

# MINUTES

—OF THE—

110th Annual Session

—OF THE—

## CHATTAHOOCHEE UNITED FREE-WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

—HELD WITH—

TURNERS CHAPEL CHURCH

TAYLOR COUNTY, GEORGIA

COMMENCING THURSDAY NIGHT BEFORE THE  
FIRST SUNDAY IN OCTOBER, 1945

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ELD. W. J. CHILDREE, Moderator ..... Rte. 3, Reynolds, Ga.  
ELD. B. T. GILL, Clerk \_\_\_\_ 58 North Main St., Thomaston, Ga.

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The Next Session Will Meet with New Prospect Church, Turner  
County, Georgia, Commencing Thursday Night  
Before the First Sunday in October, 1946.

## **ORDER OF BUSINESS OF UNION MEETINGS**

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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. Call for Corresponding Letters.
3. Election of Moderator and Clerk.
4. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
5. Appoint Committees.
6. Call for Correspondent.
7. Appointment of Correspondents.
8. Appoint time and place of holding next session.
9. Call for Reports of Committees.
10. Call for miscellaneous business.
11. Call for reading and adopting minutes.
12. Adjournment.

# MINUTES

OCTOBER 5, 1945.

The 110th Annual Session of the Chattahoochee United Free-Will Baptist Association convened with Turners Chapel Church Taylor County, Ga., on Thursday night before the First Sunday in October, 1945.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered Friday morning at 11 o'clock by Rev. C. A. Huckaby, reading from the 5th chapter of St. Mathew; subject, "Ye Are the Salt of the Earth." This was a great message from God's Word that everyone seemed to enjoy. We were then dismissed for the noon hour.

After one hour's intermission and enjoying the good food that was spread by the ladies and which everyone enjoyed, the body was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. W. J. Childree. The congregation sang "The Way of the Cross Leads Home." Rev. J. M. Cox was called on to lead in prayer. Rev. Childree then read from the 139th Psalm. The Moderator invited visitors to seats with us in our body. Next called for the Corresponding Letters from the various churches. Moved and carried that Bro. G. C. King and Rev. H. L. Knighton read the letters. After all letters were read it was moved and carried that they be accepted as read and all of their delegates be seated in the body, as follows:

Beulah Church, Taylor County: Charley Cromer, Nelson Cromer, Berter Lawhorn, Sallie Cromer and A. R. Lawhorn.

St. Luke Church, Russell County, Ala.: Dora Alford, Mary Grace Huckaby, Maggie Sanders, Curtis Green, Homer Green, and J. S. Arnold.

New Life Church, Marion County: L. O. Hearn and wife, Felton Roberts and wife, J. B. Anthony and wife, Lee Daniel and wife.

Turners Chapel Church, Taylor County: H. S. Moore, Elie Robinson, Edna Ellerbee, J. H. Dunlap.

Little Bethel Church, Macon County: S. O. Jones, O. M. Williams, W. C. Bussey, Clyde McCarty, J. W. Cromer, Beulah Jones, R. N. McInvale.

Spring Hill Church, Marion County: Chroford Hand and wife, Norman Grier and wife, Leonard Grimsley and wife.

Providence Church, Muscogee County: Curtis Parker and

wife, P. M. Preston, Leonard Anthony, Billy Parker.

New Prospect Church, Taylor County: Homer Emerson, J. Y. Coulter, Sankie Trussell, Eva Trussell, Cora Ranow. Sister Lowe.

St. Mark Church, Russell County, Ala.: E. E. Brown, E. E. Gill.

St. John Church, Muscogee County: J. E. Baker, J. E. Hallford, E. Tuch.

Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County: N. T. McInvale, Burl Bryant, B. R. Dent, Lee Posey, M. N. Poole and wife, Jack Perkins and J. B. Amerson.

Trinity Church, Taylor County: L. B. Shirah and wife, Ella May Shirah.

Pleasant Hill Church, Schley County: Fred Brewer and wife, Fleming Brewer and wife, William Guy and Wife and Arlen Taner.

St. James Church, Russell County, Ala.: Cora Hearn Fannie Whitehurst, and Lee Camp.

New Prospect, Turner County: G. C. King, T. J. Little, J. A. Little, D. S. Harris, Chripston Taylor, A. M. Dover.

New Bethel Church, Worth County: S. M. Apperson, L. S. Bain, J. J. Fowler.

Bethany Church, Marion County: Mertis Lawhorn, Woody Hendricks and wife.

It was moved and carried that the Moderator extend the right hand of fellowship to New Bethel Church back into the Association.

The next item of business was to elect a Moderator and Clerk. The body then organized by electing Rev. W. J. Childree, Moderator, and Rev. B. T. Gill, Clerk.

Next, it was moved and carried that each delegate rise to their feet to make a move and second.

Called for Petitionary Letters. None received. Called for Corresponding Messengers and received the following:

From the Martin Association, Eld. H. L. Cartett and T. D. Carter.

From the South Georgia Association, Eld. E. C. Morris, Eld. F. B. Cherry.

Next, moved and carried that the Moderator extend the right hand of welcome to the Corresponding Messengers and that they be seated in the body.

Moved and carried that the Moderator appoint the various Committees as follows:

Committee on Preaching: J. H. Dunlap, N. T. McInvale, J. A. Little, O. M. Williams, Fleming Brewer.

On State of Churches and Character of the Ministry: B. R.



Dent, G. C. King, S. O. Jones, J. D. Windham, J. J. Fowler.  
On Finance: Hattie Shirah, Annie Little, Cathrine Parker.  
On Sunday Schools: Cora Heron, J.E. Baker, Christian Moore.  
On Temperance: C. R. Greer, R. N. McInvale, Sam Daniel.  
On Suggestions: H. L. Knighton, C. A. Huckaby, Mertis Lankester, A. R. Lawhorn, J. B. Amerson, Rev. E. C. Morris to assist this Committee.

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### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Appoint Corresponding Messengers to our Sister Associations as follows:

To the Georgia Union: Rev. H. L. Lumpkin, Rev. J. B. Lumpkin, Rev. C. H. Moore, Rev. H. L. Knighton.

To the Union Association: Rev. L. S. Anthony, Rev. W. R. Lawhorn.

Next, moved and carried, to correspond with other Association by Minutes.

Moved and carried that W. E. James be placed back on the Executive Committee for three years. Moved and carried that G. C. King be placed on the Executive Committee for three years.

The next item of business was the Moderator appointing R. N. McInvale, L. B. Shirah, P. M. Preston to the Georgia State Association.

