

MINUTES

—OF THE—

113th Annual Session

—OF THE—

CHATTAHOOCHEE UNITED FREE-WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

—HELD WITH—

LITTLE BETHEL CHURCH MACON COUNTY, GEORGIA

COMMENCING THURSDAY MORNING BEFORE
THE FIRST SUNDAY IN OCTOBER, 1948

ELD. W. J. CHILDREE, Moderator R. 4, Reynolds, Ga.
ELD. B. T. GILL, Clerk 458 N. Main St., Thomaston, Ga.

The Next Session Will Meet with Turners Chapel Free-Will
Baptist Church, Taylor County, Ga., Friday Morning
Before the First Sunday in October, 1949.

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

MINUTES

The 113th Annual Session of the Chattahoochee United Free-Will Baptist Association convened with Little Bethel Free-Will Baptist Church, Macon County, Ga., Thursday morning before the First Sunday in October, 1948.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered Thursday morning at 11 o'clock by Eld. C. A. Huckaby, reading from the first chapter of James and using the 19th verse for his text, from which he delivered an inspiring message to the body.

After one hour for dinner the body was called to order by the Moderator, Eld. W. J. Childree. Opening song "I'll Be Satisfied." Prayer by Bro. Sam Parker. The session was opened by the Moderator reading the 46th Psalm and giving a brief message after which the session was declared open for business. The first item of business was the Moderator inviting all visitors to seats with us in our body and to feel welcome. Next called for corresponding letters from the various churches. Motion made and carried that Bros. Sam Parker and C. A. Parker read the corresponding letters. After reading the letters there was a motion made and carried that the letters be accepted as read and that all delegates be seated in the body as follows:

New Bethel Free-Will Baptist Church, Worth County: Bro. M. C. Roberts and wife and Bro. Farmer and wife.

New Life Church, Marion County: Bro. Sam Daniel and wife and Sis. Rena Watson and daughter.

New Prospect Church, Turner County: Bro. G. C. King, Bro. G. D. Parten and wife and Bro. J. A. Little

Providence Church, Muscogee County: Bro. Leonard Anthony, Bro. Sam Parker and C. A. Parker.

Bethany Church, Marion County: Bro. Woodroe Hendricks and wife and Sis. Etta Grimsley.

St. John's Church, Muscogee County: Bro. J. E. Halford, Sis. Eva Tuck, Sis. Hilda Arnett, Sis E. M. Sellen.

2 Chattahoochee Free-will Baptist Association

New Prospect, Taylor County: Bro. Clarence Blair.

Pleasant Hill Church, Schley County. Bro. B. C. Brewer and J. T. Guy, Fleming Brewer, Sis. C. M. Fulford.

Trinity Church, Taylor County: Sis. Jessie Waller and Sis. Ethel Rustin.

St. James Church, Phenix City, Ala.: Bro. H. C. Snell, Sis. J. R. Whitehurst, Sis. Kate Hesley and Sis Lue Camp.

Spring Hill Church, Marion County: Bro. Ed A. Waters, Bro. Norman Grier and wife.

St. Luke Church, Phenix City, Ala.: Bro. Curtis Grier, Sis. Maggie Sanders and Sis. Ruth Murphy.

Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County: Bros. Hudson Poole, Lewis Blair and wife, T. G. Jones and D. R. Dent.

St. Mark Church, Phenix City, Ala.: Sis. B. D. Lawson, Bro. W. D. Pinkney and wife and J. E. Turner.

Turners Chapel Church, Taylor County: Bros. Robert Robinson, Elie Robinson, Preston Rushing, sis. Susie Robinson, Sis. Margaret Robinson.

Beulah Church, Taylor County: Bro. Henry Grimsley and wife and Bro. N. M. Cromer.

Little Bethel Church, Macon County: Bros. E. E. Bone, O. M. Williams, S. O. Jones, W. C. Bussey, R. N. McInvale and Sis. E. E. Bone, Sis. Essie Williams, Sis. Beulah Jones and Sis. Bessie Emerson.

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

Next, called for Petitionary Letters. Received none.

Called for Corresponding Messengers and received:

From the Georgia State Association: Eld. E. C. Morris.

From the Little River Association: Eld. J. D. Little, Bro. E. J. Williams, Bro. T. M. Golden, Bro. Ben Baker, Bro. S. E. Willis and Bro. Winn.

From the Georgia Union Association: Eld. J. D. Pain, Eld. J. B. Lankford and Bro. W. R. Lankford.

It was moved and carried that the Moderator give the right

hand of welcome and that the Corresponding Messengers be seated in our body.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

It was moved and carried that the Moderator appoint the various Committees which were as follows:

Committee on Preaching: W. C. Bussey, B. R. Dent, Eddie Windham, M. C. Roberts and R. L. ~~Roberts~~ *Robinson*.

