

**MINUTES**  
OF THE  
**TWENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION**  
OF THE  
**CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI**  
and  
**SOUTHEASTERN KANSAS ASSOCIATION**  
OF  
**FREE WILL BAPTIST**

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**HELD WITH**  
Wagoner Free Will Baptist Church, beginning  
at 8:00 o'clock p. m., August 20, 1936.

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The next Annual Session of this Association will  
be held with Independence Free Will Baptist Church,  
near Stockton, Mo., beginning on Thursday night  
before the fourth Sunday in August, 1937.

Sister Roena Thomas to preach the Introductory  
sermon, Sister Ruthe Garner alternate.

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FREE WILL BAPTIST GEM PRINT, PURDY, MISSOURI

CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI  
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SOUTHEASTERN KANSAS ASSOCIATION  
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**OFFICERS**

Moderator, Eld. Arlie Hoover, R3, Arcadia, Kans.  
Ass't Mod., Bro. A. B. Whistance, R4, Stockton, Mo.  
Clerk-Treas., Eld. Boyd Thornton, R3, Arcadia, Kans.  
Ass't Clerk, Eld. Richard Talbott, R2, Liberal, Mo.

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**Executive and Home Mission Board**

Elder Boyd Thornton, .....R3, Arcadia, Kans.  
Elder Edith Mayfield, .....R1, Iantha, Mo.  
Elder Roena Thomas, .....R3, Arcadia, Kans.  
Deacon L. C. Wade, .....R2, Bronaugh, Mo.  
Deacon O. T. Fast, .....R2, Liberal, Mo.

## PROCEEDINGS

The Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptist met in its Twenty-Eighth Annual Session with Wagoner Free Will Baptist Church, at Wagoner, Mo., Thursday night, Aug. 20, 1936.

The meeting was called to order by the Clerk, Elder Boyd Thornton.

The Introductory sermon was delivered by Eld. Arlie Hoover. Text, Matt. 26:39.

A temporary Pulpit Committee was appointed, and they chose Brothers Winford Davis and Claud Timmons to preach at eleven o'clock Friday morning.

### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Called to order by the Clerk.

A quorum was declared present and Moderator was called to the chair.

Song, "In the Sweet Bye and Bye," by congregation.

Scripture reading, Psalm 33, by the Moderator.

Prayer by Eld. Winford Davis.

Church letters were called for and the following churches responded by letter: Hickory Grove, Verdella, Mt. Olive, Hannon, Fairview, Independence.

Motion carried that all privileges of the floor be given visiting ministers except voting.

### Election of Officers

Moderator, Eld. Arlie Hoover, R3, Arcadia, Kans.

Ass't Mod., Bro. A. B. Whistance, R4, Stockton, Mo.

Clerk-Treas., Eld. Boyd Thornton, R3, Arcadia, Kans.

Ass't Clerk, Eld. Richard Talbott, R2, Liberal, Mo.

Member of Executive Board, .....Eld. Boyd Thornton

Remarks concerning the State Ass'n by Bro. Davis.

Motion carried to adjourn until 1:30 p. m.

While engaged in a hand shake, the congregation sang "Old Time Religion."

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Boyd Thornton.

### FRIDAY, ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Came together by singing, "Standing on the Promises."

Prayer by Eld. John B. Rollins.

Song, "Nothing but the Blood of Jesus."

Prayer by Bro. Richard Talbott.

Eld. Claud Timmons brought an inspiring message from Proverbs 29:18. Then Eld. Winford Davis brought a wonderful message from Isaiah 54:2.

We then sang the old song, "Bring Them In," during which we had an old fashioned hand shake.

The report of Committee on Committees was given and accepted before dismissing for the noon hour.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Boyd Thornton.

Dinner was served on the lawn.

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### FRIDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Came together at 1:30 p. m. by singing, "On Jordan's Stormy Banks."

Scripture reading, Psalm 61, by the Moderator.

Prayer by Eld. C. R. Dick.

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### Delegates Elected to Missouri State Association

Bro. and Sister A. L. Wiley of Independence church.

Sister Nannie Martin and Floyd Jeffries of Mt. Olive.

Brothers M. A. Earl and Richard Talbott of Hannon.

