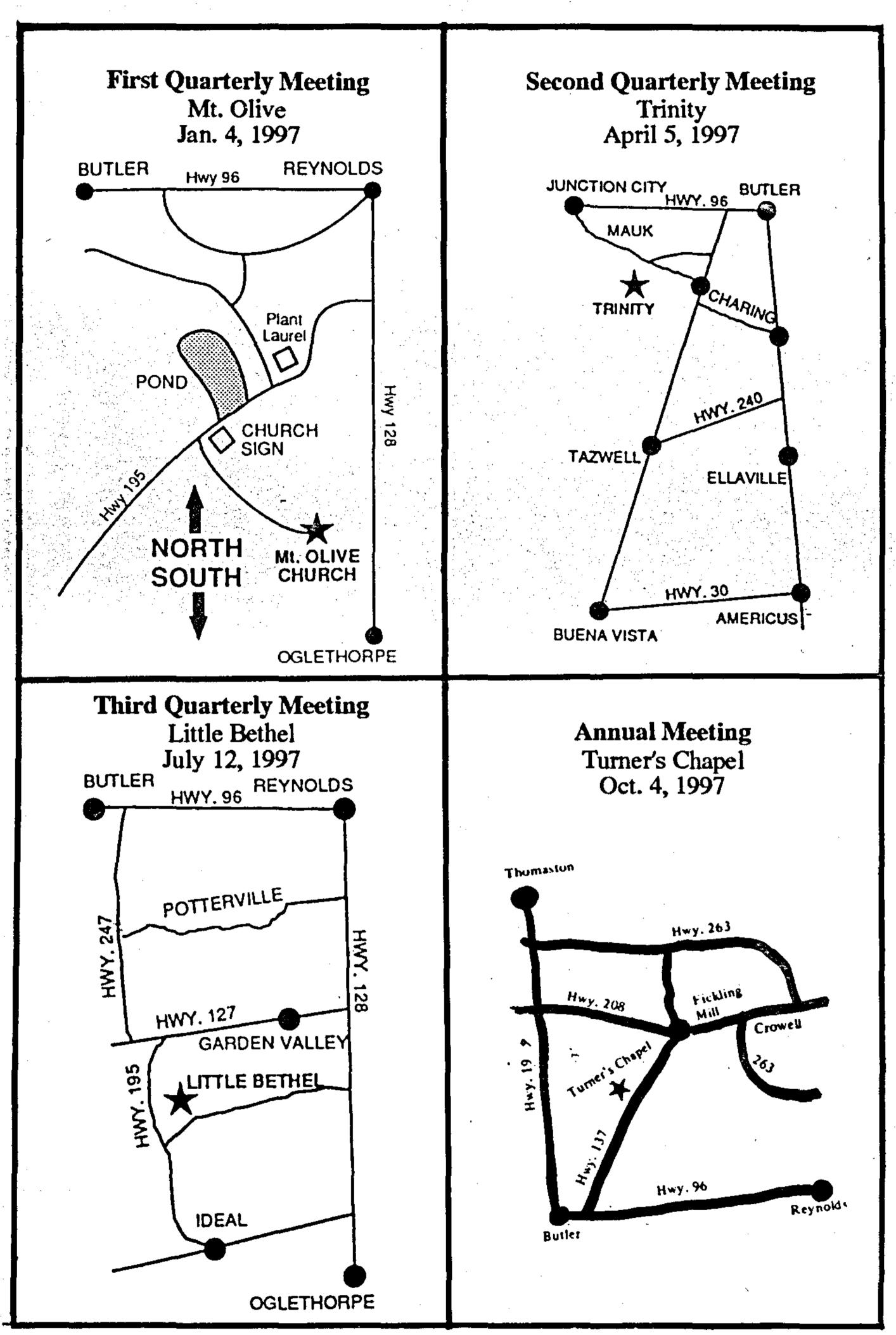


Association

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DIRECTORY OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS 1997

GENERAL OFFICERS

Rev. Sidney Jones, Moderator
Rev. Eugene Ross, Assistant Moderator
Rev. Jeff Lunsford, Clerk
Sis. Barbara Jean Windham, Assistant Clerk/Treasurer Rt. 1 Butler 31006 • (912) 862-3704
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE The Executive Committee consists of the Moderator, Clerk,
and three (3) members elected at-large: E.A. Welch, Jr
Rt. 1, Box 253, Mauk, GA 31058 • (912) 862-3356