Committee on State of Churches and Character of the Ministry: C. A. Parker, O. M. Williams, G. D. Parden, C. R. Grier and Woodroe Hendricks.

Committee on Finance: G. C. King, Sam Parker and J. C. Blair.

Committee on Sunday Schools: Jessie Oliver, Jessie Waller, and H. C. Snell.

Committee On Sabbath Observance: Sis. B. D. Lawson, Sis. Ethel Rustin and Bro. J. A. Farmer.

Committee on Suggestions: Rev. C. A. McKinnon, Rev. C. H. Moore and Rev. B. D. Lawson.

Committee on Ladies Auxiliary: Sister Era Tuck, Sis. Bessie Emerson and Sis. Ruth Murphey.

Committee On League Work: Rev. H. L. Knighton, Rev. G. W. Holland and Bro. B. C. Brewer.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Appointed Corresponding Messengers to our Sister Associations as Follows:

Little River Association: Bro. G. C. King.

Georgia Union Association. Rev. C. H. Moore and wife, Bro. S. O. Jones, Rev. W. J. Childree.

Union Association: Rev. Coy Watson.

Martin Association: Bro. G. C. King.

Midway Association: Rev. W. R. Lawhorn and Rev. H. L. Knighton.

State Line Association: Rev. C. A. Huckleby.

South Georgia Association: Rev. Coy Watson.

Georgia State Association: Bro. G. C. King, Bro. S. O. Jones and Bro. C. A. Parker.

National Association: Bro. C. A. Parker.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The body was called to order by the Moderator. Opening song, "Jesus Hold My Hand." Prayer by Rev. C. A. McKinnon. The Moderator read from the 12th chapter of Romans and gave a brief talk. It was moved and carried to meet with Turners Chapel Free-Will Baptist Church for the next session and Rev. Coy Watson is to preach the Introductory Sermon; Rev. A. C. McKinnon, alternate. Moved and carried to read the Circular Letter and it was moved and carried to print the Circular Letter in the Minutes. It was moved and carried that Rev. Coy Watson write the next Circular Letter to this body in 1949. The Moderator asked the body to stand at this time with bowed heads in silent prayer in memory of its families that have had loved ones who passed on to their home in heaven; and to the wives of ministers who have passed on to their eternal home. Moved and carried to accept Bro. Sam Daniel's resignation from the Executive Committee. Moved and carried to put Bros. O. M. Williams, Sam Parker and G. C. King on the Executive Committee.

It was moved and carried to have Five Hundred (500) copies of Minutes printed and to pay Clerk \$15.00 for his services.

It was moved and carried to send \$10.00 to the Georgia State Association and \$5.00 to the National Association.

Moved and carried that the body adjourn for the eleven o'clock service.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The body was called to order by the Moderator. Opening song, "Life's Evening Sun." Prayer by Rev. B. D. Lawson. The Moderator read from the 24th chapter of Joshua. First item of business, it was moved and carried that the next session meet Friday morning before the First Sunday in October, 1949. At the close of the service at the noon hour Rev. E. C. Morris, the Promotional Secretary of the Georgia State Association, gave a brief talk before the body on the state work. He then asked for an offering for the Promotion Work and received \$34.15 in the offering for this work. Next, it was moved and carried to put S. O. Jones back on the Superannuated Board for three years. Moved and carried that the body when in session shall have the

right to say who shall be put on the Superannuation Board for pay. It was moved and carried that Rev. W. C. Jones be put on pay by the Superannuation Board. Moved and carried to receive Bro. G. C. King's report on Superannuation.

It was moved and carried that we have reports of the various Committees.

COMMITTEE ON PREACHING

Thursday night: Rev. J. D. Payne to preach and Rev. Coy. Watson to close. Friday morning 11 o'clock: Rev. J. D. Little to preach and Rev. H. L. Knighton to close. Friday night 8 o'clock: Rev. W. R. Lawhorn to preach and Rev. W. J. Kelley to close. Saturday morning 11 o'clock: Rev. A. C. McKinnon to preach.

W. C. BUSSEY, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, beg to make the following report: We find only six Sunday Schools in our Association. We ask that every church organize a Sunday School for the benefit of the young people. It will be a help to the church.

H. C. SNELL, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON SUGGESTIONS

We, your committee on Suggestions wish to make the following report: We suggest that we use the devotional hour for devotional services. We also suggest that the pastors advocate more Home Mission work.

REV. B. D. LAWSON, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE

We, your committee wish to make the following report: That we all remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy and to be in service for the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

SIS. ETHEL RUSTIN, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON LADIES' AUXILIARY WORK

We, your Committee wish to make the following report: We find more churches with Ladies' Auxiliaries than was reported at the last session. We urge that each church organize the Auxiliary work. We feel like they are doing a great work and it

will help the church and community spiritually and in every way.

