

Minutes

of the 72nd Annual Session

of the
**Central Western
Missouri Association**
of

Free Will Baptists

When Convened With
Evangel Free Will Baptist Church
Friday Evening, March 28, 1980

The 73rd Annual Session
Will Meet With the

First Free Will Baptist Church
of

El Dorado Springs

Friday Evening, March 27, 1981

MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL WESTERN ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

BETHEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

March 30, 1980

MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS
1980

OFFICERS

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

EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION BOARD

1. OSKALOOSA. DEACON PHILLIP MUNN. 1981
2. STOCKTON DEACON JOHN BOUGH. 1981
3. VERDELLA DEACON ROGER PHILLIPS. 1981
4. BETHEL REV. FIDELL BRIDGES. 1982
5. EVANGEL. REV. STEVEN SHAW 1982
6. ELDORADO SPRINGS FIRST REV. MORGAN WALKER 1982
7. GREENFIELD REV. LOWELL MARTIN 1982
8. HANNON DEACON CHARLEY HOOVER. 1983
9. HICKORY GROVE. REV. THAYNE FAST 1983
10. INDEPENDENCE DEACON DEE YORK. 1983

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
Evelyn Simpson, 725 W. Broadway, Webb City, MO 64870
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, MO
Lucille Franklin, 403 Toney Ave., Greenfield, MO 65661
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, Stockton, MO 65785
OSKALOOSA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Arcadia, KS
Martha Morris, 1002 W. Third, Pittsburg, KS 66762
STOCKTON FREE WILL BAPTIST MISSION CHURCH, Stockton, MO
Rev. John McClure, Home Missionary, Box 407, Stockton, MO 65785
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. Steven C. Shaw, 503 Lone Elm, 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, MO
Rev. Winford Davis, Monett, MO 65708
HANNON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO
Rev. Bob Dickey, Liberal, MO 64762
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, Box 52, Jerico Springs, MO 64756
OSKALOOSA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Arcadia, KS
Rev. Cecil Campbell, Stella, MO 64867
STOCKTON FREE WILL MISSION CHURCH, Stockton, MO
Rev. John McClure, Home Missionary, Box 407, Stockton, MO 65785
VERDELLA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO
Rev. Stan Bunch, Rt. 2, Liberal, MO 64762

MINISTERS OF CENTRAL WESTERN ASSOCIATION

Rev. Fidell Bridges, Eldorado Springs, MO; Rev. John McClure, Stockton, MO; Steven Shaw, Liberal, MO; Rev. Andy Lay, 13 Tanglewood, Carl Junction, MO; Rev. Elwood Perry, Jerico Springs, MO; Morgan Walker, Eldorado Springs, MO; Thayne Fast, Liberal, MO; Bob Dickey, Liberal, MO; Hollis Walker Jr. and Stan Bunch. Superannuated; Rev. Lowell Martin, Greenfield, MO, and Rev. Arley Hoover, Liberal, MO

PROCEEDINGS

Friday Evening, March 28, 1980

The 72nd annual session of Central Western Missouri Free Will Baptist Association convened with the Evangel Church. The clerk called the meeting to order, and called the Moderator, Charley Hoover to the chair to conduct business.

Bro. Charley made comment concerning the theme "Why sit we here until we die" from 2 Kns: 7, and admonished the body to consider the blessing pronounced on the good servant for his faithfulness, found in Matt. 25:21, and follow orders given in Neh. 4 to rise and build.

Announcements were made concerning the session on Saturday morning, and churches encouraged to get letters in, with elected delegates names to be made available for the selection of committees.

Cindy Thompson led the congregation in signing "At Calvary", as an offering amounting to \$66.00 was taken to help defray expenses.

A beautiful duet was sung by Cindy Thompson and Earlene Gillman, which contributed to the solemnity of the message of the hour, brought by Bro. Stan Bunch. From 2 Kings 7, he called attention to the great need for God's people to be in a place to be used of God to bring hope, courage, strength, and purpose to the lives of lost and needy people, in love and humility.

Lethergy and lack of the understanding of God's word, as to what God expects of those who have been recipients of His salvation, was cited as the indirect reason for the astounding rise of the Cultist move in America, and all over the world. Because of the failure of the church to provide answers to the hearts cry of multitudes of people, they follow blindly any idea which seems to provide hope, and give purpose to their life.

