

MINUTES
88TH ANNUAL SESSION



**CENTRAL WESTERN
MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**



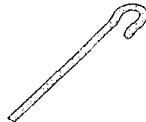
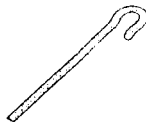
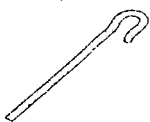
*WHEN CONVENED WITH THE
VERDELLA FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCH*

LIBERAL, MISSOURI

Friday Evening, March 15, 1996

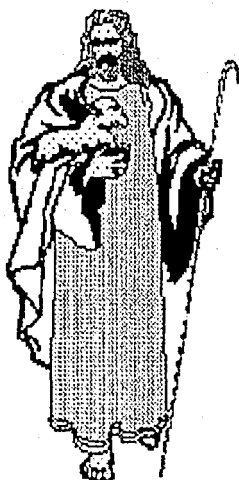


**89th Annual Session
will meet with the
STOCKTON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH,
Stockton, Missouri
Friday evening, March 14, 1997**





*Theme
of
Association*



*“Jesus Is The True
Shepherd”
John 10:14*



MINUTES OF THE CENTRAL WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1996

OFFICERS

MODERATOR.....	Charlie Hoover
ASSISTANT MODERATOR.....	Rev. Bob Dickey
CLERK-TREASURER.....	Barbara Hopkins
ASSISTANT CLERK-TREASURER.....	Marcella Ruble
STATISTICIAN.....	Virginia Hoover
ITINERANT CONTACT.....	Jim Holder
STATE GENERAL BOARD MEMBER.....	Rev. Milan Ruble

EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION BOARD

1. Oskaloosa	Bro. Charles Do Byns	1998 9
2. Stockton	None	1998 9
3. Verdella	Dea. Randy Sprenkle	1998 9
4. Bethel	Dea. Lurel Mays	1997
5. Greenfield	Gilbert York	1997
6. Hannon	Dea. Charlie Hoover	1998
7. Hickory Grove	Rev. Thayne Fast	1998

CHURCH CLERKS

BETHEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Eldorado Springs, MO

Lois Smith, 1102 South 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, 12305 East 299th Street,

Archie, MO 64725

OSKALOOSA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO
Wilma Smith, 1043 NW 30th Road,
Liberal, MO 64762

STOCKTON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Stockton, MO
Bill Ragsdale, RR#2, Box 2444,
Fairplay, MO 65649

VERDELLA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO
Ruth Foger, 799 West V Highway,
Liberal, MO 64762

MINISTERS OF CHURCHES

BETHEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Eldorado Springs, MO
Rev. Warren Hall, RR#3, Box 424, Eldorado Springs, MO

GREENFIELD FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, South Allison
Rev. Bob Dickey, P.O. Box 53, Liberal, MO

HANNON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO
Rev. George Naumann, P.O. Box 122, Liberal, MO

HICKORY GROVE FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Harrisonville, MO
Rev. Thayne Fast, 945 NW 50th Lane, Liberal, MO

OSKALOOSA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO
Rev. Hollis Walker, Jr., P.O. Box 14, Liberal, MO

STOCKTON FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Stockton, MO
Rev. Bill Ragsdale, RR#2, Box 2444, Fairplay, MO

VERDELLA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, Liberal, MO
Rev. Milan Ruble, 798 West V Highway, Liberal, MO

PROCEEDINGS

Friday Evening, March 15, 1996, 7:30 p.m.

The 88th Annual Session of the Central Western Missouri Association of Free Will Baptists convened with the Verdella Free Will Baptist Church. Bro. Milan Ruble, pastor of the host church, extended a welcome to those in attendance and called on Corky Walker to lead in prayer.

With Marcella Ruble at the piano and Virginia Walker at the organ and Bill Walker as songleader, the congregation sang "Redeemed" and "Higher Ground".

Special music was by Nancy Tahhan, singing, "He'll Do It Again".

Assistant Clerk, Marcella Ruble, declared a quorum present.

Bro. George Naumann gave the Moderator's message using John 10:14 (the theme of the association), also using the 23rd Psalm.