It was moved and carried that the next session meet with New Prospect Church, Turner County, Ga. Rev. Coy B. Watson to preach the Introductory Sermon and Rev. C. H. Moore alternate.

Moved and carried that the body adjourn until Saturday morning.

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### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The body was called to order by the Moderator. Opening song, "Some Day." Prayer by Rev. F. B. Cherry. Scripture lesson reading from the 8th chapter of Romans. Next, moved and carried to read the Circular Letter. Then it was moved and carried that the Circular Letter be printed in the Minutes. Moved and carried that Rev. H. L. Lumpkin write the next Circular Letter. It was moved and carried that a letter be read from Bro. Morris Lawhorn, a son of Rev. and Mrs. W. R. Lawhorn. After reading this letter it was moved and carried to have the letter printed in the Minutes and the Moderator, Rev. W. J. Childree write Bro. Morris Lawhorn for his thoughtfulness and love that he had for the Association. Next, a special prayer in answer to several requests, was made. Next, it was moved and Carried that a Memorial Letter be read, printed and draped in the Min-

utes. The next item of business we heard a talk from Rev. F. B. Cherry on Mission Work. After he finished his talk on Missions there was a love offering taken and sent to the Georgia State Association, Mission Board Treasurer, in the amount of \$50.00.

Next, there were \$20.00 sent from Providence Church and \$5.00 from Trinity Church for the old age ministers and a love offering amounting to \$46.48; this making a total of \$71.48. This money was divided into three parts and sent to the following: Rev. W. H. Emerson, Rev. H. L. Lumpkin and Rev. W. H. Streetman. Each of these brethren expressed their heartfelt thanks to the churches and the Association for their offering. May the Lord's richest blessings be on them. Next moved and carried that the body adjourn for the 11 o'clock service.

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#### **SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION**

The body was called to order by the Moderator. Opening song, "This World Is Not My Home." Scripture Lesson, Isaiah 54th chapter. The first item of business it was moved and carried to have Five Hundred Copies of the Association's Minutes printed and it was moved and carried to pay the Clerk \$15.00 for his service. Next, moved and carried to drape a page to Brethren that went down on the battle fields. It was also moved and carried to drape a page to the memory of Sister Ruth Ann G. Spillers. It was moved and carried that the Moderator appoint a Superannuation Board. He appointed on this Board S. O. Jones, G. C. King, C. A. Parker. Moved and carried we send \$10 to the Georgia State Association and \$5.00 to the National Association. Next, moved and carried that all of the Committees make their reports.

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#### **REPORT OF VARIOUS COMMITTEES**

ON PREACHING—Friday night, Rev. F. B. Cherry to preach and Rev. J. M. Cox to close. Saturday morning, Rev. E. C. Morris to preach. Saturday night, Rev. H. L. Knighton to preach and Rev. G. W. Price to close. Sunday morning, Rev. W. R. Lawhorn to preach and Rev. W. J. Childree to close.

J. H. DUNLAP, Chairman.

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#### **COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE**

We, your Committee on Temperance, find that our churches as a whole are not as Temperant as they should be and we recommend that our Elders preach more on Temperance and be led by Divine guidance.

C. A. GREER, Chairman.

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**COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS**

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, beg to make the following report: We urge that every Church that has a Sunday School work hard for a better School. Those churches that do not have a Sunday School, we recommend that they organize one as we find that it is good training for the work of the Lord.

SISTER J. W. HEARN, Chairman.

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**ON STATE OF CHURCHES & CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY**

We, your Committee, On State of the Churches and Character of the Ministry, wish to make the following report: We find all of the Churches within the Chattahoochee Association and the Ministry are in order so far as we know. We find that a great many of our preachers and members are reading our church papers and literature and we wish to insist upon all of our preachers and as many of our members as possible to subscribe to and read our church paper. We also wish to endorse the organization of the various boards and general working of our churches through the Georgia State Association and the National Association.

G. C. KING, Chairman.

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**COMMITTEE ON SUGGESTIONS**

We, your Committee, report as follows:

First, we suggest that this Association elect a Superannuation Board of three.

Second, we suggest that this Association send a Petitionary Letter to the Georgia State Association to meet with Little Bethel Church in 1946, subject to approval of the church, and that each church, if they would, send a donation to assist in taking care of the State Association there.

Third, we suggest that the Minutes of this Association be so fixed that they will show in the Statistical Table which Churches have a Sunday School.

C. A. HUCKABY, Chairman.

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**TIME & PLACE OF NEXT SESSION**

Motion made and carried that the next session meet with New Prospect Church, Turner County, Ga. Rev. Coy Watson to preach the Introductory Sermon Friday morning at 11 o'clock; Rev. C. H. Moore, alternate. Motion made and carried that the body return thanks to this church and community for their kindness and hospitality extended to the Association and everyone that visited our session. Our next session is to convene with

the New Prospect Church, Turner County, 12 months hence.

ELD. W. J. CHILDREE, Moderator,  
ELD. B. T. GILL, Clerk.

### COMMITTEE REPORT ON FINANCE

We, your Committee on Finance, beg to make our report as follows:

Amount in Treasury .....	\$37.56
Paid in from Various Churches .....	99.50
Sunday Schools .....	4.00
First District Union Meeting .....	8.00
Second District Union Meeting .....	7.00

Total Paid in .....	\$156.06
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#### Paid Out of Treasury

Paid Clerk .....	\$15.00
Paid Georgia State Association .....	10.00
Paid National Association .....	5.00
Paid for Printing & Mailing Minutes .....	60.00

Total Paid Out .....	\$90.00
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Bal. in Hands of Treasurer .....	\$66.06
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REV. B. T. GILL, Treasurer.

### BIRTHDAY GIFTS

On Saturday, August 4, 1945, the Little Bethel Church gave Rev. J. B. Harris a gift of \$12.60 and a delightful birthday dinner. Rev. Harris had been helping in a revival at that Church.

### CHURCHES, CLERKS AND ADDRESSES

Beulah—Vessa Cromer .....	Rte. 3, Ellaville, Ga.
St. Luke—Eld. C. A. Huckaby—1513—22nd St., Phenix City, Ala.	
New Life—Mrs. Vernell Anthony .....	
Turner's Chapel—Florence Wainwright .....	Butler, Ga.
Little Bethel—Miss Bessie Emerson .....	Rte. 1, Butler, Ga.
Spring Hill—Rosa Grimsley .....	Rte. 1, Mauk, Ga.
Providence—P. M. Preston .....	R. 1, River Road, Columbus, Ga.
New Prospect—Dorothy Trussell .....	Rte. 4, Reynolds, Ga.
St. Mark—Mrs. E. E. Gill .....	1625 Second Ave., Columbus, Ga.
St. John—J. E. Baker .....	4316 Kolb Ave., Columbus, Ga.
Mt. Olive—J. S. Windham .....	Reynolds, Ga.
Trinity—B. F. Waller .....	Charing, Ga.