Sisters Dora Mead and Fern Campbell of Fairview.

Sisters Ruby Phillips and Willie Bowman of Verdella.

Bro. and Sister Tom Lewis of Hickory Grove church.

Bro. W. H. Potts and Sister Tessie Cross of Wagoner.

Pledges were taken toward support of State Association from churches and individuals by Eld. Winford Davis.

Discussion of denominational enterprises by Brothers John B. Rollins, Winford Davis, W. H. Potts, Arlie Hoover, Richard Talbott and Boyd Thornton.

The Ordaining Council, composed of Brothers Winford Davis, John B. Rollins, and Boyd Thornton, proceeded to ordain Brothers W. O. Martin and J. O. Vincent as deacons of Mt. Olive church. Ordaining prayer was offered by Bro. Boyd Thornton.

Report of Executive Board read and approved.

Verbal report of Wagoner church given and approved.

Report of Committee on Sunday Schools read and approved.

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

Closing song, "At the Cross," during which we had an old fashioned hand shake.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Claude Timmons.

## FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Called to order by the Moderator.

Songs, "Face to Face" and "At the Cross."

Prayer by Bro. Boyd Thornton.

Special song by Bro. Winford Davis and Sister Sarah Marie Talbott.

Prayer by Bro. Elmer Mammen.

Special song by Bro. Davis and Sara Marie and Richard Talbott.

Prayer by Bro. Richard Talbott.

The stand was filled by Bro. Richard Talbott. Text, 2 Kings 2:9. Bro. Rollins followed, using the same text, with "Rest" for his subject. These messages were accompanied by the Spirit of power.

Special by Sara Marie Talbott and Bro. Davis.

Song, "I'm Bound for the Promised Land." during which we enjoyed an old fashioned hand shake.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Boyd Thornton.

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## SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Session was called to order at 9:00 o'clock by Mod.

Song, "Let the Lower Lights Be Burning."

Scripture lesson, Romans 12th chapter, by Moderator.

Prayer by Sister Ruth Garner.

Song, "Nothing But the Blood of Jesus."

Motion carried to give delegates to State Association power to choose alternates in case they can't go.

Motion unanimously carried to have next Association to meet with Independence church.

Sister Roena Thomas was elected to preach the Introductory sermon next year, with Sister Ruth Garner as alternate.

Reports of ministers of this Association were read and accepted from: Ruth Garner, Arlie Hoover, Elmer Mammen, Boyd Thornton, Richard Talbott, and Roena Thomas.

Report of Obituary Committee read and approved.

Motion carried to adjourn until 1:30 p. m.

Dismissed with prayer by the Moderator.

## SATURDAY, ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Service opened with singing, "Shall We Gather at the River."

Prayer by Bro. Rollins.

Song, "Rock of Ages."

Scripture lesson and prayer by Bro. C. R. Dick.

Bro. Dick brought the message, using Acts 5:29 as a text. Bro. Davis followed, using 1 Sam. 15:22 as his text. They both brought wonderful powerful messages.

Song, "Sweet Bye and Bye," during which we had a good hand shake.

Comments on Foreign Mission work by Bro. Davis.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Richard Talbott.

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Meeting was called to order at 1:30 p. m.

Song, "At the Cross" and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

Devotional reading, 6th chapter of Ephesians, by Sister Ruthe Garner.

Prayer by Bro. Arlie Hoover.

Report of Committee on Foreign Missions read and approved.

Report of Publication Committee read and approved.

Report of Ministerial Standing Committee read and approved.

Report of Temperance Committee read and approved.

Report of Resolutions Committee read and approved.

Church Covenant read by Eld. Boyd Thornton.

Vote of thanks was given Brothers Winford Davis and Boyd Thornton for providing a program for the Ass'n.

Gospel Team work was brought before the Association and discussed.

Sister Roena Thomas was appointed Gospel Team leader of this Association.

Motion carried that we adjourn the business session until Thursday night before the fourth Sunday in Aug., to convene with Independence Free Will Baptist church, near Stockton, Mo.

Song, "Whosoever Meaneth Me," while had closing hand shake.

## SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Songs, "Face to Face" and "At the Cross."

Prayer by Bro. A. B. Whistance.

