MINUTES

85TH ANNUAL SESSION

CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI ASSOCIATION

OF

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

WHEN CONVENED WITH THE
BETHEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
ELDORADO SPRINGS, MISSOURI

FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 19, 1993

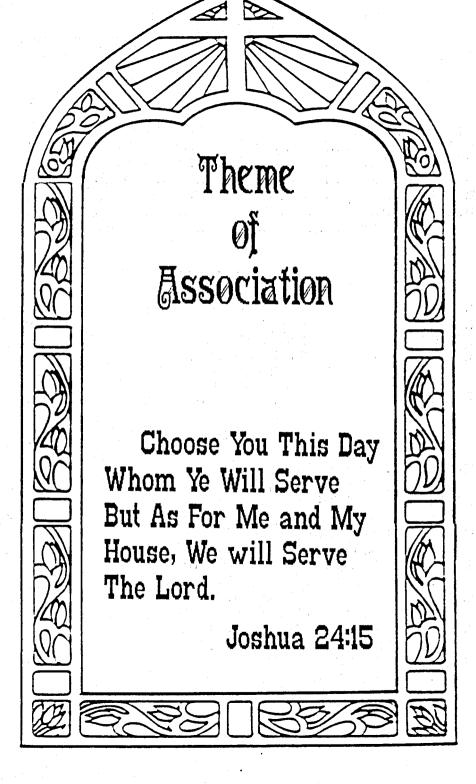
86TH ANNUAL SESSION

WILL MEET WITH THE

GREENFIELD FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

GREENFIELD, HISSOURI

FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 18, 1994



MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS 1993

OFFICERS

Moderator	Rev. Bill Ragsdale. Stockton. MO
Assistant Moderator	Rev. Bob Dickey, Liberal, MO
Clerk-Treasurer	
Asst. Clerk-Treasurer	
Statistician	
Itinerant Contact	
State Gen. Board Member	

EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION BOARD

l.	Bethel	Deacon Lural Mays	1994
2.	Greenfield	Deacon Jess Moody	1994
3.	Hannon	Deacon Charlie Hoover	1995
4.	Hickory Grove	Rev. Thayne Fast	1995
5.	Oskaloosa	Bro. Charles Do Byns	1996
6.	Stockton	Deacon John Bough	1996
7.	Verdella	Deacon Randy Sprenkle	1996

CHURCH CLERKS

BETHEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, ElDorado Springs, MO
Lois Smith, 1102 S. Kirkpatrick, ElDorado Springs, MO 64744
GREENFIELD FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, South Allison
Lucille Franklin, 403 Toney Avenue, Greenfield, MO 65661
HANNON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO
Margaret Smith, P.O. Box 274, Liberal, MO 64762
HICKORY GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Harrisonville, MO
Glenna Stackhouse, Rt. 1, Box 74, Archie, MO 64725
OSKALOOSA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO
Wilma Smith, Rt. 1, Box 17B, Liberal, MO 64762
STOCKTON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Stockton, MO
Bill Ragsdale, Rt. 3, Box 46, Stockton, MO 65785
VERDELLA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO
Ruth Foger, Route 3, Box 39, Liberal, MO 64762

MINISTERS OF CHURCHES

BETHEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, ElDorado Springs, MO Rev. Warren Hall, Rt. 3, Box 424, ElDorado Springs, MO 64744 GREENFIELD FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Greenfield, MO

Rev. Bob Dickey, P. O. Box 53, Liberal, MO 64762

HANNON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO

Rev. George Naumann, P. O. Box 122, Liberal, MO 64762 HICKORY GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Harrisonville, MO

Rev. Thayne Fast, 945 NW 50th LN, Liberal, MO 64762

OSKALOOSA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO

Rev. Hollis Walker, Jr., P. O. Box 15, Liberal, MO 64762

STOCKTON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Stockton, MO

Rev. Bill Ragsdale, Rt. 3, Box 46, Stockton, MO 65785

VERDELLA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO

Rev. Milan Ruble, Liberal, MO 64762

PROCEEDINGS Friday Evening, March 19, 1993, 7:30 P.M.

The 85th Annual session of the Central Western Missouri Association of Free Will Baptists convened with the Bethel Church.

Bro. Warren Hall, pastor of the Church, extended a welcome to those present and then led in prayer.

With Nancy Mays at the piano and Larry West as song leader, the congregation sang "My Redeemer" and "It Is Nine".

