

88

MINUTES
OF THE
Eighty-eighth Annual Session
OF THE
CHATTAHOOCHEE
United Free-Will Baptist
ASSOCIATION

CONVENED WITH
NEW PROSPECT CHURCH

Turner County, Georgia

Commencing on Thursday Night Before the First
Sunday in October, 1923

OFFICERS

REV. H. L. LUMPKIN, Moderator Maok, Ga.
REV. W. D. GILL, Clerk Junction City, Ga.

The next session will meet with Macedonia Church, Macon Ga.,
commencing on Thursday night before the First Sun-
day in October, 1924.

HERALD PRINT, Butler, Ga.
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The Eighty-Eighth Session of the Chattahoochee United Free-will Baptist Association convened with New Prospect Church, Turner County, Ga., commencing on Thursday night before the first Sunday in Oct., 1923. The introductory sermon was preached Friday a. m. at 11:00 by Rev. J. J. ones from Titus 2:1-2, followed by Rev. W. T. Lovick.

After an intermission of one hour for refreshments the body was called to order by the former moderator, Rev. H. L. Lumpkin. Next invited visiting brethren to seats with us in the body.

The next business in order was a call for Corresponding Letters and received letters and delegates from the following churches.

Little Bethel: F. L. Raburn, J. W. Cromer, W. N. Fowler, G. D. Perry, R. N. McInvale, B. L. Raburn.

St. James: W. M. Hall,

Mt. Olive: J. B. Amerson, John Windham, G. B. Windham.

St. John: By Letter.

Spring Hill, G. M. Bryan, W. M. Melton, Mrs. G.M. Bryan,

Bethany: E. L. Corley.

Pleasant Hill: J. W. Brewer, S. A. Cromer.

Turner's Chapel: H S. Moore.

Trinity: A. S. Waller, John Watson.

Providence: E. T. Tomblin, T J. Driver, Clifford Tomblin, J. M. Tomblin, Walter McBride, M. E. Tomblin.

New Prospect: G. C. King, F M. Partin, G. L. O. Sheppard, J. B. Hardon.

New Life: James Daniel, J. W. Daniel, Sam Daniel.

Beulah: By Letter.

New Prospect, Taylor County: Lee Posey.

Bethel: C. M. Massey, A. Kennady.

Next called for Petitionary Letters and received letters and

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delegates from the following churches:

Macedonia Church, Macon, Ga: Laura Horne, Julia Gray.

Ideal F. W. B. Church, Ideal Ga.: Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Jones.

The body was then permanently organized by electing Rev. H. L. Lumpkin, Moderator, and Rev. W. D. Gill, Clerk.

Next called for Corresponding Messengers and received Rev. W. H. Homes from the South Georgia Association; Rev. B. O. Brown and B. E. Miller from the Little River Association; Rev. L. S. Yates from the Ga. Union Association.

Next appointed the various Committees as follows:

On Preaching: G. L. O. Sheppard, J. B. Harden, J. M. Jones, M. E. Tomblin, J. B. Amerson.

On State of the Churches and Character of the Ministry: J. M. Tomblin, G. B. Windham, R. N. McInvale, W. M. Melton, A. S. Waller.

On Temperance: E. L. Corley, J. V. Klosser, W. N. Fowler.

On Sabbath Schools: W. H. Emmerson, Walter McBride, G. C. King.

On Finance: D. E. Greene, S. R. Lawhorn, W. T. Lovick

On Suggestions: D. E. Greene, W. H. Emmerson, G. D. Perry, J. R. Hunt, M. E. Tomblin.

On motion the body adjourned until 8:30 Saturday a. m.

SECOND DAYS SESSION.

Saturday a. m. at 8:30 the body met according to adjournment. After singing and prayer Rev. J. F. Malone.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

On Preaching: Friday at 7:30 p. m. Rev. E. C. Grimsley to preach, Rev. G. A. Plymale to follow; Saturday at 9:00 Rev. W. H. Holmes to preach; Saturday at 11:00 Rev. L. S. Yates to preach; Saturday night at 7:30 Rev. W. H. Emerson to preach, Rev. B. O. Brown to follow; Sunday at 9:00 Rev. J. F. Malone to preach; Sunday at 11:00 Rev. J. R. Hunt to preach; Sunday at 3:00 Rev. D. E. Greene to preach.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your committee, make the following report: We recommend that the Churches which have no Sabbath Schools organize one and that the pastors stress the importance of Sabbath Schools in their pastoral work as we deem this a very important work.

WALTER McBRIDE, Chairman.

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ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your committee, make the following report: We recommend that all church members in this Association be Temperate in all things because it is necessary for the advancement of the cause of Christ. We also recommend that the pastor of each church preach Temperance to their congregations.

