

# *Minutes*

of the 71st Annual Session

of the

**Central Western**

**Missouri Association**

of

## Free Will Baptists

When Convened With

**Bethel Free Will Baptist Church**

Friday Evening, March 30th, 1979

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The 72nd Annual Session

Will Meet With the

**Evangel Free Will Baptist Church**

Friday Evening, March 28th, 1980

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MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL WESTERN ASSOCIATION  
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

BETHEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

March 30, 1979

# MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS 1979

## OFFICERS

MODERATOR . . . . . Deacon Charley Hoover, Liberal, MO  
ASSISTANT MODERATOR . . . . . Rev. Leroy Blankenship, Liberal, MO  
CLERK-TREASURER . . . . . Thora Grider, Greenfield, MO  
ASSISTANT CLERK . . . . . Ionia Phillips, Liberal, MO  
STATISTICIAN. . . . . Lita Munn, Liberal, MO  
ITINARATE CONTACT . . . . . Rev. Bob Dickey, Liberal, MO  
STATE GENERAL BOARD MEMBER. . . . . Charley Hoover, Liberal, MO

## EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION BOARD

1. HANNON. . . . . Deacon Charley Hoover. . . . . 1980  
2. HICKORY GROVE . . . . . Rev. Thayne Fast . . . . . 1980  
3. INDEPENDENCE. . . . . Deacon Dee York. . . . . 1980  
4. OSKALOOSA . . . . . Deacon Phillip Munn. . . . . 1981  
5. STOCKTON. . . . . Deacon John Bough. . . . . 1981  
6. VERDELLA. . . . . Deacon Roger Phillips. . . . . 1981  
7. BETHEL. . . . . Rev. Fidell Bridges. . . . . 1982  
8. EVANGEL . . . . . Rev. Andy Lay. . . . . 1982  
9. ELDORADO SPRINGS FIRST. . . . . Rev. Morgan Walker . . . . . 1982  
10. GREENFIELD. . . . . Rev. Lowell Martin . . . . . 1982

## CHURCH CLERKS

BETHEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Eldorado Springs, MO  
Lois Smith, 106 E. Poplar, Eldorado Springs, MO 64744  
EVANGEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, 221 S. Liberty Webb City, MO  
Jim Nimmo, Rt. 4, Box 96D, Joplin, MO 64801  
ELDORADO SPRINGS FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Park and Marshall  
Eldorado Springs, MO  
Mildred Kicenski, 111 W. Walnut, Eldorado Springs, MO 64744  
GREENFIELD FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, S. Allison, Greenfield  
Lucille Franklin, 403 Toney Ave., Greenfield, MO 64661  
HANNON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO  
Margaret Smith, Liberal, MO 64762  
HICKORY GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Harrisonville, MO  
Iris Jones, Rt. 3, Box 212, Harrisonville, MO 64701  
INDEPENDENCE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Stockton, MO  
Beaterice Bough, Rt. 4, Stockton, MO 65785  
OSKALOOSA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Arcadia, KS  
Viola Bassone, 917 W. 6th., Pittsburg, KS 66762  
STOCKTON FREE WILL BAPTIST MISSION CHURCH, Stockton, MO  
Rev. John McClure, Home Missionary, Box 407, Stockton, MO  
VERDELLA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO  
Kay Charlton, Rt. 2, Liberal, MO 64762

## MINISTERS OF CHURCHES

BETHEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Eldorado Springs, MO

Rev. Fidell Bridges, 109 W. Cruse, Eldorado Springs, MO 64744

EVANGEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, 221 S. Liberty, Webb City, MO

Rev. Andy Lay, 13 Tanglewood, Carl Junction, MO 64834

ELDORADO SPRINGS FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Park and Marshall  
Eldorado Springs, MO

Rev. Morgan Walker, Rt. 1, Eldorado Springs, MO 64744

GREENFIELD FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, S. Allison, Greenfield