Song, "What a Friend We Have in Jesus."

Devotional exercise led by Bro. Richard Talbott.

Prayer by Bro. Boyd Thornton.

Bro. Boyd Thornton took the stand, using for his text, Deut. 11:16. Sister Ruth Garner followed, and after she had offered prayer, she brought a message from St. John 20:13.

Remarks by Bro. Thornton.

Song, "There is a Fountain Filled With Blood," sang during the hand shaking.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Richard Talbott.

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## COMMITTEE REPORTS

TEMPERANCE—We, your Committee on Temperance, heartily endorse the Bible as the Word of God, regardless of what man may say regarding Temperance.

Regardless of the modifications of the Volstead Act, we must keep on fighting for Temperance.

We also wish to discourage the use of cigarettes and tobacco in any form, as well as alcoholic drinks among our membership, especially among our ministers, according to our Ordaining Constitution.

We are also opposed to sinful amusements among our members.

LLOYD LONG,  
RICHARD TALBOTT,  
ALICE JONES.

RESOLUTIONS. We, your Committee on Resolutions, wish to submit the following resolutions:

No. 1—Be it Resolved, That the churches of this Association adhere more strictly to the Budget System of ten cents per resident member in each church.

No. 2—Be it Resolved, That the pastors take the lead in collecting the Budget.

No. 3—Be it Resolved, That we, the members of this Association convened at Wagoner church, do hereby express our sincere thanks to the Heavenly Father for the good spirit and brotherly love prevailing. Our hearts go out to the Wagoner church and sister churches for the kindness shown us while gathered here in this Association. May God bless each one.

BOYD THORNTON,  
ARLIE HOOVER,  
FLOYD JEFFRIES,  
RICHARD TALBOTT.



**PUBLICATION**—We, your Committee on Publication, beg to submit the following report:

Realizing that this is a great reading age; we want to instruct every one to be careful of what they read; because much false literature is being spread over the country.

We do heartily endorse the Free Will Baptist Gem published at Purdy, Missouri, and the Free Will Baptist published at Ayden, North Carolina, also the Sunday School literature published at Ayden, N. C.

We want to especially urge every one to subscribe for the Gem.

We urge that all our ministers take advantage of every opportunity to obtain a clean education and a better knowledge of the Bible. We endorse the School of the Bible as conducted by Eld. John H. Wolfe at Pawnee City, Nebraska, especially for our young ministers. We believe in a good education, but we object to some of the things that are taught today.

NANNIE MARTIN,  
STELLA LONG,  
RICHARD TALBOTT.

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**OBITUARY**—We, your Committee on Obituary, wish to extend our heart felt sympathy to the bereaved brothers and sisters of our Association for the loss of their loved ones during the past year. But our loss is Heaven's gain. God gave, and He will come to claim His own. Then let us extend a helping hand to the bereaved at all times. Names of the deceased are:

Tom Lewis and Clark Timmons, Independence church.

Orval Beaty and Isaac Rhodes, Hickory Grove church.

William Bender, Fairview church.

Mrs. Cummings and Mrs. Ben Miller, Wagoner church.

Riley Shockley and Oscar Wilkins, Wagoner church.

Mrs. Willie Fast, Verdella church.

IRIS JONES,  
TRESSIE CROSS,  
A. L. Wiley.

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**FOREIGN MISSIONS**—Inasmuch as our denomination is undertaking in Foreign Missions in a greater way, we feel that this Association should endorse this important work. We are highly in favor of missions both home and foreign, and realize that God will bless the church and people who will send and take the Gospel to them who have never heard.

We especially endorse our missionary, Rev. T. H. Willey and his program of establishing a Free Will Baptist Mission work in South America. We recommend that our people get behind him and support him to the very best of their ability. We feel that he is a worthy man and very deserving of our support.

RUTHE GARNER,  
ALICE JONES,  
THELMA MAYBERRY.

**MINISTERIAL STANDING**—We, your Committee on Ministerial Standing, find that the following named ministers have complied with the requirements of this Association, and finding them worthy, we recommend that they be granted Annual Certificates of Ministerial Standing:

Roena Thomas, Boyd Thornton, Arlie Hoover, Elmer G. Mammen, Ruthe Garner and Richard Talbott, also Thos. L. York and J. T. Williams our superannuated ministers of the Gospel.

