# MINUTES

- OF THE -

# **118th Annual Session**

— OF THE —

# CHATTAHOOCHEE FREE WILL

# **BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

HELD WITH

# **ST. JAMES CHURCH**

### PHENIX CITY, ALABAMA

### COMMENCING FRIDAY MORNING, BEFORE THE

FIRST SUNDAY IN OCTOBER, 1953

ELDER W. J. CHILDREE, Moderator, Rt. 4, Reynolds, Ga. ELDER H. L. KNIGHTON, Asst. Moderator, 1911 - 2nd Ave., Phenix City, Alabama

ELDER H. J. KELLY, Clerk, 2946 Buena Vista Rd., Columbus, Georgia

The Next Session Will Meet With Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church, Taylor County, Reynolds, Ga., Friday Morning Before The First Sunday in October, 1954.

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### ORDER OF BUSINESS OF UNION MEETING

- 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 protem.
- 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. Program by Host Church.
- 9. Call for Miscellaneous Business.
- 10. Adjournment.

#### CALENDAR OF MEETINGS FOR YEAR OF 1954

Association—Mt. Olive Church, 2 miles South of Reynolds, Ga., Friday morning before the first Sunday in October.

Union Meetings—First Session at St. Mark Church, 1408 - 10th Ave., Phenix City, Ala., Saturday morning before the fifth Sunday in January.

Second Session—Spring Hill Church, Marion County, Ga., Saturday morning before the fifth Sunday in May.

Third Session—Mt. Olive Church, 2 miles south of Reynolds, Ga., Saturday morning before the fifth Sunday in August.

The Deacons' and Preachers' meeting—At the First Church, 3408 5th Ave., Columbus, Georgia, the third Saturday morning in June, 11 a. m.

Sunday School Convention—At the First Church, 3408-5th Ave., Columbus, Georgia, the third Sunday morning in June, 10 o'clock.

Woman's Auxiliary Convention—At St. Mark Church, 1408 - 10th Ave., Phenix City, Ala., third Saturday morning in September, 10:30 a. m.

#### MINUTES

The 118th Annual Session of The Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Association convened with St. James Free Will Baptist Church, Phenix City, Alabama, Friday morning at 11 o'clock, October 2nd, 1953.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. W. R. Lawhorn, reading from the Gospel of St. Luke, 22nd Chapter, 28th verse, using as his subject St. John 21:15. Bro. Lawhorn really delivered a good inspirng message which was enjoyed by all. After the message the meeting was dismissed for the noon hour. Dinner was spread by the ł ost church and friends. It was a wonderful feast, well prepared and enjoyed. After dinner the body was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. W. J. Childree. Opening song, "Won't It Be Wonderful There." The body was then led in prayer by Rev. W. H. Ryland Superintendent of the Children's Home, Elderidge, Ala. The Moderato ' then read Psalm 128. A wonderful message was enjoyed by all, after which the Moderator declared the 118th Session open for business

First item of business was to invite visiting Brethren to seats with us. Next, called for Corresponding Letters from various churches.

Moved and carried that Rev. H. L. Catrett, cf. the Martin Association and Rev. H. L. Knighton, read letters, after which it was moved and carried to accept letters as read and that delegates be seated in the body as follows:

New Life Church, Marion County—Bro. Horris Lockhart and wife, Bro. Lee Daniel and wife.

Spring Hill Church, Marion County—Sister Myrtle Grier, Bro. Sanders McCall.

First Church, Columbus, Georgia—Sister Mattie Strickland, Sister Mary Bell Lawson, Bro. Rudolph Cook, Bro. Robert Cheech and Bro. Perry Walden.

Providence Church, Muscogee County—Bre H. L. Anthony and Bro. Sam Parker.

Trinity Church, Taylor County—Bro. Buford Watson and wife, Bro. B. F. Waller and Sister Jessie Waller.

New Prospect Church, Turner County—B o. Fred Rooks, Bro. G. C. King, Bro. J. E. Davis, Bro. D. L. Harri, Bro. G. D. Parten, Bro. H. E. Davis, Bro. G. H. Farmer.

St. Luke Church, Phenix City, Ala.—Sister Mary Greer, Bro. Sam Arnold, Bro. Alvin Greer, Sister Ketchems, Sister Pearlie Owens.

Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County—Bro. Walter Hinton and wife, Bro. Ernest Parker and wife, Bro. B. R. Dent, Bro. Lee Posey, Bro. Jessie Windham and wife.

St. James Church, Phenix City, Ala. — Bro. Walter Jones, Bro. J. M. Bramlett, Sister Louis Smith, Sister Johnnie Dukes, Sister Sarah Knighton.

St. Mark Church, Phenix City, Ala.—Sister Ve'ma Johnson, Mable Flournoy, Bro. Eugene Appleby, Sister Lanie Bass, Bro. Woodard and Bro. C. H. Bass.

Pleasant Hill Church, Schley County—Bro. James, Bro. Fred Brewer and Sister B. C. Brewer.

Beulah Church, Taylor County-Bro. Morris Lawhorn, Sister Vera Cromer, Bro. Joseph Cromer.

New Bthel Church, Worth County—Bro. A. C. Powell and wife, Sister Minnie Hobby, Bro. J. A. Tarver and Bro. J. J. Fowler.

Turner Chapel Church, Taylor County-Bro. 4. S. Moore, Sister

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E. E. Bone, Bro. Mack Miller, and Sister Cassie Moore.

Bethany Church, Marion County—Bro. Woodroe Hendrick, Sis. Nora Youngblood, Sister Annie Streetman, Sister J illie McDaniel and Sister Ruby Grimsley.

First Church, Thomaston, Ga.—Bro. Roscoe Fitts

Little Bethel Church, Macon County—Sister R. G. Streetman, Bro. S. O. Jones and wife, Sister A. L. Fowler.

New Prospect Church, Taylor County—Sisters Bessie Hartley and Lizzie Jones. Bro. Robert Lowe, Sister Eva Trussell.

White Oaks Church, Macon, Georgia-By Letter, No names on it.

Next item of business was to call for Corresponding Messengers from other Associations and received Rev. Edward Sheffield and Rev. H. L. Catrett of the Martin Association.

Rev. H. W. Giddens and Rev. A. L. Sellers, Union Association.

Rev. E. C. Morris, Georgia State Association.

Rev. W. H. Ryland, Progressive Association of Alabama.

Bro. R. B. Pyles, Midway Association.

Moved and carried that Moderator extend the right hand of fellowship and welcome to the Corresponding Messengers and that they be seated in the body.

Next called for Petitionary Letters. Received a letter from a newly organized church at Macon, Ga.—White Oaks Church.

Moved and carried that the church be received into the association. A Corresponding Letter from White Oaks Church was then read to the body and accepted. The right hand of Christian fellowship was extended to each delegate from this church by the Moderator.

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The next item of business was to elect a Moderator and Clerk. Rev. W. J. Childree spoke to the body on the number of years he had served as Moderator and asked the body to consider someone else. Rev. G. W. Price, Rev. H. L. Knighton and Rev. W. J. Childree were nominated in a rising vote. Rev. W. J. Childree was elected. The body then elected Rev. H. J. Kelly clerk without opposition.

