

The 98<sup>th</sup> Session of the Central Western Missouri Association of Free Will Baptist will meet at the Free Will Baptist Church in Greenfield on March 18, 2006 at 9 a.m.

# Central Western Missouri Association of Free Will Baptist

# Minutes of meeting at Hannon F.W.B. in Liberal, Missouri

June 11, 2004

Moderator Warren Hall called our meeting to order. Rev. Stan Bunch led us in prayer. Bro. Hall read scripture from Titus.

Motion, second, and carried to remove from the table accepting Liberty Church into our Association. Bro. Stan asked if Liberty Church has bylaws. They said they were under the state bylaws. This was acceptable since it is a mission church.

Motion/second/carried to accept the Liberty Free Will Baptist Church into our Central Western Missouri Association.

Dues for each church will be changed to \$100.00 brought off table. Rev. Chris Bearden made the motion, Rev. Derl Hicks seconded and carried to make this bylaw change.

A committee for updating the bylaws needs to be established. Two that need to be changed are:

1. Bylaw change, homosexuality – any church that sanctions this will not be in Central Western Association.

2. Human life at conception sanction.

Motion was made that we adopt and seconded. Since these are a bylaw change, it was tabled until next meeting.

The Business Meeting was adjourned and services began.

To God Be the Glory and The Comforter Has Come were sang. B.J. Morgan sang Saved by the Hands and It's Been A Long Time Coming.

Bro. Derl talked about the State Meeting. Stay up on top of State Association news. Stay on top of state news 1)Bylaw changes 2) Took a stand against homosexuality.

Message was brought by Rev. Nathan Ruble from I Peter 2:1-15.

Submitted by Cindi Thompson, Assistant Clerk

Minutes of meeting at Oskaloosa F.W. B. in Liberal, Missouri

Rev. Chris Bearden, Pastor September 11, 2004

Rev. Warren Hall, Moderator, called our meeting to order and ask for prayer request. Prayer request were taken and remember as Rev. Bob Dickey led us in prayer.

Jesus Hold My Hand and He Keeps Me Singing were our congregational songs.

A quorum was declared and the business meeting called to order by our clerk. We had representatives from Bethel, Greenfield, Hannon, Liberty, Oskaloosa and Stockton.

Rev. Chris Bearden made the motion to remove the Bylaw change from the table. The motion was seconded. The change was read as follows:

1. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. (Gen. 2:24;Gen. 19:5, 13; Gen. 26:8-9; Lev. 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; I Cor. 5:1, 6:9; I Thess. 4:1-8; Heb. 13:4) Any church, which sanctions such conduct, will not be accepted or retained as a member of the Central Western Association of Free Will Baptist.

2. We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of a human life. Abortion is murder. We reject any teaching that abortion of pregnancies due to rape, incest, birth defects, gender selection, birth or population control, or the mental well being of the mother are acceptable. (Job 3:16; Psalms 51:5; 139:14-16; Isa. 44:24, 49:1,5; Jer. 1:5, 20:15-18; Luke 1:44) Any church, which sanctions such conduct, will not be accepted or retained as a member of the Central Western Association of Free Will Baptist.

Motion was made and seconded to make the Bylaw change as read. The motion carried.

Because of Liberty F.W.B. Church being overlooked in our alphabetical rotation, it was suggested we have our December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting at their church. Motion was made and seconded. The motion carried

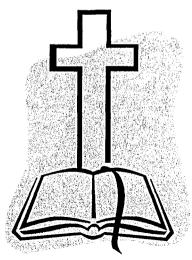
Motion and second to end our business session. Motion carried and we were dismissed in prayer by Rev. Warren Hall.

Our congregational songs were What a Day That Will Be, Ring the Bells of Heaven and How Great Thou Art.