Pleasant Hill—J. T. Guy ..... Rte. 3, Ellaville, Ga.  
 St. James—Ruby Kelley .....  
 New Prospect—G. C. King ..... Sylvester, Ga.  
 New Bethel—J. JJ. Fowler ..... Warwick, Ga.  
 Bethany .....

### MINISTERIAL ROLL

Eld. W. R. Lawhorn ..... Rte. 1, Butler, Ga.  
 Eld. A. L. Oswalt ..... Rte. 1, Fortson, Ga.  
 Eld. W. C. Jones ..... 1811 Tenth Ave., Phenix City, Ala.  
 Eld. C. A. Huckabey ..... 1513—22nd St., Phenix City, Ala.  
 Eld. G. W. Price ..... 3003—3rd. Ave., Columbus, Ga.  
 Eld. J. B. Lumpkin ..... Howard, Ga.  
 Eld. Coy B. Watson ..... Rte. 5, Bx. 64, Buena Vista, Ga.  
 Eld. L. S. Anthony ..... Juniper, Ga.  
 Eld. H. L. Lumpkin ..... Mauk, Ga.  
 Eld. O. C. Bridges ..... Mauk, Ga.  
 Eld. W. H. Emerson ..... Route 1, Butler, Ga.  
 Eld. J. C. Sizemore ..... 4522 Dolley Ave., Columbus, Ga.  
 Eld. B. D. Lawson ..... 3412—Fifth Ave., Columbus, Ga.  
 Eld. A. C. McKinnon ..... 1027—32nd St., Columbus, Ga.  
 Eld. L. V. Prieston ..... 1041—30th St., Columbus, Ga.  
 Eld. C. H. Moore ..... Reynolds, Ga.  
 Eld. W. R. Merritt ..... Reynolds, Ga.  
 Eld. W. J. Childree ..... Reynolds, Ga.  
 Eld. Riley Windham ..... Reynolds, Ga.  
 Eld. W. B. Posey ..... Rte., Butler, Ga.  
 Eld. B. T. Gill ..... 458 North Main St., Thomaston, Ga.  
 Eld. W. H. Streetman ..... Ellaville, Ga.  
 Eld. H. J. Kelley ..... 208—17th Street, Columbus, Ga.  
 Eld. H. L. Knighton ..... 1911 Second Ave., Phenix City, Ala.  
 Eld. Tom Hollaman ..... 629—20th St., Phenix City, Ala.

### LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. G. W. Hobbs ..... Cussetta, Ga.  
 Rev. Zander Fortune .....  
 Rev. P. E. Knighton ..... 1310—10th Ave., Phenix City, Ala.  
 Rev. E. J. Spillars ..... Oakfield, Ga.  
 Rev. J. H. Lavender ..... Sylvester, Ga.  
 Rev. John Grimsley ..... Route, Juniper, Ga.

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Bro. J. S. Windham, Chairman, 2 Years ..... Reynolds, Ga.  
 Bro. Sam Daniel, 2 Years ..... Mauk, Ga.  
 Bro. W. E. James, 3 Years ..... Rupert, Ga.  
 Bro. L. B. Shirah, 1 Year ..... 227 "D" St., Thomaston, Ga.  
 Bro. G. C. King, 3 Years ..... Sylvester, Ga.

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**SUPERANNUATION BOARD**

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Bro. S. O. Jones, Chairman ..... Ideal, Ga.  
 Bro. C. A. Parker ..... Columbus, Ga.  
 Bro. G. C. King, Sect.-Treas. .... Sylvester, Ga.

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**TIME AND PLACE OF UNION MEETINGS**

**First District**

The First District Union Meeting convened with Pleasant Hill Church, Schley County, Friday night before the Second Sunday in July, 1945. The Introductory Sermon was delivered Saturday morning at 11 o'clock by Rev. W. R. Lawhorn from Matt. 24:35. After one and one-half hours for refreshments the body was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. W. R. Lawhorn. Next, called for Corresponding Letters and received letters and delegates as follows: Little Bethel, W. N. Fowler, C. L. McCarty, Sister Pearl McCarty; Mt. Olive, J. G. Windham, Sisters Jossie Oliver, Georgia Visage; Pleasant Hill, J. T. Guy, W. M. Guy, W. E. James, Fred Brewer; Turners Chapel, E. J. Wainwright, H. S. Moore; Beulah, A. R. Lawhorn, Charlie Cromer, Morris Lawhorn; New Prospect, Turner County, G. C. King, Sister King, J. E. Davis, E. L. Farmer; New Bethel, W. W. Fowler; New Prospect, Taylor County, not represented. Next, by motion of the body, Bros. G. C. King and J. T. Guy were appointed to read the letters. After reading the letters and seating the delegates, the body re-elected Rev. W. R. Lawhorn, Moderator, and Rev. W. J. Childree, Clerk. Next, the Moderator appointed the Preaching Committee as follows: J. T. Guy, H. S. Moore, G. C. King, J. G. Windham and A. R. Lawhorn. Called for Correspondence from the Second District and received the following: Rev. B. T. Gill, Rev. H. L. Knighton, Rev. G. W. Price, Rev. Coy Watson, Rev. B. D. Lawson, Revs. H. L. and J. B. Lumpkin, also Rev. E. Welch and wife from E. Thomaston Baptist Church. Next, Rev. W. J. Childree, Rev. C. H. Moore and Rev. W. R. Lawhorn were appointed as Correspondents to the Second District. The body, on motion, agreed to meet with New Bethel Church, Worth County, on Friday night before the Fifth Sunday in March, 1946. Rev. J. B. Lumpkin to preach the Introductory Sermon Saturday at 11 o'clock a. m., and Rev. L. S. Anthony, alternate. Called for the report on preaching: Saturday night, Rev. G. W. Price to preach, Rev. Coy Watson to follow; Sunday, Rev. L. S. Anthony to preach, Rev. J. B. Lumpkin to follow. Under miscellaneous business it was agreed by the body that the general proceedings of the First District Union Meeting be printed in the Association's Minutes, with the sum of \$8.00 paid in to be used in payment for this publication. Minutes read and adopted. On motion, the body returned thanks to this church and community for their kindness and hospitality extended us during our sojourn with them. By motion, the body adjourned to meet with New Bethel Church in March, 1946.

REV. W. R. LAWHORN, Moderator,  
 REV. W. J. CHILDREE, Clerk.