E. L. CORLEY, Chairman.

ON STATE OF CHURCHES AND CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY.

We, your Committee, submit the following report: We find all of the churches in good standing. We find from various churches and brethren that Rev. W. M. Shurly has been getting money under false pretense from different parties and we recommend that he be cited back to his church and dealt with.

J. M. TOMBLIN, Chairman.

ON SUGGESTIONS.

We, your Committee, beg leave to make the following report: We suggest to your honorable body that the Chattahoochee United Freewill Baptist Association, now in session at New Prospect Church authorize all members of any church who compose this Association who are willing to become contributors to a fund to be raised by paying any stated sum which they will pay for Missions to organize themselves into a Missionary Union which shall elect officers and conduct its business in harmony with the rules of practice and Articles of Faith of the United Freewill Baptist denomination but independent of any church or association; this to have the approval of the Chattahoochee United Freewill Baptist Association, so long as it is within the confines and doctrines of this association.

2nd. We recommend that the Chattahoochee Association receive a complete report from all the preachers at each annual session of the Association of all the work done by him during the year including sermons preached, baptism number, received into church, meetings held, miles traveled, amount received in money, amount paid out, and other work done. We also recommend that a committee be appointed by the Moderator of the Association to get up proper form of blank upon which Ministers Reports shall be made and have 500 hundred of said Blanks printed at Ayden, N.

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C., and paid for out of funds of this Association.

3rd. We recommend that a Superannuated Fund for the benefit of Indigent Ministers of this Association be raised by the payment of 25c per head per male member, and 10c per head for female members annually.

4th. We recommend that no minister be licensed or ordained in this Association until he has been approved by a committee appointed by the Association for that purpose.

REV. W. H. EMMERSON, Chairman.

ON FINANCE.

We, your Committee, find paid in for Minutes and Correspondence \$84.00. We find in the hands of the Treasurer \$43.55. Total on hand \$127.55.

REV. S. R. LAWHORN, Chairman.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

Appointed Corresponding Messengers to our Sister Associations as follows:

To the Georgia Union: Revs. W. H. Emmerson, G. A. Plymale

To the Little River: Rev. W. R. Lawhorn, and J. H. Little.

To the South Georgia: J. J. Jones, R. N. McInvale.

To the Midway: Revs. J. R. Hunt and H. L. Lumpkin.

To the Ocmulgee: By Sending Minutes.

Next appointed as delegates to the State Convention: Bros. J. R. Hunt and W. H. Emmerson.

Next agreed that this body send \$10.00 to the State Convention.

Appointed the Executive Committee as follows:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

G. B. Windham ----- Reynolds, Ga.

R. N. McInvale ----- Ideal, Ga.

A. S. Waller, ----- Charing, Ga.

Agreed that the Clerk have 700 copies of the Minutes printed and that he be paid \$15.00 for his services. Agreed that Rev. H. L. Lumpkin write the next Circular Letter to this body. Motion made and carried that Rev. J. R. Hunt be elected to do Missionary Work in the Association. By motion the body adjourned for preaching at 2:00 p. m.

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AFTERNOON SESSION.

At 2:00 p. m. the body met according to adjournment; song and prayer by Rev. J. R. Hunt

Agreed that this body meet with Macedonia Church, Macon, Ga., commencing on Thursday night before First Sunday in Oct., 1924; and that Rev. W. H. Emmerson preach the Introductory Sermon Friday at 11:00 a. m., Rev. H. L. Lumpkin alternate.

Agreed that we pay the expenses of one Correspondent which was \$18.50.

Committee to draw up suitable blank form for Preachers Reports: Revs. J. J. Jones and J. R. Hunt.

Investigating Committee on applications of preachers to be ordained or licensed to preach: D. E. Greene, W. D. Gill, J. J. Jones, W. T. Lovick, W. H. Emmerson.

By motion the body returned thanks to the church and community for their kindness and hospitality during our stay with them. By motion adjourned to meet with Macedonia Church twelve months hence.

REV. H. L. LUMPKIN, Moderator,

REV. W. D. GILL, Clerk.

TIME AND PLACE OF UNION MEETINGS

THE First District meets with Turner's Chapel Church, Taylor County, Ga., commencing on Friday night before the Fourth Sunday in July 1924; delegates going by R. R. will be met at Butler, Ga., on Friday.

The Second District meets with New Life Church, Marion County, Ga., commencing on Friday before the Third Sunday in August, 1924. Rev. E. C. Grimsley to preach the Introductory Sermon Saturday at 11:00 a. m.; Rev. W. J. Lumpkin, alternate. Delegates going by R. R. will be met at Mauk, Ga., on the A. B. and A. R. R. and Junction City, Ga. on the Central R. R.