#### **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES**

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

Committee on Preaching: Brothers J. N. Bramlett, G. H. Farmer, B. R. Dent, Fred Brewer and Lee Daniels.

Committee on State of Churches and Character of the Ministry: Brothers G. C. King, S. O. Jones, C. H. Bass, D. L. Harris and H. S. Moore, J. A. Farmer.

Committee on Finance-Brothers Mack Miller, N. C. Grier, Sam Parker.

Committee on Sunday School—Sisters C. H. Bass, J. G. Windham, Lee Daniel.

Committee on Sabbath Observance-Brothers Morris Lawhorn, J. E. Davis, Sister W. H. Johnson.

Committee on Temperance-Brothers W. E. James, G. D. Parten, and Fred Rooks.

Committee on Suggestions-Rev. L. S. Anthony, Rev. W. L. Purvis and Bro. R. B. McFadden.

Committee on Women's Auxiliary and League Work: Sisters Johnnie Dukes, Sarah Knighton, Josephine Skinner.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Moderator appointed Corresponding Messengers to our Sister Associations as follows:

George Union Association—Rev. Purvis and wife.

Little River Association-Rev. H. L. Knighton, Bro. G. C. King.

Union Association—Rev. L. S. Anthony

Midway Association-Bro. G. C. King.

Martin Association-Rev. L. S. Anthony, G. C. King, Rev. W. J. Childree.

State Line Association—By Minutes.

Georgia State Association-Bro. B. R. Dent, Bobby Patten and A. L. Bone.

National Association—Brothes Jessie Bone, Mack Miller.

The body was then dismissed by prayer, to meet back at 8:30 a. m. Saturday morning.

#### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Called to order by the Moderator. Reading the 5th Chapter of Ephesians. Prayer by Rev. H. L. Knighton.

First item of business was to elect an assistant moderator. Moved and carried that Rev. H. L. Knighton serve as assistant moderator of the Association. The body then stood in silent prayer in memory of those who had gone on to their reward since we last met in session.

The body was then led in prayer by Rev. E. C. Morris. Next was a motion and carried to drape a full page in the Min-

utes in memory of Rev. C. H. Moore, a member of Mt. Olive Church. who passed away in the year of our Lord, 1953.

Next item of business was to select a place for the next session to meet in 1954. It was moved and carried to meet with Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church, Taylor County.

Rev. H. J. Kelly to preach the Introductory Sermon, Rev. P. E. Knighton, alternate.

Moved and carried to read Circular Letter, which was read by Brother G. C. King. It was then moved and carried to print the Circular Letter in the Minutes of the Association.

Moved and carried that Bro. Mack Miller write the next Circular Letter to this body in 1954.

Next item of business was to elect Bro. Mack Miller to serve 3 years on the Executive Committee of the Association.

Rev. A. C. McKinnon was elected to serve 5 years on the Ordination Council.

Moved and carried to have six hundred (600) copies of Minutes printed and pay clerk \$25.00 for his services.

Rev. E. C. Morris then spoke to the body about the promotional work of the State Association, and pleaded for all pastors and churches to co-operate in the great work for our Lord.

#### SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The body was called to order by the Moderator. Opening song,

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"Hand in Hand With Jesus." Prayer by Rev. A. L. Sellers. Moderator then read the 40th Psalm, 1st verse through 10th

Next item of business was to appoint some one in the Chattahoochee Association to help Rev. E. C. Morris carry on the Unified Budget Program of the Georgia State Association. Bro. B. R. Dent was appointed by the Moderator for this work in our Association.

An offering was taken Friday night during the worship hour for the Children's Home at Eldridge, Ala. to the amount of \$59.50. After the worship service Rev. R. B. McFadden, a member of White Oaks Church, Macon, Ga., was ordained for the ministry by the Ordination Council.

Friday afternoon the Ordination Council examined C. A. Bass and Roscoe Pitts, and approved them to be licensed by their churches to preach the gospel.

Next item of business was to have a report from the chairman of the Superannuation Board. Received during the year \$30.00 and paid out to Rev. A. C. McKinnon \$30.00. Balance in treasury, \$7.50.

G. C. King, Treasurer

A portion of a letter received from Rev. Neal Parrish was read to the body on supporting a move to print a Georgia State Association paper, carrying the work done in our own State. It was then moved and carried to support this paper. Moved and carried that the Association's clerk write the Minutes of the Union meetings the best he could, due to the fact that the Clerk of the Union Meetings failed to write them.

Next it was moved and carried to pay the Moderator \$10.00 for his services.

#### Moved and carried to hear reports of the Committees. COMMITTEE ON PREACHING

Friday night, 7:30—Rev. W. H. Ryland to be followed by Rev. H. W. Giddens.

Saturday morning, 11:00 O'Clock-Rev. H. J. Kelly, followed by Rev. W. J. Childree.

#### B. R. Dent, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON WOMENS AUXILIARY AND LEAGUE WORK

We, your Committee on Women's Auxiliary and League Work, suggest that all of the churches which does not have this work in their churches try to organize both.

## Sarah Knighton, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, your Committee on Sunday School, recommend that all the churches that have Sunday Schools put forth an effort to make a better one, and that the churches that don't have Sunday Schools try to organize one for we know that a church school is a big help to our people.

Jessie Windham, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON SABBATH OBSERVANCE

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

We believe that all should keep the Sabbath Day Holy, and be in service for the Lord every day. If there is any of the churches that don't have Sunday Schools, we think they should organize one. It is a blessed service.

Morris Lawhorn, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON SUGGESTIONS

We, your Committee on Suggestions, make the following report: First—that our Ministers preach and practice tithing; Second— Realizing the need of an up-to-date letter form of representation to our Association, we suggest the endorsement of the Unified letter blank worked out by the Georgia State Association; Third—Realizing the need of training our youth in matters pertaining to our church work, we suggest that our churches send as many of our young people to our Union meetings as possible as delegates; Fourth—We suggest that our churches support the Unified Program of the Georgia State Association; Fifth—We suggest that Article 26 in our Church Decorum not be neglected any longer.

#### L. S. Anthony, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE

We, your Temperance Committee, suggest that all church members handle not, or taste strong drink, and be temperate in all things. Fred Rooks, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON 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:

We find, after receiving all information presented, to the best of our knowledge and belief, all of our ministers and churches are in or-

der and full fellowship. This is to certify that we have had a very peaceful understanding with four members of Bethany Church.

G. C. King, Chairman

#### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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

We find in	Treasury	<b>\$159.01</b>
	Union Meetings	•
	churches	

Total in Treasury ......\$305.01

Mack Miller, Chairman

Moved and carried to accept reports of Committees and dismiss them.

#### TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT SESSION

The next Session will convene with Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist church, Taylor County, Friday morning before the first Sunday in October, 1954. Rev. H. J. Kelly to preach the Introductory Sermon, Rev. P. E. Knighton, alternate.