Congregational song, "Love Lifted Me", was sung before the speaker for the evening was introduced.

The moderator then introduced the speaker, Rev. Richard Robinson, pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Joplin, MO. His text was John 10:11-15. Bro. Richard read his text and led in prayer.

The evening offering was received, with Bros. Bob Dickey, Warren Hall, Bill Walker and Roger Phillips as ushers. The offering was \$84.00.

We were dismissed in prayer by Bro. Bill Ragsdale.

Saturday Morning, March 16, 9:45 a.m.

Moderator, George Naumann, opened the service by calling on Bro. Bill Walker to lead congregational singing, accompanied by Virginia Walker at the piano. The congregation sang "Glory To His Name".

Prayer was by Bro. Charlie Hoover.

The congregation then sang, "There is Power in the Blood".

Devotion was by Bro. Bill Ragsdale, scripture was John 10:1-18 following the association theme, "Jesus is the True Shepherd".

Letters from the churches was read by Sis. Alice Hoover and accepted a motion by Bro. Milan Ruble and seconded by Bro. Charlie Hoover that the delegates be seated.

The By-Laws were read by Bro. Bob Dickey.

Statisticians reports by Virginia Hoover was given by Bro. George Naumann. M/S/C to accept.

Clerks financial report was read, M/S/C to accept as read.

The Executive Board financial report was given by Bro. Lural Mays, M/S/C to accept as read.

Bro. George Naumann appointed the committees:

Business Committee: Charlie Hoover - Dorothy Dickey - Bob Crutcher - Roy Holder - Lural Mays

Ministerial Committee: Addis Foger - Gilbert York - Alice Hoover - Virginia Walker - Lucille Franklin

Obituary Committee: Betty Crutcher - Wilma Smith - Margaret Walker

Nominating Committee: Bob Dickey - Jim Holder - Anna Lee York - Randy Sprenkle

Morning session was dismissed with prayer by Bro. Bill Walker.

Women's Group, 11:00 a.m. session, March 16, 1996

Our session was opened with the congregation singing, "Jesus Saves", and "Send the Light", led by Nancy Tahan. Virginia Walker was pianist.

President, Betty Crutcher called us to order. Nathan Ruble then spoke a few words, gave some announcements, and asked prayer for our Missions Program.

Regina Sprenkle welcomed us to the Verdella Church, with Anna Lee York responding.

The Nominating Committee was then appointed, and offertory prayer given. Nancy Tahan sang our WNAC Theme Song, "People Need the Lord".

Nora Rhodes, of Neosho's New Testament Free Will Baptist Church was our speaker. her text was Acts 8:22-40 - "We heed to **go, speak**, and let **GOD** do the rest, to be successful in personal evangelism". We were then dismissed in prayer, with the blessing asked on the delicious noon meal.

Women's Group, 1:30 p.m. session, March 16, 1996

Our meeting was begun with Alice Hoover leading the congregation in singing, followed by prayer.

The Verdella Auxiliary then presented a very meaningful skit called, "You Be The Judge". Melisha Thompson and Ashley Montee sang "Go Light Your World".

Regina Sprenkle (vice-president) gave the Secretary's report, in the absence of Linda Hall, M/S/C to accept report.

The Treasurer's report was then given by Alice Hoover, M/S/C to accept report as read.

The Nominating Committee's report was read with no nominations from the floor. Officers are as follows:

President.....Betty Crutcher

Vice President.....Regina Sprenkle

Secretary.....Virginia Hoover

Treasurer.....Linda Hall

*Members at Large....Nancy Mays, Loretta Ragsdale, Anna Lee York,
Doris Whitson*

Motion was M/S/C to give our guest speaker, Nora Rhodes, \$50.00. Our Fall Banquet and Craft Auction is to be hosted in October by the Stockton and Greenfield churches, M/S/C to send Betty Crutcher and Virginia Hoover as District Delegates to the State Meeting in Lebanon, plus one other.

1995-96 STATE PROJECTS: Ken/Judy Bailey, Foreign Missions.....\$3,000
Virgil/Aileen Maness, Natl' Home Missions...\$1,500
WNAC office.....\$1,500
Dale/Barbara Cochran, State Home Msns...\$1,500
Youth Camp.....\$1,500

The State Retreat is August 16-17, at Stonecroft. Lillian Carsen will be the speaker. Retreat Project is_____.