The speaker pointed to the fact that it is selfish to fail to share the glad tidings of God's wonderful grace, and the needs of others should always be our priority. To honestly desire Truth, will without fail lead to enlightenment, and christians need to be in the right place to be used of God to give the answer. It is imperative that we are in the right place, as the blood of the souls of men will be required at our hand.

At the close of the message the moderator announced the committees to work on various phases of business for Saturday, and Bro. Hollis Walker pronounced the benediction.

Saturday Morning 9:45 Business Session, March 29, 1980

The Morning session opened by congregational singing, led by Bro. Bob Dickey, and Sister Paula McClure at the piano, "Praise the Lord".

The moderator called the business session to order for business, and asked Bro. John and Sister Paula McClure to sing. They sang "Jesus is all the world to me" very beautifully.

Bro. Fidell Bridges brought a timely message in a short devotional from Neh. 4:6, pointing out the expediency of God's people working with dedicated willingness, earnestness, eagerness, and love while we yet have a short time to work at trying to accomplish what has been set forth as our duty. He stressed that the only way that can be done is when they become conscious of the seriousness of the mission, and automatically forsake everything else, giving it priority.

The moderator asked Bro. Roger Phillips to read the By-laws, and called for the reading of church letters, and seating of delegates.

Motion carried to seat delegates, and proceed with business.

Report of Stockton Mission read. M/S/C to accept.

Report of Treasurer read M/S/C to accept.

Bro. Clarence Burton, Missouri State Promotional Secretary, was given opportunity at this time to bring whatever word he would

like to concerning the work at the state level. His news was encouraging of the work in general, and it was a privilege to have him with us in our yearly meeting.

After some announcements a ten minute intermission was declared before giving way for the Woman's Auxiliary took charge for their worship service.

Woman's Auxiliary Session 11:00 A.M., March 29, 1980
Theme: "Lest Thou Forget" Deut. 6, 12-13

The meeting opened with Paula McClure at the piano, and Cindy Thompson leading the congregation in singing "The Light of the World is Jesus".

President, Alice Hoover then welcomed each one present. Bro. Dickey led in prayer. Cindy led the congregation in singing "Can the World See Jesus in You?" Paula McClure rendered a beautiful special song "Lead Me to Calvary".

Bro. Cecil Campbell brought the message, using Psalms 78:1-37. After the reading of the scripture, he prayed a very moving prayer for revival. He did an excellent job bringing out the auxiliary theme of "Lest Thou Forget", in his message. He warned how easy it is to forget that we as christians are to put Him first in our lives. Also that we have left the fundamentals. He also reminded us of how much God has blessed America, and how much we have forgotten what God says in His Word. Bro. Campbell ended his message with prayer.

The president appointed Juanita Smith, Wilma Smith, and Ionia Phillips as a nominating committee. Sister Martha Nutting dismissed with prayer, and asked the blessing on the noon meal.

Woman's Auxiliary Business Session 1:30 P.M.

Session was called together by Doris Whitson leading in prayer with Ramona York at the piano, and Cindy Thompson as song leader, the congregation sang "Open My Eyes, That I May See". Sister Marian Shaw gave the devotion, using John 4:35-38. Several thoughts were brought to our minds, to lift up our eyes and take them off self, and to do the sowing even if we aren't the one to do the reaping.

Cindy Thompson sang "Remind Me Dear Lord", with Mrs. Shaw at the piano. An offering of \$41.80 was taken with Sister Dorothy Dickey asking the blessing on it. The congregation sang "Make Me a Channel of Blessing".

A skit "Model, Mannaquin, or for real", was well presented by Brenda Bunch, Linda Bussone, and Cindy Young, of the Verdella church.

The president then presented our afternoon speaker, Sister LaRue Horn. The theme of her message was "Seven Gifts to Success". These gifts were prophecy, serving, teaching, exhortation, giving, organization, and mercy. We were given thought on how to let these gifts be manifest through ourselves and others.

Another congregational song "We've a Story to tell to the Nations".

Motion made, seconded and carried that the new president be given power to appoint delegates to the State Association Auxiliary.