Rev. Frank Webster gave a report of our State Missions. We have six. They are Jackson, where Longs are, Reeves are in Columbia, McVays are in Kirksville, Howells are in Raymore, Keisers are in Jefferson City, and Bivens are in Monett. He then brought the message on change - taking the key scripture from Hebrew 1:8.

Rev. Robbie Rutledge dismissed us and asked the blessing on our refreshments.

Submitted by Linda Hall, Clerk



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Minutes of meeting at Liberty F.W.B. in Nevada, Missouri.

Rev. Robbie Rutledge, Pastor December 4, 2004

Bro. Warren Hall, Moderator, called our meeting to order. Robbie welcomed the Association to their church. Churches represented were Bethel, Hannon, Liberty, Oskaloosa, Stockton and Verdella.

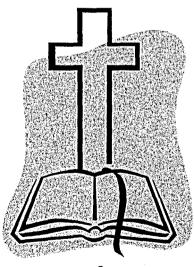
Bro. Warren Hall asked about when to get together to plan our Annual Meeting in March. No discussion was presented. The Annual Meeting will be at Bethel F.W.B. Church in March 2005.

We had congregation singing followed by a special by Shiloh Rutledge. An offering was taken. Marion Kahler, from the Bethel church, brought our special.

Our speaker was Rev. Ben Reece, the new pastor at the Hannon F.W.B. Church. He took his message from Luke 18:1-30.

Rev. Derl Hicks dismissed us and asked the blessing on our refreshments.

Submitted by Linda Hall, Clerk



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# CENTRAL WESTERN MO. ASSOCIATION of Free Will Baptist

**Annual Session, Saturday Morning** 

Convened at 9 a.m., March 19, 2005 at Bethel Free Will Baptist Church El Dorado Springs, Missouri

# **OFFICERS**

Moderator	Rev. Warren Hall
Assistant Moderator	Rev. Chris Bearden
Clerk/Treasurer	Linda Hall
Asst. Clerk/Treasurer	Cindi Thompson
State General Board Member	Rev. Derl Hicks



# **EXECUTIVE AND HOME MISSION BOARD**

Bethel	Deacon Lural Mays, 2009
Greenfield	None, 2009
Hannon	Deacon Charlie Hoover, 2007
Hickory Grove	None, 2007
Nevada	None, 2007
Oskaloosa	Deacon Reed Smith, 2008
Stockton	None, 2008
Verdella	Deacon Randy Sprenkle, 2008
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	orrected for Hannon, Hickory Grove,
groups as stated in our byl	erdella bringing us back to three
Stoups as stated in our by	((1))) (

### **Church Pastors and Clerks**

#### Bethel Free Will Baptist, 417-876-6459 1300 S. Summer, El Dorado Springs, MO 64744: Rev. Derl Hicks, 417-876-9008 303 N. Main Street, El Dorado Springs, MO 64744, *Clerk: Vicky Spencer*, 417-876-5870 3600 S. 251 Road, El Dorado Springs, MO 64744

#### Free Will Baptist, 417-637-5545

403 Toney Äve., Greenfield, MO 65661: Rev. Bob Dickey, 417-843-4755 Box 53, Liberal, MO 64762, *Clerk: Lucille Franklin*, 417-637-5545 403 Toney Ave., Greenfield, MO 65661

### Hannon Free Will Baptist, 417-843-6616

1051 West V Highway, Liberal, MO 64762: Rev. Benny Reece, 417-843-3394
301 S. Payne St., Liberal, MO 64762 *Clerk: Peggy Dickey*, 417-639-4404
Rt. 1 Box 157, Bronaugh, MO 64728

### Hickory Grove Free Will Baptist, 816-899-2219

12305 E. 299 St., Archie, MÖ 64725: Rev. Bill Christensen, 816-331-0341 510 Park Ave., Belton, MO 64012 *Clerk: Glenna Stackhouse*, 816-899-2219 12305 East 299 St., Archie, MO, 64725