Betty Crutcher installed our new officers with a service entitled, "The Family of God".

Marcella Ruble closed our meeting in prayer.

Saturday Afternoon Business session, 2:15 p.m.

Moderator called the meeting to order.

Congregational singing was "Beulah Land", with Regina Sprenkle at the piano and Virginia Walker at the organ.

Bro. Milan Ruble led in prayer, and there was another congregational song, "How Long Has it Been".

The Business Committee report was given, the changes to be made were read, M/S/C to accept the report.

Ministerial committee report was read, M/S/C to receive the report.

Obituary committee report was read, M/S/C to receive the report.

Prayer was given by Bro. Bob Dickey.

Nominating committee report was given, a nomination from the floor for Barbara Hopkins for Clerk was given, the change was made on the committee's report and M/S/C to accept this report.

The late afternoon worship service began at 3:15 p.m. with Regina Sprenkle at the piano, Virginia Walker at the organ, and Bill Walker leading the singing. We sang "To God be the Glory", and "I'll Go Where You Want Me To Go". Prayer by Bro. Reed Smith.

Special music by Regina Sprenkle, "I Know the Master of the Wind".

The Moderator then introduced the speaker for the afternoon, Bro. Mike Rhodes, of the new Testament Free Will Baptist Church, Neosho, MO. His text was John 10:1-18

An offering of \$89.45 was taken up with Bros.. Milan Ruble, Addis Foger, Bill Walker, Charlie Hoover as ushers.

The 1996 session was dismissed in prayer by Bro. Jimmy Holder.

The 89th Session will meet with the Stockton Church on Friday evening, March 14, 1997.

REGISTRATION

MINISTERS: Milan Ruble, George Naumann, Bill Ragsdale, Hollis Walker, Richard Robinson, Warren Hall, Jim Holder, Bob Dickey

DEACONS: Lural Mays, Roger Phillips, Reed Smith, Charlie Hoover, Randy Sprenkle

DELEGATES: Addis Foger, Lucille Franklin, Gilbert York, Floyd Crutcher, Ruth Foger, Dorothy

Dickey, Wilma Smith, Linda Hall, Nancy Mays, Maxine Holder, Roy Holder, Marcella Ruble, Virginia Hoover

VISITORS: Hazel and Nancy Fleeman, Velma Jones, Annalee York, Margaret Walker, Betty Robinson, Ionia Phillips, Betty Crutcher, Bill Walker, Virginia Walker, Jonathon Hall, Kimberly Hall, Heather Hall, Sarah Hall, Lee and Virginia Bunton, Regina Sprenkle and Nicole, Nathan Ruble, Mike and Nora Rhodes.

BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Business Committee, recommend the by-law changes be made as sent to the churches by the Executive Board. We recommend that we give the Verdella Church a standing vote of thanks for their hospitality.

Signed: Charlie Hoover, Lural Mays, Floyd Crutcher, Dorothy Dickey, Roy Holder

MINISTERIAL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Ministerial Standing Committee recommend the following to receive a card of standing: Milan Ruble, Warren Hall, Bill Ragsdale, Thayne Fast, Hollis Walker, George Naumann and Bob Dickey.

Signed: Addis Foger, Gilbert York, Virginia Walker, Lucille Franklin, Alice Hoover

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The following people were suggested by the Nominating Committee

Moderator.....Charlie Hoover

Assistant Moderator.....Bob Dickey

Clerk-Treasurer.....Barbara Hopkins
 Assistant Clerk-Treasurer.....Marcella Ruble
 Statistician.....Virginia Hoover
 Itinerant Contact.....Jim Holder
 State General Board Member.....Rev. Milan Ruble

Signed: Bob Dickey, Annalee York, Jim Holder, Bill Walker, Randy Sprenkle

OBITUARY COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Obituary Committee, submit the following deceased members of our association:

Hannon.....Bessie Bunton
 Greenfield.....John Grider
 Stockton.....Melvin Reinhart and Jim Calhoun

The congregation stood for a moment of silent prayer in their honor.