The nominating committee recommended the following as officers: President, Brenda Bunch; Vice President, Joan Owen; Secretary-Treasurer, Lita Munn. M/S/C to accept their recommendation.

Prayer of dedication, and benediction by Sister Virginia Bunton.

Saturday Afternoon Business Session 3:00 P.M. March 29, 1980

The moderator called the house to order for resuming the business of the association.

Report of the Statistician read. M/S/C to receive.

Report of the Ministerial Standing Committee read. M/S/C to receive.

Report of the Business Committee read, and M/S/C to receive 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

The matter of the meeting place for the quarterly meeting was discussed, and although it is to go from church to church in alphabetical order, a committee was named to be responsible for being sure it is possible for the church in line of order, to entertain. This committee is: Roger Phillips, Bob Dickey, Phillip Munn, and Charley Hoover.

M/S/C to empower the moderator to appoint delegates to the State Association, from those in attendance at the State Meeting.

The 1981 session of the Central Western Association will be held at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Eldorado Springs.

Report of the Nominating Committee was read. M/S/C to receive.

Meeting was adjourned to meet in session on Friday evening March 27, 1981.

Saturday Evening Worship Service March 29, 1980

The evening service opened with a congregational song, "Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus", led by Bro. Bob Hopkins with Sister Barbara Hopkins at the piano. A welcome to the service by Moderator Charlie Hoover.

Singers for the evening were Bob and Barbara Hopkins and Sister Janie Dickey. Following several special numbers we were led in prayer by Rev. Stan Bunch.

Speakers of the evening were Mrs. Steve Reeves speaking on their up coming summer missionary trip to Spain and Bro. Steve preaching from Philippians 3:9-14.

Invitational song sung by Bro. Bob Hopkins. "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus". Offering \$120.00 was taken and given to Bro. & Sister Steve Reeves. Benediction by Bro. Marvin Long.

REGISTRATION

MINISTERS - Rev. Hollis Walker Jr., Rev. Stan Bunch, Rev. Steve Shaw, Rev. Elwood Perry, Rev. Bob Dickey, Rev. John McClure, Rev. Clarence Burton, Rev. Thayne Fast, Rev. Fidell Bridges, Rev. Morgan Walker, Rev. Lester Nutting, and Rev. Cecil Campbell.

ELECTED DELIGATES - Brent Thompson, Virginia Hoover, Lita Munn, John Grider, Judy Ayers, Jean Owens, Wilma Smith, Doris Whitson, Hazel Fleeman, Finley White, Ramona York.

DEACONS - Don Smith, Phil Munn, Reed Smith, Bob Selvey, Roger Phillip, Charley Hoover, and Orville Foger.

VISITORS - Mr. and Mrs. Claud Gullick, Ruby Rodney, Donald Simpson, Marion Shaw, Earlene Gillman, Thelma Dickey, Alice Hoover, Nancy Fleeman, Stella White, Matthew York, Frances Foger, and J. R. Smith.

CHURCH CLERKS - Evelyn Simpson, Margaret Smith, Martha Morris.

STANDING DELEGATES - Margaret Walker, Mary E. Perry, Paula McClure, Mrs. Thayne Fast, and Brenda Bunch.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

1. We encourage the churches to raise money for the addition on the boys cabin at the Youth Camp.
2. We encourage the churches to continue support for the Stockton Mission, as the fund is getting low. We recommend that each church make an effort to help in some way.
3. We recommend that we give the Evangel Church a standing vote of thanks for the fine job they have done in hosting this association.

/s/ Phillip Munn, Jean Owens, Brent Thompson, Januita Smith, Orville Foger, Ramona York.

MINISTERIAL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, your committee on Ministerial standing, have examined the reports of these ministers, and found them to be in good standing.

Reported in person:

Fidell Bridges, John McClure, Steven Craig Shaw, Andy Lay, Elwood Perry, Morgan Walker, Thayne Fast, Bob Dickey, Stan Bunch, Hollis Walker Jr.