Rev. Winford Davis, Monett, MO 65708

HANNON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO

No Pastor

HICKORY GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Harrisonville, MO

Rev. Thayne Fast, Liberal, MO 64762

INDEPENDENCE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Stockton, MO

Rev. Elwood Perry, Rt. 1, Jerico Springs, MO 64756

OSKALOOSA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Arcadia, KS

No Pastor

STOCKTON FREE WILL BAPTIST MISSION, Stockton, MO

Rev. John McClure, Home Missionary, Box 407, Stockton, MO 65785

VERDELLA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO

Rev. Leroy Blankenship, Rt. 1, Box 11, Liberal, MO 64762

## MINISTERS OF CENTRAL WESTERN ASSOCIATION

Rev. Morgan Walker, Eldorado Springs, MO; Rev. Bob Dickey, Liberal, MO; Rev. Thayne Fast, Liberal, MO; Rev. Andy Lay, Carl Junction, MO; Rev. Hollis Walker, Jr. Liberal, MO; Rev. Fidell Bridges, Eldorado Springs, MO; Rev. Leroy Blankenship, Liberal, MO; Rev. Steve Reeves, Hillsdale Bible College, Moore, OK; Rev. Lynn Smith, Moore, OK; Rev. John McClure, Stockton, MO; Rev. Lowell Martin, Greenfield, MO; superannuated; and Rev. Arley Hoover, Liberal, MO, superannuated.

## PROCEEDINGS

Friday Evening, March 30, 1979

The 71st annual session of the association convened with the Bethel Church in Eldorado Springs.

Bro. Bob Dickey led the congregation in singing "Praise Him, Praise Him", and "When We All Get to Heaven", with sisters Ramona York at the piano and Carolyn Hayword at the organ.

The host pastor, Bro. Fidell Bridges extended a gracious welcome to everyone, the special music was provided by sisters Sam Mans, and Carolyn Hayword, with Carolyn playing the piano. Two beautiful numbers "Streets of Gold", and "I've Never Been So Homesick", were sung.

The clerk of the association extended greetings, declared a quorum present to transact business, and called the Moderator, Bro. Andy Lay, to the stand.

Bro. Lay called attention to the theme of the association, "The Church with a Vision", based on Proverbs 29:18, "Where There is no Vision the People Perish", making appropriate remarks as to the part the yearly meetings should play in helping promote the urgency of ridding lethargy from the churches.

An offering was taken to help defray expenses of the association amounting to \$75.00.

Bro. Leroy Blankenship brought the message of the evening, basing his remarks on the theme scripture, and others to substantiate it. He stressed the importance of complete consecration, and dedication of each individual in a church to dispell the condition of spiritual lethargy which plagues the church and limits its efficiency in carrying out the Great Commission.

At the conclusion of the message the Moderator led in singing, "Jesus, Jesus", and Bro. Hollis Walker, Jr., pronounced the benediction.

#### Saturday Morning 9:30 Business Session, March 31, 1979

Bro. Roger Phillips led the congregation in singing, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms", with sister Brenda Blankenship at the piano. Bro. Fidell Bridges led in prayer.

Bro. Bob Dickey brought the devotion. In his message he emphasized the importance of following up the conversion of the individuals, with personal attention to every phase of their life, in helping them to be strengthened in their Christian walk of life, as a fruit bearer for the Lord. The teaching of God's Word was very necessary, and showing of personal interest for their problems, and concern in helping wherever possible.

Assistant, Bro. Leroy Blankenship, took charge for the business session in the absence of the moderator for a while. He asked Bro. Roger Phillips to read the By-Laws preceding the taking up of business. Reading of Church Letters, and seating of delegates was the first item of business.

Church letters were read.

M/S/C to accept the letters and seat delegates.

Report of the Executive Board read by Bro. Roger Phillips.

M/S/C to receive report, and Bro. John McClure, the Home Missionary, was given opportunity to speak on the work at this time.

Report of the Association Treasurer was read.

M/S/C to receive report.

Report of the Statistician read.

M/S/C to receive report.

After a discussion concerning the meeting place for the 1980 session, as no invitations had been extended through the church letters, Evangel Church of Webb City extended an invitation, which the body accepted by acclamation.

The morning business session was suspended to give way for the Auxiliary's 11:00 Worship Service, and Bro. Charles Whitson pronounced the benediction.

## Woman's Auxiliary Session 11:00 A.M., March 31, 1979

The Auxiliary President, Viola Bussone, called the meeting to order. Lita Munn led the congregation singing "This World is not My Home", and "Won't it be Wonderful There", with Brenda Blankenship at the piano.

Sister Bussone led a very interesting devotional, advancing many good thoughts on the theme "Church Women's Ministry". She gave a couple of quotes, "Everything you say and do is a confession of yourself" and "Your big opportunity will come, but you must recognize it". By these she emphasized that there are always opportunities for everyone, but we don't always see them. By reading the poem "Granny's Recipes" she called attention to how we could live more fruitful lives by applying the Christian virtues as the recipe poem drew a similarity between the ingredients of a delicious cake's contribution to its flavor, and the contribution applying the Christian virtues adds Godly flavor to our lives.