Moved and carried that this body extend a rising vote of appreciation to St. James Church and community for their wonderful hospitality to this body while in session. It was then moved and carried to adjourn. Dismissed by the Moderator in prayer.

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REV. W. J. CHILDREE, Moderator REV. H. J. KELLY, Clerk and Treasurer

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

On hand in Treasury	\$159.01
Paid in from Churches	
From Union Meetings	<b>49.50</b>

Total in hand of Treasurer		\$31	2.	51	Ľ
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#### PAID OUT OF TREASURY

600 Imprint on Stickers\$	7.50
For Printing and Mailing Minutes	
Paid Clerk	25.00
For writing Union Meeting Minutes	10.00
Georgia State Association	10.00
National Association	5.00
Paid Moderator	10.00

#### CHURCHES, CLERKS, AND POST OFFICES

White Oaks—J. H. Wright	Macon, Ga.
New Prospect—Eva Trussell	. Reynolds, Ga.
Little Bethel—Wynelle Ray	Ideal, Ga.
First, Thomaston—Jessie R. Tarrar 113 G. Loop,	Thomaston, Ga.
Bethany—Etta Grimsley	Juniper, Ga.
Turner Chapel—Neal Allen, Jr., RFI	0 2 Butler, Ga.



New Bethel—J. C. Farmer	Sylvester,	Ga.
Beulah-Joseph Cromer Rte. 4, Bu	ena Vista,	Ga.
Pleasant Hill—Edyth Guy	Butler,	Ga.
St. Mark-Alma Coggins	enix City,	Ala.
St. James-A. T. Byrd 2006 - 2nd Ave., Phe	enix City,	Ala.
Mt. Olive—A. G. Windham	Reynolds,	Ga.
St. Luke-Lucile Storey 1108 Park Ave., Ph	enix City,	Ala.
New Prospect-G. D. Parten	, Ashburn,	Ga.
Trinity-B. F. Waller	. Charing,	Ga.
Providence—Arlene Elliott 2318 Dawson St.,	Columbus,	Ga.
Spring Hill-Monroe Grier	Mauk,	Ga.
First, Columbus-Lemuel Walden 3404 - 5th Ave.,		
New Life—Lee Daniel	•	

#### MINISTERIAL ROLL

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Elder H. L. Knighton	1911 - 2nd Ave., Phenix City, Ala,
Elder G. T. Halliman	633-20th St., Phenix City, Ala.
Elder A. L. Oswalt	Rte. 1, Fortson, Ga.
Elder J. B. Lumpkin	Mauk, Ga.
Elder W. R. Lawhorn	
Elder T. W. Casey	
Elder John Grimsley	
Elder L. S. Anthony	511 - 4th Ave., Thomaston, Ga.
Elder E. V. Skipper	427-E St., Thomaston, Ga.
Elder Bessie Moody Allen	
Elder B. T. Gill	Rt. 1, Thomaston, Ga.
Elder W. L. Purvis	1041 Clinton Road, Macon, Ga.
Elder R. B. McFadden	1227 Bailey Ave., Macon, Ga.
Elder P. E. Knighton	1610-21st St., Phenix City, Ala.

#### LICENSED MINISTERS

Rev. E. J. Spillers	Barnesville, Ga.
Rev. Walter Jones 10	07-D Riverview Apts., Phenix City, Ala.
Rev. Warren Owens	. 1101 Columbus Ave., Phenix City, Ala.
Rev. C. H. Bass	1008 20th St., Phenix City, Ala.

#### **ORDINATION COUNCIL**

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Bro. Mack Miller, 3 years ...... Butler, Ga. Bro. Bennie Lovering, 2 years ...... Rte. 1, Box 166-B, Columbus, Ga. Bro. O. M. Williams, 1 year ...... Rte. 1. Ideal, Ga. Bro. Sam Parker, 1 year ...... Buena Vista Rd., Columbus, Ga.

#### SUPERA'NNUATION BOARD

Bro. B. R. Dent, 2 years	Reynolds, Ga	ι.
Bro. G. C. King, 1 year	Sylvester, Ga	ł.
Bro. Ed. A. Waters, 1 year	Mauk, Ga	ł.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION

#### August 30, 1953

The Chattahoochee Association Sunday School Convention convened with Turner Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Turner County, on the last Sunday in August, 1953. Opening song, "Where He Leads I'll Follow." Prayer by Elder W. J. Childree. The President opened the Session by reading the 4th Chapter, first Timothy, talking on 12th verse, making an inspiring talk which was enjoyed by all. The Sunday School program was then presented by the following Sunday Schools: Little Bethel, St. James, First Church, Columbus, Ga., Turner Chapel, First Church, Thomaston, Ga.

The program was 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 called to order by the President reading the 6th Chapter Romans.

First item of business was to hear a report from the various Sunday Schools.

St. James: Seven classes. Average attendance, 60; paid out, \$268.88; paid to orphanage, \$45.03.

First Church, Columbus, Ga.—Seven classes. On roll, 156; average attendance was 70 per cent; our record attendance was 101; paid out, Christian Education, \$195.00; superannuation, \$16.40; unified budget, \$50.00; Love offering, \$49.70; Sunday School literature, \$84.06; Sunday School supplies, \$53.82; Miscellanious, \$222.22; total offering, \$743.33; Balance in treasury, \$72.13. Wyatt E. Dunn, Supt., Jolene Arnett, Secretary.

First Church, Thomaston—4 classes. On roll, 50; average attendance, 26; paid for literature, \$23.51; paid for Sunday School registration, \$12.44; paid for flowers, \$10.30; paid for tuning piano, \$6.00; paid for heater, \$63.70. Total psid out \$115.95. Balance in treasury, \$26.67. G. W. Spillers, Supt., Mrs. Rudolph Tarver, Secretary.

St. Mark-4 Classes. On roll 92; paid \$114.94. Balance in treasury, \$64.01. Billy Armstrong Supt., Barbara Whitaker, Secretary.

Next item was to elect officers: Elder H. L. Knighton to be President for the next year; Lemuel Walden to be secretary and Treasurer for the next year.

Moved and carried that the president have the power to select the means that it will take to organize a State Sunday School Canven-



tion. Moved and carried that we take an offering for unified program, \$20.82.

Moved and carried that we extend a rising vote of thanks to Turner Chapel Church. Moved and carried that we appoint a committee to help organize a League Convention in the Chattahoochee Association. Moved and carried that we adjourn this meeting until the third Sunday in June, 1954.

> Elder H. L. Knighton, President Lemuel Walden, Secretary & Treasurer

#### DEACONS' AND PREACHERS' MEETING

The Deacons' and Preachers' Meeting met August 29, 1953 with Turner Chapel Church.

Rev. L. E. Sheffield brought the message, reading from Second Timothy, fourth chapter. The message was enjoyed by all that were present. Then the body was dismissed for lunch. The ladies spread dinner on the table and it was enjoyed by every one present.

Then the body was called to order for business by the Moderator, Rev. H. J. Kelly, reading from the 12th Chapter of Romans and next the body elected Rev. H. J. Kelly, Moderator and Rev. B. T. Gill Clerk.