SISTER ERA TUCK, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON FREE-WILL BAPTIST LEAGUE WORK

We, your Committee on League work, after checking the Association letters that only two of the Churches have a Free-Will Baptist League work. We recommend that our pastors encourage the League Work in their churches and try, with the Lord's help, to organize a young people's and an adult's League.

REV. H. L. KNIGHTON, Chairman.

STATE OF CHURCHES & CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY

We, your Committee on State of Churches and Character of the Ministry, wish to make the following report: We find all of the churches and the ministry in order. But we find some lack of fellowshp among our brethren. We need a forgiving spirit and we also should pray for each other.

C. A. PARKER, Chairman.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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

Amount in Treasury	\$86.15
Paid in from the Various Churches	\$91.25
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Total on Hand	0180.41

G. C. KING, Chairman.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT SESSION

Moved and carried that its next session meet with Turners Chapel Free-Will Baptist Church, Taylor County, Rev. Coy Watson is to preach the Introductory Sermon Friday morning at 11 o'clock; Rev. A. C. McKinnon, alternate. Moved and carried that this body stand and return thanks to this church and community for their love and hospitality extended to this body while in session.

REV. W. J. CHILDREE, Moderator

REV. B. T. GILL, CLERK

TREASURER'S REPORT

On hand in Treasury	\$89.16
Paid in from Various Churches	91.25
First Session of Union Meeting	17.00
Second Session of Union Meeting	16.00
Third Session of Union Meeting	12.00

Total in hand of Treasurer \$225.41

Paid Out of Treasury:

For Printing and Mailing Minutes	\$70.00
Paid Clerk	15.00
Paid Georgia State Association	10.00
Paid National Association	5.00

Total Paid out of Treasury \$100.00

Balance in Hand of Treasurer \$125.41

B. T. GILL, Treasurer.

CHURCHES, CLERKS & POST OFFICES

New Bethel—M. C. Roberts	Rt. 4, Sylvester, Ga.
New Life—Lee Daniel	R. 2, Mauk, Ga.
New Prospect—H. E. Davis	Ashburn, Ga.
Providence—C. A. Parker	Rt. 2, Columbus, Ga.
Bethany—Etta Grimsley	Mauk, Ga.
St. Johns—H. A. Tuck	4415—Third Ave., Columbus, Ga.
New Prospect—Jewel Goodwin	Rt. 4, Reynolds, Ga.
Pleasant Hill—J. T. Guy	R. 3, Ellaville, Ga.
Trinity—B. F. Waller	Charing, Ga.
St. James—Doris Richberg ..	1604 Ninth Ave., Phenix City, Ala.
Spring Hill—Ed A. Waters	R. 1, Mauk, Ga.
St. Luke—Nellie Grier ..	810 Columbus Ave., Phenix City, Ala.
Mt. Olive—Lee Posey	Rte., Reynolds, Ga.
St. Mark—Rena Holloman	629—20th St., Phenix City, Ala.
Turners Chapel—W. E. Robinson	Rt. 2, Butler, Ga.
Beulah—Morris Lawhorn	R. 1, Butler, Ga.
Little Bethel—Miss Bessie Emerson	R. 1, Butler, Ga.

MINISTERIAL ROLL

Eld. W. J. Childree	Reynolds, Ga.
Eld. C. H. Moore	Reynolds, Ga.
Eld. Riley Windham	Reynolds, Ga.
Eld. W. R. Merritt	Reynolds, Ga.
Eld. B. Coy Watson	Rt. 5, Box 64, Buena Vista, Ga.
Eld. J. B. Lumpkin	Junction City, Ga.
Eld. W. C. Jonen	1811 Tenth Ave., Phenix City, Ala.
Eld. C. A. Huckaby	1513 Twenty-Second St., Phenix City, Ala.
Eld. G. W. Price	3003 Third Ave., Columbus, Ga.
Eld. B. D. Lawson	805—24th St., Columbus, Ga.

8 Chattahoochee Free-Will Baptist Association

Eld. A. C. McKinnon	1027—30th St., Columbus, Ga.
Eld. H. J. Kelly	3412 Earline Ave., Columbus, Ga.
Eld. A. L. Oswalt	R. 1, Fortson, Ga.
Eld. H. L. Knighton	1911 Second Ave., Phenix City, Ala.
Eld. Tom Holloman	629—20th St., Phenix City, Ala.
Eld. W. R. Lawhorn	R. 1, Butler, Ga.
Eld. W. H. Streetman	Oglethorpe, Ga.
Eld. B. T. Gill	458 N. Main St., Thomaston, Ga.

LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. A. S. Spillers	Barnesville, Ga.
Rev. E. J. Lavender	Sylvester, Ga.
Rev. G. W. Hobbs	Cusseta, Ga.
Rev. J. W. Knighton	U. S. Navy
Rev. John Grimsley	Juniper, Ga.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Bro. J. S. Windham; Chairman—2 years	Reynolds, Ga.
Bro. S. O. Jones—1 year	Ideal, Ga.
Bro. C. M. Williams—3 years	Rt. 1, Butler, Ga.
Bro. Sam Parker—3 years	Columbus, Ga.
Bro. G. C. King—3 years	Sylvester, Ga.

SUPERANNUATION BOARD

Bro. S. O. Jones—3 years	Ideal, Ga.
Bro. C. A. Parker—1 year	Rt. 1, Columbus, Ga.
Bro. G. C. King	Sylvester, Ga.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

The Eleventh Annual session of the Sunday School Convention convened with St. Mark Free-Will Baptist Church, Phenix City, Ala., on the Fourth Sunday in August, 1948.

The next session will meet with Mt. Olive Free-Will Baptist Church on the Fourth Sunday in August, 1949.

(CLERK'S NOTE:—Sunday School Report Lost.)

ELD. H. L. KNIGHTON, President.

UNION MEETINGS OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE FREE-WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

UNION MEETING AT PLEASANT HILL

The Union Meeting of the Chattahoochee Free-Will Baptist Association convened with Pleasant Hill Free-Will Baptist Church, Schley County, February 28, 1948. The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Rev. A. C. McKinnon. Closed by Rev. Coy Watson.

After an hour the body was called to order by the Moderator Rev. H. L. Knighton. First business was to invite all visitors and extend them a cordial welcome to be with us in our session.

Called for Corresponding Letters. Moved and carried that Bro. G. C. King and Bro. J. T. Guy read the letters. Motion and carried that the letters be received as read and the delegates seated in the body as follows:

Providence Church: Bros. Leonard Anthony, D. B. Anthony and Boyd Tomblin.

Turner Chapel Church: Bros. H. S. Moore, C. E. Posey and W. E. Robinson.

Spring Hill Church: Bros. Norman Grier and wife, A. L. Grimsley and wife, Huston James.

New Life Church: Bros. Lee Daniel and wife, Sis. Beatrice Watson.

New Prospect Church. Bros. J. T. Little, H. E. Dover, G. C. King and wife.

Mt. Olive Church: Bros. A. S. Windham, C. P. Poole, J. S. Windham and Sis. Irene Windham.

Bethany Church: Sis. Etta Grimsley, Julius Grimsley.

St. James Church: Bros. C. O. Jones and wife, Sis. Jannie Duke.

Beulah Church: Bros. Charlie Cromer, N. M. Cromer, Morris Lawhorn.

Little Bethel Church: Bros. S. O. Jones and wife, Sis. Earl Bone.

Pleasant Hill Church: Bros. William Guy and wife, Sis. Geraldine Brewer, Sis. Blan Wall.

St. Luke Church: Sis. Ruth Murphy, Sis. Nellie Grier and Bro. Curtis Grier.

New Bethel Church: Bros. A. J. Cox and wife, J. T. Roberts.

Next item of business it was moved and carried that the Moderator appoint a Preaching Committee. The Committee appointed was as follows: W. E. James, H. E. Davis, H. L. Anthony, Jessie Windham, and Sister Willie Guy.

Report of Committee on Preaching: Saturday night, Rev. C. E. Morris; Sunday morning Rev. L. S. Anthony and Rev. W. R. Lawhorn.

Called for corresponding messengers and received:

Rev. J. C. Watson from the Salem Association in Florida.

The body was permitted to hear Rev. E. C. Morris make a brief talk on the state work and asked the body for an offering for General Promotion Work. The offering was \$27.00. A love offering of \$27.02 was taken for Rev. W. H. Emerson. A love offering of \$19.16 was also taken for Bro. William Cromer.

The offering sent in from various churches for the Union meeting was \$17.00.

Time and place for holding next session: Moved and carried to meet with New Bethel Free-Will Baptist Church, Worth County May 29 and 30. Rev. Coy Watson will preach the Introductory Sermon Saturday morning at 11 o'clock.

The Moderator then asked the body to stand and give

Pleasant Hill Church thanks for their love and hospitality shown this body while in session.

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

UNION MEETING AT NEW BETHEL

The Union Meeting of the Chattahoochee Free-Will Baptist Association convened with New Bethel Free-Will Baptist Church Worth County, May 29, 1948.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Rev. Coy Watson. The body was then dismissed for the noon hour.

After enjoying the fine food that was prepared by the church and community the body was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. H. L. Knighton. The first business was to call for Corresponding Letters from the Churches. Moved and carried that Rev. H. J. Kelly and Bro. G. C. King read the letters. Moved and carried that the letters be received as read and the delegates be seated in the body, as follows:

Little Bethel Church: S. O. Jones and wife, W. C. Bussey and wife, and Marilyn Taunton.

Se. Mark Church: J. E. Turner, Sis B. D. Lawson.