She stressed the importance of living a contented, useful life, and read a humorous little poem which gave a picture of the way we are too many times, which destroys our effectiveness in maturing into a perfect Godly product. "We mutter, we sputter, we fume and we spurt, we mumble, we grumble, our feelings are hurt; We can't understand things, our vision grows dim, when all that we need is a vision of Him." Confidence in us as being loving, by severely criticizing others always, is discouraged, she read an old Indian proverb, "Let me walk for a time in the moccasins of my brother. As I carry his burden, and try to solve his problems, only then can I criticize him".

Sister Paula McClure had the worship hour service. She used 2 Tim. 1:5 as a basis for her remarks, concerning faithfulness in daily activity to accomplish God's plan and purpose, in seeking ways to approach people and finally get the Gospel message to them.

Several avenues of approach were offered-casually meeting people in the day to day routine, teaching children, offering help in time of need: and 2 Cor. 6:4-10 was given as a good admonition to follow in our own lives to help us be effective in accomplishing what we need to. Other scriptures used were Luke 14:23, Matt. 28:19, Mark 5:19, and 2 Tim. 2:2 were used in the message.

Sister Bussone made closing remarks before suspending business for the noon hour. Virginia Hoover pronounced the benediction.

## Woman's Auxiliary Business Session 1:30 P.M. Saturday, March 31

Lita Munn led singing, "When We all get to Heaven", Brenda Blankenship at the piano.

The President presiding, first expressed gratitude for the bountiful dinner, and gracious hospitality-quoting from poems-one, on the love of God for us, as evidenced in all nature around

us; and the other, how an application of thankfulness, and trust in Divine Providential care, and pleasantness in our own attitude, and conduct toward others, can bring contentment, and happiness.

Sister Ionia Phillips led in prayer and an offering was taken in the amount of \$45.50.

Sister Ramona York read a poem, concerning the question of what kind of impression our life is making, and she sang very beautiful numbers, "Friendship with Jesus", and "He Holds My Hand".

Officers were elected: President, Betty Wilks; Vice-President, Viola Bussone; Secretary-Treasurer, Doris Whitson.

Paula McClure was called on for the devotional, and read 1 Thess. 5:25, pointing out what unconfessed sin and neglect in lives would blur the spiritual vision, and render the christian uneffective in service. She encouraged Psalms 51:10, as the place to find a remedy for our undone spiritual condition.

She compared the secret sins blurring our vision, and effectiveness for service, to neglect in house keeping destroying the beauty and comfort of the home-dirty windows, undisturbed cobwebs, and hiding dirt under the rug. An unkept life cannot be a thing of spiritual beauty, anymore than an unkept home.

A time of inspiration and fellowship was enjoyed for a few minutes, before Sister Margaret Walker pronounced the benediction.

#### Saturday Afternoon Business Session 2:30 P.M., March 31, 1979

Congregation was called to order for business with singing of "Camping in Canaan", led by Bro. Andy Lay, and Ramona York at the piano.

Report of the Business Committee was read.

M/S/C to receive the report, to be adopted item by item.

M/S/C to adopt item No. 1

M/S/C to adopt item No. 2

M/S/C to adopt item No. 3 with a standing vote of thanks.

Report of Committee on Ministerial Standing read.

M/S/C to receive the report, and adopt as a whole.

Bro. Leroy Blankenship spoke concerning the advantages, and possibilities of establishing a point system for training and placing of teachers in the Sunday Schools. After some discussion on the feasibility of trying this method, for improving the quality of work, the idea was advanced that a committee could be appointed to investigate, and try to determine whether it would serve a good purpose, and make suggestions to the body later.

M/S/C to appoint a committee for this purpose.

The Moderator appointed Rev. Leroy Blankenship as the chairman of the committee, composed of all the Sunday School Superintendents, in the Central Western Missouri Association.

At this time business of the Association was suspended to hold an Ordination Service for Bro. Lynn Smith.

## Ordination Service for Rev. Lynn Smith

Bro. Andy Lay led the congregation in singing "Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us", as the Ordaining Council took its place for the ordination of Bro. Lynn Smith. Bro. Bob Dickey led in prayer imploring God's blessing on the service.

The Ordaining Council acting were Bros. Fidell Bridges, Lester Nutting, Charley Hoover, and Andy Lay.