Clerk, Doris Whitson, declared a quorum present and turned the meeting to Bro. Bill Ragsdale, Moderator.

Bro. Bill gave the Moderator's message using Josh 24:15 and Acts 5:29.

The Congregation them sang, "He Hideth My Soul". The Associational Choir sang "He Hideth My Soul".

A trio composed of Nancy Mays, Linda Hall and Jeannie Baldwin sang "Learning to Lean".

Bro. Milan Ruble brought the evening message, using II Peter 1: 12,13,14 and Josh 24:15 as his scripture.

The invitation song was "Just As I Am".

An offering of \$80.70 was taken with Warren Hall and Bobby Joe Chism as ushers, Bro. Hall asked the blessing on the offering.

Bro. Bill Ragsdale dismissed the session with prayer.

Saturday Morning, 9:45 A.M., Business Session, March 20, 1993

The Moderator opened the business session by calling on Bro. George Naumann to lead in prayer.

With Nancy Mays at the piano and Moderator, Bro. Bill Ragsdale as song leader, the Congregation sang "When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder" and "I Would Not Be Denied".

Special music was by a trio from the Verdella Church, Regina Sprenkle, Charles Whitson and Milan Ruble, they sang "Sweet Hour of Prayer".

Bro. Bob Dickey gave the devotion using the theme Josh 24:15.

Church letters were read by the Clerk. M/S/C to seat delegates.

Bro. George Naumann read the by-laws.

The appointing of Committees were made by the Moderator.

Roger Phillips gave the financial report of the Executive Board. M/S/C/ to accept as read.

The Clerk-Treasurer's report was given by Doris Whitson. M/S/C to accept.

Statistician, Virginia Hoover, was absent because of illness, the Moderator gave her report. M/S/C to accept as read.

Bro. Nathan Ruble, State Promotional Secretary was present, and gave some reports and announcements of coming events.

- We were dismissed with prayer by Bro. Bob Dickey.

Woman's Auxiliary, 11:00 A.M. Session, March 20, 1993

Meeting was called to order by President Regina Sprenkle. Prayer by Marcella Ruble. Welcome given by Rhonda Culbertson of the Bethel Church. Response given by Ruth Foger.

Song Service was led by Nancy Mays, pianist Jeanie Baldwin with Congregation singing "Where He Leads I'll Follow", and "Count Your Blessings".

Nominating committee was appointed by the Pres. as follows: Ruth Foger, Nancy Mays, & Barbara Hopkins. Offering was taken by Randy Sprenkle and Addis Foger followed with prayer by Pres. Regina Sprenkle. Offering was \$60.00

Special was sung by Joan Kirby and Barbara Hopkins, "The Old Rugged Cross".

Pres. Regina Sprenkle introduced the speaker Sis. Judy Ruble. Scripture taken from Joshua 24:1-15. Thoughts taken from the 15th verse, "As For Me and My House We Will Serve the Lord. Also, Psalm 116 referring to David calling on God. Sister Judy read a poem, "The Church and the World", followed by prayer.

Dismissed for lunch time by Bro Bill Ragsdale with blessing on the noon meal.

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

Afternoon business session was opened by Pres. Regina Sprenkle. Song service led by Nancy Mays with Jeannie Baldwin at the piano, singing "When We All Get To Heaven" and "What a Day That Will Be. Prayer by Ruth Foger.

Skit by the Bethel Church, "You Want Me to Come To Auxiliary?" Sis Regina

Sang, "I Am Not Ashamed of the Gospel".

Secretary report was incomplete. Treasure report was read by Wilma Smith. Report was M/S/C as read.

The morning offering of \$60.00 was voted to go to the speaker Sis Judy Ruble.

The slate of officers presented by the nominating committee were elected as follows: President, Diane Naumann; Vice President, Virginia Hoover; Secretary, Linda Hall; Treasurer, Alice Hoover. Members at large are Nancy Mays, Wilma Smith, Loretta Ragsdale and Regina Sprenkle.

It was suggested each auxiliary raise money for the missionaries, the Moores, during the month of April, M/S/C. Money to be sent to the district treasurer by 5/15/93. Suggested offering to the state was 20/foreign/10 national/5 state from each auxiliary.

Discussed Mother-Daughter Banquet, attentive date in May. Stonecroft retreat in August. All ladies urged to attend.

It was suggested our yearly dues be raised to \$3.50 per member next year. To be discussed at our local auxiliaries. A minimum of \$10 a month to be sent to the National for expenses.