W. H. POTTS,  
HAROLD HOOVER,  
I. V. SELL,  
Mrs. ALBERT GODDARD,  
LLOYD JEFFERY.

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**SUNDAY SCHOOL**—We, your Committee on Sunday School, wish to bring the following thoughts before the body:

That we encourage all our Sunday schools to use Free Will Baptist literature, and also

That we continue with the thought and plan of having our literature published at Purdy, Missouri, and further

That each teacher in our Sunday schools should open their class study with prayer, and always be ready to ask others to be with them in Sunday school, also

That all parents accompany their children to Sunday school, instead of sending them alone.

A. B. WHISTANCE,  
NANNIE MARTIN,  
GLADYS GODDARD.

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**EXECUTIVE BOARD**—We wish to report that the members of the Executive Board, assisted by our pastor and others during the year, ordained Brothers Boyd Thornton and Arlie Hoover to the Gospel ministry, and licensed Brothers Richard Talbott, Elmer Mammen and Ruth Garner as ministers of the Gospel.

L. C. WADE, Executive Board Secretary,  
Rev. Winford Davis, Pastor of Hannon church.

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## **MINISTERS' REPORTS**

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**RICHARD TALBOTT**—During the past few months, since I was licensed, February 2nd, I have had no regular appointment of my own, but occasionally I have filled appointments for others and have had some special appointments of my own, where the Lord has opened up the way and made it possible for us to go.

In all I have preached twenty-two sermons and received \$19.63 in cash. However I feel that I have done but little for the Lord. But I am looking forward with hopes of doing better in the coming year.

We feel that there is much to be done in our Association, and a large field of labor for the ministers.

Humbly submitting myself, I ask an interest in your prayers.

ROENA THOMAS—During the past year I have had the pastorate of the Mt. Olive church at Neola, Mo. But on account of sickness, I was unable to take care of the church as I wished to. I sent Bro. Hoover as my substitute several times.

We were permitted to have Bro. Davis of Monett, Mo. to hold a revival there, which just closed recently with 30 some conversions and additions to the church.

As leader of the Association Gospel team, we have held a few meetings, but didn't get to visit the churches as we planned to.

Have performed one marriage ceremony.

In all I have preached only 12 sermons the past year, and received \$43.00 in money.

Hope to do much more the coming year for my Lord; realizing that the harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few.

I desire an interest in the prayers of all God's people.

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RUTHE GARNER—Since I was granted a minister's license three weeks ago, I have preached three sermons, and have received \$2.76 in cash. We feel that thus far we have done very little for the Master, but we hope and pray that we may do more for the cause of Christ and the salvation of souls.

We request an interest in your prayers.

Humbly submitted by your servant in the cause of Christ.

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ARLIE HOOVER—I have pastored at only one place the past year, a school house near Milford, Mo. There is no organization at this place.

We called Bro. Kenneth Turner of Granby, Mo. to help us to hold a revival at this place. There were three conversions and God's work was greatly revived, in all it was a great success.

I also preached at Neola (Mt. Olive) church about six months for Sister Thomas. In all I have preached 33 sermons, one funeral, baptized two, and traveled about 1650 miles. I feel that in a way the past year has been fairly well spent in the service of the Lord.

But I hope to go still a little farther (Matt. 26:39) into the work another year. I pray that I may do more the coming year than I have in the past one.

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BOYD THORNTON—During the past eleven months we have pastored the Fairview church, near Chetopa, Kansas. There we were privileged to associate and work with a splendid people. Besides this I have preached in several different places.

In all I have preached forty-two sermons, received \$88.27 in cash and traveled about 2,400 miles in the Lord's service. We also have solemnized two marriages. I desire to do a greater work for the Lord, and by His help and grace, and the leadership of the Holy Spirit, we intend to launch out and do more in His service during the coming year.

We were ordained January 2nd, at the Hannon church.

Our prayer is to become more powerful for the Lord and to win souls for Him. Also that the coming year may be a more profitable year for this Association in God's work.

Humbly submitted by your servant and co-worker in Christ.

