

The
Central Western Missouri
Southeastern Kansas
Association
Of
Free Will Baptist

1946

Proceedings Of The
38th Annual Session

Convened At
Hannon Church

CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI AND SOUTHEASTERN KANSAS ASSOCIATION FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Proceedings of the 38th Annual Session

Convened at Hannon Church

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OFFICERS

Moderator	—	—	—	—	—	John Bough
Assistant Moderator	—	—	—	—	—	Harold Hoover
Clerk - Treasurer	—	—	—	—	—	Tressie Mae Cross
Assistant Clerk	—	—	—	—	—	Marie Hyatt
Statistician	—	—	—	—	—	Thora Arbogast

EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION BOARD

Elder Lloyd Jeffreys, Clerk, Lockwood, Missouri	1951
Deacon Ottis Martin, Greenfield, Missouri	1950
Elder Arlie Hoover, Moderator, Liberal, Missouri	1949
Deacon L. C. Wade, Bronaugh, Missouri	1948
Deacon John Bough, Stockton, Missouri	1947

CHURCH CLERKS

Hannon	Zola Truskett, Liberal Missouri
Mt. Olive	Jewell Mayberry, Greenfield, Missouri
Independence	A. B. Whistance, Stockton, Missouri
Wagoner	Tressie Mae Cross, Stockton, Missouri
Verdella	Anna Mae Davis, Ianta, Missouri
Hickory Grove	Gladys Goddard, Archie, Missouri

CHURCH PASTORS

Hannon	Rev. Cecil Campbell, Wheatlon, Missouri
Mt. Olive	Rev. Winford Davis, Monett, Missouri
Independence	Rev. Callie Achord, Jerico Springs, Missouri
Verdella	Rev. Lowell Martin, Greenfield, Missouri
Hickory Grove	Rev. Lloyd Jeffreys, Lockwood, Missouri
Wagoner	Rev. Lloyd Jeffreys, Lockwood, Missouri

The next annual session of this association will be held at Hickory Grove Church, near Archie, Missouri, beginning on Tuesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1947.

Rev. Lowell Martin is to preach the introductory message on Wednesday night, Rev. Harold Hoover, alternate.

MINISTERS' CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

TUESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The ninth annual session was called to order on Tuesday night, August 20, 1946, by the president, Rev Alice Dickey.

Congregational singing, led by Rev. Paul Williams.

Prayer by Rev. Arlie Hoover.

Solo by Rev. Harold Hoover.

Rev. H. S. Ford brought a message, "Fellowship With God" based on 1 John 1.

Dismissed by Rev. Frank Linton.

WEDNESDAY MORNING SESSION

Hymns and devotional lesson from Psalms 37. Prayer by Bro. Netting.

Reading of Constitution and By-Laws of Ministers' Conference.

Officers elected for 1946-1947: President, Rev. Alice Dickey; Vice-President, Rev. Lloyd Jeffreys; Secretary - Treasurer, Rev. Marie Hyatt.

Rev Harold Hoover was elected to preach the introductory message at the Ministers' Conference in 1947, with Rev R. L. Nutting as alternate.

An offering of \$11.81 was taken at this time to be used to defray the expenses of this conference.

Motion carried to pay \$3.00 toward the printing of the Minutes.

Motion carried that the printing of programs for 1947 conference be placed in the hands of the Sect.-Treas.

Motion carried to give \$5.00 to both State Unified Fund and Missionary Offering during 1946 session of C. W. Mo. and S E Kan. Ass'n.

Program of Conference — Topic I "Fellowship with God," discussed by Rev. Lloyd Jeffreys. Topic II "Talking with God," by Rev. Harold Hoover.

Benediction by Rev Arlie Hoover.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Congregational songs and prayer by Rev. H. S. Ford and Sister Zola Truskett.

Message of the hour was delivered by Rev Frank Linton, using as his subject, "What God Expects of Us," based on Proverbs 22.