Initiation of officers by Regina Sprenkle. Dismissed in prayer by Nancy Mays.

Saturday Afternoon Business Session, 3:00 P.M., March 20, 1993

Moderator called the afternoon business session to order.

With Nancy Mays at the piano and Bro. Bill Ragsdale as song leader the congregation sang "Send the Light".

Ministerial Committee report was read M/S/C/ to accept.

Obituary Committee report was read M/S/C to accept, at the conclusion of the report Bro. Bill Ragsdale led in prayer.

Nominating Committee report read M/S/C to accept as read.

Business Committee report read M/S/C to accept and then was discussed item by item.

M/S/C to accept Oskaloosa's recommendation of Charles Do Byns to replace Reed Smith on the Executive Board. Also accepted the recommendation of Verdella Church to replace Roger Phillips with Randy Sprenkle, and to retain John Bough as recommended by the Stockton Church.

M/S/C to give power to Moderator or Assistant to appoint delegates to State from those in attendance.

Late afternoon Worship Service began with congregational singing. With Sonny Smith as song leader and Nancy Mays at the piano the Congregation sang "I Would Not Be Denied" and "Mansion Over the Hilltop".

An offering of \$76.00 was taken with George Naumann and Randy Sprenkle as ushers. Randy asked the blessing on the offering. The offering went to Bro. Dale Skiles, our speaker.

The Congregation sang "Love Lifted Me". Special music was a song by Alice Hoover, "Dust on The Alter". Another special was "How Great Thou Art", sang by Bro. Paul Cole.

The third special song was "The Sun's Coming Up in The Morning", by Nancy Mays.

Bro. Dale Skiles, Director of State Home Missions for the State of MO talked about his work. He used Gal. 5:1 as the scripture text for his message.

M/S/C to adjourn the 85th Annual Session to meet again, March 18th, 19th, 1994 at Greenfield.

Bro. Roger Phillips led in the dismissal prayer.

REGISTRATION

- MINISTERS Warren S. Hall, Bill Ragsdale, Lynn Smith, Milan Ruble, George Naumann, Bob Dickey, Hollis Walker and Thayne Fast.
- DEACONS Roger Phillips, Charles Whitson, Randy Sprenkle, Charlie Hoover, Lural Mays and Reed Smith.
- DELEGATES Lois Smith, Dorothy Dickey, Jim Holder, Maxine Holder, Marcella Ruble, Dianne Naumann, Addis Foger, Ruth Foger, Wilma Smith, Linda Hall, Lucille Franklin, Betty Crutcher, Charles Do Byns, Betty Do Byns Elnora Fast, Nancy Mays, Hazel Fleeman, Alice Hoover, Margaret Walker and Doris Whitson.
- VISITORS Alene Lee, Loretta, Sarah and Benjamin Ragsdale, Bobby Joe Chism,
 Mary Chism, Diane Smith, Jeanie Baldvin, Larry West, Blanch Eslinger, Roy
 Holder, Heather Hall, Jonathon Hall, Sarah Hall, Kim Hall, Nathan Ruble,
 Judy Ruble, Bill Ruble, Dale Skiles, Chris Do Byns, Pat Do Byns, J. R.
 Smith, Rhonda Culbertson, Nancy Fleeman, Geneva Collins, Gina Smith and
 Sonny Smith.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

 Elect a three member missions steering committee to plan and promote the feasibility of a new mission project for Central Western Association. Make recommendations and report at each quarterly meeting.

Warren Hall, Milan Ruble and George Naumann volunteered to be on this committee.

II. Recommended by Executive Committee that we help the Stockton Mission to pay for needed termite extermination. The Assoc. from Missions Funds pay \$567.00 and the Mission pay \$189.00 of the total cost of treatment of \$756.00.

III. Give Bethel a standing vote of thanks for hosting the Association.

Signed,

Warren Hall Jim Holder Charles Whitson Charlie Hoover George Naumann

MINISTERIAL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

We the Ministerial Standing Committee agree to give all ministers in good report a card of standing with the recommendation that Bro Thayne Fast come before the Executive Board for better understanding of his obligations. We recommend and encourage that all ministers attend all conferences and Church meetings from beginning to end, encouraging and requesting the presence of their deacons and church workers to attend as well.

Signed: Addis Foger, Randy Sprenkle, Reed Smith, Maxine Holder and Betty

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The following people were suggested by the Nominating Committee:

Crutcher.