## SECOND DISTRICT UNION MEETING

The Second District Union Meeting met with Trinity Church, Taylor County, Ga., Saturday morning before the Fourth Sunday in July, 1945. The Introductory Sermon was delivered at 11 a. m. by Rev. H. L. Knighton. After services, one hour was given for the noon hour. An elaborate dinner was spread by the ladies and every one enjoyed the refreshments. The body was then called to order by the Moderator, Rev. H. L. Knighton. First business item was to call for Corresponding Letters from the various churches. It was moved and carried that L. B. Shirah and P. M. Preston read the letters which were read and adopted and all of the delegates seated in the body as follows: St. Luke Church, Sister Dora Alford, Sister Maggie Sanders; New Life Church, Bro. Sam Daniel and wife, Bro. J. B. Anthony and wife, Sister Coy Watson, Sister Mina Roberts; St. James Church, Sister Kate Hestley, Sister J. Dukes, Sister Ruby Kelley; Spring Hill Church, Bro. Norman Grier and wife, Bro. Huston James and wife, Bro. Leonard Grimsley and wife; Providence Church, Bro. Leonard Anthony, Bro. Bentley Parker, Bro. P. M. Preston; Trinity Church, Bro. L. B. Shirah, Bro. B. F. Waller and Bro. Buford Watson; Bethany Church, Bro. Woodroe Hendricks and wife and Sister Nora Youngblood. The body was then permanently organized by electing Rev. H. L. Knighton, Moderator and Rev. B. T. Gill, Clerk. Called for Corresponding Messengers and received: Rev. W. R. Lawhorn and wife, Bro. W. E. James, Bro. B. C. Brewer from the First District Union Meeting. The Moderator appointed the Preaching Committee as follows: B. F. Waller, P. M. Preston and Sam Daniel. Appointed Correspondents to the First District Union Meeting as follows: Rev. B. T. Gill, Rev. W. C. Jones, Rev. Coy Watson, Rev. J. B. Lumpkin. Next, report on Preaching as follows: Saturday night, Rev. W. R. Lawhorn; Sunday morning we had several ministers, Rev. Cox, Rev. J. E. Welch, Rev. W. J. Childree, Rev. W. R. Lawhorn. These ministers brought good messages in a few words. Rev. B. T. Gill closed by reading the 86th Psalm. Moved and carried that the next session meet with New Life Church, Marion County, Ga., Saturday morning before the Fifth Sunday in June, 1946; Rev. G. W. Price to preach the Introductory Saturday morning at 11 o'clock Rev. W. C. Jones, alternate. By motion, the body adjourned to meet with New Life Church June 29 and 30, 1946.

REV. H. L. KNIGHTON, Moderator,  
REV. B. T. GILL, Clerk.

## DEACONS' AND PREACHERS' MEETING

The Deacons' and Preachers' Meeting convened with Turners Chapel Church, Taylor County, Ga., Saturday before the Fifth Sunday in July, 1945. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. H. L. Knighton; closed by Rev. W. R. Lawhorn. The services were enjoyed by every one. The body adjourned for the noon hour when a delightful dinner was served by the ladies. After the noon hour the body was called to order by the Moderator. Opening song, "When We All Get to Heaven." Prayer by Bro. Jessie Windham. The Moderator then read the 15th Psalm. A special prayer was offered for the boys in uni-



form and for our nation by Rev. W. J. Childree. The first matter of business was to elect a Moderator and Clerk. Rev. B. T. Gill was elected Moderator and Bro. L. B. Shirah, Clerk. Moved and carried that the Moderator appoint the Committee on Preaching as follows: Bro. H. S. Moore, Bro. J. E. Baker and Bro. Jessie Windham. Next was report on churches as follows: Mt. Olive, Bro. Jessie Windham; New Prospect, Bro. Charlie Stringfield; St. John, Bro. J. E. Baker; St. James, J. Butler; Beulah, Bro. Ausie Lawhorn. Next, report on Preaching Committee; Rev. B. T. Gill to preach Saturday night, Rev. Coy Watson to close; Rev. W. R. Lawhorn to preach Sunday at 11 a. m. Moved and carried that Bro. Jessie Windham will speak on "Unity"; Bro. J. E. Baker will speak on "Fellowship." Moved and carried that the next session will meet with Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County, Ga., Saturday before the Second Sunday in July, 1946; Rev. C. H. Moore to preach the Introductory Sermon, Rev. W. J. Childree, alternate. Moved and carried that the body adjourn to meet with Mt. Olive Church Saturday before the Second Sunday in July, 1946.

REV. B. T. GILL, Moderator.  
BRO. L. B. SHIRAH, Clerk.

## MINUTES

### EIGHTH ANNUAL SESSION

## Sunday School Convention

The Eighth Annual Session of the Chattahoochee United Free-Will Baptist Sunday School Convention convened with Turners Chapel Church, Taylor County, Ga., on the Fifth Sunday in July, 1945.

Report of Sunday School work from St. James Church. Regular collection \$149.91. Classes collected on building fund \$465.76; collected for Missions, \$16.38; paid out for literature, \$66.99; donated to building fund through regular treasury, \$150.00; in regular treasury \$17.04; attendance 80. This Sunday School put on a splendid program at the Convention. May the Lord bless their work.

Report of Sunday School work at St. John's Church: Classes, five; on roll, 85; average attendance, 60; total collection, \$120.00; paid out for literature, \$45.00; total balance in treasury, \$75.00. This Sunday School certainly had a fine program that they put on at the Convention. We praise the Lord for a good work like this.

Report of Sunday School work at Mt. Olive union Sunday school: In treasury 9-1-1944, \$9.65; total collections, \$123.27; donations, \$66.68; total, \$199.56; paid out, literature, \$19.07; Christmas Gifts, \$54.84; Easter egg hunt, \$3.60; Vacation Bible School, \$14.00; song books, \$42.00; Orphans Home, \$12.00; total paid out, \$145.51; balance on hand 8-5-1945, \$54.05. A nice program was put on by this Sunday School at the Convention.

After all of the programs were put on, the body organized by electing Rev. H. L. Knighton, President and Rev. B. T. Gill, Recording Secretary. It was moved and carried that the next Convention meet with Mt. Olive Church on the Second Sunday



in July, 1946. The President is asking full co-operation from all the Sunday Schools. We would like to make a grand improvement in Sunday School work in our churches and for the work of the Lord.

We expressed our sincere thanks and appreciation to Turners Chapel Church and the community for their splendid hospitality extended the Convention while in session.

It was moved and carried that we adjourn to meet with Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County, on the Second Sunday in July, 1946.