LICENTIATES.

D. G. Belknap, ----- Crump's Park, Ga.

S. A. Cromer, ----- Ellsville, Ga.

G. A. Plymale ----- Ideal, Ga.

I. F. Quinn ----- Columbus, Ga.

J. H. Little ----- Ashburn, Ga.

C. V. Blair ----- Reynolds, Ga.

CHURCHES CLERKS AND POSTOFFICES

Little Bethel, F. L. Rayburn, -----	Ideal, Ga.
Mt. Olive, W. J. Childree -----	Reynolds, Ga.
Spring Hill, T. F. Hendricks -----	Mauk, Ga.
Pleasant Hill, J. W. Brewer -----	Rupert, Ga.
Liberty Chapel, W. H. Bossman, -----	Macon, Ga.
St. James, B. F. Greene -----	Phoneix, City, Ala.
Bulah, Mrs. C. E. Lawhorn -----	Butler, Ga.
St. John's, C. C. Brock -----	Columbus, Ga.
New Life, Lee Daniel -----	Mauk, Ga.
Bethany, John Grimsley -----	Juniper, Ga.
New Prospect, J. F. Pate -----	Ashburn, Ga.
Trinity, Arizona Waller -----	Charing, Ga.
Providence, P. M. Tomblin -----	R. 3., Columbus, Ga.
Macedonia, Mrs. Julia Gray -----	2132 Broadway, Macon, Ga.
New Prospect, Lee Posey -----	Reynolds, Ga.
Ideal Church, C. J. Fowler -----	Ideal, Ga.
Turner's Chapel, C. H. Moore -----	Butler, Ga.
Bethel, C. M. Massey -----	Warwick, Ga.

MINISTERIAL ROLL.

Rev. D. E. Green, -----	Ideal, Ga.
Rev. C. W. Richardson, -----	Forsyth, Ga.
Rev. J. J. Jones, -----	Ideal, Ga.
Rev. B. F. Green, -----	Mauk, Ga.
Rev. W. J. Lumpkin, -----	Mauk, Ga.
Rev. E. C. Grimsley, -----	Mauk, Ga.
Rev. W. T. Lovick, -----	Reynolds, Ga.
Rev. W. D. Gill, -----	Junction City, Ga.
Rev. W. H. Emerson, -----	Butler, Ga.
Rev. H. L. Lumpkin, -----	Mauk, Ga.
Rev. S. N. Little, -----	Ashburn, Ga.
Rev. J. V. Klosser, -----	Reynolds, Ga.
Rev. A. L. Lane, -----	Charing, Ga.
Rev. O. C. Bridges -----	Ellaville, Ga.
Rev. W. R. Lawhorn, -----	Butler, Ga.
Rev. W. T. Grimsley, -----	Mauk, Ga.
C. H. Moore, -----	Reynolds, Ga.
Rev. I. F. Guinn -----	Butler, Ga.
R. L. Jones -----	Phoenix City, Ala.
Rev. W. J. Steadman -----	1213, 15th St., Columbus, Ga.
J. R. Hunt -----	159 Jeff Davis St., Macon, Ga.
Rev. S. R. Lawhorn -----	Buena Vista, Ga.
J. W. Cullever -----	Mauk, Ga.
W. C. Jones, -----	1018 Elm St., Macon, Ga.

IN MEMORY OF BRO. J. W. McINVALE.

Bro. McInvale was about 53 years old. He was married to Miss Georgia Childres Dec. 8, 1896; joined the Freewill Baptist Church at Little Bethel July 31, and died Aug. 5, 1923. Many tears were shed around his bed side when we received him into the church. It was also sad to gaze upon his form for the last time. So farewell brother, until we meet again. May the richest blessings that God can give rest upon the sorrowing wife and children.

By his pastor,

REV. H. L. LUMPKIN.

J. THOMAS BRITT.

Bro. Britt was born in Muscogee Co., Ga., May 13, 1885; died May 13, 1923; joined Providence Freewill Baptist Church in 1911. Bro. Tommie was the oldest son of T. A. and Mrs. Lenora Britt. He was generous hearted, ever ready to help those that were in need. He was always ready to serve his fellowman and esteemed the great cause of Christ. His friends were numbered by the multitude. It was my pleasure to bury him in baptism, also my sad privilege to officiate at his funeral. He leaves a sorrowing wife, one brother and two sisters to mourn their loss. The last conversation with Bro. Britt was upon things divine. May the blessings of heaven rest upon the sorrowing ones and that we may meet him in a heaven of rest.

By his pastor,

REV. H. L. LUMPKIN.

BRO. J. T. LAWHORN.

