:4. A splendid message followed and was rewarded with one convert.

Adjourned till 9 a. m. Thursday.

THURSDAY MORNING

Praise by congregation. Scripture lesson Gal. 6, prayer by Moderator, W. H. McGovern. Minutes of Wednesday night read and approved.

Letters and verbal reports were submitted from Verdella, Hannon, Hickory Grove, Fairview, Neola, Union Valley Pleasant Valley, Wagoner, Independence, Stockton, and Eldorado Springs. All reports were accepted and delegates seated.

Conditions at Eldorado Springs were discussed and upon motion the matter was deferred till later.

As Union Valley and Pleasant Valley churches have not reported for several sessions, a motion was sustained to seat the delegates and to have the letter read in the afternoon session.

Election of Officers— O. T. Fast Moderator, Ed Wash-

burn Assistant Moderator, W. H. York Clerk, Lee Hammonds Assistant Clerk.

Visiting Brethren were given all the privileges of the floor except making and seconding motions or voting.

The letter from Eldorado Springs was read and discussed and upon motion was tabled till later.

Ed. Washburn, Anna Reed, and J. W. Moul were appointed as committee on committees by Moderator.

Adjourned till 2 o'clock p. m., prayer by Bro. Ritchie.

Eleven o'clock preaching services by Bro. W. H. McGovern who delivered a splendid message from Rev. 6, text Romans 6:9.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

Song by congregation. Lesson, Psalm I by Moderator, prayer by Bro. Posey. Minutes read and approved. A quorum being present, body proceeded to transact business.

Committee on Committees made report:— Business— L. C. Wade, John Hollandsworth, and Chas. Shipley.

Education— Nellie Fast, Mrs. S. C. Douglas, Ed Wade.

Obituary— Harry Taylor, John Thomas, Ida Fast, W. P. Hopkins, and I. N. Grimsley.

Ordaining Council— Elders McGovern, T. L. York, W. H. York, B. F. Brown, and Prior L. Price.

Temprance Committee— Chas. Shipley, Nellie Fast, and Grover Lewis.

Ministerial Standing Committee— Bros. Ed Wade, Loton Thomas, Sam Mayfield, and L. C. Wade.

Program Committee— Grover Lewis, Sam Mayfield, Earl Philips, and Nellie Fast.

The Hickory Grove church letter, not being in the hands of the Clerk at the morning session, was read and approved at this time.

Neola and Hannon church letters were read and approved.

Eldorado Springs letter was read and approved.

A unanimous vote of thanks and heart felt appreciation was given to Bro. B. F. Brown for his long untiring service as Clerk of the Association.

The Executive Board made report to the conference

Reports from the following ministers were received:-
 T. C. Ferguson, W. H. York, W. H. McGovern, B. F. Brown,
 T. L. York, I. N. Grimsley, and W. M. C. Bybee.

Treasurer B. F. Brown made report:- report accepted.

Election of delegates to State Association:- Eldorado
 Springs, Frank Shaw; Verdella, Nellie and Ida Fast; Wagoner
 Will Marshall, Minnie Potts; Independence, Mr. and Mrs.
 Frank Ruth; Sylvandale, Mrs. Douglas and Irene Duncan;
 Hannon, Frankie and Mary Wade; Hickory Grove, Jasper
 Terry and Lloyd Warren; Neola, Mrs. Purdy Manis; Fair-
 view, Marjorie Shipley.

Report of Pulpit Committee:- J. A. Posey and Chas.
 Mayfield to preach Thursday evening; I. N. Grimsley and
 Frank Shaw to preach Friday at 11 a. m.

Motion carried to adjourn till 9 a. m. Friday. Bene-
 diction L. C. Wade.

Preaching services by J. A. Posey and Chas. Mayfield
 Lesson, St John 9, text John 9:22.

FRIDAY MORNING

Called together at 9 a. m. by Moderator. Song by con-
 gregation. Scripture lesson II Cor. 13 by Moderator, prayer
 by Moderator. Song by congregation. A quorum being
 present the body convened for business. Minutes read and
 approved.

Motion carried to grant the delegates to the State Asso-
 ciation the power of substitution, and such substitution to
 be made in writing.

Motion carried to amend the constitution in article 2
 section 2.

Report of Committee on Education read and approved.

Report of Committee on Obituary read and approved.

