

**MINUTES**  
**OF THE**  
**115th Annual Session**  
**OF THE**  
**CHATTAHOOCHEE**  
**UNITED FREE-WILL BAPTIST**  
**ASSOCIATION**

**HELD WITH**  
**ST. JOHN CHURCH**  
**COLUMBUS, GA**

**COMMENCING FRIDAY MORNING BEFORE**  
**THE FIRST SUNDAY IN OCTOBER, 1950**

—[§]—

**ELD. W. J. CHILDREE, Moderator .... Route 4, Reynolds, Ga.**

**ELD. H. J. KELLY, Clerk .... Morningside Dr., Columbus, Ga.**

**The Next Session Will Meet With New Bethel Free Will**  
**Baptist Church, Worth County, 8 Miles North of Sylvester, Ga.**

**On Cordele Highway Friday Morning Before**

**The First Sunday in October, 1951**

**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.

The 115th Annual Session of the Chattahoochee United Free Will Baptist Association convened with St. John Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ga., Friday morning before the first Sunday in October, 1950.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered Friday morning at 11 o'clock by Elder C. H. Moore. Reading from the 18th Chapter of St. Luke from which he delivered an inspiring message to those present. After dinner the body was called to order by the Moderator Eld. W. J. Childree.

Opening song, "Where the Soul Never Dies." Prayer by Eld. C. A. Huckaby. The Session was opened by the Moderator reading the 139th Psalm, 1st to 12th verses. A wonderful message was enjoyed by all after which the session was declared open for business.

The first item of business was inviting all visitors to seat with us in our body. Next called for corresponding letters from the various churches. Motion made and carried that Eld. E. C. Morris and Eld. H. L. Knighton read the letters. After reading the letters there was a motion made and carried that the letters be accepted as read and that delegates be seated in the body as follows:

**LITTLE BETHEL CHURCH**—Bro. O. M. Williams, Bro. E. E. Bone and wife, Bro. S. A. Jones and wife.

**NEW LIFE CHURCH**—Bro. Sam Daniel and wife, Sis. Pearl Stubbs, Bro. L. E. Chatman, Bro. J. W. McDaniel and wife, Bro. Felton Roberts and wife.

**NEW PROSPECT CHURCH**—Bros. G. E. King, and J. A. Little.

**PROVIDENCE CHURCH**—Bros. Leonard Anthony, William A. Sam, C. and Cariton W. Parker, and Travis McBride.

**BETHANY CHURCH**—Sis. Etta Grimsley, Bro. Julious Grimsley, Sis. Nora Youngblood, Sis. Jewel Youngblood.

**NEW BETHEL CHURCH**—Bro. J. A. Farmer and wife; Bro. W. T. Farmer and wife.

**ST. JOHN CHURCH**—Sis. Hilda Arnett, Era Tuck, Annie Williams, Mattie Strickland, Bro. Lemuel Walden, Sis. Bennie Lovering.

**PLEASANT HILL CHURCH**—Bro. B. C. Brewer and wife, Bro. W. E. James, Bro. J. T. Grimsley.

**ST. JAMES CHURCH**—Sisters Mildred Knighton, Cora Hearn, Johnny Dukes, Fanny Whitehurst, Kate Hestley.

**TRINITY CHURCH**—Sis. Ethel Rustin.

SPRING HILL CHURCH—Bros. Monroe Grier and wife; E. S. McCall, Allwood Daniel, Ed Waters, Sisters Rosa Grimsley, Myrtle Grier, Odisca Grier.

ST. MARK CHURCH—Bro. Park Davis and wife; Sis. Irene Johnson, Sisters R. D. Carrington, B. D. Lawson.

ST. LUKE CHURCH—Sisters Gertrude Harrell, Katie McDaniel, Gertrude Hall, Grace Huckaby, Bros. Curtis Greer, Maron Harrell, Jim Davis, Samuel Arnold.

MT. OLIVE CHURCH—Bros. B. R. Dent, Lu Posey; Sisters Dora Lou Posey, Susie Poole, Jessie Oliver, Irene Windham.

TURNER CHAPEL CHURCH—Sisters R. L. Robinson, Nellie Windham, Doris Moore, Lakie Rogers.

BEULAH CHURCH—Sisters Sally Cromer, L. B. Shirah, Vera Cromer, Christine Grimsley.

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. H. J. Kelly as clerk.

Next called for petitionary letters. Received none.

Called for Corresponding messengers and received Eld. E. C. Morris and wife from Ga. State Association; Bro. Earnest Barker and wife, Ga. Union Association; Sis. Edna Beasley, Sis. Will Beasley, Sis. Elouise Commander Southeastern Association of Alabama.

Moved and carried that the Moderator give the right hand of fellowship and welcome, 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, Era Tuck, S. O. Jones, W. T. Farmer, J. A. Little, L. B. Shirah.

Committee on State of Churches and Character of the Ministry: B. R. Dent, J. A. Farmer, Sam Daniel, N. C. Grier, O. M. Williams.

Committee on Finance: G. C. King, Ethel Rustin, Irene Windham.

Committee on Sunday School: Irene Johnson, Gertrude Hall, Cora Hearn.

Committee on Sabbath Observance: Hattie Shirah, Lizzie Davis, W. E. James.

Committee on Suggestions: H. L. Knighton, B. D. Lawson, Park Davis.

Committee on Women's Auxiliary and League Work: W. C. Jones, Jessie Oliver, Eula Brewer.

Temperance Committee: J. W. McDaniel, Sue Robinson, Johnnie Duke.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Appointed Corresponding Messengers to our Sister Associations as follows: Ga. Union Association—Rev. C. H. Moore.

Little River Association—Rev. Coy Watson.

Martin Association—Rev. Coy Watson.

Union Association—G. C. King.

Midway Association—Rev. Coy Watson.

State Line Association—Rev. C. A. Huckaby, Rev. W. C. Jones.

South Ga. Association—G. C. King.

Georgia State Association—Mrs. H. J. Kelly, Mrs. Hilda Arnett, Sam Parker, S. O. Jones, H. L. Anthony.

National Association—Mrs. Hilda Arnett, Sam Parker.

#### **SATURDAY MORNING SESSION**

The body was called to order by the Moderator. Opening song, "I'll Live In Glory" Prayer by Bro. O. M. Williams.

The Moderator read from the 137th Psalm and gave a brief talk. The Moderator asked the body to stand at this time in silent prayer in memory of those that have passed on to their Reward.