REV. H. L. KNIGHTON, President,  
REV. B. T. GILL, Recording Secretary.

## Circular Letter

Subject: "HEAVEN"

DEAR BRETHREN:

Somehow I feel impressed to write you about Heaven. I know of no other place I want to go when I leave here, but Heaven. What the Bible says about Heaven is just as true as what it says about everything else. The Bible is inspired. What we are taught about Heaven could not have come to us any other way than by inspiration.

No one knew anything about it but God. And so if we want to find out anything about it we have to turn to His Word.

I believe that Heaven is up. In the 17th chapter of Genesis it says that God went up from Abraham, and in the 3rd chapter of John that the son of man came down from Heaven. So in the 1st chapter of Acts we find that Christ went up into Heaven (not down).

I believe that Jesus hears the cries of his children. In Second Chronicles we read, "If my people, which are called by my name will humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways then will I hear from Heaven, and forgive them their sins, and heal their land."

I believe there is a Heaven, John 14:2. In my Father's house are many mansions, I go to prepare a place for you. And not long until I shall be there.

For these years I have tried to lead people in the safe way that they might get there.

And I saw a new Heaven. Now we have a witness. John saw the Holy City. And I heard a great voice out of Heaven saying, behold, the tabernacle of God is with men. And He will dwell with them. And they shall be His people. And God Himself shall be with them. And be their God. He shall wipe all tears away. No more sorrows to be ours.

How beautiful Heaven must be! I want to go there, don't you? Who shall abide there? He that walketh uprightly, and worketh righteousness, and speaketh the truth in his heart.

Let me call your attention to Paul. A great many worldly people think Paul's life was a failure. But his hope was in Heaven. He thought of the crown. Henceforth there is laid up

for me a crown of righteousness. I shall see the King in his beauty tonight. Oh brethren, may God help us to be ready to meet the King now!

Oh friends, your turn and mine will come by and by, if we are but faithful! Let us see that we do not lose the crown. Let us awake and put on the whole armor of God. Let us press into the conflict. It is as glorious a privilege to us too, as it was to the glorified of old.

There will come that blessed welcome from our glorified Lord, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant." Home at last.

Your Brother in Christ,

W. H. EMERSON.

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## Letter From Morris Lawhorn, S. 2-c

August 27, 1945; U. S. Navy.

To the Members and Messengers of the  
Free-will Baptist Association

DEAR BRETHREN & SISTERS:

I thank God for sparing my life and giving me the privilege to write you people a few lines.

Brethren. I know I won't be with you in person, but by the help of God our Saviour, I will be with you in spirit and prayer.

I pray and trust that this will be one of the best sessions ever experienced by the Free-Will Baptists.

God says in His Word, "Ask and it shall be given, seek and you shall find."

Brethren, I believe that, because I have seen it proven. I asked God for His love and care. I asked for His protection and thank God He fulfilled His promise.

I am proud of my faith. I am not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth.

I am a Christian and proud of it. I believe in a Christ like God, such a God that is revealed in the life and teachings of our Lord.

Lo, I am with you all the way, even unto the ends of the earth.

I know God is with me because I talk to Him every day and night and he tells me to fear not and grieve not, for he will be with me all the way.

Sometimes the way seems dark and lonely and it seems as though I can't go any farther. Then I get out my small Testament and read God's Word and pray to him to lead me on and show me the light.

Nobody knows what joy and comfort it brings to a per-

son's heart to talk to God about your troubles until he has tried it.

I thank God for the home I was brought up in. I thank God for that precious Mother and Dad that taught me the ways of God. God grant me the power to prove to them that their teaching was not in vain.

Brethren, pray for me and my family. Help me to pray for my wife and kids that they may hold out until I can return to be with them and that they may live a life that will be pleasing unto God.

Don't forget to help me pray for my father and mother that they will hold out faithful until the end and may their light so shine that it will be a light for God.

Don't forget to pray for all the boys in service.

Now in closing I ask you to bow your head while this prayer is read.

Oh God, we are truly glad that we have seen the light, the light of life.

We thank thee for the many blessings you have given us and we pray you will continue to bless us. We thank thee for thy work and most of all for what it means to us.

Father, we thank thee for peace and, Oh God, we do pray for all the boys in uniform. We know you can do all things, Father, and without thee we can do nothing.

Father, grant, we pray, if it be thy will, that all the boys can soon be marching home and may they say not "we won through arms," but "through Christ, our Lord and Saviour".

God bless my home, wife, and kids. Oh God, may they live just such lives as you would have them live. And Father may they hold on to God's everlasting hand and hold out faithful until I can be with them.

Father, bless all that it is my duty to pray for.

God bless my mother and father. Oh God, may their last days be their happiest days on this earth, and may they hold out faithful until the end. Grant, Father, that thy light may so shine through them that people may see you through them. Bless my two brothers and their families and bless me Father, with just such blessings as we all need most.

I ask not for large things, Father, only the small things, for I know all are small in your sight, but, Father, thy love is good enough for me and may I grow closer to you each day.

Lead, guard, guide and protect us is my prayer and at last in heaven save us. These blessings we ask in thy name and for thy sake.—Amen.

Thank you and may God bless is my humble prayer.

Your brother in Christ,

MORRIS LAWHORN.

Morris Lawhorn, S. 2/, 964-78-48  
U. S. Navy, 128 Gen. Detail  
Care of Fleet Post Office  
San Francisco, California

TO THE MEMORY OF  
**Pvt. Oliver Morris Anthony**

---

Pvt. Morris Anthony was born Aug. 20, 1921.  
As so many other young boys have done, he  
gave his life on the battle field Feb. 4, 1945.

He went into the armed service in June,  
1944.

It was hard to give him up, but Jesus knew  
best. He laid down his cross to take up his  
crown. He is missed so much at home, at church  
and in the community in which he lived, but  
his memory lingers on. We feel sure that our  
loss is Heaven's gain.

Bravely he answered his country's call.  
Knowing that God watches over all.  
There he died on the battle field.  
Having Jesus as his captain and his shield

His Pastor,

REV. J. B. LUMPKIN.



TO THE MEMORY OF

## S-Sgt. Julian F. Greene

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S/Sgt. Julian F. Greene was born Sept. 16, 1914. He died in France with the United States Army, while leading a battle on Sept. 10, 1944.

It was hard to give him up, but we know he is resting with Jesus, where there will be no more wars.

He joined New Bethel Free-Will Baptist Church in 1939 and remained a member until death.

He leaves a wife and a host of friends to mourn his passing.