Bro. Fidell Bridges gave the charge to the candidate, Bro. Lynn Smith. Through the unction of the Spirit, he delivered a message with a deep spiritual thrust, concerning the sacredness of the Call to the Ministry, and the divine obligation accompanying it. Attention was called to the necessity of maintaining a close relationship with God, in order to receive the spiritual strength and grace to attain the place of complete dedication, and perseverance God expects of the Minister.

These scriptures were used: Phill. 3:14; 2 Tim. 1:6; 1 Tim. 4:14; 2 Tim. 5:14-15; Rom. 8:28-31; Heb. 11:6; 2 Tim. 2:15, and Heb. 1:7 was offered as a key verse as to what God expects His ministering servants to be—"flames of fire-holy, and not wild fire.

Stress was given as to the conduct God's servants must assume, through His help, if they are to exercise an effective ministry, following ordination. 1 Cor. 2:1-4; and 1 Cor. 9:19 were quoted as examples of essential christian virtues to possess.

The last admonition to the candidate was from 2 Tim. 4:1-2, "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead, at His appearing, and His Kingdom; preach the Word, be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine".

At the conclusion of the message Bro. Lynn and his wife were called to the altar, and were surrounded by Ordained Ministers, deacons, parents, and friends, for the Ordaining prayer, laying on of the hands of the Presbytery, and blessings of the Council.

Following the prayer, by Bro. Lester Nutting, and Laying on of Hands by the Presbytery, a handshake of fellowship was extended Bro. Lynn, and his good wife, with expressions of love, and wishes for God's blessing to accompany them through a long fruitful ministry; as all joined in singing "When the Roll is Called up Yonder I'll be There".

The Moderator called the meeting to order for business.

Report of the Nominating Committee read.

M/S/C to receive Report-to adopt in two sections.

Nominations from the floor called for, for Association Officers.

M/S/C to elect all Officers from Committee Report.

Nominations from the floor called for the Board members.

M/S/C to elect all Board Members from the Committee Report.

M/S/C to adopt as a whole.

Business was finished, and a M/S/C to adjourn until March 28, 1980.



## Saturday Evening Worship Service 7:00 P.M., March 31, 1979

Bro. Charley Hoover took charge of the worship service, calling on Bro. Reed Smith for prayer. Bro. Roger Phillips led the congregation singing, "I Shall Not Be Moved" and "At The Cross". Sister Ramona York sang "The Love Of God". Bro. John McClure and Sister Paula sang "Follow, Follow Me".

Central Western Missouri's Missionary, Bro. John McClure, brought the mission message. His message concerned the three aspects of a christian's encounter with God, and his response-finding Him as a holy God; combating lukewarmness, by entertaining partial obedience; and making a full, complete surrender to God.

As a basis for his message he used the profound vision of Isaiah 6:1, portraying God as a holy God, and Heb. 10:31 to reveal the awful results of falling into disfavor with God. Psalms 45:17 gives the necessity of maintaining good works through holy living, as convincing proof, in the midst of a perverse generation; and God's reward is promised in Hebrew 10:23.

Romans 3:10 gives a vivid picture of depraved humanity, and the remedy for his condition. John 3:16 was cited as Gods ultimate love for his creation. The speaker asked a vital, and soulsearching question on the sincerity of our missionary giving-how can we justify refusing to accept God's creation here around us, by sending help to the mission field abroad.

As the congregation sang "Only Trust Him" an invitation was extended for anyone with a need spiritually, to come forward, whether it was for deeper consecration, or for a first time encounter with God.

An offering for missions was taken, for which Bro. Fidell Bridges asked a blessing. The offering was in the amount of \$85.67. Bro. Dee York pronounced the benediction.

## Association Treasurer's Report March, 1978-March, 1979

Balance, March, 1978. . . . .	\$170.71
Receipts:	
Budget from Church Letters. . . . .	230.30
Mission Offering. . . . .	177.00
Association Offering. . . . .	47.00
Received for National and State Expense . . . . .	72.20
Total Income . . . . .	<u>\$697.41</u>

### Disbursements:

Mission offering to Jim McLains . . . . .	\$177.00
Printing of Minutes . . . . .	73.75
National Entertainment expense. . . . .	72.20
State Association expense . . . . .	45.00
Association Programs. . . . .	12.50
Clerk's Honorarium. . . . .	32.32
Mailing of State Minutes. . . . .	3.00
General Board Member's expense to State . . . . .	<u>98.15</u>
Total Disbursements. . . . .	<u>513.92</u>
Balance, March, 1979. . . . .	\$183.49

## REGISTRATION

MINISTERS - Revs. Leroy Blankenship, Hollis Walker, Jr., Thayne Fast, Lowell Martin, Morgan Walker, Andy W. Lay, Lynn Smith, Fidell Bridges, Bob Dickey, Steve Reeves, John McClure; and Lester Nutting, Visitor from the Indian Creek Association.