### Nevada Free Will Baptist, (formerly Liberty FWB) 417-549-6383

1030 South Clay, Nevada, MO 64772:

Rev. George J. Naumann, 417-843-6579 219 N. Main, Liberal, MO, 64762 *Clerk: Tina Trotter*, 417-448-5770 Address not listed

#### Oskaloosa Free Will Baptist, 417-843-5617

204 N. Denton, Liberal, MO 64762: Rev. Chris Bearden, 843-5617 204 N. Denton, Liberal, MO, 64762 *Clerk: Theresa Dalby*, (417) 843-3968 521 East Yale, Liberal, MO 64762

#### Stockton Free Will Baptist, 417-276-3690

P.O. Box 251, Stockton, MO 64744: Rev. Warren Hall, 417-876-6467 5385 East 350 Road, El Dorado Springs, MO 64744 *Clerk: Linda Hall*, 417-876-6467 5385 East 350 Road, El Dorado Springs, MO 64744

Verdella Free Will Baptist, 417-843-5613 799 West V Highway, Liberal, MO 64762:

Rev. Randy Sprenkle, 417-843-4223 531 N. Hwy. W, Iantha, MO 64759 *Clerk: Gayla Charlton*, 417-843-4255 P.O. Box 154, Liberal, MO 64762



# **PROCEEDINGS:**

Bro. Derl Hicks extended a warm welcome to our Association and led us in prayer. Congregation singing was led by Mike Leonard. Nancy Mays accompanied on the piano. Songs sang were the chorus *I Will Enter His Gates* and hymn *Living on the Halleluiah Side*.

Clerk Linda Hall called us to order and declared a quorum present and the Association open for business.

Moderator Warren Hall announced our special music. Chris Roe, from Bethel, sang *I'm Not Ashamed of the Gospel*.

Our Morning message was brought by Scott Roe from our theme scripture Mat. 24:14. He challenged us to stand for the Word of God because the Gospel is exciting and heaven is above our expectations. God has called each of us to be missionaries for Him... Are we the missionaries He called us to be?

Moderator Warren Hall asked for the reading of the

Church Letters. They were read and motion, second and carried to accept the church letters and seat the delegates.

Bro. Lural Mays gave the Executive Board Report.

### **EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT**

Beginning Balance \$6,136.72

Income:
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Bethel	\$300.00
Verdella	\$766.30
Offerings	\$362.98
Interest	\$21.06
Ins. Ref.	\$228.82
TOTAL INCOME: \$	51,679.16
Expenses:	
Ken Bailey	\$500.00
Verdella	
Missions Tri	p \$500.00
Stan Bunch	\$1,500.00
Stockton Ch	urch \$228.82
Qt. Mtg. spe	aker \$50.00
TOTAL EXPENSE	

Ending Balance 5,037.06

Bro. Hall appointed a Committee on Committees to select delegates to serve on the Business, Ministerial Standing, Obituary and Nominating Committees.

The clerk's treasurer report was given by Linda Hall. Bro. Hall ask for a motion to receive both the Executive Board and Clerk reports. A motion was made, seconded and then carried.

Bro. Hall asked that each church appoint a person for collecting Roll Call Sunday information, which is on Easter Sunday. They are then to call that information to Bro. Hall so he can report for our Association. He then closed us in prayer to return at 11:00 a.m. for the Central Western Women's Auxiliary meeting.

### CLERK'S FINANCIAL REPORT January 1, 2004 – December 31, 2004

Balance Brought Forward\$1,638.98
Receipts:
Association Dues (Budget money) \$612.00
Offering (for Ken Bailey) 185.00
Assoc. Exec. Board Funds (for Ken Bailey) 500,00
Total Receipts \$1,297.00

### **BALANCE: \$2,935.98**

# 

Disbursements:

# REGISTRATION

Deacons: Lural Mays, Roger Phillips, Charles Whitson and Lyle Hoover.