Benediction by Brother J. K. Stephens.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Congregational singing.

Prayer by Brother Grover Lewis.

Topic III — "Working with God" discussed by Rev. Frank Linton

Topic IV — "Suffering with God" by Rev. Opal Jeffreys.

Minutes read and approved.

Motion carried to adjourn until the next annual session in 1947.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

ARTICLE 1

This organization shall be known as the Ministers' Conference of the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptists.

ARTICLE 2

The object and purpose of this organization shall be to unify the Ministry and their work in the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association.

ARTICLE 3

The Ministers' Conference shall consist of ordained and licensed ministers in good standing.

ARTICLE 4

Representation to the Ministers' Conference is to be standing delegates of this Association.

ARTICLE 5

A free will offering is to be taken during each session of this Ministers' Conference which is to be used to defray the expense of this organization.

ARTICLE 6

The officers of this Ministers' Conference shall consist of a president, vice president and secretary, treasurer, each which shall be elected at the beginning of each regular session. Sec. 2. The program committee shall be composed of above officers, whose duty it shall be to prepare the program of the Ministers' Conference for the ensuing year.

ARTICLE 7

The Ministers' Conference shall hold its regular session annually during the time of the setting of the Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association.

ARTICLE 8

This constitution and By-Laws may be amended or altered at any regular session of the Ministers Conference by a two-thirds vote of members present.

DISTRICT LEAGUE PROCEEDINGS

The sixth annual session was called to order by Brother Preston Cross. Songs, "Onward Christian Soldiers" and "When All of God's Singers Get Home."

Devotional by Sister Izola Zillmer using 2nd Timothy 2:1-16 as Scripture lesson.

Prayer by Sister Pauline Warren.

Reports were read, received, and delegates seated from Independence and Hickory Grove.

Motion carried that all rules be suspended and each person present be allowed to vote.

Officers elected for 1946-1947: President, Rev. Lloyd Jeffreys, Vice-President, Brother Preston Cross; Secretary - Treasurer, Sister Thora Arbogast.

Sister Pauline Warren was elected to the State League Convention.

Rev. Opal Jeffreys was appointed as League Field Worker for 1946-47.

Motion made that \$1.27 be spent for Minutes and \$2.00 to state fund.

Motion made and sustained that at the 46-47 session a short program will be presented if there is time available because of lack of Women's Auxiliary Convention session.

Motion carried to put responsibility of the program for next year on the officers.

Motion carried to adjourn until the '47 League Session of the C. W. Mo. and S. E. Kan. Ass'n.

PROCEEDINGS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association of Free Will Baptists met in its thirty-eighth annual session at the Hannon Free Will Baptist Church, Hannon, Mo., August 21, 1946 at 8:00 p. m.

The moderator, Elder Arlie Hoover, called the meeting to order.

Congregational singing led by Brother Davis.

Prayer by Brother Raymond Dickey

Congregational song, "Our Lord's Return to Earth"

Solos by Anita Sue Worsley and Eleanor Lee Holman.

Prayer by Grandmother Thomas

Solo by Harold Hoover

Song, "There Shall Be Showers of Blessings"

Introductory message based upon John 4:35 and Luke 5:2 was delivered by Rev. Arthur Kicenski.

Song, "Jesus Is Calling"

At this time Brother Hoover appointed Brothers Loyd Warren, Preston Cross, and Ross Thomas as a temporary pulpit committee.

A fellowship handshake was enjoyed while singing, "What A Friend".

Benediction by Brother Willie Bowman.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

Congregational singing. Devotional led by Rev. Lloyd Jeffries.

House called to order by the clerk, quorum declared present, and moderator called to the chair.

By-Laws read.

Letters read, received and delegates seated from five churches of the association.

Motion carried that delegates present be authorized to provide alternates for delegates not present.