Respectfully submitted: Betty Crutcher, Wilma Smith, Margaret Walker

MINISTER'S REPORTS

Rev. Bob Dickey:	Sermons preached...105	Miles traveled.....8,500
	Churches pastored....1	Money received.....\$6,500.00
	Funerals preached....9	Weddings performed...1
Rev. George Naumann:	Sermons preached... 80	Miles traveled.....5,295
	Churches pastored....1	Money received.....\$22,771.71
	Funerals preached....0	Weddings performed...2
	Professions witnessed...7	Number baptized.....2
	Additions to church....9	
Rev. Hollis Walker:	Sermons preached... 90	Miles traveled.....1,404
	Churches pastored... 1	Money received.....\$4,500.00
	Funerals preached....4	Weddings performed...0
	Professions witnessed...2	
Rev. Bill Ragsdale:	Sermons preached...94	Miles traveled.....7,000
	Churches pastored... 1	Money received.....\$12,000.00
	Funerals preached...3	Weddings performed...1
	Professions witnessed...1	Number baptized.....1
Rev. Thayne Fast:	Sermons preached...44	Miles traveled.....8,600
	Churches pastored... 1	Money received.....\$2,400.00
	Funerals preached... 1	Weddings performed...0

Rev. Warren Hall:	Sermons preached...102	Miles traveled.....8,752
	Churches pastored...1	Money received.....\$19,496.00
	Funerals preached...2	Weddings performed...1
	Professions witnessed...7	Number baptized.....11
	Additions to church.....10	
 Rev. Milan Ruble:	 Sermons preached...104	 Miles traveled.....20,754
	Churches pastored...1	Money received.....\$18,880.00
	Funerals preached...3	Weddings performed...2
	Professions witnessed...6	Number baptized.....5
	Additions to church.....19	

CENTRAL WESTERN EXECUTIVE BOARD FINANCIAL REPORT

3-1-95 TO 2-29-96

Beginning Balance: \$1991.12

Income:

Bethel	\$300.00
Oskaloosa	76.25
Verdella	413.54
OFFERINGS	144.00
Interest	42.68
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 976.47

Expenses:

Insurance - Stockton	\$782.73
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Ending Balance: \$2184.86



	BETHEL	GREENFIELD	HANNON	HICKORY GROVE	OSKALOOSA	STOCKTON	VERDELLA	TOTAL
MEMBERS RECIEVED	10	0	9	0	0	0	19	38
MEMBERS LOST	8	0	3	0	0	0	0	11
MEMBERS DECEASED	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	4
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	42	16	120	23	10	0	69	280
SUNDAY SCHOOL AVERAGE	60	15	100	8	18	13	70	284
WOMEN'S GROUP	12	6	11	0	0	9	12	50
ORDAINED MINISTERS	2	1	1	1	1	0	3	9
LICENSED MINISTERS	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
ORDAINED DEACONS	1	0	4	0	2	0	3	10
+++++								
PASTOR'S SALARY	19,216.00	6,500.00	20,771.71	2,400.00	4,745.61	12,000.00	18,625.00	84,258.32
EVANGELISTIC	00	0	800.00	0	175.00	190.00	700.00	1,865.00
BUILDING (COSTS/REPAIRS)	3,506.00	1,063.00	3,838.57	24.34	428.80	1,451.96	6,329.63	16,642.30
LITERATURE	1,295.13	255.13	2,724.16	109.94	249.94	413.31	2,029.80	7,077.41
OTHER	4,866.00	3,085.51	10,706.78	664.30	81.37	204.07	23,346.19	42,954.22
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TOTAL LOCAL CAUSES	28,883.00	10,903.64	38,841.22	3,198.58	5,680.72	14,259.34	51,030.62	152,797.12
+++++								
COOPERATIVE FUND	770.00	3,085.51	6,954.39	189.00	813.16	204.07	4,420.94	16,055.83
FOREIGN MISSIONS	2,642.00	2,280.00	11,080.89	64.67	50.00	0	10,224.28	26,341.84
HOME MISSIONS	1,222.00	52.00	4,242.41	100.00	200.00	240.00	1,400.00	7,456.41
ORPHANAGE	0	0	0	100.00	0	0	0	100.00
YOUTH CAMP	0	0	180.00	0	0	0	39.00	219.00
ASSOCIATION PROJECTS	300.00	0	0	43.00	0	0	429.08	835.08
OTHER	230.00	0	3,912.85	100.00	0	0	0	4,242.85
HILLSDALE COLLEGE	0	0	1,648.00	0	0	0	0	1,648.00
TOTAL OUTSIDE CAUSES	5,164.00	3,442.00	28,018.54	596.97	1,063.16	2,038.34	16,576.30	56,899.01
TOTAL (95-96)	34,047.00	14,345.64	66,859.76	3,795.25	6,743.88	16,297.68	67,606.92	209,696.13
TOTAL (94-95)	33,180.41	13,258.98	62,409.38	3,837.42	10,456.05	3,466.46	72,058.25	198,666.95
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CHURCH PROPERTY	200,000.00	30,000.00	164,000.00	20,000.00	18,000.00	152,000.00	340,000.00	924,000.00