Bravely he fought on the battle field,  
In Heaven his wound will quickly heal,  
There he is safe from the enemies' hand,  
With Jesus as his captain in a peaceful land.

His Pastor,

REV. L. S. ANTHONY.

TO THE MEMORY OF

**Mrs. Ruth Ann G. Spillers**

---

I will always remember that sad Sunday, July 29th at six o'clock, when Jesus sent His death angel into my home and claimed a precious jewel, my loving mother. Mama had been in declining health for eight years but had only been confined to her bed for sixteen months. All that medical aid and tender nursing could do was done for her. Although she bore her suffering with great patience, she would often say, "Lokie, I am ready to go and I want to go home." We feel our great loss in the home but we shall rejoice with angels that she is now at rest in the arms of Jesus. I am praying that some day I may meet my darling mother in that beautiful city not made with hands. I cannot realize yet that she is dead for it seems so hard that I can never see my darling mama in this world any more; the home looks so empty and sad, the place is vacant; her voice is hushed. Though I realize that God is too wise to err and too good to be unkind.

Mother was so sweet and I miss her so much. I thought of it as Paul said, all things work together for good to those that love the Lord, to them that are called according to his purpose." I know she had finished her task here on this earth and He whispered to her "come up higher."

Mama dear, 'tis so sweet to dream  
Of the companionship we knew,  
The things you've done in this life,  
Showed loving kindness true.  
There never was a mama  
Who did any more than you,  
There'll never be another  
Beneath the skies of blue.

Some may think our sorrow has passed  
Some may think the wound has healed  
But little do they know the sorrow,  
That lies within our heart concealed.  
While in death you sleep dear mother,  
Tears in silence often flow.  
Sweetest memories ever linger,  
In the hearts of loved ones left below.

THE

Her daughter,

LOKIE.

---

**IN MEMORY OF BRO. T. F. HENDRICKS**

Bro. Hendricks was born April 4, 1880; died March 28, 1945, making his stay on earth 64 years, 11 months, and 24 days. Bro. Hendricks was a member of Spring Hill Free-Will Baptist church and served as a Deacon for several years and was loved by every one who knew him. He will be missed in the home and in the community. A vacant chair at the table, a vacant place in the home, a voice still lingers in the memory of those who knew him. Bro. Hendricks is not dead but sleepeth. God needed another precious stone to deck the throne and He saw fit to use Bro. Hendricks. He was loyal and faithful to his loved ones and friends. Bro. Hendricks, to you we will say "Good night here but good morning up there."

He is gone but not forgotten,  
Never will his memory fade,  
Sweetest thoughts will ever linger  
Around the grave where he is laid.  
When from dust we shall arise,  
To meet our Lord and King,  
Who died that we might win the prize,  
And endless praises sing.  
With countless ages past away,  
All glory to him be,  
Throughout the one eternal day,  
At home beyond the sea.

By request.

REV. B. T. GILL.

---

**IN MEMORY OF BRO. JOHNNIE WATSON**

Bro. Watson was born June 17, 1862; died Aug. 13, 1945; making his stay on earth 83 years, 1 month and 27 days. He was a member of Trinity Free-Will Baptist Church and was a Deacon of the church for several years. He filled his place well both as a member and as a deacon and was loved by all who knew him. There is now a vacant chair at the table, a vacant place in the home, a voice that was loved is stilled. He will be missed in the community and church as well as in the home. He was always found loyal and faithful to his loved ones and friends. He is not dead but sleeping. Bro. Watson, to you we will say, "Good night here but good morning up there." The family circle is broken.

He is gone but not forgotten,  
Never will his memory fade,  
Sweetest thoughts will ever linger,  
Around the grave where he is laid.  
In a land that is free from sorrow.  
Where the weary rest from care,  
There will be no sad tomorrow.  
When we gather over there.  
Endless praise to him be given.  
While the countless ages roll,  
In a mansion up in heaven,  
That fair homeland of the soul.

Written by his nephew,

REV. B. T. GILL.

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**IN MEMORY OF SISTER RUTH ANN SJILLERS**

Sister Spillers was born July 25, 1945; ninety-two years and three days later the death angel was sent to the home of Sis. Lokie Rogers on Sunday mornin, July 29, 1945, to take mother to her home that she had faithfully labored for. She learned to love Jesus a long time ago at Sand Bethel Church where she was a faithful member for several years. Then moving to Turners Chapel community she moved her membership to the Turners Chapel church about 25 years ago and proved her faith by her works as a faithful member as long as health would permit. She had been in declining health for the past eight years and was confined to her bed during the past 16 months, during which time she often said, "I am ready and want to go home." Mother, I know you would get home-sick as all Christians do. Now you have gone but you are not forgotten. O how hard it is for the church and loved ones to do without you. We know you did your part while here too; may God help us to be as faithful as were you.

In heaven there will be no parting, no pain to bear,  
 No care-worn brow, no sigh, no silver hair,  
 No death to snatch our loved ones from our side,  
 Up there we'll meet you, mother, and forever to abide.

Her Pastor,                      **REV. COY WATSON.**

---

**IN MEMORY OF BROTHER A. A. CRANE**

Bro. Crane was born July 4, 1877, and was a member of Turners Chapel church. The death angel came on May 24, 1945 and took him from our church, loved ones and friends. Though our hearts break when a loved one this debt has to pay. We know that God is too wise to make an error anywhere along the way.

Our days also are passing, partings continue taking place  
 As loved ones have to die, but if we walk here with Jesus  
 We can have a glad reunion in the sweet by-and-by,

His Pastor,                      **REV. COY WATSON.**

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**IN MEMORY OF BRO. JAMES HALLEY STUBBS**

Bro. Halley Stubbs was born Feb. 27, 1878, died April 23, 1945. He was a member of New Life Church and served as a deacon for a number of years. He was faithful to his church as long as his health permitted, ever ready to do his duty and to promote the cause of his church. Bro. Stubbs leaves to mourn his passing a wife, several children and grand children. Farewell, Bro. Stubbs, until we meet again.

His Pastor,                      **REV. J. B. LUMPKIN.**

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**IN MEMORY OF SISTER OLA AULTMAN**

Sister Aultman was born Sept. 24, 1883 and was a member of Turners Chapel church at the time of her departure but had



been unable to attend services for some time because of failing health. On Sept. 15, 1945, at the age of 62 years and 9 days the Lord called her from us, leaving loved ones sad and with a broken heart.

She has gone to her reward  
That's prepared for her on high  
Where loved ones can be reunited  
And so can you and I.  
So brace up now, dear loved ones,  
Let's say O Lord thy will be done,  
The fight is yet before us,  
Our crown is yet to be won.