Then the body was led in prayer by Bro. Sam Daniel.

It was moved and carried to have Five Hundred (500) Copies of Minutes printed and to pay clerk \$25.00 for his services.

Moved and carried to read the Circular Letter. Moved and carried to print the Circular letter in the Minutes.

It was moved and carried that Rev. G. T. Holloman write the next Circular letter to this body in 1951. Moved and carried that Bro. J. S. Windham serve on the Executive Committee for three more years.

Moved and carried that Bro. G. C. King be chairman of Executive Committee. Moved and carried that Minutes carry Street and Ave. of Church where Association meets at.

Moved and carried that we have reports of the various committees.

#### **COMMITTEE ON PREACHING**

Friday night, Rev. Coy Watson to preach and Rev. E. C. Morris to close.

Saturday morning at 11:00 o'clock, Rev. C. A. Huckaby to preach. Rev. W. J. Childree to close.

Saturday night, Rev. G. W. Price to preach and Rev. H. L. Knighton to close.

Sunday morning, 11:00 o'clock, Rev. H. J. Kelly to preach. Rev. Wilson Martin. Association closed.

ERA TUCK, Chairman

#### **COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOL**

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, find that it is a great work in the service of the Lord. Jesus said "Suffer little children and forbid them not to come unto me, for of such is in the Kingdom of heaven."

Your committee suggests that all our churches organize a Sunday School.

IRENE JOHNSON, Chairman

#### **COMMITTEE ON SUGGESTIONS**

We, your Committee on Suggestions wish to make the following report:

1st. We suggest that our pastors preach tithing more and that our churches do more for their pastors.

2nd. That we extend to St. John Church and the community a rising vote of thanks for the fine way in which they have entertained us.

3rd. That the Minutes of our District Women's Auxiliary Convention be printed in our Minutes.

4th. That our churches give more to our State and National Work.

REV. H. L. KNIGHTON, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE

We, your Committee, wish to make the following report:

That we remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy. We suggest that we love one another as Christ loved us.

MRS. L. B. SHIRAH, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S AUXILIARY AND LEAGUE WORK

We, your Committee on Auxiliary and League Work, find some of our churches without Women's Auxiliary and Leagues. We urge each Church to organize one of each in the near future. We feel that it will be a blessing to the community and the church.

MRS. JESSIE OLIVER, Chairman.

#### STATE OF CHURCHES AND CHARACTER OF THE MINISTRY

We, your Committee on State of Churches and Character of the Ministry, wish to make the following report:

Being no complaints of our churches, and Ministerial Roll, we find all in order.

May the blessings of God be upon our churches and ministers.

B. R. DENT, Chairman.

#### COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, wish to make the following report:

That we all be moderate and temperate in all things, and keep the Sabbath Day holy.

SUE ROBINSON, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

We, your Committee on Finance, wish to make the following report:

We find according to record in Minutes:

Amount in Treasury .....	\$136.41
Paid in from various churches .....	81.10

.....	
Total on Hand .....	\$217.51

G. C. KING, Chairman

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The Body was called to order by the Moderator. Opening prayer, by Rev. H. L. Knighton. A love offering was taken for Rev. A. C. McKinnon and Rev. W. C. Jones. Amount received for each one was \$16.15. Total offering, \$32.30.

It was moved and carried to meet with New Bethel Church, Worth County, Ga., for the next session, and Rev. W. R. Lawhorn to preach the Introductory sermon. Rev. H. J. Kelly, alternate.

Moved and carried to send \$10.00 to the Georgia State Association and \$5.00 to the National Association.

The next item of business was to ordain the following ministers: Rev. John D. Ellis, Rev. Frank S. McDanal, Rev. John Grimsley.

The Ordaining Counsel was as follows:

Elder C. A. Huckaby reading the Scripture and examining the

candidate; Elder W. J. Childree, gave the charge and Elder H. L. Knighton prayed the prayer of consecration.

Moved and carried that this body stand and return thanks to St. John Church and Community for their fine way in taking care of the Association while it was in session. Moved and carried to adjourn this session and meet with New Bethel Free Will Baptist Church in Worth County, Ga., Friday morning before the first Sunday in October, 1951.

Rev. W. R. Lawhorn is to preach the Introductory Sermon at 11:00 o'clock, Rev. H. J. Kelly, alternate.

ELDER W. J. CHILDREE, Moderator

ELDER H. J. KELLY, Clerk

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

On hand in Treasury .....	\$136.41
Paid in from Various Churches .....	81.10
First Session of Union Meeting .....	12.00
Second Session of Union Meeting .....	13.00
Third Session of Union Meeting .....	13.00

Total in hand of Treasurer .....\$255.51

#### PAID OUT OF TREASURY

For Printing and Mailing Minutes .....	\$ 71.00
Paid Clerk .....	25.00
Paid Union Meeting Clerk .....	10.00
Georgia State Association .....	10.00
National Association .....	5.00

Total paid out of Treasury .....\$121.00

Balance in Hand of Treasurer .....\$134.51

REV. H. J. KELLY, Treasurer

#### CHURCHES, CLERKS and POSTOFFICES

Beulah—Morris Lawhorn .....	Butler, Ga.
Turner Chapel—Neal Allen, Jr. ....	Route 2, Butler, Ga.
Mt. Olive—Hudson Poole .....	Rt. 3, Reynolds, Ga.
St. Luke—Mrs. Ruth Murphy ....	Box 251, Columbus Ave., Phenix City, Alabama.
St. Mark—Ethel Starling, 503 S. R. R. St., Phenix City Alabama	
Spring Hill—Monroe Grier .....	Rt. 1, Mauk, Ga.
Trinity—B. F. Waller .....	Charing, Ga.
St. James—Doris Richburg, Rt. 2, Box 209, Phenix City, Alabama	
Pleasant Hill—J. T. Guy .....	Ellaville, Ga.
St. John—Lemuel Walden.....	3404 5th Avenue, Columbus, Ga.
New Bethel—Mrs. Judie Hobby .....	Rt. 4, Sylvester, Ga.
Bethany—Etta Grimsley .....	Rt. 1, Juniper, Ga.
Providence—C. A. Parker .....	Rt. 2, Columbus, Ga.
New Prospect—G. D. Parten .....	Rt. 3, Ashburn, Ga.
New Life—Lee Daniel .....	Rt. 2, Mauk, Ga.
Little Bethel—Bessie Emerson .....	Ideal, Ga.
New Prospect—Allen Coulter .....	Rt. 4, Reynolds, Ga.