Moderator - Bill Ragsdale; Assistant Moderator - Bob Dickey; Clerk-Treasurer - Doris Whitson; Assistant Clerk-Treasurer - Ruth Foger; Statistician - Virginia Hoover; Itinerant Contact - Jim Holder; General Board Members - Reed Smith.

Signed: Bob Dickey Geneva Collins, Lucille Franklin, Dianne Naumann and Dorothy Dickey.

OBITUARY COMMITTEE REPORT

It is our recommendation that the congregation stand in a moment of silent prayer for our beloved deceased since the last Associational Meeting. Our deceased are: Harold Smith and Naomi Budd, Hannon; Orville Foger, Verdella; Jess Davidson, Greenfield; Ruby Pracht, Bethel.

At this time we also want to remember and honor Fidell Bridges, he was a former pastor in our Association. He was instrumental in starting the Bethel Church, he pastored it for at least 20 years and then pastored at Stockton and Greenfield Churches for a time.

Signed: Nancy Mays, Marcella Ruble and Alice Hoover.

MINISTER'S REPORTS

Rev. Bill Ragsdale - Sermons preached, 93; Churches pastored, 1; Miles traveled 5,700; Money received, \$12,000.00.

Rev. Warren Hall - Sermons preached, 102; Churches pastored, 1; Professions witnessed, 1; Additions to Church 2; Funerals preached, 6; Miles traveled 6,806; Money received \$17,230.00. Weddings performed, 2.

Rev. Thayne Fast - Sermons preached, 46; Churches pastored 1; Funerals preached, 1; Hiles traveled, 9,000; Money received \$2,300.00; Weddings performed, 1.

Minister's Report (Con't)

Rev. Milan J. Ruble - Sermons preached, 52; Churches pastored, 1; Revivals held, 2: Professions witnessed, 2: Number baptized, 6: Funerals preached, 1: Miles traveled. 6.000.00: Money received \$3.500.00. Rev. Bob Dickey - Sermons preached, 105; Churches pastored, 1; Additions to Church, 5: Funerals preached, 12: Miles traveled, 7.500: Money received \$6,500.00; Weddings performed. 2. Rev. Hollis Walker Jr. - Sermons preached. 73: Churches pastored 1: Additions to church, 3: Money received, \$3,821.26: Weddings performed, 3. Rev. George Naumann - Sermons preached, 108: Churches pastored, 2: Professions witnessed. 1: Additions to Church. 2: Funerals preached. 4: Miles traveled. 8.500: Money received. \$16.000.00. ASSOCIATIONAL CLERKS FINANCIAL REPORT MARCH 1. 1992 - MARCH 1. 1993 Balance Brought Forward, March 1, 1992.....\$214.27 Receipts: \$345.00 Budget Money Missions Offering \$137.16 Saturday Offering \$ 60.00 Total Receipts..... Disbursements: Missions off. to Curt Holland \$137.16 State & Nat'l Dues \$105.00 Minutes \$138.80 Sat. Offering to Bro. Burton \$ 60.00 General Board Mem. Exp. \$110.00 Elec. at Youth Camp \$ 20.00 Checks \$ 5.56 Total Disbursements......\$576.52