Bro. Lawhorn was about 63 years old and was a member of Little Bethel Freewill Baptist Church from early manhood. He was first married to Miss Mattie Cooper, to which union the Lord blessed with two children. He was later married to Miss Stella Raburn on Nov. 7, 1909, who only lived till July 3, 1920. Bro. Lawhorn was a pious Christian gentleman, ever ready to do his part. His death was a great shock to his friends. May we ever live, so that we may meet again. Children, be ever ready so that when the great summons shall come you may see father again. May the blessings of heaven rest upon his devoted wife.

By pastor,

REV. H. L. LUMPKIN.

SISTER ESKA MAE LITTLE.

Sister Little was born May 7, 1902; was united with the Freewill Baptist Church at the age of 13 years; was married 5th Sunday in Aug. 1919, to Hillard Cromer. A flower was taken from our home that can never be replaced. She was a loving child May God bless the bereaved ones. She died Sept. 29, 1923, and was laid to rest in Prospect cemetery. She was the mother of 3 children.

Wrote by her brother-in-law,

E. A. McCORNLY.

SISTER BECKEY SECTUS

Sister Sectus departed this life Aug. 26, 1923 at the age of 74 years. She was a member of Bethany church, a faithful member and a true Christian but she has left this world and gone on to join the redeemed ones that have gone before. She leaves two sons and two daughters to mourn their loss, yet we feel that their loss is her gain.

Dear Sister has left us now never more to return.

But 'tis God who hath bereft us; He can all our sorrows heal,
Yet we hope again to meet her when the day of life is done,
Then in heav'n with joy to greet thee, where no tears shall flow.

E. C. GRIMSLEY.

BRO. H. W. PARTEN.

Bro. Parten departed this life March 15, 1923. He was a member of New Prospect church, Turner Co., Ga. He was a faithful and true Christian and a deacon of New Prospect church for years. He has left this world and has gone to join the redeemed ones who have gone on before. He left a wife and several children to mourn their loss but we believe their loss is his eternal gain. Bro. Parten was a loving husband and father. Weep not children, but pray to meet your father in heaven where you can spend eternity with him and loved ones gone on before. Rejoice mother and children that there is no more suffering for your father and husband in this life; no more sickness, no more headaches, but one eternal joy forever and forever with his Saviour who died for him on Mt. Calvary's brow. But 'tis God who doeth all things best and makes no mistakes. He can all our sorrows heal; yet again we hope when the day of this life is o'er then in heaven with joy we'll greet thee where no tears ever flow.

Written by,

S. N. LITTLE.

(Who baptized him 28 years ago. Age 77 years, 6 months, 18 days. Born Aug. 27th. 1845.

J. H. LOVICK.

Mr. J. H. Lovick was born near Charleston, S. C., March 3, 1840; died in Columbus, Ga., Jan. 21, 1923, at the age of 82 years, 10 months and 18 days. He joined the Freewill Baptist Church in early manhood and was soon after licensed to preach; and served the Lord in that capacity about 50 years. He was married to Miss Joe Anna Searcy at Butler, Ga., Dec. 25, 1870. Nine children blessed their union. His wife, six children, 18 grand children, and four great grand children are left to survive him. His life was one of duty and service to his Lord; always ready to raise the fallen and strengthen the weak. The word of God was his constant thought and guide. Loving hands and grief-stricken hearts laid him to rest in peace in Mt. Olive cemetery near Reynolds, Ga., Bro. W. J. Steatman performing the funeral ceremony. He awaits the resurrection morn when Christ shall say: "Come ye blessed, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

There's not a bright and beaming smile,
Which in this world I see,
But turns my thoughts to future joys,
And whispers heaven to me.

Tho' often here my soul is sad
And falls the silent tear,
There is a world of smiles and love
And sorrow comes not there.

I never clasp a friendly hand,
In greeting or farewell,
But thoughts of my eternal home
Within my bosom swell.

There when we meet with holy joy no thoughts of parting come
But never-nding ages still, shall find us all at home.

Written by his daughter, MRS. LULA E. HALLFORD,
Columbus, Georgia.

SISTER ELLEN BRYAN.

Sister Bryan was born Nov. 23, 1855 and died Feb. 10 1922. She was married to W. T. Bryan Nov. 20, 1878. Sister Bryan was a member of Spring Hill Freewill Baptist Church 30 years. She was a devoted Christian and delighted to talk of Jesus and His love filling her place well in her church and advising the young to become children of God. Often she would solicit an interest in our devotions in the behalf of her children. She was a light to her home and a friend to those in need. Sister Bryan live to see all her children united with the church for which she was made to rejoice. She leaves a sorrowing husband, three sons and six daughters to mourn for her. Children weep not but rather rejoice that mother is at rest and free from all suffering and pain. Jesus has said: "Behold I come quickly and my reward is with me to give every one according as his works shall be." It was indeed sad to say good bye for the last time, but with that sweet assurance we hope to meet again on the shores of that eternal bliss and glory.