New Bethel Church: Sis Minnie Hobbs, Marion Roberts and Harkey Powell.

New Prospect Church: H. E. Davis and G. C. King.

Bethany Church: Sis. Etta Grimsley, Julius Grimsley, and Woodroe Hendricks.

St. James Church: Walter Jones, Charlie James, J. A. Richburg and wife, Oscar Wyatt and wife, H. C. Snell and Croa Hearn.

New Life Church: Sam Daniel, Lee Daniel, Harris Lockheart and wife.

Providence Church: S. C. Parker and C. A. Parker.

St. Luke Church: By Letter.

Spring Hill Church: Ed A. Waters, Norman Grier and A. L. Grimsley.

Mt. Olive Church: Jessie Windham, Ralph Underwood and wife, Dorothy Windham, and Hudson Poole.

St. John Church: Robert Lankford, J. W. Windham, Sis. H. A. Tuck and Sis. Rosie Fallendore.

Trinity Church: By Letter.

Pleasant Hill Church: W. E. James.

Moved and carried that the Moderator appoint a Preaching Committee as follows: S. O. Jones, Jessie Windham, Sam Daniel T. J. Little and M. C. Roberts. Report of Committee: Saturday night Rev. B. D. Lawson to preach and Rev. L. S. Anthony to close. Sunday morning Rev. G. T. Hollaman to preach and Rev. B. T. Gill to close.

Next called for Corresponding Messengers:

From the Little River Association: Bro. Ross Spear and wife.

From the Martin Association: Bro. Bennie Loving and wife.

The Moderator asked for an offering for the Promotional Fund; the offering, \$15.00; offering for Encampment \$8.02.

The Moderator appointed G. C. King, S. O. Jones and Ralph Underwood to the National Sunday School Convention.

The body at this time received Rev. Chester Pelt from the Eastern Association of North Carolina. Moved and carried that Rev. Pelt bring a message at the close of the session.

Moved and carried to meet with St. James Free-Will Baptist Church, Phenix City, Ala., Saturday morning before the Fifth Sunday in August. Rev. Chester Pelt to preach the Introductory sermon at 11 o'clock.

The Moderator asked the body to stand and return thanks to the church and community for their love and hospitality extended us during the session. Moved and carried that we adjourn to meet with St. James Church.

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

UNION MEETING AT ST. JAMES

The Union Meeting of the Chattahoochee Free-Will Baptist Association convened with St. James Free-Will Baptist Church, Phenix City, Ala., August 28, 1948.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. Chester Pelt, reading from Second Timothy, 15th verse. Rev. Pelt brought a wonderful message.

After one hour for refreshments the body was called in for business. First business was to call for Corresponding Letter. There was a move and carried that Rev. C. A. Huckaby and Bro. C. A. Parker read the letters. Moved and carried that the letters be received as read and the delegates seated in the body as follows:

Turners Chapel Church: W. E. Robinson and Robert Robinson.

Bethany Church: Etta Grimsley.

St. Luke Church: Curtis Grier, Sis Ruth Murphy, Sis. Grace Huckaby.

Little Bethel Church: O. M. Williams and wife, E. E. Bone and wife and W. C. Bussey.

Providence Fhurch: F. B. Tomblin, C. A. Parker, J. H. Tomblin, S. C. Parker, L. H. Anthony.

Spring Hill Church: Norma Grier and wife, Leonard Grimsley and wife and Ed A. Waters.

Mt. Olive Church: Jessie Windham, Hudson Poole, Susie Poole, and Dorothy Windham.

St. Mark Church: Bro. Pikes and Sis. Whittler.

St. James Church: Walter Jones, Sis. Dukes, Sis. Whitehurst Sis. Hearn and Charlie Jones.

New Life Church: Lee Daniel and wife.

St. Johns Church: Robert Langford, Sis Era Tuck.

Next, elected a Moderator and Clerk. The body then or-

12 Chattahoochee Free-Will Baptist Association

ganized by electing Rev. H. L. Knighton, Moderator and Rev. B. T. Gill, Clerk.

Committee on Preaching: Charlie Jones, Sis Whitehurst, Robert Langford, Leonard Grimsley and O. M. Williams.

The Moderator asked for an offering for its Promotional Work and received \$17.00 for the work. Sent in from the churches to the Union Meetings, \$12.00. We had as Correspondents Rev. Ralph Lightsey from the South Georgia Association and Rev. D. F. Pelt from the South-Eastern Association of Alabama.

Time and Place of next session: The first session will meet with Turners Chapel Church Saturday morning before the Fifth Sunday in January, 1949. Rev. H. J. Kelley to preach the Introductory Sermon at 11 o'clock Saturday morning.

The second session will meet with St. Luke Church, Phenix City, Ala., Saturday before the Fifth Sunday in May, 1949 and Rev. Coy Watson will preach the Introductory Sermon Saturday morning at 11 o'clock.