Officers elected for 1946-1947 as follows: Moderator, Deacon John Bough; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Harold Hoover, Clerk-Treasurer, Tressie Mae Cross; Assistant Clerk, Marie Hyatt; Statistician, Thora Arbogast; Executive Board Member, Rev. Lloyd Jeffries.

Motion carried that this body give our past moderator, Brother Hoover, a standing vote of appreciation for his services rendered in our association for the past ten years.

Hannon letter read and delegates seated.

Motion carried to receive the Statisticians report with one correction to be made before report is printed in minutes.

Motion carried to extend visiting brothers seats in council.

A committee on committee was appointed by the moderator as follows: Brothers Ross Thomas, J. K. Stephens, Robert Nutting, Lloyd Warren and Sister Alice Dickey.

Motion carried to meet with Hickory Grove Church in 1947.

Rev. Lowell Martin was elected to deliver the introductory message at the 1947 session, with Rev. Harold Hoover as alternate.

Motion carried to adjourn

Benediction by Brother L. C. Wade.

THURSDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Congregational singing and prayer by Rev. Harold Hoover.

Message by Rev. Opal Jeffreys from Ephesians 5:1-14.

Solo by Raymond Dickey

Duet, Jean Williams and Lorene Bowman

Benediction by Brother Nutting.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Song and prayer service, Scripture reading Isaiah 62 with special mention made of the first verse.

Report of the committee on committee accepted.

Motion carried to receive ministers' reports to be referred to committee on ministerial standing.

Motion carried to elect delegates to the State Association and empower them to elect alternates. Delegates are as follows: Sisters Izola Zellmer, Betty Ann Martin, Ruby Smith, Lucille Miller, Pauline Warren, Hazel Bowman and Brother Robert Cross.

Motion carried too accept the resignation of Sister Rowena Thomas as a member of the Executive Board.

Rev. Arlie Hoover was elected to fulfill the unexpired term of Sister Thomas

Motion carried that we adopt recommendation No. 1 of the 1945 Business Committee which was tabled at the 1945 session.

Motion carried that the 1945-1946 Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Motion carried to accept the report of the Christian Education Committee for discussion.

Motion carried to adopt the report of the committee on Christian Education.

Motion carried to adjourn until called together by the moderator.

Benediction by Brother Lloyd Jeffreys.

THURSDAY THREE O'CLOCK SERVICE

Congregational singing

Prayer by Sister Alien Worsley.

Messages— "What Think Ye of Christ?" by Rev. Lloyd Jeffreys and Rev. Harold Hoover.

Moderator called the house to order for business.

Motion carried to receive the Home Missions Report for discussion.

Motion carried that we adopt the Home Mission Report.

Motion carried that we adjourn until called together by the moderator.

Benediction by Brother Lloyd Warren.

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The service was in charge of Rev. Winford Davis, chairman of National Foreign Mission Board.

Missionary hymns sung by congregation.

Prayer by Rev. Kenneth Turner.

Missionary pictures were shown by Rev. Kenneth Turner.

Prayer by Rev. Frank Linton.

An offering of \$110.40 was given for Foreign Missions.

Benediction by Sister Marie Hyatt.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Song, prayer, and devotional service.

House called to order for business by Assistant Moderator.

Motion carried to receive the report of the Sunday School Committee.

Motion carried to receive the report of the Committee on Publication.

Motion carried to receive the report of the Obituary Committee.

Motion carried to receive the report of the Temperance Committee.

Motion carried to receive the report of the Foreign Missions Committee.

Motion carried to receive the report of the committee on Ministerial Standing.

Motion carried to receive the report of the committee on Business for discussion item by item.

Motion carried to adopt Item No. I.

Motion carried to adopt Item No. II.

Motion carried that our Association send a request to the State Association that the Gem Office be opened as soon as possible.

Motion carried that our delegates be instructed to vote for the opening of the Gem Office.

Motion was carried to recommend J. K. Stephens as delegate to represent our district at the National Association in 1947.