By pastor,

REV. H. L. LUMPKIN.

CHURCH ORGANIZATION.

Preliminaries. When several believers wish to be organized into a church, they request a council from some sister church. This council or committee (commonly called an arm) examines into the Christian character, doctrine and fellowship of the applicants, and their ability to sustain a church. If the examination is satisfactory, the organization proceeds as follows:

The Bible is presented as the only rule of faith and practice. A church covenant is read and adopted. A prayer of consecration is offered. The hand of fellowship is given. The church then proceeds to elect its officers, which are a clerk, a treasurer, a pastor, and a board of directors, who constitute, with the pastor, a committee to promote order, activity, attendance, and the means of grace, benevolence, and sufficient discipline in the church. Deacons should possess sound piety, good business capacity and large benevolence. They hold office at the pleasure of the church. They assist in baptism and the Lord's Supper, have care of the poor, and conduct religious meetings in the absence of the pastor.

CONSTITUTION.

Resolved, That we form an association upon the principles laid down in the Holy Scriptures, to-wit: Associations appear from Scripture and ecclesiastical history to have been originally formed, not from any positive injunction, either from Christ or His Apostles, but from mere expediency for the purpose of concentrating the efforts of individual churches and bringing them to bear with greater energy upon the subjects designed to be accomplished by those churches. They were also considered as advisory council, and resorted to as such, but never claimed any right of lording it over God's heritage, nor was their advice considered binding on the churches. In a word, associations were wholly dependent on churches, and churches were not dependent upon associations, and notwithstanding the power brogated to themselves by some modern Baptist associations, we view them as being nowhere preceded by the primitive usages of any self-created bodies.

We, the delegates from our respective churches, being authorized by our churches, to agree to form ourselves into an association, to be known by the name of the Chattahoochee United Free Will Baptist Association, and we promise not to withdraw ourselves from this association without first stating our reasons to the body for such intended withdrawal.

It is proposed by the association, first to promote revivals of religion by camp and protracted meetings. Secondly, to take an active part in Home Missions. It is not intended by this association to discuss queries. It is not the design of this association to interfere in any way with the independence of churches composing it. It was not intended to establish creeds, rules of discipline, or make any law whatever to bind the churches, but to leave each church to regulate its own affairs.

We, as an association, take the Old and New Testaments as

our confession of faith, as relates to the independency.

We believe that a duly organized church consists of a congregation of saints baptized upon a creditable profession of faith in Christ. Christ is the only Christian lawgiver and supreme head of the churches, and the word of God the only infallible rule of faith and practice. Every man has an inalienable right to private judgment in concerns of religion, and an equal right to express his opinion in any way which will not violate the laws of God or the rights of his fellow man.

A church has a right to adopt such measures only as are in accordance with the Word of God, and such are deemed necessary to carry into effect the great system of practice.

The church is the highest ecclesiastical tribunal on earth, from whose decision there is no appeal.

No change, alteration or amendment shall be made to this constitution until such change, alteration or amendment shall have been presented to all the churches composing this association, and when two-thirds of all the churches composing this association shall have adopted or recommended in two of their regular conferences successively such change, alteration or amendment, it shall then become a part and parcel of this constitution.

Read and adopted the above as the constitution of the Chattahoochee United Free Will Baptist Association.

CHURCH DECORUM.

1. The church may choose a pastor annually at the last regular conference in the associational year; or, if they prefer, it may choose a pastor for an indefinite length of time to continue from year to year, so long as they may deem it proper to keep up the connection.

2. When it becomes necessary, a pastor may be chosen at any other time; but if the choice be made at a special conference, the time must be appointed at a monthly meeting of the church.

3. The pastor shall be moderator of the church, but when he is absent or does not sit as moderator, some suitable brother shall be appointed to sit in his place.

4. There shall be two or more deacons in the church whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and disbursement of the contributions made by the church for the pastor, etc., and to distribute the bread and wine in the administration of the Lord's Supper.

5. The deacons shall take notice of such members as refuse or neglect to partake of the Lord's Supper and endeavor to ascertain the cause, that the same may be laid before the church in conference if necessary.

6. Some suitable member shall be appointed clerk and it shall be his duty to do all the recording and other writing pertaining to the business of the church, and to preserve a file of the minutes of the association.

7. When a new clerk is appointed, all the books, etc., belonging to the clerk shall be immediately delivered to him by

his predecessor.