Her Pastor, \_\_\_\_\_ REV. COY WATSON.

#### TO THE MEMORY OF BRO. ARTHUR SPILLERS

The death angel was sent to Turners Chapel near the close of the day Dec. 7, 1944, and took from our midst a dear brother, father, and husband. Bro. Spillers, whom the Lord had given 58 years, one month and 15 days pilgrimage here which Bro. Spillers used wisely by forsaking sin, taking up the cross and uniting with Turners Chapel church some years ago so that he might lay hold on eternal life, and be ready for that hour that must come to every one. He leaves his wife and six children, his church and those who knew him to grieve his passing. Cheer up, loved ones, when our loss makes heaven one spirit richer, let's say not my will but thine be done, O Lord.

How cheering is the Christian's hope,  
While toiling here below,  
It holds us up while passing through  
This wilderness of woe.  
It points us to a land of rest,  
Where saints with Christ will reign,  
Where we shall meet the loved of earth  
And never part again.

His Pastor, \_\_\_\_\_ REV. COY WATSON.

#### IN MEMORY OF SISTER MATTIE LEE KELLY

Sister Kelly was born March 9, 1882 and departed this life Jan. 22, 1945, making her stay on earth 62 years, 8 months and 13 days. She was for many years a member of St. James church and was loved by all who knew her. She leaves to mourn her departure one son, Rev. H. J. Kelly, and one daughter, Mrs. Mary Camp, also a number of grandchildren.

'Tis so hard to break the tender cord,  
When love has bound the heart,  
'Tis hard so hard to speak the words,  
We must in this life part.

Her Pastor, \_\_\_\_\_ REV. H. L. KNIGHTON.

### IN MEMORY OF SISTER ETHEL BROWN

Sister Brown was born Jan. 10, 1892, and departed this life Oct. 25, 1944, making her stay on earth 52 years, 9 months and 15 days. She was a member of St. James Church and was loved by all. She leaves to mourn her departure and husband, two sons and one daughter, besides a host of friends.

In the graveyard sweetly sleeping,  
Where the flowers gently bloom,  
Lies the body of sweet mother,  
In a silent, peaceful tomb.  
Peaceful be thy rest, dear mother,  
'Tis so sweet to speak thy name,  
In life we loved you so dearly,  
And in death we do the same.

Her Pastor, \_\_\_\_\_ REV. H. L. KNIGHTON.

### IN MEMORY OF SISTER CATHREN LAWHORN

Sister Lawhorn was born Oct. 2, 1879, died Jan. 15, 1943, making her stay on earth 67 years. She loved her church and was a member of Beulah Church. Her place in the home and in the church never can be filled. Her voice will not be heard again here and no more will we see her face in this world.

He knoweth, yes, of course he always knoweth,  
And in this blessed fact our hearts may rest,  
Rejoicing in the happy calm that cometh,  
When we our refuge make within his breast.

Her Pastor, \_\_\_\_\_ ELD. G. L. HALLIMAN.

### IN MEMORY OF SISTER CALLIE ANNALIE FORTININCE

Sister Fortinince was born July 22, 1880, died Aug. 4, 1945, making her stay on earth 65 years. She loved her church and was a member of St. Mark Church, and was loved by those who knew her.

That nothing walks with aimless feet  
That not one life shall be destroyed or lost  
As rubbish when God makes his jewels complete,  
Then he will not leave us in the dust.

Her Pastor, \_\_\_\_\_ ELD. G. L. HALLIMAN.

### IN MEMORY OF BRO. ELMER APPERSON

Bro. Apperson was born July 27, 1907 and departed this life June 2, 1944. He joined New Bethel Freewill Baptist Church and was a faithful member until his death. He is missed at his home and in his church.

Some day when we can meet  
Around our Saviour's throne,  
Our many friends and loved ones meet,  
When we arrive at home.

His Pastor, \_\_\_\_\_ REV. L. S. ANTHONY.

**IN MEMORY OF SIS. ELIZA McCARTY LAW**

Sister Law was born Oct. 28, 1868, departed this life Aug. 27, 1945, making her stay on earth 77 years and 10 months. Sister Law was a member of Little Bethel Church at the time of her death. She was true and loyal to her church and all its promotions; a devout Christian whose testimony was ever of the goodness of the Lord and the hope of eternal life in the world to come.

When time has bid us follow you,  
From earth we leave our own  
In heaven we hope your face to view,  
Around our Saviour's Throne.  
All joyful praise to Him be given,  
Who died that we might live,  
To purchase us a home in Heaven,  
All praise to Him we give.

Farewell Sister Law, until we meet again.

By her Pastor,                      REV. W. J. CHILDREE.

**IN MEMOR YOF SISTER BECKY HOBBS LAYFIELD**

Sister Layfield was born Dec. 3, 1857, departed this life Aug. 24, 1945, making her stay on earth 87 years, 8 months and 21 days. "Aunt Bekie," as she was often called, was a member of Little Bethel Church for many years, having joined in early life and lived a true and faithful life in the cause for which we feel she has gone to reap her reward for all her labors rendered.

Some future day when from the tomb,  
You rise to meet our King,  
And soar away beyond the gloom,  
His endless praise to sing.  
While countless ages pass away,  
We'll never know a sigh,  
In that fair land of perfect day,  
We'll never say good-bye.

By her Pastor,                      REV. W. J. CHILDREE.

**IN MEMOR YOF SISTER CLARA POWELL McDONALD**

Sister McDonald was a member of New Bethel Free-Will Baptist. Being a member of the church for a long time, she was faithful to fill her place. We feel that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Farewell, till we meet again.

Her Pastor,                      REV. L. S. ANTHONY.



### CHURCH COVENANT

Presented to the Churches of the  
Chattahoochee United Free-Will Baptist Association

We, the United Free-Will Baptist, Church of Christ hereby  
Covenant and agree:

1st. That we will remain united together in Church capacity and that we will not demand a letter or dismissal without giving a sufficient reason and that we will endeavor, faithfully to discharge all our Christian duties.

2nd. That we will labor together to remain free from all violations to the Bible doctrines, ordinances, and faith once delivered to the Saints.

3rd. That we will live mutually in fellowship and not estrange ourselves from any of the brethren.

4th. That we will respect each other's liberty of conscience, patiently bear each other's burdens, strengthen the weak, warn the wavering and instruct the young and the ignorant.

5th. That we will watch over each other for good and give our brethren timely warning if we see them exposed to danger or about to be led astray.

6th. That we will not expose or ridicule our brethren because of their imperfections, neither will we report evil of any one unless we know they are guilty.