#### MINISTERIAL ROLL

Elder W. R. Lawhorn, Rt. 1 ..... Butler, Ga.

Elder C. H. Moore, Rt. 3 .....	Reynolds, Ga.
Elder W. R. Merritt, Rt. 3 .....	Reynolds, Ga.
Elder W. J. Childree, Rt. 4 .....	Reynolds, Ga.
Elder A. C. McKinnon, 314-H Peabody Apts. ....	Columbus, Ga.
Elder W. C. Jones, Rt. 2, Box 45-F .....	Phenix City, Ala.
Elder C. A. Huckaby, R.F.D. ....	Chipley, Fla.
Elder G. W. Price, Rt. 2, Box 245-B .....	Phenix City, Ala.
Elder Frank S. McDanal, Mulberry Drive.....	Columbus, Ga.
Elder G. T. Hallimon, 629 20th St. ....	Phenix City, Ala.
Elder B. D. Lawson, 805 24th St. ....	Columbus, Ga.
Elder A. L. Oswalt, Rt. 1 .....	Fortson, Ga.
Elder B. C. Bass .....	Phenix City, Ala.
Elder H. L. Knighton, 1911 2nd Avenue .....	Phenix City, Ala.
Elder P. E. Knighton, 1610 21st St. ....	Phenix City, Ala.
Elder J. B. Lumpkin .....	Howard, Ga.
Elder H. J. Kelly, Morningside Drive .....	Columbus, Ga.
Elder John D. Ellis, 1126 Neil Drive .....	Columbus, Ga.
Elder John Grimsley, Rt. 1 .....	Juniper, Ga.
Elder J. D. Bradley, 1204 Claimont Avenue .....	Decatur, Ga.
Elder Coy Watson, Rt. 1 .....	Blakeley, Ga.

#### LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. G. W. Hobbs .....	Cusseta, Ga.
Rev. E. J. Spillers .....	Barnesville, Ga.
Rev. Nellie Greer, General Delivery .....	Phenix City, Ala.
Rev. Ruth Murphy, Box 251 Columbus Ave. ....	Phenix City, Ala.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

#### SUPERANNUATION BOARD

Bro. G. C. King, 1 year .....	Sylvester, Ga.
Bro. C. A. Parker, 2 years, Rt. 1 .....	Columbus, Ga.
Bro. S. O. Jones, 2 years .....	Ideal, Ga.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

The Thirteenth Annual Session of the Chattahoochee Sunday School Convention convened with Little Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Macon county, on the last Sunday in October, 1950. Opening song, "I Rather Be an Old Time Christian." Prayer by O. M. Williams. The president opened the session by reading the 22nd Ch. Prov. 6th Verse. "Speaking on Training up a child in the way it should go, and it would not depart from it." A wonderful message was enjoyed by all.

The Sunday School programs were then presented by the following Sunday Schools: Little Bethel, Turner Chapel, St. Mark, St. James, St. John. The programs were inspiring and enjoyed by all. Dinner was spread by the ladies of the church at the noon hour which was enjoyed by everyone. The session was then called to order by the president reading the 23rd Psalm. Officers were then elected for the next year. Rev. H. L. Knighton, elected president; Rev. H. J. Kelly, elected secretary and treasurer.

Next item of business was to hear a report from the various Sunday schools.

**TURNER CHAPEL**—Four classes; average attendance, 40; paid out for literature \$22.45; miscellaneous \$24.00. Supt. Homer Moore.

**ST. JAMES**—Five classes. On roll 75; in treasury, Oct. 1949, \$125.40; paid out during year, \$203.66; balance in treasury, \$92.31. Supt. Otis Carden.

**ST. MARK**—Four classes; on roll, 68; paid out for literature, \$41.90; for miscellaneous, \$58.98; flowers, \$77.41; in treasury, \$84.62. Supt. L. J. Whitaker.

**ST. JOHN**—Five classes; average attendance, 67; on roll, 93; paid out for literature, \$45.63; love offerings, \$50.00; miscellaneous, \$420.48; balance in treasury, \$162.47. Supt. Wyatt E. Dunn.

**LITTLE BETHEL**—Four classes; average attendance, 39; on roll, 50; collection total, \$67.44; balance on hand, Oct. 1, 1950, \$6.30. Supt. Earl Bone.

**ST. LUKE**—Four classes, on roll, 55; paid out for year, \$90.45. Balance on hand, \$43.72. Supt. Dallas Murphy.

The next session will be held at Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Schley County, the 5th Sunday in September, 1951, beginning at 10:00 o'clock. Bro. S. O. Jones made a talk on the youth camp near Ashburn, Ga., saying he was appointed to receive offerings and canned goods in our district for the camp. Everyone was asked to cooperate. An offering was taken for the camp. Amount \$18.00. Rev. W. J. Childree asked the body to pray for the prospects of organizing a new church in Giffin, Ga. Moved and carried to adjourn this session to meet with Pleasaant Hill Church, 5th Sunday in September, 1951. Dismissed by H. L. Knighton.

Eld. H. L. Knighton, President  
Eld. H. J. Kelly, Sec. and Treas.

#### DEACON'S AND PREACHERS' MEETING

The Deacon and Preachers meeting convened with Little Bethel Church in Macon County, Ideal, Ga., on October 28, 1950.

The introductory sermon was preached by Eld. H. J. Kelly. Reading from St. John 19th-19-22. Text: What I have written, I have written. Which was a very inspiring message and very much enjoyed. After benediction, dinner was spread by the ladies of the church.

After dinner the body was called to order by the Moderator.

Following opening song, the body was led in prayer by O. M. Williams. The Moderator read the 8th Chapter of Romans, a brief comment on the scripture read was very good. The Moderator then announced session open for business.

First business to come before the body was to elect a Moderator and clerk. Eld. H. J. Kelly was elected moderator and O. M. Williams, clerk. Churches reported from the association were as follows:

St. John, Columbus, Ga.; Pleasant Hill, Ellaville, Ga.; St. James, Phenix City, Ala.; Little Bethel, Ideal, Ga.; St. Luke, Phenix City, Ala.; Mt. Olive, Reynolds, Ga.; Turner's Chapel, Butler, Ga.; Beulah, Butler, Ga.