Motion carried that the next session of this Association
 be held with our Fairview church, near Chetopa and
 Faulkner, On Wednesday evening before the 4th Sunday in
 August, 1926.

Motion carried to grant the right to our Moderator, O.
 T. Fast, of deciding upon who may preach the Introductory
 Sermon next year.

Adjourning prayer by Bro Ed Washburn

Divine Services conducted at 11 a. m. by Bros I N. Grimsley and Frank Shaw who delivered us a splendid message from 1 John 3, text 1 John 3:2. Prayer by Bro John Hollandsworth.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Called to order at 1 p. m. Song by congregation. Lesson Isa. 55, prayer by Bro. McGovern. Minutes read and approved.

The pastor of the Fairview church was appointed to preach the Introductory sermon at that place next session.

Report of Temperance Committee received.

Motion made that the Tabernacle be turned over to Bro and Sister Sutton.

Report of Ministerial Committee read and accepted.

Motion carried to accept Bro Wyrick's credentials

Bros. McGovern and T. C. Ferguson were elected as our Association Evangelists.

Report of Resolution Committee accepted.

Motion carried that the Clerk write a letter of sympathy to Bro. Whistance.

Motion carried to adjourn till our next session in 1926. Benediction by Ed Washburn.

FRIDAY NIGHT

Divine Service by B. F. Brown. Song by congregation. Lesson 1 Cor. 10:1-15. Prayer by Bro. McGovern.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLUTIONS

Resolutions— Be it resolved, that we extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to the members of the Free Will Baptist church and the citizens of Hannon church, for the kindness and hospitality shown to all delegates and visitors during our stay among them, and for the Christian spirit shown among the people.

Be it resolved, that we give our Moderator a vote of thanks for his wise and impartial rulings.

W. H. McGovern.

Ida B. Fast.

Mrs S. C. Douglas.

EDUCATION

Education— We, your Committee on Education and Publication, beg to report as follows:-

Be it resolved, that we urge all our churches and pastors to do their best, or at least make an attempt, to secure students and money for our College at Tecumseh, Okla. Also secure subscriptions for the church paper, The New Morning Star, and impress on our members to pay the \$1.00 annual assessment for the College as requested.

We further recommend that our preachers and Christian workers use their talents in specializing on Sunday School work and good literature to better qualify themselves for all Christian work.

Mrs. Nellie Fast.

Mrs. S. C. Douglas.

Mr. G. E. Wade.

OBITUARY

Be it resolved, that we extend our heart felt sympathy and condolence to the bereaved families of those who have had to yield to the tender hand of the loving Heavenly Father. We report the following deaths in our list of members for the past year.

List of Deaths:- Hannon, John Reihart; Hickory Grove, Ernest Parish, Jessie Anderson, Ollie Eugene Holandsworth; Neola, Eld. Hiram Seward, Neva Daniels.

Harry Taylor, Chairman.

TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, submit the following:- May we as a body stand squarely on the 18th amendment for a bone dry law continually, and use our influence to discourage the use of tobacco in any form. Also, all

harmful drugs and narcotics in our ministry and church membership.

Mrs. Nellie Fast, Chairman.

ROLL OF ATTENDANCE

Hannon:- Loten Thomas, John Thomas, Grover Lewis, Anna Reed, and Ed Wade.

Eldorado Springs:- Mr. and Mrs. Frank Shaw.

Sylvandale:- S. C. Douglas, Sister Washburn, Mrs. C. R. Hopkins, and Sister Douglas.

Hickory Grove:- Mr. and Mrs. Harry Taylor, J. W. Moul, John Hollandsworth, and Lee Hammonds.

Verdella:- Earl Philips, and Ida Fast.

Fairview:- Sam Mayfield, Elwood Johnstone, and Verna McCarty.

DEACONS

Fairview:- Chas. Shipley.

Sylvandale:- T. M. Duncan, C. L. Center, and Ed, Washburn.

Hannon: C. W. Ricketts, E. S. Lewis, Hayden Greer, and L. C. Wade.

Eldorado Springs:- John Lacourse, and Bro. Grimsley.

Verdella:- O. T. Fast.