DEACONS - Amos Eastman, Orville Foger, John Bough, Phillip Munn, Reed Smith, Allen D. York, Roger Phillips, Charles Whitson, Charlie Hoover, and Carl Bough.

STANDING DELEGATES - Standing, Viola Bussone, Brenda Blankenship, Margaret Walker, Dorothy Dickey, Beaterice Bough, Mildred Kicenski, and Elnora Fast; Elected, Mae Cleffman, Doris Whitson, Virginia Hoover, Betty Crutcher, Frances Foger, Ramona York, Alice Hoover, Lita Munn, Wilma Smith, Ionia Phillips, Ken Culbertson.

VISITORS - Joey Bussone, Hazel Bowman, John A. Grider, Bernice Eastman, Theo Bough, Lora Phillips, J. R. Smith, Mary Cross, Fay Matshall, Carolyn K. Smith, Allene and Lloyd Pack, Harold and Juanita Smith, Kimberly Kay Nutting, Martha Nutting, Matthew York, John Paul McClure, Charri McClure, Nikki McClure, and Merle and Betty Wilks.

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Nominating Committee, submit the following Recommendations:

We recommend the following to serve as officers for the coming year:

Moderator: Charley Hoover.

Assistant Moderator: Rev. Leroy Blankenship.

Clerk-Treasurer: Thora Grider.

Assistant Clerk: Ionia Phillips.

Statistician: Lita Munn.

Itinerate Contact: Rev. Bob Dickey.

State General Board Member: Charley Hoover.

We recommend the following to serve on the Executive Board for a term of three years:

Bethel, Rev. Fidell Bridges

Evangel, Rev. Andy Lay

ElDorado Springs, Rev. Morgan Walker

Greenfield, Rev. Lowell Martin

/s/ Roger Phillips, Morgan Walker, Lural Mays, Mae Cliffman, Virginia Hoover.

## BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. We encourage the churches to continue their support of the Stockton Mission.

2. We encourage the churches to send in money for the addition on the boys cabin at the Youth Camp. (See last year's report.)

3. That we give the Bethel Church a standing vote of thanks for doing a fine job of hosting the association.

/s/ Charley Hoover, Ken Culbertson, John McClure, Fidell Bridges, Bob Dickey.

1978-79 STATISTICAL TABLE

	Bethel	ElDorado First	Hannon	Greenfield	Indep.	Hickory Grove	Oskalossa	Verdella	Webb City Evangel	TOTAL	Stockton Mission
Members Received	8	0	8	0	0	0	0	20	0	36	
Members Lost	2	0	5	0	0	1	4	4	0	16	
Members Deceased	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	3	
Total Membership	74	27	91	39	14	30	30	65	40	410	
Sunday School Ave.	88	12	74	21	14	17	19	74	36	355	20
Women's Auxiliary	18	--	19	--	--	--	6	15	--	58	
Ordained Ministers	1	1	2	1	1	1	0	3	1	11	
Licensed Ministers	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	
Ordained Deacons	1	1	3	0	3	0	2	4	0	14	
Pastor Salary	4492.00	780.00	7120.00	2880.00	50.00	2885.00	2307.79	7455.00	5340.00	34309.79	7380.00
Evangelistic	390.51			480.00			125.00	339.75	100.00	1435.26	
Building Repair			3173.83	238.19				677.59	1898.27	5987.88	4080.00
Literature		95.27	750.07	117.75	56.91	97.60	306.31	962.39	851.29	3237.59	150.00
Other	17577.47	718.31	7488.00	331.52	59.65		1049.17	3351.99	7742.00	38718.11	5000.00
TOTAL LOCAL CAUSES	22459.98	1593.58	18531.90	4047.46	66.56	2982.60	3788.27	12786.72	15931.56	83688.63	
Co-op		60.00	2156.00			199.20	324.65	1269.29	289.10	4298.24	
Foreign Missions	1473.15		1401.00		40.00	193.09	56.15	379.32	219.25	3961.96	
Home Missions		60.00	3056.46	393.54	69.15	249.20	1396.16	71.00	31.00	5526.51	
Orphanage						77.00				77.00	
Assoc. Projects	1979.54						120.00	1269.29	75.00	3443.83	
Other		436.70	1487.37			153.24		155.00	203.00	2435.31	
TOTAL OUTSIDE CAUSES	3452.69	556.70	8100.83	393.54	09.15	871.73	1896.96	3143.90	817.35	19742.85	
TOTAL SPENT	25912.67	2150.28	26632.73	4441.00	75.71	3854.33	5685.23	15930.62	16748.91	103431.48	
Church Property	100000.00	15000.00	40000.00			20000.00	12000.00	26677.00	15000.00	228677.00	
Fees Enclosed	42.00	14.50		20.50	18.00	15.00		37.50		147.50	