/s/ Fidell Bridges, Lita Munn, Harold Smith, Roger Phillips, Hollis Walker Jr., Morgan Walker.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

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

Moderator: Charley Hoover
Assistant Moderator: Phillip Munn
Clerk-Treasurer: Thora Grider
Assistant Clerk: Ionia Phillips

Statistician: Lita Munn
Itinerant Contact: Bob Dickey
State General Board Member: Charley Hoover

Executive and Home Mission Board members for a term of three years:
Charley Hoover, Dee York, Thayne Fast.

/s/ Fidell Bridges, Lita Munn, Harold Smith, Roger Phillips, Hollis Walker Jr., Morgan Walker.

Association Treasurer's Report from Marct, 1979-March, 1980

Balance, March 1979.	\$183.49
Receipts:	
Chruch Budget Money.	\$220.50
Association Offering	75.00
State Expense Money.	10.00
Total Receipts	<u>305.50</u>
	\$488.99

Disbursements:

Association Minutes	\$ 84.00
State Expense.	45.00
Association Programs	13.88
Clerk's Honorarium	33.07
Telephone Calls.	4.63
Mailing All Minutes.	9.78
General Board Member's Expense to State. . .	107.78
Total Disbursements.	<u>298.11</u>
Balance, March, 1980	\$190.88

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE BOARD FROM MARCH 31, 1979 TO MARCH 28, 1980

Moderator, Charley Hoover; Assistant Chairman, John Bough; Secretary-Treasurer, Roger Phillips; Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Phillip Munn.

March 31, 1979: Bethel FWB Church. The meeting was held during the association, to examine Bro. Steven Reeves and Bro. John McClure for ordination. After examination a vote was taken to approve them for ordination. A discussion followed on Bro. McClure's salary. A motion was made to increase it to \$100.00, per month, and received a second. It was left to him as to how he received it-as a salary, or on an allowance.

After the association closed the Board met to organize, for the following year. The officers named above were nominated, and voted in for the coming year. The next quarterly meeting was to meet with Greenfield FWB Church, June 2 at 7:00 p.m.

April 21, 1979: Greenfield FWB Church. This meeting was called to go over the Constitution and By-Laws for the Stockton Church. The meeting was called to order by the moderator, Bro. Charley Hoover, with reading of scripture, Bro. John McClure led in prayer. A discussion was then entered into as to the possibility of putting a new entrance addition on the church door, at Stockton. A motion was made and seconded to build the addition, and approve the appointment of a committee to draw up plans.

STATISTICAL TABLE

	Bethel	ElDorado First	Hanna	Greenfield	Inde	Hickory Grove	Oskaloosa	Verdella	Webb City Evangel	TOTAL	Stockton Mission
Members Received	9	0	3	0	0	0	0	6	6	24	
Members Lost	7	0	0	0	0	2	6	5	4	24	
Members Deceased	2	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	7	
Total Membership	72	26	89	36	12	19	24	60	48	386	
Sunday School Ave.	94	12	70	24	8	16	15	68	30	337	16
Women's Auxiliary	15	0	20	0	0	0	8	16	0	59	
Ordained Ministers	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	11	
Licensed Ministers	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	4	Payment on
Ordained Deacons	1	1	3	0	3	0	2	4	0	14	Property
											4076.64
Pastor Salary	7174.38	780.00	8500.00	3667.50	1225.0	2755.00	2731.16	8561.00	6055.00	41449.04	125.00/wk
Evangelistic	936.11	0.00	406.37	378.00	450.0	0.00	206.00	935.40	0.00	3311.88	236.58
Building Repair	11153.67	39.90	0.00	0.00	80.1	353.46	0.00	0.00	321.22	11948.44	1295.16
Literature	558.86	101.41	718.25	128.60	75.7	109.55	308.42	1095.74	0.00	3096.54	252.64
Other	12367.51	0.00	9624.62	558.01	166.5	824.62	1569.33	2578.08	1519.16	29207.85	911.90
TOTAL LOCAL CAUSES	32190.53	921.31	19249.24	4732.11	1997.4	4042.63	4814.91	13170.22	7895.38	89013.75	
Co-op	0.00	60.00	2470.50	0.00	0.00	280.00	246.06	1371.82	589.95	5018.33	
Foreign Missions	1251.01	0.00	1706.25	0.00	250.0	149.67	70.00	240.00	111.12	3778.05	
Home Missions	2594.64	60.00	2943.31	248.60	212.7	213.00	1232.78	1371.82	0.00	8876.89	
Orphanage	0.00	61.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	92.28	0.00	0.00	0.00	153.28	
Assoc. Projects	93.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	200.0	0.00	120.00	120.00	0.00	533.52	
Other	421.93	0.00	2605.88	0.00	0.00	26.00	0.00	0.00	110.00	3163.81	
TOTAL OUTSIDE CAUSES	4361.10	181.00	9725.94	248.60	662.7	760.95	1668.84	3103.64	811.07	21523.88	
TOTAL SPENT	36551.63	1102.31	28975.18	4980.71	2660.1	4803.58	6483.75	16273.86	8706.45	110537.63	
Church Property	125000.00	15000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	20000.00	12000.00	26677.00	42000.00	214000.00	50000.00