The third session will meet with Trinity church Saturday before the Fifth Sunday in July, 1949. Rev. C. A. Huckaby to preach the Introductory Sermon Saturday morning at 11 o'clock.

The body then stood and returned thanks to the church and community for their love and hospitality shown us while in session. It was then moved and carried to adjourn to meet with Turners Chapel church January the 29, 1949.

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

DEACONS' AND PREACHERS' MEETING

The Deacons' and Preachers' Meeting convened with St. Mark Free-Will Baptist Church, Phenix City, Ala. on the Fourth Saturday in August, 1948.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. W. J. Childree at 11 a. m., reading from Neh. 9th chapter, 36th verse, using as a subject "Building the Temple." The message was enjoyed by all.

After benediction for the noon hour, dinner was spread by the ladies of the church and was thoroughly enjoyed. After dinner the body was called to order by the Moderator. Following the opening song the body was led in prayer by Eld. A. C. McKinnon. The Moderator read the 13th chapter of 1st Cor., making a brief comment on the Scripture read. The Moderator then announced the session open for business.

First business to come before the body was to elect a Moderator and a Clerk. Elder B. T. Gill was elected Moderator and Eld. H. J. Kelly, Clerk.

Churches represented from the Association were as follows: Mt. Olive, Taylor County; Bethany, Marion County; St. Luke, Russell County; St. John, Muscogee County; St. Mark, Russell County; St. James, Russell County; Spring Hill, Marion County; Little Bethel, Macon County; Trinity, Taylor County; Pleasant Hill, Schley County.

Moved and second that we stand in silent prayer in memory of Rev. W. H. Emerson who passed away. The body was led in

prayer by Rev. H. L. Knighton. Moved and second to appoint a preaching committee as follows: Bro. Leonard Grimsley, Bro. David Pinkney, Bro. Ed Turner.

Moved and second that the body invite Rev. E. C. Morris to speak to the next session on the Duties of Deacons and Preachers in the Church. Motion carried. Move and second that the Clerk write Rev. Morris and ask him to be with us at the next session. Moved and carried that Rev. Morris speak at 3 o'clock.

Moved and carried to hear report from Preaching Committee. Rev. A. C. McKinnon to preach at the evening service. Moved and carried to hold next Deacons' and Preachers' Meeting at Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County, Saturday before the 4th Sunday in August, 1949. Eld. G. W. Price to preach the Introductory Sermon Saturday morning at 11 o'clock; Eld. A. C. McKinnon as alternate.

Several interesting talks were made by members of the body. Moved and carried that the body return thanks to the church and community for their hospitality to this body while in session here.

Moved and carried that the body adjourn to meet with Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County, Saturday before the Fourth Sunday in August, 1949.

REV. B. T. GILL, Moderator
REV. H. J. KELLY, Clerk.

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

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
REV. W. H. EMERSON

Rev. W. H. Emerson was born March 26, 1876, died August 16, 1948, making his stay on earth 72 years, 4 months and 22 days.

Rev. W. H. Emerson served his Lord as a minister of the Gospel 47 years during which time he served many of the churches in the Chattahoochee Free-Will Baptist Association.

Bro. Emerson was a man that all those who knew him loved him. He was a man who will be missed in his home, in the community in which he lived, and in his church. He was a devoted husband and father.

Met Bro. Emerson some few years ago. He was very understanding. During the time I knew him, he meant very much to me.

Through all his sickness he was always trusting in the Lord and looking on the bright side of life.

Bro. Emerson went through heat and cold, sunshine and rain to carry the Gospel of Christ to lost souls. His heart and soul was burdened with lost people. He knew what it cost heaven to redeem lost men from sin and death.

The Lord blessed Bro. Emerson in his work by giving him souls for his hire.

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's 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 countless ages roll,
In a mansion up in heaven.
That fair homeland of the soul.

Written by his pastor,

REV. A. C. MCKINNON.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
ELDER OSCAR C. BRIDGES

Bro. Oscar C. Bridges was born February 22, 1877, died April 20, 1948, making his stay on earth 71 years, 1 month and 29 days.

He had been a member of New Life Free-Will Baptist Church and a minister of the Gospel for many years, but had not been active for some time due to bad health. He suffered much affliction although he bore it with much patience, looking for that home awaiting the faithful.

He leaves his wife, four sons, and three daughters, his church and many friends to mourn his passing.

How cheering is the Christian's hope
While traveling here below;
It holds us up while passing through,
This world of sin and woe.

It points us to a land of rest,
Where saints with Christ will reign,
There we shall meet the loved of earth,
And never part again.

That home is for you and me,
Where Jesus of Nazareth stands,
The King of all kingdoms forever is he,
And he holdeth our crown in His hands.

By his pastor,

REV. COY WATSON.