MINISTERS

W. H. McGovern, W. H. York, Thos. L. York, and I. N. Grimsley. *J. C. Ferguson, Bascom Cassatt*

VISITORS

Eld. and Mrs. B. F. Brown, Eld. and Mrs. Prior L. Price. Elds. J. A. Posey, and Chas. Mayfield. *Eld. Graham*

CHURCH CLERKS

Hannon, Frankie Wade; Neola, Annie Beach; Fairview, Nettie Beck; Eldorado Springs, Mrs. Snido; Hickory Grove, Ira McDonald; Sylvandale, W. P. Hopkins.

Report of W. C. Bybee— Dear Brethren in Christ:- I thought I would send in a short report of my work.

The Lord has blessed me in the fullness of all blessings.

I have preached about two-thirds of the Sundays. I am church janitor and have always opened the door only a few times when I was sick and had to get somebody else.

I have taken 4 new members into the church this year; and I have married three couples this year. I have never been able to go away from town to preach, all I have done was right here at home.

Dear Brethren, I will close my short notice, and I feel the Lord has blest me. Pray for me.

Report of Bascom Cassatt— To The Central West. Missouri and Southeast Kansas Association of F. W. B.:-

Greetings in Jesus's name: The past twelve months I have preached in several localities, and have witnessed souls saved and believers made stronger in the faith that was once delivered to the saints.

It is with regret that I cannot be present at the Association at Hannon. I preached 29 sermons at Sylvandale, near Nevada, but I have not kept an account of all the sermons I have preached, or the exact amount of money that I received for same. I will try to keep a record of my work for the next year. Prayerfully submitted.

Report of T. C. Ferguson— To The Central Western and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptists assembled with Hannon church, August, 1925.

I beg to make the following report of my last year's work:- Through the spring months after I returned from Canada, God wonderfully blessed my work for him, and I have seen many souls saved. I baptized people almost every week through the spring months, the last one I baptized was a Methodist preacher. I also preached the first sermon in the fine new F. W. B. church in Hartville, the county seat of Wright county, Mo. It is now the finest church house in the town of Hartville.

I have held meetings the past year in the following churches: Eldorado Springs, Hannon, Sylvandale, Verdella, and Wagoner. At Verdella there was quite a lot of professions and additions to the church, and two baptized. I have the past year secured quite a lot of subs for the Star and money for the College.

Inclosed you will find \$1.00 to pay on minute expenses. I am now out of the ministry for a while on account of the lack of finance. I have had to cancel all my dates for revival meetings and go to the harvest fields; I am now with a threshing crew. I am planning to get back and hold revival meetings again as soon as God opens the way.

I hope and pray you will have the best Association this year you have ever had, and that peace and harmony will prevail and souls be saved.

Report of the Executive Board:- Greetings to the Association.

We, the Executive Board, beg to make the following report:- The Executive Board met in its first call session at Hannon church, for the ministerial examination of Bro. Bascom Cassatt, who answered all questions favorably and was granted license to preach the Gospel.

B. F. Brown, Clerk.

The second call session met in the home of Bro. Ed Washburn near the Sylvandale church, for ministerial examination of Bros. Grimsley and McGovern, who answered all questions favorably and were granted license to preach the Gospel in our churches.

As Bro. F. G. Wyrick sent in a request to the Executive Board that they take care of the Tabernacle, which he left in safe keeping at Eldorado, the Board voted unanimously to let the caretaking of the Tabernacle rest to Bro. Grimsley.

Report of Eld. W. H. York— To The Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptists Greetings in Jesus name:- God has greatly blest my labors among you for the past year, giving many souls for my hire. I have been pastor of Hannon, Fairview, Hickory Grove, and Neola churches. Each of these churches are showing marked advancements in almost every graceful work of the church. To those present and absent and to God the Giver of every good and perfect gift I extend my heartfelt gratitude for your patience in upholding my unworthy hands while I've labored in the vineyard of our blessed Master. May the peace of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit baptize each of us afresh for the duties of this year.

Treasurer's Report:- August 1924, on hand,	\$47.50
State Association,	\$6 00
Clerk hire 23-24,	10 00
Minutes,	21 00.
Postage,	2 00
Total paid out,	\$39 00.
August, 1925,	\$8 50.

COLLEGE RESOLUTION

Be it resolved, that we as a body, and a member of the general Conference of Free Will baptists, that we request all our churches to help in every way possible to build up our school and paper at Tecumseh, Okla.