Next Beulah church was represented by Rev. W. R. Lawhorn. St. James Church—Walter Jones, C. O. Jones.

Mt. Olive Church—B. R. Dent First Church, Columbus, Ga.—W. E. Dunn, Lemuel Waldon. Turner Chapel Church—E. E. Bone, Edward Robinson. Little Bethel Church—W. E. James. Bethany Church—Lester Grimsley St. Luke Church—C. R. Grier, Homer Grier. St. Mark Church—C. H. Bass Spring Hill Church—N. C. Grier Providence Church—H. L. Anthony, Sam C. Parker. New Life Church—Lee Daniel First Church, Thomaston, Ga.—A. L. Owens.

Next it was moved and carried to meet with the First Free Will Baptist Church in Columbus, Ga., Saturday before the third Sunday in June, 1954.

Rev. W. R. Lawhorn to preach the Introductory Sermon, Rev. L. S. Anthony, alternate.

Next the body took an offering for the Superannuation Board. The offering was \$20.00 and an offering was taken for Rev. T. W. Casey, \$8.00 and one for Bro. Sam Parker, \$8.00.

Next there was a motion carried to extend to the church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality and to adjourn to meet with the First Church, Columbus, Ga. on Saturday before the third Sunday in June, 1954.

> Rev. H. J. Kelly, Moderator Rev. B. T. Gill, Clerk



### MINUTES Of The FOURTH SESSION Of The CHATTAHCOCHEE DISTRICT WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION Which Convened With TURNER CHAPEL AUXILIARY TURNER CHAPEL CHURCH Butler, Georgia SEPTEMBER 19th, 1953

The Fourth Session of the Chattahoochee District Woman's Auxiliary convened with Turner Chapel Auxiliary at Turner Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Butler, Georgia, September 19th, 1953.

The theme of the Convention was "The Light of Truth". The meeting was opened by the President, Mrs. H. L. Knighton at 10:30 a. m. Song, "When We All Get To Heaven." Prayer, Rev. W. R. Lawhorn. Convention Song, "Haven of Rest." Devotional, Rev. H. J. Kelly, reading from First John 12th chapter, 2nd through 29th verse. Song "Christ Receiveth Sinful Men.".

Welcome address, Mrs. Mack Miller. Response, Miss Wynell Ray. Topics were given as follows:

First—The Light of Truth Shines on Denomination Loyalty, Mrs. Simpson Wainwright.

Second—Light of Truth Shines on Stewardship, Mrs. H. L. Knighton.

Third—Light of Truth Shines on Youth Auxiliary, Mrs. Cora Hearn.

Special singing by the youth of Turner Chapel Church. Mrs. K. V. Shutes of Cairo, Ga., brought the Convention Message. Her topic was based on the six chief aims of the Woman's Auxiliary. A wonderful message was delivered by Mrs. Shutes and was enjoyed by all present.

We were then dismissed for lunch by Rev. H. L. Knighton.

After lunch the session was called to order by the President.

Opening song.

Moved and carried to accept report of nominating committee which was composed of Mrs. Cora Hearn, Mrs. Mack Miller, Mrs. George Spillers.

New officers elected were: Mrs. E. E. Bone, Field Worker; Mrs. Mack Miller, Assistant. Mrs. Ralph Underwood, 5th Vice President.

Officers of the Convention are as follows:

President, Mrs. H. L. Knighton; 1st Vice President, Mrs. Benny Lovering; 2nd Vice President, Mrs. Cora Hearn; 3rd Vice President, Mrs. Katie Ray; 4th Vice President, Mrs. Simpson Wainwright; 5th Vice President, Mrs. Ralph Underwood; Field worker, Mrs. E. E. Bone; Mrs. Mack Miller, Assistant; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. H. J. Kelly.

Moved and carried to receive reports and seat delegates.

Auxiliaries represented were: First Church, Thomaston, Ga.; First



Church, Columbus, Ga.; St. James, Phenix City, Ala.; St. Mark, Phenix City, Ala.; Turner Chapel, Butler, Ga.; Little Bethel, Ideal, Ga.

Moved and carried to send 40 cents per member to Georgia State Convention. Moved and carried to give a rising vote of thanks to Turner Chapel Church for the fine hospitality shown the Convention. Next Convention will be held at St. Mark Church, 1408 - 10th Avenue, Phenix City, Ala.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance brought forward	\$12.95
Convention Dues	31.00
Balance	43.95
Paid out: Mrs. K. V. Shutes	\$10.00
State Dues	
Money Order fee	
Total paid out	\$38.25
Balance in Treasury	\$ 5.70
Moved and carried the Convention adjourn.	
Benediction, Rev. W. R. Lawhorn.	
Respectfully submitted,	
Mrs. H. J. Kelly, Secy. & 7	Freasurer.

THE UNION MEETINGS OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE FREE WILL

## BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

#### The First Union Meeting at New Prospect Church, Taylor County

The first Union Meeting of the Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Association convened with New Prospect Church, Taylor County, Ga., Saturday morning before the Fifth Sunday in November, 1952. The Introductory Sermon was delivered by Rev. W. R. Lawhorn. After the message the congregation was dismissed for the noon hour. Dinner was served by the church and community.

After dinner the body was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. H. J. Kelly. After reading Scripture and Prayer, the Moderator then declared the body in order to proceed with business.

First item of business was to call for Corresponding Letters from various churches. Letters received. Then it was moved and carried that the letters be received and the delegates seated in the body as follows:

New Life Church, Marion County—Bro. Sam Daniel and wife; Bro. J. B. Daniel and wife.

Little Bethel Church, Macon County—Sisters Myrtle Raburn, Beulah Jones, Clytie Mae Cromer, Essie Williams and Bessie Emerson, Bro. M. L. Jones, Bro. R. C. Cromer.

First Church, Columbus, Ga.—Sisters Kate Lovering, Velva Walers, Bro. Carlton Smith and Sister Francis Trueluck.

Providence Church, Muscogee County-Bro. H. L. Anthony and Bro. Sam Parker.

Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County—Bro. R. B. Dent, Bro. Daniel Posey, Bro. Johnie Windham, Sister Ollie Posey.

St. Luke Church, Russell County-Brothers C. R. Greer, Gene

Greer, J. S. Arnold and wife.

Pleasant Hill Church, Schley County—Sisters Brewer, Peacock, C. M. Fulford and Bro. Flem Brewer and wife.

Beulah Church, Taylor County—Brothers Charlie Cromer, Joseph Cromer, Morris Lawhorn.

Bethany Church, Marion County—Sisters Lester Grimsley, Julious and Etta Grimsley.

New Prospect Church, Taylor County-Sisters Bessie Hartley, Epsey Lowe and Eva Trussell.

Turner Chapel Church, Taylor County—Sisters Rogers, E. E. Bone, Biothers Jessie Bone, H. S. Moore.