Motion carried that the printing of the Minutes be delayed until after the State Association; then the clerk can use her own discretion as to where they be printed.

Motion carried that the Moderator be given the power to appoint a Committee on Committees at any time he sees fit.

A standing vote of thanks was given to the Hannon Church for their hospitality in entertaining the Association.

Motion carried to receive the reading of the minutes.

Motion carried to adjourn to meet with Hickory Grove Church on Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1947.

Benediction by Rev. Arlie Hoover.

FRIDAY TWELVE O'CLOCK SERVICE

Congregational Singing.

Prayer by Brother J. K. Stephens.

Message, "The Resurrection of Lazarus," by Rev Nutting.

Dismissed by Rev. Arthur Kicenski.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FOREIGN MISSIONS: We your committee, wish to submit the following report:

Realizing that the foreign mission cause is one of the most important phases of the work confronting our denomination at this time and that the Lord has graciously put new responsibilities into our hands in the form of new volunteers for the foreign field, we recommend:

1. That in order to keep the foreign mission work before the people of this Association the pastors of each church devote the first service after the first of the year especially to the foreign mission cause.

2. That, this association request of the State Association that a special missionary service be held annually with offering to be taken for Foreign Mission.

3. That, a love for foreign mission work be installed in our youth by use of foreign mission pictures and literature particularly in Vacation Bible School and Sunday School.

4. We heartily endorse the circular method now used by the Foreign Mission Board as acquainting the people with the current needs of the work.

Committee: Lowell Martin
Thora Arbogast
Frank Linton

HOME MISSIONS—We, your committee wish to make the following report:

1. We recommend that the plan similar to last year be followed as to finances.

2. We recommend Brother Lloyd Jeffreys as our field Worker.

3. We recommend that he have the privilege of visiting any one or all of our churches for any service he feels led to conduct.

4. We recommend that his expenses be paid from the Home Missions treasury and all offerings received in such services shall be his salary.

Committee: Arlie Hoover
Jewell Maberry
Mary Cross

BUSINESS COMMITTEE —We, your committee, wish to make the following recommendations:

1. That By-Law No. 14 read as: Each minister belonging to this Association shall be required to make a report in person, at least once in every three years. Otherwise, his or her name shall be dropped from the minutes.

2. We wish to thank the Hannon Church and community for their hospitality.

Committee: L. C. Wade
Preston Cross Ottis Martin
J. K. Stephens Izola Zellmer

SUNDAY SCHOOL —We, your committee, wish to submit the following:

1. We recommend that our officers and teachers be consecrated Christians.

2. We recommend that special prayer be made as classes open for study

3. We recommend that where practical our literature be used and as far as possible we live up to the standard of our National Sunday School work

4. We further recommend that all our church people attend Sunday School as much as possible.

Committee: Bill Barton
Edith Mayfield.
Izola Zellmer

TEMPERANCE —We, your committee wish to submit the following report:

1. That, we as a denomination discourage the advertising of alcoholic drinks in our local papers.

2. That, our Sunday School teachers be instructed to make more of Temperance Sunday by stressing the evils of strong drink.

3. That, as far as possible refuse to patronize places of business selling liquor.

4. We request our ministry to devote more messages each year to the subject of intoxicating drinks and their effects.

Committee: Joe Cockrell
Anna Reed
Robert Cross

OBITUARY—We, your committee wish to submit the following report: We extend to our bereaved members of this Association our heartfelt sympathy in the loss of their loved ones.

We desire to point them to the Heavenly Father who can be their comforter in time of sorrow and trouble.

Committee: Emma Thomas
Robert L. Nutting
Janie Fast

MINISTERIAL STANDING —We, your committee, having heard the following minister's letters read and accepted by the Association, and believing them to be ministers of God, fully aware of their responsibility.

We recommend that they be granted annual certificates of ministerial standing. Also, we urge every minister to attend the Association some if possible.