Be it further resolved, that we respond to the call of our beloved Denomination, and that each church in the bounds of our Association raise \$5.00 or more every year to the support of our denominational enterprises.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

In consideration be it resolved, that the following amendment be made in section 2 of the Constitution to read as follows:- add to the closing sentence these words: Unless providentially or otherwise hindered.

BY-LAWS

1. Each annual session of this Association shall be called to order by the clerk, and in his or her absence, the assistant clerk, and in his or her absence, the standing member having seniority in years. After the clerk or the one calling the assembly to order, shall declare a quorum present, he or she shall call the moderator to the chair, and in his or her absence the assistant moderator, and in his or her absence, the standing member having seniority in years.

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

3. Five (5) 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 shall be recognized by him, and shall not be allowed to speak longer than five minutes, nor more than twice on one subject without the consent of the conference.

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

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

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

8. No one shall be ordained to the 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 called him or her to pastor, or the church of his or her membership.

9. All committees shall be appointed by the moderator or assistant moderator when not otherwise provided for by the Ass'n.

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

11. It shall be the duty of the churches of this Association, that have a total membership of less than fifty, to send to the clerk of this Association, the sum of two dollars (\$2.00) each year, and each church with a total membership of fifty or more, shall send the sum of \$3.00 each year to defray the general expenses of the Association.

12. 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.

13. A request from a church that a brother or sister be examined for license or ordination to preach the Gospel shall not mean that he or she shall be licensed or ordained, but that a council be appointed to examine him or her, and if, after the examination, the council thinks best he or she may be licensed or ordained.

14. Any preacher belonging to this Association who does not make a report of his or her work, either in person, by letter or by proxy, for three successive years, shall have his or her name dropped from the minutes.

15. It shall be the duty of each church to have its pastors' year to end with the annual session of the Association, and to hold its annual business meeting before the Ass'n meets each year.

16. When a church fails to report to the Association its last report shall be carried over in the minutes.

17. All old or afflicted ministers, who so desire, may be enrolled on a superannuated list, and not be required to report to the Association in order to receive an Annual Certificate of Ministerial Standing.

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

CONSTITUTION

Art. 1. This body shall be known as the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptists, and shall be composed of such constituent well regulated Free Will Baptist churches as shall, from time to time, unite with the body and agree to this Constitution.

Art. 2 Sec. 1. 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 resident members, two delegates, and one delegate for each additional twenty-five resident members or major part thereof, and all ordained deacons, ordained ministers and licensed ministers of the several churches of this Association.

Sec. 2. A resident member shall be a member in good standing who discharges his or her obligations to the church, and who resides near enough to attend church services, or one who resides at a distance but discharges his or her obligations to the church; unless providentially or otherwise hindered. All other members shall be considered nonresident members.

Art. 3. The Officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, an Assistant Clerk, and a Treasurer; all of said officers to be elected annually at the regular Session of the Association, and shall hold office until successors are elected and qualified.

Art. 4. 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 this Association. One member of this board shall be elected to hold office for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, and one for five years. After the first election one member shall be elected each year and hold office for five 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 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 letter 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 by 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 not less than three months before such change shall be voted upon, to the Executive Board.

FREEWILL BAPTIST ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. The Bible. The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. God. There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe, and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

3. Christ. Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The Mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified and is our ever present Saviour and Lord.

4. The Holy Spirit. The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all attributes of God. He is the reprover, comforter, guide and sanctifier of men.

5. The Government of God. God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.

6. The Sinfulness of Man. Man was created innocent but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and com-

demnation. His posterity therefore inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.

7. The Work of Christ. The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of Salvation by faith.

8. The Terms of Salvation. The conditions of Salvation are: 1. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ, our Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. Election. God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of Salvation. Hence by faith in Christ men become His elect.

10. Freedom of the Will. The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.

11. Salvation Free. God desires the Salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take the water of life freely.

12. Perseverance. All believers in Christ, who through grace, persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.

13. Gospel Ordinances. Baptism, or the immersion of the believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

14. The Christian Sabbath. The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employment and amusements for rest, worships, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

15. Resurrection, Judgment, Final Retribution. The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done ill to the resurrection of judgment; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

FREEWILL BAPTIST 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 amusement, 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 obligation in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotion, 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 able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principles 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 evangelical 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.