IN MEMORY OF BRO. J. H. LOVICK

Bro. Lovick was born May 22, 1876, died March 8, 1948, making his stay on earth 71 years, 9 months and 15 days. Bro. Lovick was a member of St. John Church and will be missed by his friends and loved ones. May God comfort those left behind with the Holy Spirit and prepare their hearts to meet Jesus who loved us and gave His life for us.

"Upon thy word I rest, so strong, so sure,
So full of comfort blest, so sweet, so pure,
Thy Word that changeth not—that faileth never.
My God I rest upon thy Word forever."

His Pastor,

REV. H. J. KELLY.

TO THE MEMORY OF BRO. JOHN MONROE MELVNI

Brother Melvin was born December 23, 1876, died November 26, 1947, making his stay on earth 70 years, 11 months, and three days. He had been a member of New Life church for some time and will be missed by his church, in his home and by those who knew him.

Somewhere beyond the tomb there's a place,
Where our departed loved ones dwell,
'Tis there we hope to see the face,
Of the ones we loved so well.

We shall see also the King's face,
And His glory forever we'll share,
Then forgetting our heartaches and sorrows,
As we meet one another again up there.

By his pastor,

REV. COY WATSON.

IN MEMORY OF BROTHER BARTO AMERSON

Bro. Amerson was born Jan. 5, 1883, died July 19, 1948, making his stay on earth 65 years, 6 months and 14 days. He had been a faithful worker for the Lord and a deacon of Mount Olive church for a number of years. He leaves his wife and four children, two brothers, his church and many friends to mourn his passing.

It is eno ugh, dear Brother; your work was well done;
Through your untiring labor a crown of glory you have won.
May we too as humble and faithful be till we meet you yonder,
In Heaven, just beyond death's chilly sea.
Far beyond mortal sight there shines a great light,
From that City so gloriously clear;
On streets of gold we have often been told,
We shall know one another up there.

By his pastor,

REV. COY WATSON.

IN MEMORY OF BRO. JESSIE B. MULLINS

Brother Mullins was born May 22, 1883, died September 25,

1948, making his stay on earth 65 years, 4 months and 3 days. He was a member of Mt. Olive church but due to ill health and living out of reach of his church he had been unable to attend for some time.

In heaven there'll be no weary pilgrim band,
No seekers for a better, fairer land,
For all who reach that blissful, happy shore,
Will never cry nor sigh nor wish for more.

O how sweet it will be in that beautiful land,
So free from all sorrow and pain.
With songs on our lips and harps in our hands,
To meet one another again.

By his pastor, REV. COY WATSON.

IN MEMORY OF SISTER MARTHA HALE

Sister Hale departed this life Sept. 11, 1948. She was born July 25, 1897, making her stay on earth 81 year, 1 month and 16 days. She was a member of Bethany church. She was loyal to her church, her children and her community. She leaves several children, grand childrei, great grand children, and a host of friends to mourn her passing. We are sure that our loss is gain. So all we can say is good-bye Dear Sister, till we meet again.

ELD. J. GRIMSLEY.

IN MEMORY OF SISTER SUSAN E. CLEMENTS

Sister Clements was born March 18, 1868, died Sept. 24, 1948, making her stay on earth 80 years, 6 months and 6 days. She united with New Prospect Church in early life and was a devoted Christian wife and mother. We feel that our loss is heaven's eternal gain.

Written by a friend,

REV. J. D. LITTLE, Kirkland, Ga.

IN MEMORY OF SISTER SALLIE RIVERS

Sister Rivers was a devoted Christian having been a member of New Prospect Church for 55 years. She was born Nov. 6, 1872, died Sept. 26, 1947, making her stay on earth 74 years, 10 months and 20 days. It was the writer's happy privilege to know her all his life and to know that she was a true Christian. Mother is gone but not forgotten and we hope to meet her in heaven.

Written by a friend,

REV. J. D. LITTLE, Kirkland, Ga.

IN MEMORY OF BRO. JESSIE CROMER

Brother Jessie Cromer was born Sept. 24, 1902, departed this life July 4, 1948. Bro. Cromer was a member of Little Bethel Free-Will Baptist church. He was loyal to his church and to his par-

ents. Though he left loved ones and friends here, we hope to meet him again some day.

Written by his pastor,

REV. A. C. McKINNON.

IN MEMORY OF BRO. WM. DAVID COTNEY

Brother William David Cotney was born May 16, 1886, died Aug. 1, 1948, making his stay on earth 62 years, 2 months and 16 days. He was a member of Mt. Olive Church and will be missed in the church and community and by his wife whom he leaves behind to mourn his passing.

When all the toils of life are o'er,
And we rest from all care,
We hope to meet on yonder shore,
Our many loved ones there.

By his pastor,

REV. COY WATSON.