Following are the ministers: Lowell Martin, Marie Hyatt, Harold Hoover, Roena Thomas, C. R. Dick, Lloyd Jeffreys, H. S. Ford, Arlie Hoover, Alice Dickey, R. L. Nutting, Callie Achord, Arthur Kicenski, C. J. Joy. Superannuated: J. T. Williams and Edith Mayfield.

Committee: L. C. Wade
Preston Cross
J. K. Stephens
Ottis Martin
Izola Zellmer

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION— Realizing the need of Christian Education in the lives of young people and Christian workers we recommend the following:

1. Our churches cooperate in reaching the quota for the State of Missouri as set forth in the Expansion Program of the Free Will Baptist College.

2. The Annual Endowment Plan as a systematic way of supporting our Free Will Baptist Bible College.

3. That, every church within Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association sponsor a Daily Vacation Bible School during the associational year.

4. The Cuban School of Missions be supported by earnest prayer and liberal offerings.

5. The students from Central Western Missouri and Southeastern Kansas Association who are enrolled in the Bible College be especially remembered by our churches.

Committee: Marie Hyatt
Harold Hoover
Lloyd Jeffreys

PUBLICATION— We, your committee wish to submit the following report:

We recommend the Free Will Baptist Literature published at Ayden, North Carolina to be used for all Sunday Schools and Leagues.

We recommend the Bible to be read in all Free Will Baptist homes.

We recommend the "Free Will Baptist" published at Ayden, North Carolina.

Committee: Ottis Martin
Alice Dickey
Winford Davis

MINISTERS' REPORTS

Alice Dickey: I have preached 69 sermons, pastored one church half time, witnessed 6 professions, baptized 5, traveled 7,160 miles, received \$420.64.

Lowell Martin: I have preached 93 sermons, pastored 2 churches, held 1 revival, preached 2 funerals, traveled 4,270 miles, received \$637.59.

Marie Hyatt: I have preached 28 sermons, traveled 2,630 miles, conducted 2 Daily Vacation Bible Schools, received \$157.

Arthur Kicenski: I have preached 63 sermons, held 4 revivals, witnessed 11 professions, baptized 9, preached 3 funerals, received \$203.92.

Callie Achord: I have preached 80 sermons, pastored 4 churches, witnessed 3 professions, preached 4 funerals.

H. S. Ford: I pastored a church for 4 months, preached 36 sermons, witnessed 6 professions, baptized 5, conducted 17 Bible Studies, preached 13 funerals, made many sick calls, received \$540.

Harold Hoover: I have spent part of this time in the military service of this country, preached about 30 sermons, taught a Sunday School class and was president of Young People's Organization in San Francisco, Cali-

fornia, assisted in a "Youth for Christ" movement, received \$13.51, had 1 regular appointment with a union church.

C. R. Dick: I have preached some in the past year, held singing every Sunday for 9 months and made several sick calls.

Roena Thomas: Because of my health the past year I have been unable to do but very little in the ministry. I have preached 10 sermons and received \$107. in love offerings.

Arlie E. Hoover: My report is very short as my work was very limited. I acted as superintendent of our Sunday School part of the year and I am now teacher of a class. I have been active on both State and Local Executive Boards.

Lloyd T. Jeffreys: Since being released from the United States Army in January, I have brought 8 sermons, traveled 218 miles, have received \$34.50.

R. L. Nutting, Sr.: I have preached 16 sermons, traveled 125 miles, and received 12 to 15 dollars.

FINANCIAL REPORT

BUDGET RECEIVED:

Hannon	\$ 8.00
Mt. Olive	5.00
Independence	4.50
Hickory Grove	5.00
Verdella	3.70
Wagoner	3.00
Total	\$29.20

RECEIVED FOR CLERK HIRE:

Hickory Grove	\$ 1.25
Wagoner	1.00
Independence	1.25
Mt. Olive	1.50
Hannon	1.25
Total	\$6.25
For Minutes from District Leagues Convention	1.27
For Minutes from Ministers' Conference	3.00
Grand Total	39.72

DISBURSEMENTS:

1-2 Budget to State Treasurer	\$14.60
Amount for Clerk Hire	6.25
Total disbursements	\$20.85
Total in Treasury for printing of Minutes	18.87

ISTICAL.