Balance in Bank, March 1, 1993.....\$179.91

	BETHEL	GREENFIELD	HANNON	Hickory GROVE	OSKALOOSA	STOCKTON	VERDELLA	TOTAL
Members Received Members Lost Members Deceased Total Membership S. S. Average Woman's Auxiliary Ordained Ministers Licensed Ministers Ordained Deacons	2 0 0 35 58 16 1 0	5 0 1 17 22 0 1 0	2 2 2 116 90 18 3 0	0 0 0 23 8 0 1 0	0 0 0 9 13 5 0 0	0 0 0 0 14 9 0 0	7 4 1 55 67 10 3 1 3	16 6 4 255 272 58 9 1
Pastor's Salary Evangelistic Bldg. Costs/Repairs Literature Other TOTAL LOCAL CAUSES	16,900.00 0 286.55 1,175.99 7,594.77 25,957.31	6,475.00 749.00 67.00 274.39 0 7,565.39	12,472.00 1,280.00 3,600.00 2,964.00 29,989.00 50,305.00	2,300.00 0 93.43 580.32 2,973,75	3,855.03 200.00 60.75 271.92 40.80 934.12	12,000.00 0 40.00 203.55 1,382.83 15,626.88	15,111.47 1,566.00 490.23 2,625.16 16,173.19 35.966.05	69,113.47 3,795.00 4,544453 7,608.44 55,760.91 137,328.50
Cooperative Fund Foreign Missions Home Missions Orphanage youth Camp Association Projects owner	663.97 1,830.36 943.97 0 180.00 0	826.00 1,440.00 0 0 0 0 2,024.33	5,090.00 7,425.00 3,000.00 0 180.00 0	171.30 78.09 25.00 0 0 25.00	611.95 0 0 0 0 0 336.60	1,475.61 0 127.75 0 0 0	2,967.92 8,571.58 0 0 100.00 0	11,806.75 19,345.03 4,096.72 0 460.00 25.00 2,360.93
TOTAL OUTSIDE CAUSES	3,618.30	4,290.33	15,695.00	299.39	125.00	1,603.36	11,639.50	37,270.88
TOTAL SPENT 92-93 91-92	29,575.61 28,483.95	11,855.72 9,753.80	66,000.00 58,544.00	3,273.14 3,412.61	6,436.17 3,251.84	15,229.74 15,261.39	74,605.55 37,198.15	206,975.93 156,105.74
CHURCH PROPERTY	200,000.00	30,000.00	150,000.00	20,000.00	16,000.00	150,000.00	250,000.00	816,000.00

Host - Bethel FWB Church, 1993

85th ANNUAL SESSION CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS, MARCH 19th & 20th, 1993

STATISTICAL TABLE 1992 - 1993

March 14, 1992 Verdella Freewill Baptist Church

The service was held at the Verdella Free Will Baptist Church. At the close of the association, the Executive Board met to organize for the new year. Present were the pastors of each church and they now will be members of the board along with the ones elected from each church to represent their church. Present were Charlie Hoover, who was elected moderator, Bill Ragsdale was selected as assistant moderator. Roger Phillips was elected as clerk/treas. Lural Mays was chosen as assistant clerk/treas. Others present were Bob Dickey, Thayne Fast, Corky Walker, Warren Hall, Don Anderson & Reed Smith. We then had a request from the Verdella Church to examine Jim Holder for to receive a license as a minister. He was called in and examined. Bro Don Anderson made a motion to grant Bro Jim Holder a license,. Bro Warren Hall seconded the motion. The vote was taken and was favorable. We were then dismissed with prayer.

June 6, 1992 Hannon Freewill Baptist Church

The service was held at Hannon Free Will Baptist Church. The board met after the evening service and our moderator was unable to attend. Those present were Reed Smith, Lynn Smith, Roger Phillips, Don Anderson and Bill Ragsdale who served as moderator for the business. Also present were Marren Hall, and Thayne Fast. A discussion on the needs of the youth camp was discussed and it was determined to buy a new screen door and make some other repairs. We then discussed the insurance on the Stockton Church and determined to change to American Family. Bro Ragsdale will make the change over on the insurance. A motion was made to have Doris Whitson send out letters to each church reminding them of the request for 1% to go to the account of the Executive Board. The Senior retreat was also announced. We then were dismissed with prayer.

Sept. 5, 1992 Hickory Grove Church

The Quarterly meeting was held at the Hickory Grove Church. The speaker for the evening was Nathan Ruble, our State promotional Secretary. Those present for the board meeting were Board members, Warren Hall, Bill Ragsdale, Corky Walker, Thayne Fast & Charlie Hoover. No business was considered so all enjoyed the refreshments and went home.

Dec. 5, 1392 Oskaloosa Church

The Quarterly meeting convened with the Oskaloosa Church. Bro Milan Ruble was the minister delivering the message of the evening. After the message Bro Charlie Hoover was absent so Bro Ragsdale presided over the Executive Board. A letter was read from the Hannon Church requesting the acceptance of their Pastor, George Naumann, into the association. He was questioned and accepted into the association. A request for a card of good standing was requested by Bro Perry Brake from the association he moved to. Those present for the meeting were the following, Bob Dickey, Warren Hall, Corky Walker, Lural Mays, Reed Smith, George Naumann, Milan Ruble & Bill Ragsdale.