## MINISTERIAL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your committee, have examined the following ministers, and found them in good standing:

Reported in person:

Morgan Walker, Bob Dickey, Thayne Fast, Andy Lay, Hollis Walker, Jr., Fidell Bridges, Leroy Blankenship, Steve Reeves, Lynn Smith, and John McClure.

/s/ Phillip Munn, Doris Whitson, Betty Wilks, John Bough, and Dee York.

## REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

April, 1978: The board members held their organizational meeting at the close of the association, April 1, 1978. The members and their term of service on the board is as follows.

1 year	2 years	3 years
Lural Mays	Charlie Hoover	Phil Munn
Andy Lay	Thayne Fast	John Bough
Morgan Walker	Dee York	Roger Phillips
Lowell Martin		

The board elected Andy Lay as chairman and Roger Phillips Sec. and Treas. The regular meeting time set was for a meeting to be held after each quarterly meeting. Other business was acted upon before adjournment.

June 3, 1978: Bethel FWB Church. The meeting was held in the pastors study and was opened by prayer by Bro. Charlie Hoover, Bro. Reeves announced his resignation as pastor of the Stockton Mission. It was voted to put the outstanding loans on the Stockton Mission into one loan. Other business was taken care and then we had special prayer for Bro. Reeves and the work at Stockton.

Sept. 2, 1978: Evangel FWB Church. The meeting was held after the regular quarterly meeting. After the normal opening proceedings. It was voted to catch up with the back housing allowance of Bro. Reeves. Hannon requested the examination and granting of a card of standing to their new pastor Bro. Jerry McArthur which was acted upon and approved. A discussion followed on willing the pulpit at the Stockton Mission. It was determined to contact Bro. Bill Christenson. After further discussion the meeting was adjourned.

Sept. 24, 1978: Stockton FWB Mission. The meeting was held after a farewell dinner for Bro. Reeves. As our chairman could not be present the Sec. and Treas. served as moderator. After normal opening proceedings. We then discussed the need of filling the pulpit. Bro. Jerry McArthur presented some thoughts we should consider about the mission. He suggested the calling of Bro. Roger Hall of Oklahoma for a tryout which was agreed upon. Special services were then planned for the mission with a question and answer period. After further discussion the meeting was adjourned.

Oct. 1, 1978: Stockton Mission. After opening the meeting with prayer, it was voted to have a vice-chairman elected as Bro. Andy could not be present due to other commitments. Bro. Charlie Hoover was voted in to serve as vice-chairman. We then discussed with Bro. Roger Hall concerning his filling the pulpit if the Lord led him to accept the position. After more discussion the meeting was adjourned.

Oct. 15, 1978: Stockton Mission. After opening the meeting with prayer a discussion was held concerning building a new entrance onto the mission. It was then discussed to hold revival services at the Mission. Bethel, Hannon and Verdella would be asked to take charge of the services. Bro. Grover Terry was then considered to come to the mission to consider filling the pulpit. The plans were further discussed and the meeting adjourned.

Oct. 22, 1978: Stockton Mission. The meeting was opened by chairman Bro. Andy Lay. After minutes and financial report were given a discussion was held on the revival to be held at the Mission. After some discussion we interviewed Bro. Grover Terry. We then voted to call Bro. John McClure to fill the pulpit Oct. 29th. if he was able to come on that day.

Oct. 29, 1978: Stockton Mission. The meeting was called and opened with prayer. The main business was to interview Bro. McClure for accepting the work at Stockton. We voted to call him for the position. Lewie Jeffries was to be called to fill the pulpit the 1st. Sunday in November. We then adjourned.