Delegates: Bethel: Beula Chism, Dawn Hicks and Billie McNeece, Stockton: Linda Hall, Greenfield: Erma Davidson, Betty Crutcher, Lucille Franklin and Dorothy Dickey, Hannon: Sylvia Zimmerman, Cindi Thompson, Robin Reece, Loretta Hoover and Alice Hoover, Verdella: Ionia Phillips, Oskaloosa: Hollis Walker.

Ministers: Stockton: Warren Hall, Oskaloosa: Chris Bearden and Hollis Walker, Bethel: Derl A. Hicks, Hannon: Rev. Benny Reece, Greenfield: Bob Dickey and Verdella: Randy Sprenkle.

Visitors: Greenfield: Floyd Crutcher. Bethel: Virginia Toliver,

Rhonda Culbertson, Scott Roe, Chris Roe, Marian Kahler, Mike Leonard. *Tokyo, Japan:* Donnie McDonald. *Monett, Mo.:* Bud and Ruth Bivens. *Verdella:* Ruth Foger, Addis Foger. *Stockton:* Sarah Hall, Jonathan Hall.



# CENTRAL WESTERN DISTRICT WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

Convened at Bethel Free Will Baptist Church El Dorado Springs, Missouri at 11:00 a.m. March 19, 2005

### **Morning Session**

We opened with prayer by our acting President Cindi Thompson. Our congregational song was *Near the Cross*. Dawn Hicks, from the Bethel Church, welcomed us. The response was given by Jeannie Zimmerman.

The Nominating Committee was assigned. Each church was to bring a member to serve on this committee. They were Ionia Phillips from Verdella, Alice Hoover from Hannon, Beulah Chism from Bethel, Linda Hall from Stockton and Betty Crutcher from Greenfield.

The morning offering received was \$195.00 and went to our morning speaker, Ruth Bivens. Our special music was brought by Robin Reece and Cindi Thompson.

Sister Ruth Bivens challenged us to meet the needs of others by sharing the Gospel, and the Gospel message to people in all walks of life. She used a different shoe to represent each one.

Our closing prayer and blessing on the noon meal were by Alice Hoover.

### **Afternoon Session**

Opening prayer was by Cindi Thompson. The congregational song was *Banner of the Cross*. Our special music

was by Marian Kahler singing *Jesus Laughing*. We had a video presentation about the Mission Trip to Panama. Cindi Thompson narrated the presentation for us.

The business session was opened. The first item was to change our name from Central Western District Auxiliary to Central Western Women Active for Christ. Motion was made by

Linda Hall to make the name change and seconded by Betty Crutcher. The motion carried.

The second item was for the district to provide funds for a \$5-\$10 filled basket for a door prize at the Ladies Retreat in August 2005. Motion made by Ionia Phillips and seconded by Jeannie Zimmerman. The motion carried.

The secretary's report was given by Betty Crutcher. The report was accepted. The Treasurer's report was given by Linda Hall and accepted.