Moved and carried that the Moderator appoint a preaching committee which was: Bros. McInvale, Dent, Murphy, Shirer and Brewer.

Bro. H. L. Knighton brought an inspiring message on Stewardship. After which a talk was made by Bro. S. O. Jones, in behalf of the youth camp. \$20.00 was raised for the camp. Also a short talk was made by Susie Claud Robins, and Jessie Bone, on their trip to camp.

Moved and carried that we hear report from Preaching Committee.

Rev. Ruth Murphy to preach at 8 o'clock; Rev. W. R. Lawhorn to follow: Time and place of next Deacon and Preachers meeting will be on Saturday morning before the 5th Sunday in September 1951. At Pleasant Hill Church, Ellaville, Ga.

Elder H. L. Knighton to preach the introductory sermon at 11 o'clock.

Moved and carried that this 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 Pleasant Hill Church, Ellaville, Ga., on Saturday before the 5th Sunday in September, 1951.

Eld. H. J. Kelly, Moderator

O. M. Williams, Clerk

#### WOMEN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION

The first session of the Chattahoochee Freewill Baptist Women's Auxiliary Convention convened with Little Bethel Freewill Baptist Church, Macon County, Georgia, May 20th, 1950.

Opening song, Work for the Night Is Coming. Devotion, Mrs. A. L. Fowler. Welcome address, Mrs. S. O. Jones. Response, Mrs. H. J. Kelly. Mrs. Bennie Lovering brought a wonderful message on "Advancing with Christ Through Enlistment." Song, Take the Name of Jesus With You. Sermon, Rev. P. E. Knighton, subject, I Can't Come Down, I Have Work to Do. Dismissed for lunch, by Bro. S. O. Jones.

#### AFTERNOON

Devotion, Mrs. R. C. Cromer. Prayer, Mrs. O. M. Williams. Reports read and accepted from Little Bethel, St. James, and St. John Auxiliaries.

Report of nominating committee accepted.

Mrs. H. L. Knighton, president; Mrs. H. A. Tuck, 1st vice president; Mrs. Earl Bone, 2nd vice president; Mrs. Doris Richburg, 3rd vice president; Mrs. Kate Lovering, 4th vice president; Mrs. R. G. Streetman, 5th vice president; Mrs. H. J. Kelly, secretary and treasurer; Mrs. O. M. Williams, assistant secretary and treasurer; Mrs. P. E. Knighton, field worker.

The next session will meet with St. John Freewill Baptist Church, 3408 5th Ave., Columbus, Georgia, Saturday, before 3rd Sunday in September, 1951.

Moved and seconded we send \$5.00 to State Convention. Delegates elected to state convention are:

Mrs. O. M. Williams, Mrs. Cora Hearn, Mrs. H. A. Tuck.

A rising vote of thanks was given Little Bethel for its fine hospitality extended the convention.

Moved and seconded the convention adjourn.

Benediction, Bro. Bennie Lovering.

Mrs. H. L. Knighton, President

Mrs. H. J. Kelly, Sec. and Treas.

**THE UNION MEETINGS OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE UNITED  
FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION  
UNION MEETING AT BEULAH CHURCH**

The Union meeting of the Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Association convened with Beulah Free Will Baptist Church Saturday morning before the fifth Sunday in January 1950.

The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Rev. H. J. Kelly, using as his subject: "The Sure Knowledge of Job." An inspiring message was enjoyed by all.

After the message, the congregation was dismissed for the noon hour. Dinner was spread by the ladies of the church and enjoyed by every one. After dinner the body was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. H. L. Knighton.

Reading from the 133rd Psalms, a wonderful message was delivered on "Brothers Dwelling Together in Unity." First item of business was to elect a clerk for the union meetings. Rev. H. J. Kelly was elected. Next call for corresponding letters from various churches. Letters received. Moved and carried that Bro. G. C. King and Rev. J. E. Welch read the letters. Moved and carried that the letters be received as read and the delegates be seated in the body as follows:

ST. JAMES CHURCH—Bro. S. O. Jones, Sis. Fannie Whitehurst, and Sis. Kate Hestley.

ST. MARK CHURCH—Bro. C. B. Bass, Bro. J. E. Turner.

MT. OLIVE CHURCH—Bro. Hudson Poole, Bro. Jesse Windham, Bro. Eddie Windham, Bro. Ralph Underwood.

LITTLE BETHEL CHURCH—Bros. R. N. McInvale, S. O. Jones, E. E. Bone and wife, Bro. O. M. Williams and wife, Bro. C. L. McCarty, Sis. A. L. Fowler.

TURNER CHAPEL CHURCH—Bros. Homer Moore, J. D. Fincher and R. L. Robinson.

TRINITY CHURCH—Bros. Buford Watson, B. F. Waller, and Sis. Jessie Waller.

NEW BETHEL CHURCH—Bro. Jodie Hobby and wife, Bro. H. P. Powell and wife, Sis. Lillian Powell.

BETHANY CHURCH—Bros. Woodroe Hendrick, L. R. Grimsley, Sisters Nora Youngblood, Etta Grimsley.

ST. LUKE CHURCH—Bro. Curtis Greer, Sis. Ruth Murphy, Bro. J. S. Arnold, Bro. Price Hayes and wife.

SPRING HILL CHURCH—Bro. A. S. McCall, Bro. Grimsley and wife.

NEW PROSPECT CHURCH—Bro. G. C. King.

ST. JOHN CHURCH—Sisters Eula Mae Sellers, Mattie Strickland, Era Tuck, Bro. A. C. Cobbs and wife, Bro. J. E. Hallford.

NEW LIFE CHURCH—Bro. Sam Daniels and wife, Sis. Coy Watson and daughter, Sis. Mina Roberts.

PLEASANT HILL CHURCH—Bro. B. C. Brewer and wife, Bro. Fleming Brewer and wife, Bro. Fred Brewer, Sis. Dorothy Hambrick.

BEULAH CHURCH—Bros. L. B. Shirah, M. N. Cromer, Carlton Smith, Henry Grimsley, Sis. Christine Grimsley.

Moved and carried to receive the delegates and they be seated in the body. We were glad to have a visitor from the Midway Association. The Moderator, Rev. T. B. Mellett and Bro. R. B. Pyles and wife,

Bro. Roscoe Langford, Georgia Union Association. This body enjoyed having Rev. J. E. Welch from the Missionary Baptist visit us.