Norman Grier 1998

Rt. 1, Box 28-A, Mauk, GA 31058 • (912) 649-7306

P.O. Box 36, Ideal, GA 31041 • (912) 949-2851

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rt. 2, Box 93-A, Reynolds, GA 31076 • (912) 847-4679

Rt. 1, Box 1790, Box Springs, GA 31801 • (912) 649-7755

Rev. Warren Wyatt P.O. Box 68, Howard, GA 31039 • (912) 862-5585

SUGGESTION COMMITTEE

Rt. 1, Box 1600, Box Springs, GA 31801 • (912) 649-7464

Rt. 2, Reynolds, GA 31076 • (912) 847-4241

YOUTH / CAMP DIRECTOR

STATE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Board of Christian Education
Rev. Jeff Lunsford
P.O. Box 302, Thomaston, GA 30286 • (706) 648-3834 Office
• (706) 648-6473 Fax
• (706) 648-2055 Home
Board of Camp Mt. Bethel
Roy McHargue
2266 Rocky Bottom Rd., The Rock, GA 30258 • (706) 647-2204
State Mission Board
Rev. Charles Clark
136 Carter Woods Drive, Warner Robins, GA 31093 • (912) 953-3486
State Board of Trustees
E.A. Welch, Jr

Rt. 1, Box 253, Mauk, GA 31058 • (912) 862-3356

Double In A Decade

• (706) 648-2055 Home

CHATTAHOOCHEE ASSOCIATION 1997 MINISTERIAL FELLOWSHIPS

The following is a TENTATIVE list of dates and locations for our minister's prayer fellowships. Any other church or minister that would like to host a fellowship is WELCOME to do so. Just let us know when you want it!

DATE

LOCATION

January 13, 1997 Golden Corral - Thomaston (Christmas Fellowship: Ministers & Deacons and their wives.)

February 6, 1997

March 6, 1997

April 3, 1997

May 1, 1997

June 5, 1997

July 10, 1997

August 7, 1997

Mt. Olive Trinity Turner's Chapel 1st - Thomaston Mt. Olive Trinity Turner's Chapel

1st - Thomaston
Mt. Olive
Trinity
Turner's Chapel

September 4, 1997 October 2, 1997 November 6, 1997 December 4, 1997

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MINUTES of the 161st ANNUAL SESSION of the

Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Association

Meeting at the

First Free Will Baptist Church Thomaston, Georgia

October 5, 1996

OFFICERS FOR THIS YEAR

Moderator	
	Rev. Jeff Lunsford
Assistant Clerk	Sis. Melissa Lunsford

The next session will convene with Turner's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church in Butler, Georgia on October 4, 1997, at 10:30 A.M.

<u>CLERKS</u>

BETHANY - Mrs. Peggy Tyler;Rt. 1 Box 1600; Box Springs, GA 31803 (912) 649-7464

FIRST THOMASTON - Mrs. Elaine McHargue; 2244 Rocky Bottom Road The Rock, GA 30285 (706) 647-2204

LITTLE BETHEL - Mrs. Leonard Layfield; Rt. 1, Box 234; Butler, GA 31006 (912) 862-3907.

MOUNT OLIVE - Mrs. Phyllis Windham; Rt. 1, Box 169-B; Reynolds, GA 31076 (912) 847-3335

NEW LIBERTY - Mr. J.C. Kirkland; Rt. 4, Box 84; Buena Vista, GA 31803 (912) 937-2359

NEW LIFE - Mrs. Sarah Anthony; Rt. 1, Box 122; Mauk, GA 31058 (912) 269-3839

NEW PROSPECT - Mr. Christopher Cotney; Rt. 2, Box 319 Reynolds, GA 31076 (912) 847-2788

SPRING HILL - Mrs. Bernice McCall, Rt. 1, Box 28-A; Mauk, GA 31058 (912) 649-7273

TRINITY - Mrs. Josephine Welch; Rt. 1, Box 253; Mauk, GA 31058

(912) 862-3356

TURNER'S CHAPEL - Mr. Gerald Moore; Rt. 2, Box 130; Butler, GA 31006 (912) 847-4462