8. When it becomes necessary, a committee of not less than three male members well acquainted with business, shall be appointed, whose duty it shall be to give advice to brethren who apply to them relative to cases of dealing, etc., with the church.

9. The church shall hold a two days meeting monthly, embracing Saturday and the Lord's Day following, the first of which shall be the regular time of conference.

10. It shall be the duty of every member, male and female, to attend each conference meeting if they can, for on that day the pastor is expected to instruct the church in spiritual manner by giving plain and pointed lessons on doctrine, discipline and the rule of holy living.

11. Any male member who shall fail to attend three successive conferences, and any member whatever who may be generally remiss in attending the meetings of the church according to the covenant (Article 10), shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his neglect, but the church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.

12. Conferences shall be opened and conducted as follows: 1. Prayer (unless divine service has just been conducted and generally then). 2. Invite visiting brethren to seats. 3. Open the door for the reception of members. 4. Call for absentees. 5. For acknowledgments. 6. For references or deferred business. 7. For matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church. 8. Miscellaneous business.

13. Visiting brethren, as helps called in from sister churches, shall be allowed to speak and make motions or seconds, but not allowed to vote.

14. Any orderly member of the Baptist church who does not hold this church in membership, may be received into the church without a letter, when it is made apparent that his Christian character is unimpeachable, and that he has applied for a letter and could not obtain it because he desired to join this or some sister church. All other members must join by letter or baptism.

15. No member shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present, but unreasonable objections shall not be valid, and unless withdrawn the member who makes them shall be liable to be taken under dealing by the church.

16. When the moderator calls for absentees, the clerk shall inform the church that members have been absent for three successive conferences, and the moderator shall appoint some brother or brethren to cite each of them to the next conference.

17. No member shall be expelled unless he has been cited verbally or in writing, to attend his trial; provided his residence be known to the church.

18. When a witness, not a member of the church, is introduced, he shall not be examined till the question has been put to the church: "Will you hear the testimony of this witness?"

19. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowledgment shall be minuted in the church book.

20. Members dismissed from the church by letter who be-

come disorderly, or continue to hold their letters without a good reason, shall be cited to the conference to answer for their conduct.

21. Expelled members may be restored to fellowship on their petition if their walk since expulsion has convinced the church that they have sincerely repented of their former evil.

22. A vote shall not be taken on any question without a move and a second, and in all important questions the vote shall be taken by rising on their feet.

23. No other motion shall be considered while a previous motion and second is before the conference.

24. It shall be considered disorderly for a member to absent himself from conference when an important question is to be decided; but a member upon his request, may be excused by the church from voting on either side in peculiar cases.

25. No member shall leave the house during conference without a sufficient cause nor engage in conversation or whispering without being subject to be called to order by the moderator.

26. All discussions in conference must be conducted with calmness and good feeling; those who speak must rise to their feet and address the moderator, and keep to the point in debate.

27. No one shall speak more than three times on the same motion without permission from the moderator, nor shall the remarks of any one be unreasonably long.

28. When the moderator speaks he must nominate some brother in his stead.

29. No one shall be interrupted while speaking unless it be necessary to call the speaker to order.

30. It shall be the rule of the church to attend to the administration of the Lord's Supper at least four times a year, and the expenses are to be paid by the church.

31. Members not in good standing shall not commune, but the administration shall not be deferred on account of any ordinary matter of dealing.

32. Feet washing shall be attended to as the church sees proper.

33. Public fasting, humiliation and prayer shall be observed on proper occasions.

34. This decorum may be amended or altered by the vote of two-thirds of the members present at any two successive monthly meetings.

GOVERNMENT AND ORDINANCES.

1. We believe that a Gospel Church, or a church of Christ, is a congregation of Christians constituted and governed according to the rules laid down in the New Testament.

2. That those rules require churches to preserve the form of government and the ordinances of the first Christian churches and to be composed of baptized believers in Christ.

3. That the visible church as the aggregate or whole-number of Gospel churches, and that the invisible church is composed of the redeemed now in heaven, and of such Christians on earth as are not attached to the visible church, according to the Gospel rules.

4. That the establishment of a central or catholic government over the visible church, or any part thereof, is a devise of earthly ambition repugnant to the Word of God, subservient to the churches and dangerous to the liberty of men.

5. The Gospel churches are the only ecclesiastical bodies or tribunals authorized by the Scriptures; that each church has the unrestricted right to administer its own government without supervision or interference, being under Christ essentially, independent and absolute; and that if this right be surrendered to a superintending jurisdiction by delegation or otherwise, the assembly ceases to be a Gospel church.