IN MEMORY OF MRS. HAWKINS

A dear Sister in Christ passed away Dec. 9, 1947. She was born August 21, 1877. It is with a sad heart that we write a memorium to this faithful sister who was ever loyal to her church until her health failed. We only knew her for a short time but we learned to love her as a Sister in Christ. She is gone, not to be with us here anymore. She is missed by many. farewell, dear Sister, till we meet just inside the eastern gate.

Written by her pastor,

REV. W. R. LAWHORN.

IN MEMORY OF BRO. FOREST PATE

Bro. Pate was born Sept. 10, 1894, died Feb. 15, 1948, making his stay on earth 53 years, 5 months and 5 days. Bro. Pate was a member of New Prospect Church for many years. We know he left loved ones with sad hearts but we all hope to meet him in Heaven where there will be no parting.

Written by a friend,

REV. J. D. LITTLE, Kirkland, Ga.

IN MEMORY OF SISTER PARTEN

Sister Bessie Parten was born Feb. 29, 1888, died Aug 8, 1948, making her stay on earth 60 years, 5 months and 10 days. She was a member of New Prospect Church and a true Christian wife and mother. We trust that our loss is heaven's gain.

Written by a friend,

REV. J. D. LITTLE, Kirkland, Ga.

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.

13th. 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.

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 Stmt.	Restored	Recd. by Baptism	Expelled	Dism. by Letter	Died	Total Membership	Paid for Minutes	Paid Pastor	Meeting Days
New Bethel	Worth	Eld. W. R. Lawhorn ..	---	---	---	---	---	2	1	155	\$6.00	\$191.45	2
New Life	Marion	Eld. C. H. Moore	---	---	---	---	2	13	1	78	4.00	127.45	3
New Prospect	Turner	Eld. Riley Giddins	1	---	---	---	---	1	4	227	10.00	180.00	3
Providence	Muscogee	Eld. W. R. Lawhorn ..	---	---	---	---	---	3	1	37	5.00	382.50	1-3
Bethany	Marion	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	1	29	3.00	40.40	3
St. Johns	Muscogee	Eld. H. J. Kelley	6	4	---	5	---	---	---	96	5.00	1097.84	1-2-3-4
New Prospect	Taylor	Eld. B. T. Gill	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	66	4.25	---	2
Pleasant Hill	Schley	Eld. A. C. McKinnon ..	1	---	---	---	---	2	---	73	5.00	200.66	2
Trinity	Taylor	Eld. W. J. Childree	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	31	5.00	---	4
St. James	Russell	Eld. H. L. Knighton	6	---	3	3	1	4	---	99	10.00	1976.95	1-2-3-4-5
Spring Hill	Marion	Eld. B. T. Gill	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	25	2.00	40.00	2
Little Bethel	Macon	Eld. A. C. McKinnon ..	---	---	1	9	---	---	4	155	10.00	279.00	1
St. Luke	Russell	Eld. G. W. Price	---	---	---	1	---	---	1	30	3.00	108.83	1-2-3-4-5
Mt. Olive	Taylor	Eld. C. H. Moore	---	---	---	---	---	1	3	164	6.00	294.32	2
St. Mark	Russell	Eld. G. T. Halloman	7	---	7	2	---	---	---	66	5.00	459.93	1-2-3-4-5
Turners Chapel	Taylor	Eld. W. R. Lawhorn	---	---	---	18	---	2	---	162	5.00	165.00	4
Beulah	Taylor	Eld. Coy Watson	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	21	3.00	116.75	3

STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES AND COUNTIES	Paid Evangelist	Paid Home Mission	Pd. Christian Education	Building & Repairs	Paid Incidentals	Superannuation	on Other Purposes	For Missions
New Bethel Church, Worth County	\$53.00			60.00				
New Life Church, Marion County	40.00			150.00				
New Prospect Church, Turner County	52.75	22.00	25.00		68.00	7.00	63.00	13.00
Providence Church, Muscogee County	115.00		7.50			40.00	114.46	7.50
Bethany Church, Marion County	12.00							
St. Johns Church, Muscogee County	231.90	20.00	10.00	87.55	326.95	26.60	166.86	32.50
New Prospect Church, Taylor County								
Pleasant Hill Church, Schley County	92.50			185.30				
Trinity Church, Taylor County				460.00				
St. James Church, Russell County, Ala.	298.60	19.00	90.05	508.88	301.72	7.50	191.09	15.07
Spring Hill Church, Marion County								
St. Luke Church, Russell County, Ala.	101.35			600.00	63.06			
Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County	25.00	100.00		122.60				15.00
St. Mark Church, Russell County, Ala.	26.00	13.00	18.00	204.70	359.23	15.50	37.41	18.50
Turners Chapel Church, Taylor County	37.70			420.00	13.25		18.37	
Beulah Church, Taylor County		3.50		75.50				
Little Bethel Church, Macon County	70.00			114.00		25.80		