Motioned and carried that the Moderator extend the right hand of fellowship to the visitors.

Next items of business moved and carried the Moderator appoint Preaching Committee as follows:

Bros. L. B. Shirah, Charlie Cromer, G. C. King, H. S. Moore, Sister Era Tuck.

Money sent from various churches for printing \$12.00.

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PREACHING

Saturday, 7 p. m., Rev. J. E. Welch, Rev. W. R. Lawhorn to follow.

Sunday, 10 a. m., Rev. Coy Watson, Sis. Era Tuck, Chairman.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Sister H. L. Knighton made a talk on organizing a District Convention of the Women's Auxiliary of the Chattahoochee Association. All the Auxiliary represented were in favor of this and agreed to meet at Little Bethel Church to try to organize the District Convention. Rev. T. B. Mellett, Moderator of the Midway Association talked to the body on the prospect of holding a ministers institution at Mt. Bethel, Ashburn, Ga., the first week in June. A Program Committee was appointed for the next union meeting as follows:

Bros. Bennie Lovering, Curtis Parker, Curtis Greer.

Motioned and carried that we express our appreciation to Rev. Mellett for taking a part in our program by a rising vote.

Motioned and carried that this session of the Union meeting stand and return thanks to the church and community for their hospitality extended to this body during their session. Next moved and carried to adjourn to meet with St. John's' Church Saturday before the 5th Sunday in April 1950.

Rev. H. L. Knighton, Moderator

Rev. H. J. Kelly, Clerk

#### SECOND UNION MEETING AT ST. JOHN CHURCH

The Union Meeting of the Chattahoochee Freewill Baptist Association convened with St. John Freewill Baptist Church Saturday morning before the Fifth Sunday in April 1950. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. W. R. Lawhorn using for his text the 8th Chapter of Romans. His subject, "Born Again." A wonderful and inspiring message was enjoyed by all. The noon hour was spent enjoying a wonderful dinner that was spread on the table by the Host Church and Community.

After dinner the body was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. H. L. Knighton. First item of business was calling for Corresponding Letters from the various churches. Letters received. Moved and carried that Bro. Curtis Parker and Bro. L. B. Shirah read letters. Moved and carried that the letters be received as read and the delegates seated in the body as follows:

St. John Church—Bro. Lemuel Waldon, Bro. Wyatt Dunn, Bro. J. C. McLendon, Sister Annie Williams, Sister Bobbie Hilton.

Pleasant Hill Church—Sister Susie Grimsley.

New Life Church—Bro. Lee Daniels and wife, Bro. L. E. Chap-

man, Bro. Felton Roberts and wife.

Beulah Church—Bro. Morris Lawhorn, Bro. L. B. Shirah and wife.

Little Bethel Church—Bro. W. T. Williams, Bro. Frederick Bone, Bro. Bruce Jones, Sister Essie Williams, Bro. R. N. McInvale, Bro. E. E. Bone, Sister Clytie Mae Cromer.

St. Mark Church—Sister B. D. Lawson, Sister G. T. Halliman.

St. Luke Church—Bro. C. R. Greer and wife, Bro. Jim Davis, Bro. Wilburn Baker.

St. James Church—Mrs. J. W. Hearn, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Rickman, Mrs. Johnnie Duke, Mrs. Harrell, Mrs. J. R. Whitehurst, Mrs. Kate Hesley.

Spring Hill Church—Bro. N. C. Grier and wife, Bro. Leonard Grimsley, Bro. J. M. Grier.

Turner Chapel Church—Bro. R. L. Robinson, Bro. Wainright, Bro. Neal Allen.

Providence Church—Bro. Leonard Anthony, Bro. Curtis Parker, Bro. Sam Parker.

Bethany Church—Bro. Harris Lawrence, Sister Nora Youngblood, Bro. LeRoy Grimsley, Sister Ella Grimsley.

Mt. Olive Church—By letter.

New Bethel Church—By Pastor Rev. Lawhorn.

New Prospect Church—By Pastor, Rev. Halliman.

Next moved and carried that the Moderator appoint a Preaching Committee: Bro. Lemuel Waldon, Bro. Fern Robinson, Sister B. D. Lawson, Bro. Morris Lawhorn, Bro. R. L. Robinson.

Report of Committee, Saturday night, 7:30, Rev. H. L. Knighton, Rev. Tom Halliman, to close. Sunday morning, 11 a. m. Rev. Ruth Murphy, Rev. H. J. Kelly, to close.

Amount sent in from various churches, \$13.00.

Next called for corresponding messengers, none.

Next the Moderator appointed a Program Committee: Bro. Jessie Windham, Bro. O. M. Williams, Bro. Robert Robinson. Rev. H. L. Knighton made a report on the Women's Auxiliary Society of our churches meeting at Little Bethel Church the 20th of May to organize into a District Association.

A love offering for Bro. Robinson was taken amounting to \$26.78. Next the program arranged by the committee was presented as follows:

Prayer by Era Tuck from St. John Church. Song by congregation, "Lord Build Me a Cabin in Glory Land." Devotion, Sis. Lawson, St. Mark. Song by congregation, "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart." Message on fellowship, Rev. H. L. Knighton, St. James. Song by congregation, "I Am Thine, O Lord."

Free Will Baptist Mission, by Rev. Ruth Murphy, St. Luke. Song by Congregation, "I Feel Like Traveling On." Why I am a Free Will Baptist, by Bro. Sam Parker, Providence Church.

Song by congregation, "Jesus Hold My Hand."

This program was enjoyed very much. At the hour of 3 o'clock the body stood in silent prayer in memory of Bro. J. D. Windham who passed away a few days before and his funeral was being held at this

hour near Butler, Ga. Moved and carried to extend a vote of thanks to Program Committee for such a fine program. An offering for the unified budget of our State Association was received amounting to \$7.50.

Next moved and carried to extend to the host church and community a vote of thanks for their good spirit of taking care of the body while in session. Moved and carried to adjourn to meet with Mt. Olive Church on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in July, 1950.

Rev. H. L. Knighton, Moderator

Rev. H. J. Kelly, Clerk

### THIRD UNION MEETING AT MT. OLIVE CHURCH

The Union meeting of the Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Association convened with Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church, Taylor County, Georgia, Saturday morning before the fifth Sunday in July, 1950. The Introductory Sermon was preached by the Rev. H. J. Kelly, Subject, "Ancient Landmarks." After the message a fine dinner was enjoyed by all. Then the body was called to order by the Moderator. First item of business was calling for Corresponding Letters from the various churches. Letters received. Moved and carried that Sister Ruby Kelly and Sister Bessie Emerson read letters. Moved and carried that the letters be received as read and the delegates seated as follows:

Trinity Church—Bro. B. F. Waller and wife, Jessie Waller.