6. That churches may nevertheless, we suppose, meet by delegates, form an association and declare the terms upon which they will keep up the correspondence; but that the rights and authority of churches being inalienable, or in no wise compromised or hindered by entering into an association, and therefore an association has no authority over churches or individuals, their only power being to transact business which does not pertain to churches in their ecclesiastical capacity; to promote mutual intercourse, and a concentration of voluntary effort, and to give that advice to churches which might with equal authority be given by any individual.

7. That the authority of the churches is designed for the perpetuation of the true religion of the Gospel, and for the preservation of a true and orderly body of Christians on earth; that it is fully sufficient for the purpose intended, but that it does not extend to persons, property or the consciences of men in any manner whatever.

8. That the only requisites to church membership are faith in Christ and obedience to the Gospel; that faith in Christ necessarily exists in connection with the belief in the fundamental truths of Christianity, and that to prescribe any other requisite of such membership is an assumption of authority on the part of the church and a departure from the Gospel plan.

9. That the officers of a church are elders and deacons; that the elders are also called bishops or pastors; and all the elders are equal in rank, though they may perform different functions—since some may be the bishops or pastors of particular churches, while others may be simply elders, having no pastoral charge.

10. That the authority of a minister of the Gospel extends to teaching, exhortation and rebuke, but no further; that he cannot perform any acts that belong to the authority of the church—such as the reception of members into the church compact, or the expulsion of offenders; that as a member of the church he is no more than any other member, and if he is guilty of transgression he is to be brought to trial before his brethren and convicted or acquitted in the same manner as if he was a private person; yet we think it prudent to call in advisory help, especially if the minister is to be tried upon a charge of heresy.

11. That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost.

12. That the Lord's Supper and washing the saints' feet are ordinances to be observed in the church until the Lord comes.

13. That elders and deacons must be set apart to their office by ordination, or the imposition of the hands of the presbytery and prayer, without which they are not authorized to administer the ordinances pertaining to their respective offices.

14. No preacher shall be ordained unless called to take charge of a church as pastor, or for some other good and sufficient reason.

ARTICLES OF FAITH AND DOCTRINAL VIEWS

1. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is a treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, the truth without any mixture of error for its matter; that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and therefore it shall remain with us to the end of time the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard to which all human conduct and opinions conform.—Rev. 13:14; John 5:39.

2. That there is one true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and ruler of heaven and earth, inexpressible glorious in holiness, worthy of all possible honor, confidence and love, revealed in the personal distinction of Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.—Ex. 6:3; Psa. 33:18.

3. That man was created in a state of holiness under the law of his maker, but by voluntary transgression fell from that holy and happy state, in consequence of which men are now sinners, not by constraint, but by choice, being by nature utterly devoid of holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, of Satan and their own sinful passions, and therefore are under just condemnation to eternal ruin without defense or excuse.—Gen. 1:27,

2:7, 3:6, 19, 23.

4. That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial office of the Son of God, who took upon himself our nature, yet without sin, honored the law by His own personal obedience, and made atonement for sin by his death; being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection in every way qualified to be suitable, compassionate and all sufficient Saviour.—Eph. 2:5, 5:8, Rom. 7:11.

5. That the Gospel blessings which Christ in his fullness bestows on such as believe in him, is justification. That this justification consists in the pardon of sin and promise of eternal life, upon principles of righteousness; that it is bestowed not in consideration of anything we do, but solely through his own righteousness and atonement, and that brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God.—Rom. 8:30, Ezek. 18:28; John 3:14, 16, Rom. 8:17.

6. That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that it is the immediate duty of all to receive them by a cordial and obedient faith and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner upon earth, but his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ, which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation.—Mark 16:16, John 17:20; Isa. 20.

7. That in order to be saved we must be regenerated, or obedience to the Gospel; and that its evidence is found in the holy fruits which we bring forth to God.—John 3:3-8, Matt. 3:8-10.

8. That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners, it being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, that it comprehends all means with the end; that it is a glorious display of God's goodness, being infinitely wise, holy, unchangeable; born again; that regeneration consists of giving a holy disposition to the mind and is affected in a manner above our comprehension by the power of the Holy Spirit, producing voluntary that it utterly excludes boasting and promotes humility, prayer, praise, trust in God and active imitation of his free mercy, that it encourages the use of means in the highest degree; that it is the foundation of Christian assurance, and that to ascertain it with regard to ourselves, demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

9. That the preserving attachments of true believers to Christ is the grand mark which distinguishes them from superficial possessors; that a special Providence watches over their welfare, and that they are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation.—Eph. 1:1-2.

10. That the law of God is the eternal, unchangeable rule

of his Government; that it is holy, just and good; that the inability which the Scriptures ascribe to fallen man to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from his love of sin; to deliver him through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the holy law, is one design of the Gospel and of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church.—Matt. 5:13, Luke 10:13-20, 14:17.