First Church, Thomaston, Ga.—Bro. Al Wells, Sister Ruby Wells, Sister Cora Renow, Bro. Willie B. McElhenny, Sister Willie B. Mc-Elhenny.

St. James Church, Russell County—Bro. Cecil Hicks, Sister Fannie Whitehurst and Sister Cora Hearn.

Next item of business was to invite visitors to seat with us. The Moderator then appointed a Preaching Committee, whom selected Rev. H. L. Knighton to preach Saturday night. (Sorry to report your writer of these Minutes had nothing to prepare Union Meetings from except church letters which we reported).

Moved and carried that we express our appreciation to the host

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church for the fine hospitality shown this body while in session by a rising vote of thanks. Next moved and carried to adjourn to meet with St. James Church, Phenix City, Ala., Saturday morning before the fifth Sunday in March 1953.

#### REV. H. J. KELLY Clerk of The Chattahoochee Association.

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

The Union Meeting of the Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Association convened with St. James Church, Phenix City, Ala., Saturday morning before the fifth Sunday in March, 1953. The Introductory Sermon was preached by Rev. John D. Ellis. Reading from Hosea Chapter 10. The message was timely and enjoyed by all. After which dinner was served by the Host Church. After dinner the body was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. H. J. Kelly. Reading from the Book of Hosea, the Moderator spoke briefly on "Walking Together With God."

After prayer, the Moderator declared this session open for business. First item of business was to call for corresponding letters from the various churches. Letters received. Moved and carried that Bro. G. C. King and Sam Parker read letters. Moved and carried that the letters be received and the delegates seated in the body as follows:

New Prospect Church, Turner County—Bro. G. C. King and wife. Little Bethel Church, Macon County—Bro. Tom Robin and wife, Bro. M. L. Jones.

First Church, Thomaston, Ga.—Bro. G. W. Spillers and wife, Bro. Al Wells and wife.

Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County—Bro. Jesse Windham and wife, Bro. B. R. Dent, Bro. A. G. Windham.

First Church Columbus, Ga.—Bro. A. C. Truluck and wife, Bro.

Ray Morton and wife, Sister Hilda Arnett, Sister Era Tuck, Sister Velva Walters, Sister Mary Jean Walden.

Providence Church Muscogee County—Bro. Leonard Anthony, Bro. Sam Parker.

New Life Church, Marion County-Bro. L. E. Chapman.

New Bethel Church, Worth County—Bro. Jodie Hobby and wife. Bro. J. A. Farmer.

Bethany Church, Marion County-Sister Etta Grimsley.

Spring Hill Church, Marion County — Sister Gussie Mitchell, Rosie Grimsley, Myrtle Grier, and Bro. J. R. Bird.

St. James Church, Phenix City, Ala.—Bro. Walter Jones, Bro. Lee Rickman, Sisters Johnnie Dukes, Fannie Whitehurst, Sis. Lee Rickman.

St. Luke Church, Phenix City, Ala.—Bro. C. R. Greer, Bro. Willie Sales, Sisters. Huckaby, Mae Horne, Sis. Owens.

St. Mark Church, Phenix City—Bro. Billy Armstrong,, Sisters Ethel Exum, Bama Jones and Winefred Sheffield.

Pleasant Hill Church, Schley County-Bro. Fred Brewer and wife, Bro. W. E. James.

Turner Chapel Church, Taylor County— Bro. H. S. Moore, Bro. Jack Posey, Bro. Jessie Bone, and Sister Sara Casey.

Beulah Church, Taylor County—Bro. Charlie Cromer and wife, Bro. Morris Lawhorn.

Next item of business was to invite visitors to seat with us. A Preaching Committee was appointed by the Moderator as follows: Bro. Rickman, Sister Dukes, Bro. King, Bro. Jesse Bone, Bro. Wells.

Report of Preaching Committee.

Saturday night, Rev. L. E. Sheffield, followed by Rev. H. J. Kelly.

Sunday morning 11 A. M., Rev. G. T. Holliman, followed by Rev. H. L. Knighton.

#### G. C. King, chairman

Miscellaneous Business. Rev. H. L. Knighton spoke on having a Missionary Conference at Mt. Bethel Youth Camp. It was then moved and carried to have Missionary Confernece. Rev. L. S. Anthony, Pastor of First Church, Thomaston, Ga., gave a brief report on the progress of the church, and asked for the prayers of all for the church. An offering was taken to help the First Church, Thomaston, Ga. Amount received, \$38.01. Moved and carried to take an offering for the Superannuation Fund of the Chattahoochee Association. Amount received \$20.06.

Rev. John D. Ellis to arrange program at next session, held at Little Bethel Church. Moved and carried that we express our appreciation to the Host Church by a rising vote of thanks for the fine hospitality shown this body while in session. Next, moved and carried to adjourn to meet with Little Bethel Church, Saturday morning before the fifth Sunday in May, 1953.

> Rev. H. J. Kelly, Clerk of The Chattahoochee Association.

#### THE THIRD UNION MEETING HELD AT LITTLE BETHEL CHURCH

The third session of the Union Meeting of the Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Association convened with Little Bethel Church, Macon County, Saturday morning before the 5th Sunday in May, 1953.

The Introductory sermon was preached by Rev. H. J. Kelly at 11 a. m. Saturday morning. The body was then dismissed by prayer for dinner, which was served by the Host Church and community.

After dinner the body was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. H. J. Kelly.

First item of business was calling for corresponding letters from various churches. Letters were received and read to body. Moved and carried to receive letters and seat delegates in the body as follows:

Providence Church, Muscogee County—Bro. Leonard Anthony, Bro .Sam Parker, and Bro. Robert Calwell..

New Prospect Church, Turner County—Bro. G. C. King, Bro. Dan iel Harris, Bro. T. D. Cook, Sister Berta Little.

Turner Chapel Church, Taylor County—Bro. Jack Posey and wife, Sister Byrd, Sister Sara Casey and Sister Nellie Windham.

First Church, Thomaston, Ga.—Bro. T. M. Tarrer and wife, Bro. Woodroe Cochran, Bro. Willie McElhenney and wife.

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Pleasant Hill Church, Schley County—Bro. Fred Brewer, Sister B. C. Brewer, Sister Grace Cooper, Sister Nannie Lou Peacock.

Bethany Church, Marion County—Bro. Woodroe Hendrick and Sister Etta Grimsley.

St. Mark Church, Phenix City, Ala.—Sister Johnson, Sister Skinner, Sister Flournoy, Sister Barbara Whittaker and Bro. Gary Stillwell.

Beulah Church, Taylor County-Bro. Morris Lawhorn, Sister Lawhorn, Sister Vera Cromer, Bro. Charlie Cromer.

Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County—Bro. R. B. Dent, Bro. John S. Windham, Sister Irene Windham.

St. James Church, Phenix City, Ala.—Sis. Fannie Whitehurst, Sis. Lottie Windham, Sis. Sarah Knighton.

Little Bethel Church, Macon County—Sister Mary Ann Layfield, Sister Annette Poole, Sis. Reba Poole, Bro. Larry Williams and Bro. Bruce Jones.