New Prospect Church—Bro. G. C. King.

Bethany Church—Bro. Horace Lawrence, Sister Nora Youngblood, Sister Etta Grimsley, Julius Grimsley, LeRoy Grimsley.

Turner Chapel Church—Bro. Homer Moore, Junior Allen, Sis. Susie Robinson, Sis. Nellie G. Windham.

New Prospect Church—Sis. Bessie Hartley.

St. Mark Church—Sis. Halloman, Sis. Pitway, Sis. Lawson.

New Bethel Church—Bro. J. C. Farmer, Bro. A. G. Powell and wife, Bro. Jadie Hobby and wife.

Pleasant Hill Church—Bro. B. C. Brewer and wife, Bro. W. E. James and wife.

Little Bethel Church—M. L. Layfield, A. J. Cromer, Sis. R. G. Streetman, Jessie Bone.

Beulah Church—Sis. Christine Grimsley, Sis. Rose Lee Grimsley, Sis. Hattie Mae Shirah.

St. John Church—Sister Era Tuck, Sister Ruby Kelly.

Mt. Olive Church—Lewis Blair, B. R. Dent and Hudson Poole.

Spring Hill Church—Bro. Leonard Grimsley and wife, Bro. Sanders McCall.

St. James Church—Sis. Cora Hearn.

Next item of business electing Moderator and clerk. Rev. H. L. Knighton asked the body not to consider him for Moderator. Rev. G. W. Price and Rev. B. D. Lawson nominated. Rev. G. W. Price was elected by a majority vote. Moved and carried that Rev. H. J. Kelly remain clerk for another year. Visitors were invited to sit with us. Moved and carried that Moderator appoint Committee as he sees fit. Preaching Committee: Bros. B. R. Dent, Hudson Poole, Henry Grimsley, Sis. B. D. Lawson, Bro. J. C. Farmer. Committee report re-

ceived. Rev. G. W. Price to preach Saturday night 8 p. m. Rev. W. J. Childree Sunday morning 11 a. m.

Amount sent in from the various churches, \$13.00. Time and place of holding the next session: The first session of the Union Meeting will convene with New Bethel Church, Worth County, near Sylvester, Ga., Saturday morning before the fifth Sunday in April 1951. Rev. W. J. Childree to preach the Introductory Sermon.

The Second Session of the Union Meeting will convene with St. James Church, 1909 Second Ave., Phenix City., Ala., on Saturday morning before the 5th Sunday in July, 1951. Rev. C. H. Moore to preach the introductory sermon.

The Third Session of the Union meeting will convene with Spring Hill Church, Marion County, on Saturday morning before the second Sunday in September. Rev. H. J. Kelly to preach the introductory sermon. Moved and carried that wherever the union meetings were held at the Church could set the date for having it. Rev. H. L. Knighton spoke about the good work being done at Mt. Bethel Camp near Ashburn, Ga. Also about the Ministers Conference that was organized the first week in June and is to meet every year after the closing of school at Mt. Bethel.

Moved and carried to take an offering for the General Promotion Fund. An offering of \$23.05 given. Moved and carried not to have a program at the last session of the Union meetings.

Moved and carried to pay clerk \$10.00 for his service. Moved and carried to take a love offering for Rev. A. C. McKinnon. \$18.76 given.

Moved and carried to return thanks to the church and community for their fine hospitality to the body while in session. Moved and carried to adjourn.

Rev. G. W. Price, Moderator

Rev. H. J. Kelly, Clerk

#### CIRCULAR LETTER

Subject—"How Can We Know God's Will?"

Prov. 3:5-6

"Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding."

"In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." Collossians 1:9-10.

"For this cause we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that you might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding.

"That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God."

#### 1. Knowing God's Will Is Not Easy

Several things make it difficult to know God's will for one's life. One of them is the fact that it is not revealed through the five senses as other information is. We do not see God with the physical eyes, hear him with the physical ears, or feel him with the physical hands. In other words, he communes with his followers directly through the impact of Spirit upon spirit. It is a sort of wireless telephone communication that we carry on with God. It is not as easy to tune

in on him as it is the material world around.

Another difficulty is that of distinguishing between our desires and God's will. Wishful thinking is one of the strongest tendencies in human life. We can want a thing so strongly that it is next to impossible to keep from believing that it is God's will. That may happen with preachers in regard to the call to a church or with laymen in regard to some activity in the church. On the other hand, we can be so prejudiced against something that it is next to impossible to believe that it is the thing the Lord wants us to do. One person said that if the Lord wanted him to work in a certain undesirable place he would have to come in person to tell him and not send someone. It is hard to hear what one does not want to know.

And too, we are often so ingrossed in the affairs of the world that we are not listening, or even in a frame of mind to listen, to God's voice. It is easier to witness the raging storm and burning fire than it is to hear the still small voice within. One can put a dime so close to his eyes that he cannot see the beauty of the earth and the sky. We are frequently so taken up with the cares of life, the pursuit of riches, or the pleasures of the day that we do not hear God speaking to us. Hence, often we do not know his will for our lives simply because we have not given him a chance to reveal it.

## 2. We Must Have An Open Mind

In order to be able to know God's will on a subject, we must have open minds. That means that we do not approach a matter with our minds made up. Rather, we are willing to be led either way. Otherwise, we are determining God's will for us rather than allowing him to determine it. We are in the position of the man who prayed for the Lord to help him carry out his plans because it was so hard for him to change them. On the whole, this is probably the most difficult phase of the whole matter of knowing God's will for our lives. We cannot face the matter of God's will about full-time religious work unless we are willing for it to work out either way.

This means on the one hand that a person must not be prejudiced in favor of an issue if he is to know God's will. That precludes divine guidance in the matter and can be just as much a handicap as being prejudiced against it. We can want to do a thing so much that it is very hard for us not to feel that it is God's will. While we may naturally favor a certain thing, we should hold a reserve to oppose it if we think God wants us to do so.

## 3. We Must Live Close To God

The closer one lives to him the better able he will be to know God's will.