ELMER G. MAMMEN—Having been licensed just recently, my report will be necessarily brief. I have preached one sermon since being licensed, have been active in church work, made a few sick calls, and have endeavored to be a witness for God at every opportunity.

I have not as yet been called to pastor any church, but stand willing to obey God's call anytime, anywhere.

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### Church Reports, Taken From Church Letters

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HANNON—State of religion spiritual. Members received this year 3, total membership 172. Condition of prayer meeting good, condition of Sunday school excellent, average number of pupils 100, number of officers 13, number of teachers 8. Pastor, Rev. Winford Davis of Monett, Mo. Amount paid pastor \$210.00, amount for evangelistic work \$70.00, amount for incidentals \$85.00, value of church property \$1,000.00, amount for Foreign Missions \$65.50, amount for Home Missions \$16.35, amount for publication \$86.00, amount for Budget \$9.27. Ministers: T. L. York, Lafontaine, Kans.; Boyd Thornton, Arcadia, Kans.; Arlie Hoover, Arcadia, Kans.; Roena Thomas, Arcadia, Kans.; Elmer Mammen, Liberal, Mo.; Richard Talbott, Liberal, Mo.; Ruthe Garner, Liberal, Mo. Deacons: C. W. Ricketts, Hannon, Mo.; G. C. Lewis, Liberal, Mo.; Ross Thomas, Arcadia, Kans.; L. C. Wade, Bronaugh, Mo. Delegates: R. C. Talbott, M. A. Earl, C. W. Ricketts, Sister Zola Truskett, Sister Evelyn Thornton. The church invites the next session of the Association.

Mrs. Frankie D. Wade, Clerk, Bronaugh, Mo., R2.

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INDEPENDENCE—State of religion common. Resident members 43, non-resident members 36, members dropped by request 7, members deceased 2, total membership 79. Condition of Sunday school fair, average attendance 37, officers and teachers 7. League membership 13, average attendance 7. We had no pastor the past year. Supplied part time by Bro. C. R. Dick. Deacons: J. T. Long, C. C. Barton, I. V. Sell, all of Stockton, Mo., R4. Delegates: Brothers Lloyd Long and A. L. Wiley, and Sister Stella Long. Amount Budget money paid \$4.30. We ask for the Association to meet with us next year.

A. B. Whistance, Clerk, Stockton, Mo., R4.

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MOUNT OLIVE—State of religion good. Members received this year 31, number baptized 14, total membership 45. Condition of prayermeeting good. Condition of Sunday school good, average number of pupils 50, number of officers 5, number of teachers 3. Pastor, Mrs. Roena Thomas, Arcadia, Kansas. Amount paid pastor \$60.00, amount for evangelistic work \$102.51, amount for incidentals \$15.00, value of church property \$1,000.00, amount for Foreign Missions \$7.00, amount for Home Missions \$3.00, amount included for minutes \$3.40. Ministers: J. T. Williams, Greenfield, Mo. We have called Eld. Winford Davis

as our pastor for the coming year. Deacons elect: A. W. Hartley, James Vincent, Ottis Martin. We request the examination of A. W. Hartley, James Vincent and Ottis Martin relative to ordination as deacons. Delegates: Floyd Jefferies, Floy Hartley, Bobbie Martin, alternate Nannie Martin.

Mrs. Jewell Mayberry, Clerk, Greenfield, Mo.

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**FAIRVIEW**—State of religion fair. Interest in Sunday school and Endeavor fair. We have not had a revival the past year, have lost one member, our brother, Wm. Bender, by death, have dismissed one by letter, and have added one member, making our total membership 68, of which about 50 are resident members. Eld. Boyd Thornton of Arcadia, Kans. has been our pastor. He has received \$79.00. Delegates: Bro. Will Mayfield, Sister Fern Campbell and Sister Dora Mead. We invite the Association to meet with us next year.

Mrs. Geneva Lamb, Clerk, Chetopa, Kans., R2.