Spring Hill Church, Marion County—Bro. Ed Waters, Bro. Monroe Grier and wife, Sister Jessica Tyler.

St. Luke Church, Phenix City, Ala.—Bro. James Davis, Bro. Jim H. Davis, Bro. Warren Owens, Sister Lucile Storey, Bro. James R. Ketchum.

First Church, Columbus, Ga.—Sister Mattie Strickland, Sister Era Tuck, Sister Betty Arnett, Sis. Frances Truluck, Sis. Mabel Spikes, Sis. Mary Bell Lawson.

Next item of business was to invite visitors to seat with us. Then a Moderator and clerk was elected for the next year. Rev. H. J. Kelly was elected Moderator and Bro. Clarence Jones, Clerk.

A Preaching Committee was appointed by the Moderator. Ministers were selected to preach Saturday night and Sunday morning.

Next item of business was to select the places for the next session of the Union Meeting. The first session will meet with St. Mark Church, Phenix City, Ala., on Saturday morning before the 5th Sunday in January, 1954. The Introductory Sermon to be preached by Rev. H. L. Knighton.

The second session of the Union Meeing will convene with Spring-Hill Church, Marion County, Ga., Saturday morning before the 5th Sunday in May, 1954. The Introductory message to be preached by Rev. H. J. Kelly.

The third session of the Union Meeting will be held at Mt. Olive Church, Taylor County, Ga., on Saturday morning before the 5th Sunday in August, 1954. The Introductory Sermon to be delivered by Rev. H. L. Knighton.

A Layman's program was then put on by the host church as follows:

Song, Class.

Sister Wynelle Ray then led Devotion, reading the 15th Psalm, speaking on the subject of "Abiding in the Lord."

Another Class Song. Then special singing by the Miller children. The program was enjoyed by all.

St. Mark Church, Phenix City, was asked by the Moderator to prepare a Layman's Program for the next meeting at their church.

Next item was miscellaneous business. Rev. H. L. Knighton spoke to the body about the State Association being behind in Mission offerings, after which an offering was taken for missions. Amount received, \$32.13. The Deacons and preachers meeting and Sunday School Convention was changed to Turner Chapel Church, Taylor County, Georgia on Saturday and Sunday, August 29th and 30th, 1954, because Beulah church was not able to take care of the meetings. The clerk of the Chattahoochee Association to notify each church of the change.

The First Church of Thomaston, Ga. will take care of the Georgia State Association with the cooperation of the Chattahoochee Association. Each Church was asked to receive an offering for the expense of caring for the State Association and send it to the clerk of the First Church of Thomaston, Ga.

No other business to claim the attention of this body it was moved and carried to return thanks to the host church and community for their fine way in taking care of this Session and their wonderful hospitality. Moved and carried to adjourn to meet with St. Mark Church, Phenix City, Ala., Saturday morning before the 5th Sunday in January, 1954.

> Rev. H. J. Kelly, Clerk of the Chattahoochee Association.

#### CIRCULAR LETTER Theme—There They Found A Man Ezekiel 22:30—Matthew 27:32

By these two scriptures we form this letter. One was successful; the other was not.

Our Lord has been the light all of our days, and the Holy Spirit has been the voice for us and to us, but as in Ezekiel quest for a man in

time of great danger to the people of God none was found to be a guard against a ruthless enemy of God's anointed. The result from this and many other failures on the part of man was total captivity for all in idolatry.

As Free Will Baptists we have failed to stand in the hedge and make up the gap to the rising generation, and our numerical numbers testify to this to our sorrow and shame. While we have slept the enemy have worked. We repent; do forgive us, O Lord!

Quite a contrast between these two men. When they found Simon it was also a dark hour. God the Son was on the ground under the weight of the cross. There they found a man! This is saying, Man, you are an instrument to serve. Simon served and carried the cross to the hilltop for all that were there and for all who should come afterward.

May I repeat, as Free Will Baptists we have slept too long for our good, but having seen a light let us walk in it. Yes, we have awoke and have seen a light in a valley. It is in the valley for our children. We have been made to repent for having refused to look down in the valley of our children and furnish them a light.

But we have made a beginning in this with the establishment of a youth camp in Turner County. We had at least twenty-five Professions of Faith there this year besides the blessed fellowship of all who attended, and this good spirit has gone back through these children to our homes, our churches, our state, our nation, and on and on to the whole wide world. May we keep oil in the vessel of service to our young people.

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Thanks be unto God for everything.

#### Selah, G. C. King

#### **REPORT OF ORDINATION COUNCIL**

To The Chattahoochce Association Free Will Baptists, when convened with St. James Free Will Baptist Church at Phenix City, Ala. on October 2, 3, 1953.

We, the Ordination Council of the Chattahoochee Association, wish to make the following report:

We were called to the First Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ga., and ordained to the Ministry, Melvin Durwood Long, Jr., then on August 28, 1953, we met at the Deacons and Preachers Meeting at Turner Chapel Church. After some discussion on the subject, W. R. Lawhorn was elected chairman of the Ordination Council and H. J. Kelly was elected Secretary.

It was moved and carried that three (3) members of the Ordination Council being a majority have the power to act. But all members of the Board be notified of examinations. The Board then examined Walter Jones of St. James Church, Phenix City, Ala. Moved and carried that we approve the granting of license to preach the Gospel to Bro. Jones. The Board then examined W. J. Owens of St. Luke Church Phenix City, Ala. Moved and carried to approve the granting of license to preach the Gospel to Bro. Owens.

No further business the council adjourned.



Rev. W. R. Lawhorn, Chairman Rev. H. J. Kelly, Secretary Rev. W. J. Childree Rev. H. L. Knighton Rev. A. C. McKinnon, Members

#### **REPORT OF ORDINATION COUNCIL**

Phenix City, Ala. Oct. 2, 1953

Revs. H. L. Knighton, A. C. McKinnon, W. R. Lawhorn and W. J. Childree, met in session to hear recommendations and passed upon applicants of Bro. C. A. Bass, Bro. Roscoe Pitts and after prayerful consideration and necessary examination hereby so recommend the above for license to preach the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. Also Bro. R. B. McFadden for ordination and do recommend for the same.

This October 2, 1953.

Rev. W. R. Lawhorn, Chmn. Rev. H. L. Knighton Rev. A. C. McKinnon Rev. W. J. Childree Rev. W. J. Childree, Acting Secretary

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### IN MEMORY OF REV. C. H. MOORE

Rev. Moore was born November 14, 1883. Died January 30th, 1953. He was a faithful member and was the former pastor of Mt. Olive Church.

> I cannot say, and I will not say That he is dead. He's just away With a cheery smile, and a wave of the hand, He has wondered into an

unknown land.

And left us dreaming how very fair, Its needs must be since he lingers there.

And you—O you, who the wildest yearn,

For the old-time step and the glad return—

Think of him fairing on as, dear, In the love of there as the love of here.

Think of him still as the same,

I say,

He is not dead, he is just away.