7th. That our daily conversation shall be edifying and such that is becoming for the Saints.

8th. That we will avoid all improper intercourse of all ungodliness and that we will not visit places where our Christian influence will be impaired.

9th. That we will attend all meetings of the church for the preaching of the Gospel, the administration of the ordinances, the church conferences and all religious meetings, unless we have a sufficient reason for absence.

10th. That we will assist in supporting our pastor, in relieving the needy, and in defraying the expenses of our churches according to our several abilities.

11th. That we will in all cases and under all circumstances endeavor to walk according to our Saviour's Golden Rule: "Do Unto Others As You Would Have Them Do Unto You".

12th. That we will exercise our spiritual gifts as well as we are able for the instruction and edification of our brethren and sisters.

16th. That we will strive to cultivate deep and uniform piety in our hearts and encourage the same all around us.

14th. That we strictly administer the government of the church, laboring always to promote its purity and holy influence.

15th. That we will not, knowingly condemn the innocent or favor the guilty and that we will strive to prevent strife and factions in the church.

16th. That if any among us shall be guilty of gross sins he shall be excluded from our fellowship. An acknowledgement convincing the church that he has repented will restore him back to the fellowship of the church.

17th. If an officer or deacon be guilty of such sins, he shall not hold his office, at the pleasure of the church, any longer. If he convinces the church that he has sorrowfully repented of these sins the church may then restore him to his former position.

18th. That we will strictly pursue the case pointed out in



the Gospel, should any of our brethren trespass against us.

19th. That we will not delay to acknowledge our improper conduct to the church in conference, should we go astray.

20th. That we will go immediately to any member of the church against whom we may hear unfavorable reports and inform him of the same without bringing it up in conference unless necessary.

21st. That we will abstain from all sinful conformities to the world. That we will refrain from all evil amusements of the world.

22nd. That we will not traffic in ourselves, nor furnish to others, intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and that we will not sustain such in the church.

23rd. Written and adopted at the 1937 session of the Chattahoochee United Free-Will Baptist Association by Rev. W. H. Emerson.

### 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 abrogated to themselves by some modern Baptist Associations, we view them as being nowhere preceded by the primitive usage 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 Testament 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 conference 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 reception of members. 4. Call for absentees. 5. For acknowledgements. 6. For references of 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 bear the testimony of this witness?"

19. The evidence in every case of dealing and acknowl-

edgement shall be minuted in the church book.

20. Members dismissed from the church by letter who become 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 votes 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 is 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.

32. Feet washing shall be attended to as the churches see 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.

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### 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 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 were 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 offices 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 obedient to the Gospel; and that its evidence is found in the holy fruits which we bring forth to God.—John 3:3-8; Mat. 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 the 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 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; Thes. 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 his 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.

# STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	COUNTIES	PASTORS	Received by Letter	Recd. by Statement	Restored	Recd. by Baptism	Expelled	Dism. by Letter	Died	Total Membership	Paid for Minutes	Paid Pastor	Meeting Days
Beulah .....	Taylor .....	Eld. G. T. Halliman .....					1		1	21	\$3.00	\$ 70.00	3
St. Luke .....	Russell .....	Eld. G. W. Price .....	1	3				4	1	44	5.00	468.60	1-2-3-4
New Life .....	Marion .....	Eld. J. B. Lumpkin .....	3	1		4		2	2	96	5.00	105.00	1
Turners Chapel .....	Taylor .....	Eld. Coy Watson .....	1			5		4	4	149	5.00	155.00	2-4
Little Bethel .....	Marion .....	Eld. W. J. Childree .....		2	1			2	2	165	5.00	197.53	1-3
Spring Hill .....	Marion .....	Eld. G. W. Price .....						1	1	24	2.00	30.00	2
Providence .....	Muscogee .....	Eld. W. R. Lawhorn .....				1		3		107	5.00	141.00	3
New Prospect .....	Taylor .....	Eld. W. J. Childree .....				4				66	4.50	70.60	2
St. Mark .....	Russell .....	Eld. G. T. Halliman .....	6	7		2			1	49	3.00	208.15	1-2-3-4
St. John .....	Muscogee .....	Eld. H. J. Kelly .....		1		4		2	1	90	5.00	165.20	1-2-3-4
Mt. Olive .....	Taylor .....	Eld. J. B. Lumpkin .....	6		1	2		3		169	10.00	265.25	2
Trinity .....	Taylor .....	Eld. W. R. Lawhorn .....							1	30	8.00	100.00	4
Pleasant Hill .....	Schley .....	Eld. J. B. Lumpkin .....	1			2				74	5.00	200.00	2
St. James .....	Russell .....	Eld. H. L. Knighton .....	1	4		19		6	2	124	10.00	148.75	1-2-3-4
New Prospect .....	Turner .....	Eld. J. B. Lumpkin .....		3		12		2		215	10.00	325.00	3
New Bethel .....	Worth .....	Eld. L. S. Anthony .....		7		21			3	140	6.00	350.00	4
Bethany .....	Marion .....	Eld. G. W. Price .....							2		5.00		3



# STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES	Paid Evangelist	Paid Missions	Paid Charity	Paid Repairs	Paid Incidentals	Sun. School Expense
Beulah Church, Taylor County .....	.....	.....	.....	\$100.00	.....	.....
St. Luke Church, Russell County, Ala. ....	\$ 41.36	\$ 4.00	\$ 9.00	.....	\$ 66.50	\$ 13.00
New Life Church, Marion County .....	15.00	.....	.....	125.00	.....	.....
Turners Chapel Church, Taylor County .....	25.00	.....	.....	200.00	15.00	20.00
Little Bethel Church, Macon County .....	66.70	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Spring Hill Church, Marion County .....	17.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Providence Church, Muscogee County .....	57.00	35.20	40.00	439.62	12.00	.....
New Prospect Church, Taylor County .....	8.70	.....	.....	419.35	10.75	.....
St. Mark Church, Russell County, Ala. ....	96.60	.....	64.40	.....	.....	7.10
St. Johns Church, Muscogee County .....	164.80	28.30	.....	.....	250.00	73.31
Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County .....	.....	.....	87.00	217.00	.....	.....
Trinity Church, Taylor County .....	18.00	10.00	.....	175.00	.....	.....
Pleasant Hill Church, Schley County .....	36.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. James Church, Russell County, Ala. ....	265.40	83.30	118.71	428.19	123.40	227.47
New Prospect Church, Turner County .....	70.06	25.60	.....	1811.15	147.50	.....
New Bethel Church, Worth County .....	165.00	.....	.....	275.00	15.00	.....
Bethany Church, Marion County .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....