The things then that make for a better understanding of God will help in knowing his will. This means that the Christian who reads his Bible regularly and faithfully will be in a better position to know God's will, provided of course that he does so with an open mind. God speaks to us through his Book as well as directly to our minds. It means also that the person who prays most, provided it is with a submissive mind, will come nearer knowing God than the one who does not pray. Just as reading the Bible is letting God speak to us, so

praying to him is letting us speak to him. In both ways we come nearer to an understanding of his will for our lives and for particular problems we face.

#### 4. We Must Understand Ourselves.

A proper understanding of himself will enable one to understand God's will better.

There is also help on the positive side. Someone has said very truly, "Your talent is your call." And another has said, "Be what nature intended you for." So if one will consider his talent and his ability, he will go a long way toward finding out what God's will is. God is not likely to give a person a talent for one thing and then call him to do something entirely different. One's capacity is a fair test of the divine will for him. It stands to reason that the gifted musician should serve in that sphere, and the one with a knack for business should use it.

Another thing for one to check regarding himself is his interest. The thing he is most interested in and would rather do than anything else, is likely the thing God has willed for him to do. This is true both regarding vocations and particular activities. The thing that we find joy and satisfaction in doing is very likely the thing that God wants us to do. So in seeking to find God's will we should consider carefully our endowments and interests.

#### 5. We Should Inquire of Others

It is exceedingly difficult for us to study ourselves in an open-minded and unbiased fashion. We cannot easily think apart from our own interests. So it is well to talk with our friends who can be objective about the matter, and see what they think. This may not be final, but it is at least suggestive. If God has planned for us to do a certain thing, it is probable that he has impressed someone else with that fact.

In this connection it is well to take a look around at the needs confronted. Where the need is greatest is likely the place God wants us to work. If there are already enough engaged in a certain task, it stands to reason that God would not add us to the list. In other words, we should "watch for the open door".

Of course, in seeking the opinion of others, we should not forget to inquire of God. He knows our lives from the beginning, understands our strength and weaknesses, and knows where we should serve and what we should do. He has a place for our lives. He will reveal that purpose if we take the right attitude and seek his will. He is the court of last resort. We should climax all of our investigation with turning to him. In the last analysis, the "still small voice" is to be our guide.

Yours in Christ,  
Rev. G. W. Price

**IN MEMORY OF BRO. JAMES TABYER**

Bro. James Tabyer, born December 15, 1870 and Died July 24, 1950. He will be missed by many. So cheer up friends and relatives don't become discouraged. Live true and be faithful to the end. He is rested from pain and sorrow. Death is over, life is one.

His Pastor, Rev. G. T. Holliman

**IN MEMORY OF JOSEPH BURTON HARDEN**

Joseph Burton Harden was born April 16, 1872 and died October 17, 1949. He leaves a host of friends and relatives to mourn his passing. We are sure that our loss is his gain.

His pastor, Rev. G. T. Holliman

**IN MEMORY OF BRO. J. C. HIGGINS**

Bro. J. C. Higgins was born in 1866, died November 29, 1949. He was a deacon and a faithful member of St. Mark Free Will Baptist Church. He is missed by friends and relatives. His toils of life are over. He is free from all care over on the other side.

Written by his pastor, Rev. G. T. Holliman

**IN MEMORY OF BRO. GEORGE G. JONES**

Bro. George G. Jones departed this life September 12, 1950. Born 1885. , making his stay on earth 64 years. He was a deacon and a faithful worker of St. Mark Free Will Baptist Church. He left his wife, three sons, one daughter, two brothers, ten grand children, several nieces and nephews.

Where bide they all? Dear friends of yesterday, last year, and long ago, who walked with us when life was all aglow. And not far away we know they're only gone. We throw into the next room.

His pastor, Rev. G. T. Holliman.

**IN MEMORY OF L. C. LAWSON**

Bro. L. C. Lawson was born March 8, 1882 and departed from the earth May 9, 1950. Bro. Lawson made his stay on earth 68 years and the Lord sayth unto him, "Peace be unto thee. Fear not thou shalt not die."

Written by his loving wife,

Mrs. L. C. Lawson,

Rev. G. T. Holliman, Pastor

**IN MEMORY OF SISTER J. R. RYCROFT**

Sister Rycroft departed this life October 20, 1949. She was born March 7, 1879, making her stay on earth 70 years, 7 months and 13 days. She was a member of New Prospect Church. She was loyal to her Church, her children and the community. She leaves several children, grand children, great grand children, and a host of friends to mourn her passing. We are sure that our loss is her gain. So all we can say is good-bye dear Sister, till we meet again.

Your heart was the trust in all the wide world,

Your love the best to recall,

For no one on earth can take your place,

You're still the dearest to us all.

If we had all the world to give,

We would give it, yet and more,

To hear your voice and see your smiles,  
And greet you at the door.

Written by a Friend,

Rev. G. T. Holliman

#### IN MEMORY OF SISTER KATE FORD

Sister Kate Ford, who passed away on August 9, 1950, was 59 years old. She was a member of New Life Church. To know Sister Ford was to love her. Her toils of life are over and she will rest from all care over on the other side.

Written by her pastor, Rev. C. H. Moore

#### IN MEMORY OF BROTHER JOHNNIE S. CHRISTOFER

The death angel visited the home of Brother Johnnie S. Christopher July 20th, 1950 and carried him to his heavenly home. He was a member of New Life Church and will be missed in the home and in the church. He was born June 26, 1860, making his stay on earth 90 years.

Sleep on dear Brother,  
In a land that is free from sorrow,  
Where the weary rest from care  
There will be no sad tomorrows,  
When we gather over there.

Written by his Pastor, Rev. C. H. Moore,

#### IN MEMORY OF SISTER ALMA HENDRICKS

Sister Alma Hendricks was born April 25th, 1891, died July 26th, 1950, making her stay on earth 59 years, 3 months and 1 day. Sister Hendricks was a member of Bethany Church, having outlived her husband. She leaves 3 boys, 2 girls, 9 grandchildren, and her church and many friends to mourn her passing.

Of all the love on earth possessed,  
One friend towards another,  
No words yet has ever expressed,  
The love of a sainted mother.

She cares for you when you're sad.  
More than a friend or a brother,  
A word of cheer to make you glad,  
None more like your own dear mother.