11. That the first day of the week is the Lord's day, or Christian Sabbath; that it should be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and recreation; by the direct observance of all means of grace, both public and private, and preparation for that rest which remains for the children of God.—Ex. 19:8, Heb. 4:9, Thess. 1:7, Psa. 16:9.

12. That civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good order of human society, that magistrates are to be prayed for conscientiously, honored and obeyed in all things not contrary to the will of our Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Lord of the conscience and Prince of the kings on earth.—Ex. 23:7, Acts 23:5, Tim. 5:17.

13. That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as are justified by faith in the name of the Lord Jesus, and sanctified by the Spirit of God are truly righteous in his esteem, while such as continue in impenitence and in unbelief, are in his sight wicked and under this curse, and this distinction holds good among men both in and after death.—Matt. 25:46; Mark 16:16.

14. That the end of this world is approaching, when Christ will descend from heaven and raise the dead from their graves to final retribution; that a solemn separation will then take place, the righteous being adjudged to everlasting happiness, and the wicked to endless punishment, and this judgment will fix forever the final state of man in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness.—John 5:25, Matt. 25:34:41:46.

CHURCH LETTER.

From _____ Church _____ County, Ga
To the members and messengers composing the Chattahoochee
United Free Will Baptist Association to convene with _____
Church _____ County,

We have called Bro. _____ for our pastor for the
ensuing year. Spiritual condition of the church _____
Time of meeting _____ Sunday, Served by Rev. _____
We send as representatives _____ Received by
letter _____; received by profession of faith _____;
received by experience _____; number expelled _____;
dismissed by letter _____; paid for minutes _____;
paid for correspondence _____; paid for building and repairing
churches _____; ordained ministers _____; P. O. _____;
total membership of church _____; number who have died _____
day of _____.

This done by order of the church in conference this _____
_____ Church Clerk, P. O. _____
_____ Moderator, P. O. _____

ORDER OF BUSINESS OF UNION MEETINGS.

1. The body called to order by the Moderator if he is present,
if not the body may select some suitable member to act
as Moderator, pro tem.
2. Election of Moderator and Clerk.
3. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
4. Appointment of committees.
5. Call for correspondent.
6. Appointment of correspondents.
7. Appoint time and place of holding next session.
8. Call for reports of committees.
9. Call for miscellaneous business.
10. Call for reading and adopting minutes.
11. Adjournment.

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	COUNTIES	PASTORS	Baptized	Died	Rec'd. by Letter	Dis. by Letter	Excluded	Rec. Prof. Faith	Restored	Total	Minute Fund	Meeting Days
Little Bethel -----	Macon -----	H. L. Lumpkin -----	18	1	2	15	2	6	6	130	\$12.00	1
St. James -----	Lee—Alabama -----	W. M. Hall -----	2	—	—	—	—	5	—	22	1.50	3
Mt. Olive -----	Taylor -----	W. T. Lovick -----	27	—	4	—	1	15	—	167	5.00	2, 4
St. Johns -----	Muscogee -----	J. W. Steadman -----	15	1	7	—	—	8	8	68	3.00	1, 2, 3, 4
Spring Hill -----	Marion -----	H. L. Lumpkin -----	2	—	3	—	—	—	—	36	2.50	2
Bethany -----	Marion -----	S. R. Lawhorn -----	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	60	5.00	1
Pleasant Hill -----	Schley -----	E. C. Grimsley -----	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25	1.00	1
Turner's Chapel -----	Taylor -----	C. H. Moore -----	1	1	1	—	—	2	—	86	5.00	4
Trinity -----	Taylor -----	E. C. Grimsley -----	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	28	4.00	4
Providence -----	Muscogee -----	H. L. Lumpkin -----	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	103	7.00	4
New Prospect -----	Turner -----	W. L. Harrell -----	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	138	10.00	3
New Life -----	Marion -----	H. L. Lumpkin -----	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	75	5.00	3
Macedonia -----	Bibb -----	J. R. Hunt -----	—	—	6	2	5	4	—	24	3.00	1, 2, 3, 4
Ideal Church -----	Macon -----	J. R. Hunt -----	15	—	4	—	—	6	—	35	8.00	2
New Prospect -----	Taylor -----	A. L. Lane -----	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	3.50	2
Bethel -----	Worth -----	W. R. Lawhorn -----	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	32	3.00	2
Bulah -----	Taylor -----	C. H. Moore -----	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	80	2.50	3
Liberty Chapel -----	Bibb -----	W. C. Jones -----	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	38	3.00	1, 2, 3, 4