Nov. 8, 1978: Stockton Mission. This meeting was held with the Wednesday night prayer meeting group at the Stockton Mission. We enjoyed the discussion led by Sister Ramona York. After the closing prayer by Bro. John Coiner those in attendance were invited to ask questions as to the standing of the association and the executive board concerning the Mission and its operation. We then held a regular board meeting in the basement. We voted to see if Bro. McClure could attend the revival. We voted to notify the church to help with Bro. McClures moving expense. We then adjourned.

Dec. 2, 1978: First Church of ElDorado Springs. The meeting after the regular quarterly meeting, a discussion was held on planning the program for the association. It was decided to meet at Roger Phillips Jan. 20th., to plan the service. We were then dismissed.

Jan. 20, 1979: Roger Phillips. The meeting was opened by prayer offered by Rev. John McClure. A letter was presented by Hannon requesting that Bro. Lynn Smith be examined for ordination as a minister. A motion was made to seat Bro. Leroy Blankenship, Bro. Bob Dickey and Bro. John McClure as members of the board for this meeting. Rev. Fidell Bridges served as proxy for Bro. Lural Mays. We then interviewed Bro. Lynn Smith as requested. He was approved and ordination services will be planned at a later date. A report was given on the financial standing of the youth camp fund and mission fund. Bro. McClure gave a report as to the needs of the mission. Bro. John Bough gave a financial report on the mission. We then planned the program for the Association which will be held at Bethel Church March 30 and 31st. We then adjourned and refreshments were served.

# EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

## INCOME FOR 77 - 78:

Hickory Grove . . . . .	\$ 249.20	
Independence . . . . .	285.67	
Belton . . . . .	165.05	
Greenfield . . . . .	171.04	
ElDorado (First) . . . . .	110.00	
Evangel . . . . .	75.00	
Verdella . . . . .	1,555.33	
Oskaloosa . . . . .	1,470.31	
Bethel . . . . .	2,353.94	
Hannon . . . . .	<u>2,550.00</u>	
Total Income . . . . .		\$8,985.54

## EXPENSES:

Bro. Reeves Salary . . . . .	3,000.00	
Bro. Reeves Housing . . . . .	575.00	
Ministers filling the pulpit from Bro. Reeves resigning to the hiring of Bro. McClure . . . . .	650.00	
Bro. McClure Moving . . . . .	450.00	
Salary . . . . .	2,250.00	
Housing Allowance . . . . .	<u>460.00</u>	
Total Expenses . . . . .		<u>7,385.00</u>
Balance . . . . .		\$1,588.98

## CONSTITUTION

Article 1: Name and Composition. This organization shall be known as the Central Western Missouri Association of Free Will Baptists, and shall be composed of such consistent, well-regulated Free Will Baptist churches as shall from time to time unite with the organization and agree to this constitution.

Article 2: Purpose. The purpose of this organization shall be to unify the work of the various churches of which it is composed, and to promote plans for the extension of the Kingdom of God.

Article 3: Representation. Representation to this Association shall be those who are chosen by the churches of which it is composed; each church to be entitled to one delegate, and each church having twenty-five resident members, two delegates, with one delegate for each additional twenty-five members or major part thereof, together with all ordained deacons, ordained or licensed ministers and their companions who are members in good standing with the Free Will Baptist Church and the church clerks of the churches in this Association, and one delegate from each church represented in a Quarterly Meeting from the Central Western Missouri Association.

Section 2: A resident member shall be one in good standing who, if able, discharges his or her obligations to the church. All other members shall be considered non-resident.

Article 4: Discipline. Should a grievance arise which cannot be properly and satisfactorily settled in the local church, a request may be made to the Association that a council be appointed to advise or arbitrate; the decision of that council to be accepted as final.

Article 5: Officer. The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, an Assistant Clerk, a Treasurer, and Statistician; all said officers shall be elected annually at the regular session of the Association; and shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified.

Article 6: Boards. This Association shall maintain a Board, to be known as the Home Mission and Executive Board of the Central Western Missouri Association. This Board shall be made up of one ordained person from each church. If an ordained representative is not available, a church may recommend a non-ordained person, who otherwise meets the qualifications for ordination stated in these By-Laws. Such members shall be elected by the Association, with consideration given to the nominees submitted by their churches.

One third of the members of this board shall be elected each year, for a three year term of office. (The churches shall be listed alphabetically with the first third and fraction, if any, elected for a one year term; the second third and fraction, if any, elected for a two year term; and the third third elected for a three year term.)