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**VERDELLA**—State of religion good. Members died one, total membership 47. No prayer meeting. Condition of Sunday school good, average number of pupils 30, number of officers 7, number of teachers 5. Pastor, Eld. John Swaffar, Purdy, Mo. Amount paid pastor \$101.32, amount for incidentals \$25.00, value of church property \$1,000.00, amount for Foreign Missions \$5.00, amount included for minutes \$2.00. Ministers: Edith Mayfield. Deacons: O. T. Fast, Liberal, Mo.; Willie Bowman, Iantha, Mo.; Earl Phillips, Iantha, Mo.; Ed. Coles, Hannon, Mo. Delegates: Ruby Phillips, Amanda Phillips and Lena Stacy. We invite the Association to meet with us next year.

Mrs. Ben Hizar, Clerk, Liberal, Mo.

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**HICKORY GROVE**—State of religion fair. Members died 2, resident members 30, non-resident members 76, total membership 106. Condition of prayer meeting fair. Condition of Sunday school fair, average number of pupils 27, number of officers 4, number of teachers 4. We have called Bro. Richard Talbott of Hannon, Mo. as our pastor. Bro. John Swaffar of Purdy, Mo. has been our pastor the past year. Amount paid pastor \$133.10, amount for evangelistic work \$11.25, amount for incidentals \$8.56, value of church property \$1,000.00, amount for Foreign Missions \$12.00, amount for education \$16.47, amount included for minutes \$3.00. Deacons: Walter S. Mosby, Archie, Mo.; Frank Evans, Archie, Mo.; Ausa Cockrell, Freeman, Mo.; and Walter Newman (inactive), Archie, Mo. Delegates: J. T. Terry, Sister Iris Jones and Sister Gladys Goddard.

Alma Hammonds, Clerk, Archie, Mo., R1.

## CHURCH COVENANT

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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 the 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 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 bonds 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.

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.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday 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.

## FREE WILL 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 the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, 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 Savior and Lord.

4. **THE HOLY SPIRIT.** The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the 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 condemnation. 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 the hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as 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 WILL.** The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit and live, 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 of the water of Life freely.

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

13. GOSPEL ORDINANCES. BAPTISM, or the immersion of 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 employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works, and activities, and for personal communion with God.

15. WAR. War destroys the lives of the innocent, and is contrary to the New Testament, therefore, we are opposed to war.

16. RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT, AND 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 evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked shall "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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## CONSTITUTION

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

Art. II. The acting members of this Association shall be such as are chosen by the several churches of which it is composed. Each active church being entitled to one delegate, and each church having twenty-five (25) resident members two delegates, and one delegate for each additional twenty-five resident members or major part thereof, together with all ordained deacons, ordained and licensed ministers, and church clerks of the several churches composing this Association.

Art. III. 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 their successors are elected and qualified.

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 who resides at a distance, but discharges his or her obligations to the church; unless feeble minded or invalids. All other members shall be considered non-resident members.

Art. IV. This Association shall elect a board of five members, two of them shall be ministers. 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 until 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 Board of this Association shall be Trustees of the Association, and shall have charge of its property.

Art. V. This Association shall meet annually at such time and place as shall meet with the approval of the Association, and it shall be the duty of all the 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 Annual Certificates of Ministerial Standing by the Association.

VI. This Constitution may be altered or amended by vote at any regular 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 on to the Executive Board.

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## BY-LAWS

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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 of years in service. 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 of service.

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 the same subject without the consent of the conference.

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

6. The yeas and nays may be taken on any question by the request of one-third 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 of the Association, and shall report to the Association before it adjourn, for approval.

8. No one shall be ordained to the ministry in this Association until 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 pastor it, or from the church in which he or she holds membership.

9. All committees shall be appointed by the Moderator or the assistant Moderator, when not otherwise provided for by the Association.

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 to collect, during the month of July each year, a sum of money not less than ten (10c) cents per member, to comply with the Budget System enacted by the Missouri State Association, half of the money collected to be turned over to the Treasurer of this Association, and half to the Treasurer of the State Association. It shall be the pastor's duty to see that this "Budget" of ten cents per member is collected and turned in so it will be on hand for associational expenses.

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 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 of this Association to have its pastoral year to end with the annual session of the Association, and to hold its annual business meeting before the Association meets each year.

16. When a church fails to report to the Association, its last report shall be carried 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. It shall be the duty of the preachers belonging to this Association to present their ordination papers to the Clerk, that a correct copy can be secured and become a part of our permanent record for future reference and use.

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