The Board was to meet at Stockton on May 13, to go over plans, and the Board heard the reading of the Constitution and By-Laws, which Bro. John McClure had drawn up, for the Stockton Church. After a discussion, and making a few changes, it was voted to approve them and commend Bro. McClure for the fine job he had done in drawing them up.

After adjournment, the Greenfield Church served refreshments.

May 13, 1979: Stockton FWB Church. The meeting was called to order after Bro. John McClure's ordination service was concluded. The purpose of the meeting was to go over plans for the new entrance to the building at Stockton Church, which Bro. McClure had presented. After discussion it was voted to accept the plan, and the meeting was adjourned.

June 2, 1979: Greenfield FWB Church. The meeting was called after the quarterly meeting adjourned. Reports were read, approved, and accepted. No items of business were brought up, so the meeting adjourned. Refreshments were served by the Greenfield Church.

September 1, 1979: Hannon FWB Church. The Quarterly Meeting was held during revival services conducted by the Jones family. The Executive Board met after regular services closed. A report from Evangel Church was made for their pastor.

Bro. Steven Shaw was examined for ordination, and the Board voted to grant the request for his ordination.

Bro. Steven Shaw was appointed to the Executive and Home Mission Board, to replace Bro. Andy Lay, who accepted a position in an office of State Free Will Baptist Association.

Independence FWB Church requested the Board to examine their pastor, Bro. Elwood Perry, for a license. The Board decided to honor their request at a date convenient for him. Meeting adjourned.

September 16, 1979: Stockton FWB Church. The purpose of the meeting was to examine Bro. Elwood Perry, and grant him a Card of Standing in the Central Western Missouri Association. Following his report the Card was granted.

Insurance on the church at Stockton, with the new entrance, was discussed.

Refreshments were served by the women of the church.

December 1, 1979: Hickory Grove FWB Church. The Board met at the conclusion of the Quarterly Meeting. Seven members were present. Fellowship and attendance at the quarterly meetings was discussed, and gratitude was expressed for the good meetings during the year.

It was decided to meet in January to plan the association programs, and the business session was adjourned.

January 26, 1979: This meeting was held at the Roger Rhillips home, with seven members, and one guest, Bro. Stan Bunch, the new pastor at Verdella, present. The program for the yearly association, when convened March 28-29, was planned.

At the conclusion of the business meeting refreshments, and a time of fellowship was enjoyed.

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT

INCOME FOR 1979 - 1980:

Hickory Grove.	\$ 213.00	
Hannon	2254.17	
Greenfield	248.60	
Verdella	1617.20	
ElDorado (First)	60.00	
Oskaloosa.	1025.78	
Bethel	2598.39	
Independence	<u>212.74</u>	
Total Income.		\$8229.88

EXPENSES:

Bro. John McClure Salary	\$6500.00	
Bro. John McClure Housing Allow.	2580.00	
Sheila Secretarial Service (Programs).	<u>14.80</u>	
Total Expenses.		\$9094.80

YOUTH CAMP CABIN FUND REPORT

Balance on hand April 1, 1979.	\$ 393.17
Hannon Church and Womens Auxiliary	600.00
Bethel Church and Womens Auxiliary	164.91
Hannon Church.	100.00
Verdella Church.	<u>100.00</u>
Balance on hand March 20, 1980	\$1358.08

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 delegates 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 dollars (\$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.