The duties of this board shall be: to serve as trustees of any, and all, property belonging to the association; to serve as the examining council of the Association; to promote, and oversee Home Mission work within the Association; to act upon any expedient business of the Association that may arise between meetings of the Association.

The board must have at least a simple majority present to officially conduct business.

Article 7: This Association shall meet annually on Friday, following the fourth Sunday in March, and continue through Saturday night. It shall be the duty of the churches composing it to represent themselves by letter and delegate.

Article 8: Program. It shall be the duty of the Executive Board to plan and carry out the program of the Association.

Article 9: Amendments. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any regular session of this Association by a two-thirds vote of members present, provided notice of proposed alteration or amendments has been given to the church clerks of the member churches by the Executive Board 30 days prior to Association meeting.

#### BY-LAWS

Article 1: Each annual session of this Association shall be called to order by the Clerk or the Assistant Clerk, or in his or her absence the standing member having seniority in years of service. After the clerk of the one calling the assembly to order shall declare a quorum, he or she shall call the Moderator to the chair, or in his or her absence the standing member having seniority in years of service.

Article 2: Each session of this Association shall be open and closed with prayer.

Article 3: Delegates equal in number to the number of active churches and representing at least a simple majority of active churches shall constitute a quorum to transact business for the Association, but any less number shall adjourn.

Article 4: Regular Parliamentary procedure as set forth in "Robert's Rules of Order" shall be followed. The method of voting shall be determined by the Moderator unless one-third of the voters present dissent. No one shall be allowed to speak more



than five minutes nor more than twice on the same subject without the consent of the Conference.

Article 5: Section 1: The first item of business of the Association shall be to receive the church letters and seat the delegates. However, business shall not be suspended to wait for late or delayed letters. Such letters shall be received upon their arrival and their delegated seated.

Section 2: Item 1: The election of the officers of this Association shall be held at the closing business session of the regular session of the Association. They shall hold office until their successors are elected.

Section 2: Item 2: The Clerk-Treasurer shall supervise the printing of the minutes for the year of which they were Clerk-Treasurer.

Section 3: The second item of business of the Association shall be the report of the Executive Board.

Article 6: All committees or a Committee on Committees shall be appointed by the Moderator.

Article 7: It shall be the right of each church in the Association to determine its own fiscal year. We suggest March 1st to February 20 or 29.

Article 8: A committee of five lay members, qualified delegates to the Association, shall be chosen to look into the standing of the ministry of the Association and shall report to the Association for approval before adjournment.

Article 9: Section 1: It shall be the duty of the churches of the Association to accompany their church letter with five dollar (\$5.00) per church plus fifty cents (50¢) per resident member for the Central Western Missouri Association fund to be allocated thus: 15 per cent for honorarium for Associational Clerk, and 85 per cent for the Central Western Missouri Associational expense.

Section 2: The Associational Clerk is to reimburse our general board member from this Association to the State Association for gas, lodging and food, per receipts.

Article 10: Section 1: No one shall be ordained to the ministry in the Association until they have carried a license two years, or should they be called to pastor a church, they may be ordained in one year.

Section 2: Examination for ordination to the ministry may be carried out at the regular session of the Association, or as

otherwise directed by the Association. Examination for license of for ordination (both ministers and deacons) to be done at a time and place agreeable to both candidates and examining council. Ordination may be carried out in the local church (if desired) subsequent to examination and favorable action of the examining council.

Article 11: No one shall be licensed or ordained in this Association who is a user of Tobacco, alcohol, or who cannot qualify according to 1 Timothy 3:1-12 and Titus 1: 6-9.

Article 12: Section 1: It shall be required of the ministry of this Association to adhere to sound doctrine in both preaching and practice as embraced in our Threatise of Faith and Practice. It shall further be the duty of the active ministries to report each year by letter and at least once in three years in person. Ministers in the Armed Forces shall not be required to report in person during their term of service. All ministers meeting these requirements shall be granted a Certificate of Ministerial Standing when and if approved by the appointed Committee on Ministerial Standing.

Section 2: All aged or afflicted ministers, who so desire, may be enrolled on the superannuated list, not being required to report to the Association in order to have a Certificate.

Article 13: These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any session of the Association by a two-thirds vote of members present, providing that a notice of proposed change has been given to the church clerks of the member churches by the Executive Board 30 days prior to the Association meeting.

## CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Jesus Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world, from all sanction of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to provide things honest in the sight of all men.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to 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 in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We will not forsake 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 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 influences 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 education and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.