		January 1	- Decemb	er 31, 2004	ŀ		
Prepared by Lind	da Hall		d., El Dorado Spr			417-876-646	57
BEGINNING BALAN	CE						\$274.31
CHURCH AUXILLARY:	Bethel	Greenfield	Hannon	Stockton	Verdella	Total Membership	
MEMBERS	15	6 (Dist. Only)	11	6	10	48	
RECEIPTS:							
Association Offering		····					\$154.00
Fall Auction							\$777.00
Designated Receipts	\$1196.25	\$100.00	\$1,821.55	\$915.50	\$855.32		\$4,888.62
District Membership Dues	3.75	1.50	2.75	1.50	2.50		\$12.00
TOTAL RECEIPT		_					\$5,831.62
BALANCE:							\$6,105.93
Disbursements:	Bethel	Greenfield	Hannon .	Stockton	· Verdella	District #	1. Sec. 16. 19
50/50 Project	100.00	100.00	500.00	100.00	0	0	800.00
Alpha House Pregnancy	0	O 2/1	0	25.00	0	<0	25.00
Ben Balley	60.00	Chief O france	0	60.00	0	0	120.00
Bethel Pupeteers/	0	0	0		0	1. 77.001	77.00
Association Program						real water a start	
Brenda Bunch/	0	- i (0	0	· τ. τ.	0	1	77.00
Association Speaker				A SAME ASSA		State and a state of the	
Emphysis Month Offering	0	AT A CONSTRUCT	0	Sec. 0. 1.	50.00	ee 4. 0	50.00
Fall Auction: Melissa Kiser / JeffersonCity	0	40.4 4	0	46.00	0	777.00	823.00
John Chang	0	S. 6	0	150.00	0	(s. ), 0	150.00
Laura B. Barnard Offering	0	€r - 0- 7 - 1	543.30		597.82	• (i • • • 0 · · · · · · ·	1141.12
Newborns in Need	0	· · 0	0	7.10.00	0	en - 0 - 1	10.00
National/State Dues	161.25	0	118.25	64.50	107.50	3	451.50
New Life Children's Home	0	€ Q	0	0.	50.00		50.00
STATE PROJECTS:							
Camp Niangua	60.00	· · · · 0 · · · · ·	0	1	0	0.1	60.00
Jimmy Kiser	105.00	- <b>0</b> - 4	0	45.00	0	0	150.00
Robbie Rutledge	105.00	0.	0	at 195.00 ℃.	50.00	$\to \to +0^{-1} (0, 0, 0, 1)$	290.00
Scott Cheatham	60.00	0, 4:2,	0	100.00	0	0	160.00
Show-Me Plan	330.00		540.00	180.00	0		1050.00
WNAC	105.00		0	See 20 Or See	0	<b>0</b>	105.00
WNAC	110.00	0			0	<b>.</b>	230.00
Designated TOTALS	1196.25	100.00	1821.55	915,50 - v	855.32	931.00	5819.62
Other Expences:	Checks 15.25, St	amps 7.40				22.65	5842.27
ENDING BALANCE:							\$263.66

### **Central Western District Auxiliary Treasurer's Report**

Linda also gave information from the State WAC. The 2005 WAC State Projects are \$3,000. Gene Howell, \$3,000. Scott Cheatham, \$3,000. Show-Me Plan and \$3,000. WNAC. encourage your WAC's to support these projects. Our projects for 2006 will be \$3,000. Missouri State Home Missions, \$3,000. Abidjan Church/Parsonage, \$3,000 Show-Me Plan and \$3,000. WNAC. Keep these in mind for NEXT YEAR.

The Ladies Retreat is August 19-20. Our theme is "God's Windows are Always Open" with a little different line up of speakers and specials. Maybe this will entice you to come if you haven't been to one before or return if you have! Our project this year is *Updating Equipment for Co-Laborer*. At our State WAC meeting we will have CD cases for your group to take and return with a donation at the retreat for this project. A display case will be made to display all our donated CD cases with their WAC's name. Keep this project in mind as you have your meetings before our retreat.

The Nominating Committee submitted the following nominees:

President: Cindi Thompson Vice President: Ionia Phillips Secretary: Dawn Hicks Treasurer: Linda Hall Member at Large: Betty Crutcher Hearing no other nominations from the floor, these were

elected.

Our Central Western Women Active for Christ afternoon session was dismissed in prayer by Beulah Chism.



# CENTRAL WESTERN MO. ASSOCIATION of Free Will Baptist Annual Session Saturday Afternoon

Moderator, Rev. Warren Hall, called our session to order and led us in prayer.

We were led in congregational singing by Mike Leonard.

Bro. Hall said that the Bethel F.W.B. church has requested Bro. Scott Roe be licensed to preach. A motion was made, second and carried to license him.

Bro. Hall asked for the reports of the committees.