HOST - VERDELLA FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
88th ANNUAL SESSION WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST, MARCH 15th & 16th, 1996
STATISTICAL TABLE - 1995-1996

CENTRAL WESTERN MISSOURI DISTRICT

	DISTRICT	BETHEL 12	GREENFIELD 6 (Dist. only)
Membership			
Dues		132.00	
Co-Laborer		210.00	
Provision Closet			
State Project		20.00	
Children's Home		50.00	
Foreign Missions]		957.74	
Home Missions		28.21	
Local Church Projects		321.22	
Memorial Student Loan		20.00	
Youth Camp			
Fall Banquet	Lytle's 1,146.03		
Emphasis Offering			
WNAC Monthly		130.00	
TOTAL			

AUXILIARY TREASURER'S REPORT

HANNON 11	STOCKTON 9 (Dist. only)	VERDELLA N. 7	VERDELLA D. 5	<u>TOTAL</u> 35 15 Dist.
	2.25	77.00	55.00	385.00 8.25 Dist.
				210.00
90.00			20.00	130.00
100.00 (TN.)		100.00 (AL)	65.00 (TN)	315.00
450.00			50.00	1,457.74
200.00				228.21
251.07		806.00		1,378.29
50.00				70.00
				1,146.03
50.00			25.00	75.00
100.00		50.00		280.00
				5,683.52

CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT

March 1, 1995 - March 1, 1996

Balance brought forward March 1, 1995 \$318.91

Receipts:

Budget Money.....	\$419.00
Friday night offering.....	93.84
Saturday offering.....	66.84
District Auxiliary.....	25.00

Total Receipts..... 923.59



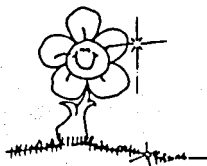
Disbursements:

State and National Dues.....	\$210.00
Printing of Minutes.....	65.00
Honorarium.....	30.00

Total Disbursements..... 305.00

BALANCE in bank, March 1, 1996.....\$618.59

when you smile
inside people
can see it
outside



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 of major part thereof, together with all ordained deacons, ordained or licensed ministers and their wives 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. Officers. The officers of the Association shall be a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, an Assistant Clerk, a treasurer, and a 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. Board. 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 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 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. Meeting. 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 thirty days prior to Association meeting.

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

ARTICLE 2. Each session of this Association shall be opened 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 I.* 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 II. **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.

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

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

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ARTICLE 6. All committees or a Committee on committees shall be appointed by the Moderator. All business, if possible, to be presented to the business committee prior to business session of the Association.

ARTICLE 7. It shall be right of each church in the Association to determine its own fiscal year. We suggest January 1st to December 31st.

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 I.* It shall be the duty of the churches of the Association to accompany their church letter with thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) per church, plus one dollar (\$1.00) per resident member for the Central Western Missouri Association fund to be allocated thusly: five dollars (\$5.00) to the Missouri State Association of Free Will Baptists; twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) 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 Associational expenses.

Section II. 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 I.* 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 II. 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 I.* 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 II. 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 thirty (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 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 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....**