By Her Pastor, Rev. Coy Watson

#### IN LOVING MEMORY OF BRO. J. D. WINDHAM

Bro. Windham was born August 30th, 1893, died April 27th, 1950, making his stay on earth 56 years, 7 months and 28 days. He was a member of St. John Church, and a faithful deacon of the church. Bro. Windham will be missed by his loved ones and friends. We are sure that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Written by his Pastor, Rev. H. J. Kelly

#### IN MEMORY OF

Bro. G. A. Chapman

Bro. J. W. Welch

Bro. John Duncan

Sister J. W. Welch

Sister Stella Wisham

All were members of Little Bethel Church, and will be missed by the Church and their loved ones. The toils of life are over, and we trust they are at rest with the Lord. May God's blessings be upon those left behind to mourn their passing on.

Written by Rev. H. J. Kelly.

#### TO THE MEMORY OF J. Y. COULTER

He was born February 3, 1876, departed this life July 30, 1949, making his stay on earth sixty-three years, five months and twenty-seven days. Bro. Coulter was for many years a member of New Prospect Church, Taylor County, Georgia, having served as a Deacon until his departure. He was kind and generous and by thus he gained many friends. He will long be missed in his church and community. So, fairwell brother till we meet again.

The days are few till we shall go;  
To meet the one that we love dear  
And rest from toiling here below,  
His blessed voice we all shall hear.

The saints shall rise with joyful praise;  
To glorify the risen King,  
He'll guide us all our pilgrim days,  
In that fair land his praise we'll sing.

By His Pastor, W. J. Childree

In Memory of Sister Lizzie Baxter, born July 23, 1870, died Oct. 16, 1949; and Sister Laura Bell Jameson, born Feb. 2, 1866, died Aug. 22, 1950; and Sister Annie Brown, born April 28, 1882, died May 21, 1950.

They were members of St. James Church, Phenix City, Ala., and was loyal to their church as long as their health permitted. They leave beside their families a host of friends who mourn their passing, but we feel sure that our loss is their gain for they all had this testimony that they were ready to go, when the Lord called them.

Written by their pastor, Rev. H. L. Knighton

#### 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 of 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 the 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.

The 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 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 of necessity.

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 help 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 acknowledgement 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 visible 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, from 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 comprised 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 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 treasury of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, and 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 and 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 by the law, by His own personal obedience, and made atonement for sin by his death; being risen from the dead, and 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 fulness 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, sacrifices 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 religious 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.

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# STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	COUNTIES	PASTORS	Received by Letter	Received by Statement	Received by Baptism	Expelled	Dismissed by Letter	Died	Total Membership	Paid for Minutes	Paid Pastor	Meeting Days
New Life.....	Marion.....	Eld. C. H. Moore.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	2	62	\$3.00	\$136.00	3
New Prospect.....	Turner.....	Eld. Reiley Giddens.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	4	208	6.00	187.55	3
Providence.....	Muscogee.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	35	5.00	385.00	1
Bethany.....	Marion.....	Eld. John D. Ellis.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	29	3.00	109.66	1
New Bethel.....	Worth.....	Eld. W. J. Childree.....	.....	.....	2	.....	1	.....	129	5.00	219.00	2
St. John.....	Muscogee.....	Eld. H. J. Kelly.....	3	5	12	.....	3	1	109	7.00	1,951.66	1-2-3-4-5
New Prospect.....	Taylor.....	Eld. W. J. Childree.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50	.....	.....	1
Pleasant Hill.....	Schley.....	Eld. G. W. Price.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	71	5.00	224.25	1
St. James.....	Russell.....	Eld. H. L. Knighton.....	1	.....	2	.....	3	3	84	10.00	1,960.00	1-2-3-4-5
Trinity.....	Taylor.....	Eld. W. J. Childree.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	16	5.10	166.80	4
Spring Hill.....	Marion.....	Eld. G. W. Price.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	29	3.00	107.00	2
Little Bethel.....	Macon.....	Eld. H. J. Kelly.....	.....	.....	4	3	1	5	141	6.00	274.50	1
St. Luke.....	Russell.....	Eld. A. C. McKinnon.....	7	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	56	5.00	78.03	1-2-3-4-5
		Associate Eld. F. S. McDanal.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mt. Olive.....	Taylor.....	Eld. C. H. Moore.....	2	.....	7	2	.....	.....	162	5.00	207.15	2
Turner's Chapel.....	Taylor.....	Eld. W. R. Lawhorn.....	1	.....	3	.....	3	.....	161	5.00	163.77	4
Beulah.....	Taylor.....	Eld. G. W. Price.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26	3.00	140.75	3
St. Mark.....	Russell.....	Eld. G. T. Halliman.....	9	.....	10	3	1	2	54	5.00	514.31	1-2-3-4-5

# STATISTICAL TABLE

CHURCHES	COUNTIES	Paid Evangelist	Home Mission	Paid Christian Education	Building and Repair	Paid Incidentals	Superannuation	All Other Purposes	For Foreign Missions	Publication	General Pro. Work
New Bethel.....	Worth.....	\$ 30.00	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....	\$ 24.80	\$.....	\$.....	\$.....
New Life.....	Marion.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Prospect.....	Turner.....	44.50	.....	.....	10.00	.....	.....	33.00	.....	.....	85.00
Providence.....	Muscogee.....	30.00	.....	.....	.....	12.00	.....	140.00	.....	.....	.....
Bethany.....	Marion.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. John.....	Muscogee.....	144.36	16.64	98.43	358.20	593.63	11.10	347.70	94.36	.....	.....
New Prospect.....	Taylor.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pleasant Hill.....	Schley.....	60.00	.....	.....	10.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Trinity.....	Taylor.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. James.....	Russell.....	65.70	32.87	58.44	561.98	332.43	21.91	106.43	32.87	127.29	.....
Spring Hill.....	Marion.....	.....	.....	.....	750.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Luke.....	Russell.....	52.00	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	597.31	.....	.....	.....
Mt. Olive.....	Taylor.....	45.00	12.00	.....	.....	.....	5.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
St. Mark.....	Russell.....	47.60	.....	.....	266.70	329.56	.....	211.27	.....	19.90	27.45
Turner Chapel.....	Taylor.....	19.77	.....	.....	22.33	.....	.....	18.04	.....	.....	.....
Little Bethel.....	Macon.....	77.70	10.00	10.00	400.00	12.00	10.00	.....	.....	57.47	.....
Beulah.....	Taylor.....	21.00	5.00	.....	.....	12.00	.....	.....	.....	13.48	.....