### The Business Committee:

We, the Business Committee, recommend:

- That \$250.00 be given to Bud and Ruth Bivens and \$250.00 to the [Donnie] McDonalds from the Executive Board Funds.
- 2. As the \$5.00 to the Missouri State Association no longer applies, we recommend this statement be removed from our Bylaws, Article 9: Section 1.
- 3. That the Association gives \$250.00 to Kerrie Morgan, for her summer mission trip, to be taken from the Association Executive Board fund.

# Signed: Bob Dickey, Beula Chism, Erma Davidson, Robin Reece and Charles Whitson

Motion, second and carried to receive the Business Committee's report and vote item by item. Number 1, Motion, second, and carried to accept. Number 2, Motion, second and carried to table until the next quarterly meeting because it is a bylaw change. Number 3, Motion second and carried to accept.

### The Ministerial Committee:

We, the Ministerial Committee, have reviewed the minister's reports of the following: Derl Hicks, Warren Hall, Randy Sprenkle, Bob Dickey, Chris Bearden, and Hollis Walker. We have found hem all in good standing with this Association. George Naumann and Benny Reece must be approved by the Examining Committee before receiving their cards of standing.

Signed: Lural Mays, Betty Crutcher, Sylvia Zimmerman, Ionia Phillips and Alice Hoover.

Motion, second, and carried to receive the Ministerial Committee's report for the cards of standing and those that are pending examination.

NAME	Churches Pastored		Additions to Church	Professions	Baptisms	Weddings	Funerals	Miles Traveled	Money Received
Rev. Chris Bearden	1	82	1	1	-	0	1	1000	-
Rev. Bob Dickey	1	90	4	2	2	4	5	8500	\$7800.
Rev. Warren Hall	1	100	-	-	2	-	2	7200	\$13,000.
Rev. Derl Hicks	1	96	3	5	1	2	5	5000	\$19,500.
Rev. Benny Reece	1	48	6	0	0	0	0	-	-
Rev. Randy Sprenkle	1	78	16	4	12	2	2	2500	\$11,500.
Rev. Hollis Walker	0	2	0	0	0	0	-	-	\$25.

# **MINISTER'S REPORT**

# The Obituary Committee:

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

BETHEL: Mary Belcher, Carrie Goodwin. GREENFIELD: Gilbert York. HANNON: Jim McAdams. HICKORY GROVE: Doris Marrs. OSKALOOSA: Charles Dobyns. STOCKTON: Arnold Wallen.

We recommend the congregation stand for a moment of silent prayer in their honor.

Respectfully submitted by: Dawn R. Hicks, Dorothy Dickey, and Lucille Franklin.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the Obituary Committee's report and honor their recommendation.

# **Nominating Committee:**

The following people were nominated by the Nominating

Committee:

- Moderator: Chris Bearden Asst. Moderator: Derl Hicks Clerk/Treasurer: Linda Hall Asst. Clerk/Treasurer: Cindy Thompson State General Board Member: Warren Hall
- Executive and Home Mission Board: Bethel: Lural Mays, 2009 Hannon: Brent Thompson, 2007 Oskaloosa: Reed Smith, 2008 Verdella: Roger Phillips, 2008
- Ministerial Examining Board: Bob Dickey Warren Hall Derl Hicks

Signed: Roger Phillips and Chris Bearden

Number 1: Seconded and carried to accept these nominations for our Association's officers. Number 2: Seconded and carried to accept these nominations for the Executive and Home Mission Board. Number 3: Second and carried to accept the nominations for the Ministerial Examining Board.

A standing vote of thanks was given to Bethel for hosting our 97<sup>th</sup> Annual Session of the Central Western Association of Free Will Baptist meeting.

We will meet for the 98<sup>th</sup> Session of the Central Western Association of Free Will Baptist at the Free Will Baptist Church in Greenfield on March 18, 2006 at 9 a.m. Our next Quarterly meeting will be at the Stockton Free Will Baptist Church on June 4, 2005, at 7:00 p.m.