By His Pastor,

Rev. G. T. Halliman

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#### IN LOVING MEMORY OF ELLA PARKER HARP

Sister Ella Harp was born February 18, 1900. Died September 30, 1953, making her stay on earth 53 years 7 months and 12 days. Sister Harp was a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ga. for about 25 years, she was a faithful member of her church and its auxiliaries. We know she will be missed by her church and loved ones. We believe our loss is Heaven's gain. Sister Harp leaves two brothers and one bister, and a host of friends to mourn her passing to the great beyond.

She is gone but not forgotten. Never will her memory fade. Death is over and life is won, safely rest with Christ forever. Soon we will be with thee in glory land, where there will be no parting, eternally.

Written by her pastor, Rev. H. J. Kelly.

#### IN LOVING MEMORY OF BRO. JACK HARRIS

Bro. Jack Harris departed this life June 22, 1953. He was a veteran of World War I. Bro Harris, was a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Columbus, Ga., and served on the Board of Deacons till his death. He was a faithful member and will be greatly missed by his church. We believe Bro. Harris is at rest and hope to meet him some day on the other side.

> His Pastor, H. J. Kelly

### IN LOVING MEMORY OF BRO. ARTHUR JAMES HALLFORD

Bro. A. J. Hallford was born June 21, 1910. Died Oct. 10, 1952, making his stay here on earth 42 years, 3 months and 19 days. Bro. Hallford was a member of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Columbus, Ga. He will be missed by his friends and loved ones. We trust that our loss is heaven's gain. He is free from all sorrow and pain. Sleep on till we meet again.

His Pastor,

#### H. J. Kelly

#### IN MEMORY OF ALONZA L. WALL

Bro. Alonza L. Wall was born July 19, 1858, died September 28, 1953. Bro. Wall's stay on earth was 95 years, 2 months and 9 days. He was a member of New Life Free Will Baptist Church and was a faithful member while health permitted. He will be greatly missed by his church and loved ones. Bro. Walls leaves two sons and two daughters to mourn his passing and many friends. We believe our loss is Heaven's gain.

His Pastor,

Rev. T. W. Casey

#### IN LOVING MEMORY OF MY WIFE, ANNIE MAY GILL

Annie May Gill was born ovember 13, 1888 and died April 8, 1952. She was a member of Trinity Free Will Baptist Church for a number of years. She leaves her husband and one son and wife and two grandchildren that she loved so much. The home is vacant and we miss her but some sweet day we hope to meet her in heaven.

B. T. Gill and Family

#### TO THE MEMORY OF SISTER MARTHA LOU BREWER CROMER

Martha Lou Brewer Cromer was born May 24, 1866, died March 21, 1953. She was a member of Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Schley county, Ga. She was true and faithful to her church as long as health permitted her to attend church. She is missed by her children and all that knew her..

Weep not children for our loss is heavens gain. She is gone but not forgotten. So sleep on Sister Cromer till our trials are all over here and we will meet you some day on heaven's bright shore.

> Written by her Pastor, Rev. W. R. Lawhorn, Butler, Georgia

#### IN LOVING MEMORY OF SISTER OLA LITTLE

Sister Ola Little, wife of the late Rev. J. H. Little, was born February 17th, 1876. Departed this life April 26th, 1953. Making her stay on earth 77 years.

Sister Little became a christian while '--- ite a young girl, and had been a member of the Free Will Bptist Church at New Prospect, Turner County, Ga., for many years.

She was always ready to support the church in its every cause and lend a helping hand in her community.

Her life was a Christian example. Long will her memory live in the hearts of those who knew her. And bright will her foot prints remain on the sands of future time. She leaves to mourn her passing 5 children, many grandchildren, relatives and friends...

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.

Written by Church Committee,

Mrs. Jim Davis Mrs. Susie Cook

Mrs. Maude Edge

IN LOVING MEMORY OF BROTHER FLEMING BREWER

Bro. Fleming Brewer was born March 27, 1911. Died February 5, 1953. He was a member of Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Schley County. Faithful and true to his church and loved by all who knew him.

He is missed in his home, church and community.

Weep not mother and children, our loss is heaven's gain. From you I've taken my earthly flight to mansions in the sky, where there will be no shades of night, and never say goodbye.

Written by his loving Pastor,

Rev. W. R. Lawhorn

Butler, Ga. RFD No. 1

IN LOVING MEMORY OF BROTHER JOHN THELMA (Shell) GUY Bro. John Thelma (Shell) Guy was born May 23, 1913, died April 11, 1953. He was a member of Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church, Schley County and was clerk for many years and was true and faithful to his church and loved and liked by all who knew him. He was a good father and companion. He is missed by his loved ones and missed in his community. So rest on till we meet on Heaven's shore.

He is gone, but not forgotten. Death is over and life is won. He will rest with Christ forever and soon will be with Him above.

> Written by his pastor, Rev. W. R. Lawhorn, Butler, Ga. Route One

IN LOVING MEMORY OF SISTER LULA GRIGGERS

Sister Lula Griggers was born October 21, 1888, died ———8, 1953, making her stay on earth 65 years. To know her was to love her. She was a member of Pleasant Hill Free Will Baptist Church in Schley County. She was true and faithful to her church as long as health permitted her. We miss her at church and in the community, but this all comes our way when the Lord sees fit to call us, so let us all be ready to meet her. She is free from all sorrows.

Where the weary rest from care there will be no sad tomorrows when we gather over there. Sleep on till we meet again on Heaven's bright shore.

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Written by her Pastor Rev. W. R. Lawhorn, Butler, Ga., Route One

#### TO THE MEMORY OF SISTER DORA BARNARD POOLE

According to the church records, the subject of this sketch united with New Bethel Church, Worth County, Georgia, June 2, 1912 departed this life June 9, 1953. Date of birth not reported.

The composer regrets not being acquainted with the deceased, her being a distance which did not permit her to attend church.

> Help us live O Lord Divine That when our days are done, Our soul forevermore will shine Beyond life's setting sun. Where night ne'er comes no darkness fall, Just one eternal day; Be ready for the final call, To be at home for aye. W. J. Childree

#### TO THE MEMORY OF SISTER NADINE EVELYN FOWLER

Sister Nadine was born June 11, 1921, departed this life September 26, 1953, a stay on earth of 32 years 2 months and 15 days. Sister Fowler united with New Bethel Church, Worth County, August 9, 1934 during which time she lived a true and faithful member to the end and in the hour of departing gave the testimony that all was well with no fear or dread of dying. She was a devoted wife and mother, kind and generous to all.

In heaven waits a precious one, To greet us on that shore; When all our trials on earth are done, At home forever more. Now angels tell the longing news, That we rejoice to know; Our loved one sleeping in the dews, From earth was called to go. W. J. Childree, Pastor

#### TO THE MEMORY OF SISTER EMMA S. LOWERY

Sister Lowery was born February 26, 1872, departed this life April 15, 1953, her time on earth being 81 years 1 month and 20 days.

She was a member at Beulah Church at the time of her departure, Sister Lowery was every example of a Christian woman, a good mother, kind and attentive to the sick and to this service she was ever faithful, thereby living a life of service that affords her a sweet memory that will long be cherished by her many friends.