Independence	1	29	47			102				33.58	223.10		29.00	49.52	346.95	
Fairview			10			63							22.00		188.50	
Verdella			60	2	1	69			33.17	25.14	128.50	111.95	31.91		135.28	1000.00
El Dorado Sprgs . .						26						65.00		17.20	21.48	500.00
Hickory Grove . . .	1	31	40	2		123			29.20	31.39	49.62	9.96	60.31	104.96	313.69	2000.00
Wagoner				1		32					20.00					1000.00
Mt. Olive			60	4	1	110	5.00	69.46	30.00	170.00	454.93	39.00	40.00	125.77	260.00	1200.00
Hannon			60	4	1	155		40.00	140.00	70.00	125.00	80.00	60.00		300.00	2000.00
Total	2	60	267	13	3	680	5.00	109.46	732.37	330.11	1001.15	305.91	243.22	297.45	1565.90	7700.00

CONSTITUTION

Art. I. 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 acting 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 their companions who are members in good standing with the Free Will Baptist Church, and church clerks of the several churches composing this Association.

Sec. 2. A resident member shall be a member in good standing who discharge his or her obligations to the church, and who reside near enough to attend church services, or who reside at a distance, but discharge his or her obligations to the church; unless feeble minded or invalids. All other members shall be considered non-resident members.

Art. III. The officers of the Association shall be a moderator, an assistant moderator, a clerk, an assistant clerk and 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.

Art. IV. This Association shall elect a board of five members, two of them shall be ministres. 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. 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 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 the Association to attend each session or report by letter. All ministers reporting by letter or in person shall be entitled to Annual certificates of Ministerial Standing by the Association.

Art. 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.

BY-LAWS

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

7. A committee of five laymembers, 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 adjourns, for approval.

8. No one shall be ordained to the ministry in this Association until they have carried ministers' license at least one year and must receive a call to pastor some church or be active in evangelistic efforts. The call for ordination must come from the church that called him or her to pastor it or from the church in which he or shee holds membership.

9. All committees or a Committee on Committees shall be appointed by the moderator or assistant moderator, unless 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 shall 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 cents (10c) per member, to comply with the Budget System enacted by the Missouri State Association, and all of the money collected to be turned over to the Treasurer of this Association who shall send 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 will be on hand for associational expenses.

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

13. A request from the church that a brother or a 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. Each minister belonging to this Association shall be required to make a report in person at least once in every three years. Otherwise his or her name shall be dropped from the minutes.

15. It shall be the duty of each church of this Association to have its pastoral year and 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 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 ministers 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 a future reference and use.

19. No one shall be licensed or ordained to preach the gospel, or deacon ordained, who is a user of tobacco.

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

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 Timothy 3:16.

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.

1 Cor. 8:6; Matt. 28:19.

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.

St. John 1:1-12.

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.

St. John 16:7-8; Acts 2:4; Eph. 4:46.

5. **THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD.**— Good 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.

Psalm 22:28; 97:2.

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.

Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

7. **THE WORK OF CHRIST.**— The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection affected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.

1 John 2:2.

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.

2 Cor. 7:10; Pro. 28:13.

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.

1 Tim. 2:4.

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.

Joshua 24:15.

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.

Rev. 22:17.

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

St. John 15:6; 2 Peter 2:20-22.

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.

Mark 16:15; 2 Cor. 4:5; St. John 13:14.

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.

Gen. 2:3; Exod. 20:8-11.

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."

John 5:29; Matt. 25:46.

FREE WILL 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 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.