Motion, second and carried to dismiss the business session. Bro. Derl dismissed us in prayer.

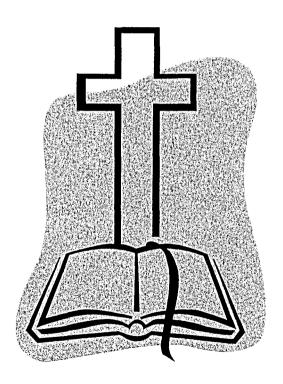
# **Worship Service**

We were led in congregational singing by Mike Leonard. Bro. Warren led us in prayer. We enjoyed our special music. Rev. Donnie McDonald, missionary to Japan, was our speaker. He brought us a challenging message to spread God's Word.

The offering was taken receiving \$404.25 for the McDonald's account.

We were dismissed in prayer.

Submitted by Linda Hall, Clerk



# CONSTITUTION

# ARTICLE 1.

<u>Name and Composition</u>. This organization shall be known as the Central Western Missouri Association of Free Will Baptist, and shall be composed of such consistent, well-regulated Free Will Baptist Churches as shall from time to time unite with the 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.**

Section I: 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, and their wives, 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 II: 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.

<u>Officers.</u> The officers of the Association shall be a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, an Assistant Clerk and a Treasurer; 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.

<u>Meeting.</u> This Association shall meet annually on Saturday, following the second Sunday in March at 9:00 a.m. It shall be the duty of the churches composing it to represent themselves by letter and delegate.

### ARTICLE 8.

**<u>Program.</u>** It shall be the duty of the Executive Board to plan and carry out the program of the Association.

# ARTICLE 9.

<u>Amendments.</u> This Constitution may be altered or amended at any Quarterly Meeting or Annual 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 the Quarterly Meeting or Annual Association Meeting.



**BYLAWS** 

### **ARTICLE 1.**

Each annual session of this Association shall be called to order at 9:00 a.m. 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 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 opened and closed with prayer. There shall be a morning message.

### **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.

# 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 Quarterly Meeting or Annual Association Meeting.

# ARTICLE 7.

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

# ARTICLE 8.

A committee of five lay members, qualified delegates to the Association, shall be chose 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 one hundred dollars (\$100.00) 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 Baptist; one hundred dollars (\$100.00) to the National Association of Free Will Baptist. The honorarium for the Associational Clerk will be \$100.00, with the remaining percentage 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 Quarterly Meeting or Annual 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 a 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, drugs or who cannot qualify according to I Timothy 3:1-12 and Titus 1:6-9.

### ARTICLE 12.

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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 churches must request a card of good standing for all ministers in their congregation and include the request in their church letter. 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.

Section I. We believe that any form of homosexuality, lesbianism, bisexuality, bestiality, incest, fornication, adultery, and pornography are sinful perversions of God's gift of sex. (Gen. 2:24, Gen. 19:5, 13; Gen. 26:8-9; Lev. 18:1-30; Romans 1:26-29; I Cor. 5:1; 6:9; I Thess. 4:1-8 and Heb. 13:4). Any church which sanctions such conduct will not be accepted or retained as a member of the Central Western Association of free Will Baptist.

Section II. We believe that human life begins at conception and that the unborn child is a living human being. Abortion constitutes the unjustified, unexcused taking of a human life. Abortion is murder. We reject any teaching that abortion of pregnancies due to rape, incest, birth defects, gender selection, birth or population control, or the mental well being of the mother are acceptable. (Job 3:16; Psalms 51:5; 139:14-16; Isa. 44:24; 49:1, 5; Jer. 1:5, 20:15-18; Luke 1:44) Any church which sanctions such conduct will not be accepted or retained as a member of the Central Western Association of Free Will Baptist.

### ARTICLE 14.

These Bylaws may be altered or amended at any Quarterly Meeting or Annual 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 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 will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of 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.