> O Blessful day, O happy morn, When all the dead shall rise; Our weary soul to Him be born; The King of earth and skies.

> > By request

W. J. Childree

#### TO THE MEMORY OF SISTER OPHELIA WATSON WALLER

Sister Waller was for many years a devoted member with Trinity Church, Taylor County, Georgia where her remains was laid to rest beside her beloved husband who preceded her in death several years ago. Sister Waller was true to her church, ever ready to promote its cause, regular in attendance when health permitted.

She was born February 18, 1870, departed this life October 1, 1953, her stay on earth 83 years, 7 months and 13 days.

Now you're resting free from pain Oft you suffered here below, Some sweet day we'll meet again On that eternal shore. O joyful thought, we'll never part, United ever there to be; Come soothe our broken weary hearts, Till safe at home beyond the sea.

W. J. Childree, Pastor

#### CHURCH COVENANT

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

We the 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 dismission 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 violatons 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 brethern.

4th. That we will respect each other's liberties 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 Brethern timely warning if we see them exposed to danger or about to be led astray.

6th That we will not expose or ridicule our brethern 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 adminstration 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 chruches 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 brethern 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 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 brethern trespass against us.

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

20th. That we will go immediately to any member of the church against whom we may hear unfavorable reports and inform kim 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 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, doctrines 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 deacons, 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.

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#### 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, notwithstanding the power abrogated to themselves by some modern Baptist Associations, we view them as being nowhere precedented 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 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 independance 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 confession 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 fellowman.

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 tribual on earth, from whose decision there is no appeal.

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

Read and adopted the above as the constituton of the Chattanoochee Free Will Baptist Association.

#### CHURCH DECORUM

The church may choose a pastor annually at the last regular conference in the associational year; or, if they prefer it may choose a paster 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 contribution 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 brethern who apply to them relative to cases of dealing, etc., with the church.

9. The cnurch shall hold a two-day 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 remise 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.

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

13. Visiting brethern 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 brethern 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 he examined till the question has been put to the church: "Will you hear the testimony of this witness?"

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

20. Members dismissed from the church by letter who become disorderly or continue to hold their letter 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 discussion in conference must be conducted with calmness and a 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. Memlers 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 requires 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 aggragate 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 invisible church, or any part thereof, is a device 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 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 if 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 hight with equal authority be given by any individual.

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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 an any manner whatever.

8. That the only requisites to church membership are faith in Christ and obedience to the Gospel; that faith in Christ neccessarily exists in connection with the belief in the fundamental truths of Christianity, and that to prescribe any other requisite of such memborship 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 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 belongs 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 brethern 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 hearsay.

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 saint's 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.

#### ARTICLE 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 as, 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 livine perfection, and executing distinct but harmonious offices in the great work of redemption.—Ex. 6:3; Psalm 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, ir 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 cwn personal obedience, and made atonement for sin by his death; being risen from the dead, he is new enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies with divine perfection in every way qualfied to be suitable, compassionate and all sufficient Saviour.—Eph. 2:5, 5:8, Rom. 7.11.

5. That the Gospel blessing 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 right-ousness, that 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. 8:30,1'zek. 18:28, John 3:14, 16, Rom. 8:17.

6. That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that i: 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; Matt. 3: 8-10.

8.. That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sacrifices and save sinners, it being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, that it comprehend 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 irom 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.

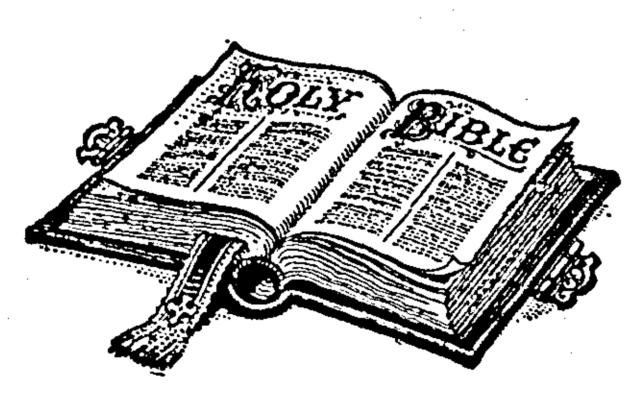
11. That the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath that it should be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and recreation; by the direct observance of all means of grace, both public and private, and preparation for that rest which remains for the children of God.—Ex. 19:8; Heb. 4:9; Thes. 1:7; Psp. 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 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 judgement will fix forever the final state of man in heaven or hell, on principles of righteousness—John 5:25, Matt. 25:34; 41:46.

#### -THE END-



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CHURCHES	COUNTIES	Paid Evangelist	Paid Christian Education	Home Missions	Building and Repairs	Paid Incidentals	Paid Superannuations	All Other Purposes	Paid for Foreign Missions	For Publication	Mt. Bethel Youth Camp	Charity	Unified Budget
White Oak New Prospect Little Bethel First, Thomaston Turner Chapel New Bethel St. Marks St. Marks St. James Spring Hill Bethany Beulah Mt. Olive Providence First, Columbus New Life Trinity St. Luke Pleasant Hill New Prospect	Taylor Macon Upson Taylor Taylor Worth Russell Marion Marion Taylor Taylor Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Muscogee Schley	$\begin{array}{c} 56.05 \\ 70.00 \\ 87.50 \\ 50.00 \\ 35.00 \\ 128.00 \\ 228.02 \\ \dots \\ 96.22 \\ 00 \\ \dots \\ 262.00 \\ \dots \\ 59.75 \end{array}$	$ \begin{array}{c} 13.00\\27.50\\248.00\\\\23.44\\60.16\\\\348.11\\\\1.00\\\end{array} $	$\begin{array}{c}\\ 13.00\\ 16.50\\ 17.00\\\\ 42.18\\ 32.23\\\\ 237.47\\ 9.00\\ 118.03\\\\ 2.00\\\\ 2.00\\ \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 441.05\\ 2,871.73\\ 1,570.00\\ 17.50\\ 1,193.81\\ 171.27\\ 12.00\\ 4,717.09\\ 37.00\\ 62.22\\ 62.22\\ 90.00\\ \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 97.60 \\ 717.80 \\ \\ 69.47 \\ 372.25 \\ \\ 387.39 \\ \\ 360.00 \end{array}$	8.80  14.09 21.48  43.88  2.00	$\begin{array}{c} 38.00\\ 100.00\\ 16.00\\ 114.56\\ 1,820.24\\ 25.78\\ \\ 372.88\\ 11.00\\ \\ \\ 372.88\\ 11.00\\ \\ \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} . & . & . \\ 13.00 \\ 16.50 \\ 10.00 \\ . & . \\ 40.06 \\ 42.22 \\ . & . \\ 42.22 \\ . & . \\ 82.27 \\ . & . \\ 82.27 \\ . & . \\ 2.00 \\ 16.00 \end{array}$	18.00 98.54 27.80 92.00 			103.18

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STATISTICAL TABLE

Chattahoochee Free-Will Baptist Association

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