February 4, 1993 Bethel Church, ElDorado Springs, MO

The Executive Board met at the Bethel Church, ElDorado Springs in the basement at 7 P.M. for a covered dish supper. The blessing on the food was given by Bro Milan Ruble. After the meal was completed we began planning our association meeting that will be held at Bethel, March 19 & 20. Present for the meeting were the following members of the board. Moderator of the board, Charlie Hoover, Bro Bill Ragsdale, Bro Milan Ruble, Bro Warren Hall, Bro Corky Walker, Bro Reed Smith, Bro Lural Mays & Roger Phillips. Upon completing the plans for the association, Bro Corky Walker dismissed the meeting with prayer.

March 19, 1993: The Executive Board met during the association at the Bethel Church for the purpose of examining Bro Milan Ruble for membership in the association. Prayer was given by Bro Bob Dickey. Charlie Hoover then presided over the meeting. The request came from the Verdella Church. The board then questioned Bro Ruble. He gave his personal testimony and qualifications as a minister. At the close of a question period a motion was made and seconded to accept him to our association. A discussion followed on the control of termites to the Stockton Church. It was determined the need should be brought before the association. Present for the meeting were the following, Charlie Hoover, Warren Hall, Bill Ragsdale, Reed Smith, Lural Nays, Bob Dickey, George Naumann, Corky Walker, Milan Ruble and Roger Phillips. We were then dismissed with prayer.

CENTRAL WESTERN DISTRICT AUXILIARY TREASURERS REPORT 1992-1993

HANNON

OSKALOOSA

STOCKTON

125.00

838.27

VERDELLA DAY

54

TOTAL

VERDELLA NIGHT

916.15

\$ 4,615.94

MEMBERSEIP

TOTAL.

DISTRICT BETHEL

307.02

728.25

1,518.25

DUES		48.00	42.00	15.00	27.00	15.00	15.00	162.00
Co-LABOR OFFERING							25.00	25.00
EMPHASIS MO. OFFERING			100.00			25.00		125.00
PROVISION CLOSET			100.00			1 1		100.00
LITERATURE				25.00		25.00		50.00
MONTHLY OFFERING		60.00	60.00	10.00		8.00		138.00
STATE AUX. GENERAL PUND								
STATE PROJECT							655.75	655.75
ST. SALAD BANQUET		8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	8.00	48.00
DIST. PROJECT PEP (LYTLES)	1	*		55.00		· •	107.40	162.40
FALL BANG. MATERIAL						23.18		23.18
CHILDRENS HOME		:			·*	25.00		25.00
FOREIGN MISSIONS		522.25	1,108.25	55.00	90.00	203.35		1,978.85
HOME MISSIONS		30.00	100.00	15.00	•	50.00	5.00	200.00
RETIRED MINISTERS					2	10.00		10.00
LOCAL CHURCH PROJECTS			:			445.74	100.00	545.74
MEMORIAL STUDENT LOAN		10.00	;		i i			10.00
YOUTH CAMP		50.00						50.00
FALL BANQUET MCFALL ACCT.	5 307.02	San					·	307.02

183.00

CENTRAL WESTERN EXECUTIVE BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT 03/01/92 - 03/01/93

EXPENSES FOR YEAR

At the 1992 Association it was passed to request the churches of the association to send 1% of their offering to the upkeep of the association expenses. We report the following expenses for the year.

n en	Screen Door for youth Insurance of Stockton		\$ 32.50 767.38
		TOTAL EXPENSES	\$799.86
INCOME:			
	Hannon		\$142.0
	Oskaloosa Verdella		54.18 295.6
		TOTAL INCOME	\$491.8

Balance at Farm & Home, Nevada, MO

\$1539.41

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, and 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 the pastors (who are members of the Association) of each Church and 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 bylaws. 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 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 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 second Sunday in March, and continue through Saturday. 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 of 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 or the one calling the assemble 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. All business if possible be presented to the business committee prior to the business session of the Association.

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 28 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 twenty dollars (\$20.00) per church, plus one dollar (\$1.00) per resident member for the Central Western Missouri Association fund to be allocated thus: five dollars (\$5.00) to the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists; ten dollars (\$10.00) to the National Association of Free Will Baptists; with the remaining amount, fifteen percent (15%) for an honorarium for the Associational Clerk, and eighty-five percent (85%) for the Central Western Missouri Association expenses.

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 or 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 Treatise of Faith and Practice. It shall be the suggested duty of all active ministers to report each year by letter and strongly suggest all active ministers and all active deacons attend all quarterly and annual meetings of the Association. Ministers in the Armed Forces, Bible College students, and Missionaries shall not be required to report in person to receive a card of standing. 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 live 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 the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, and 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 Saviour 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.