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MINISTERIAL ROLL

Rev. Hubert Arnold P.O. Box 912 Reynolds, GA 31076 (912) 847-4627

Rev. Charles Clark 136 Carter Woods Drive Warner Robins, GA 31903 (912) 953-3486

Rev. Brian Fuller 3693 Grier Avenue Columbus, GA 31909 (706) 569-9921

Rev. J.C. Grimsley 4118 16th Ave. Columbus, GA 31904 (706) 327-6419

Rev. Sidney Jones Rt. 2, Box 58 Rev. Clyde Melton P.O. Box 195 Butler, GA 31006 (912) 862-3776

Rev. Eugene F. Ross Rt. 2, Box 162 Reynolds, GA 31076-9733 (912) 847-3449

Rev. Arthur Smith Rt. 2, Box 136-D Reynolds, GA 31076 (912) 847-3501

Rev. Joe L. Tyler Rt. 1, Box 1600 Box Springs, GA 31801-9533 (912) 649-7464

Rev. A.P. Wainwright Rt. 2, Box 93 - A

Reynolds, GA 31076 (912) 949-2893

Rev. Curtis Kirksey 401 S. Boundary Street Reynolds, GA 31076 (912) 847-3048

Rev. Jeff Lunsford P.O. Box 302 Thomaston, GA 30286-0302 (706) 648-2055 Home (706) 648-3834 Office (706) 648-6473 Fax Reynolds, GA 31076 (912) 847-4679

Rev. A.G. Windham Rt. 2, Box 133-A Reynolds, GA 31076 (912) 847-3268

Rev. Warren Wyatt P.O. Box 68 Howard, GA 31039 (912) 862-5585

ACTIVE DEACONS

BETHANY

FIRST THOMASTON

Herbert Salter; 112 Sherwood Dr., Thomaston, GA 30286 George Willis; 1124 E. Moores Crossing Rd. Thomaston, GA 30286

LITTLE BETHEL

Morris Lawhorn; P.O. Box 661, Butler, GA 31006 Leonard Layfield; Rt. 1, Box 234, Butler, GA 31006 Tyson Ray; P.O. Box 36, Ideal, GA 31041 W.T. Williams; P.O. Box 412, Reynolds, GA 31076

MOUNT OLIVE

David Tharpe; Rt. 2, Reynolds, GA 31076 James Wilhoite; Rt. 2, Reynolds, GA 31076 Eugene Windham; Rt. 2, Reynolds, GA 31076 Ralph Windham; Rt. 1, Butler, GA 31006

NEW LIBERTY

Elbert Streetman; Rt. 1, Ellaville, GA 31806

NEW LIFE

Richard Anthony; Rt. 1, Box 122, Mauk, GA 31058 Dwight Smith; Rt. 1, Box 1790, Mauk, GA 31801 Oliver Stubbs; Rt. 1, Box 87 Mauk, GA 31058 J.W. Teat; Rt. 1, Box 134, Mauk, GA 31058 (706) 648-3622

(706) 647-1615

(912) 862-3526 (912) 862-3907 (912) 949-2851 (912) 847-3377

(912) 847-3133 (912) 847-3230 (912) 862-3704

(912) 937-2885

(706) 269-3839 (912) 649-7755

NEW PROSPECT

SPRING HILL

Monroe Grier; Rt. 1, Box 15, Mauk, GA 31058 Norman Grier; Rt. 1, Box 28-A, Mauk, GA 31058 James Wyrick; P.O. Box 51, Mauk, GA 31058

TRINITY

Larry Bell; Rt. 1, Mauk, GA 31058 Nelson Brady; 125 Carter Woods Dr., Warner Robins, GA 31088 Tommy Watson; Rt. 2, Box 212, Preston, GA 31824 David Welch; Rt. 1, Box 254, Mauk, GA 31058 E.A. Welch, Jr.; Rt. 1, Box 253, Mauk, GA 31058

TURNER'S CHAPEL

Leroy Lowe; Rt. 2, Box 75, Butler, GA 31006 Elie Robinson; P.O. Box 681, Butler, GA 31006

(9)	12)6	49-	48]	.6
(91	l 2) 8	62-	341	2

(912) 649-7644 (912) 649-7306 (912) 862-3772

(912) 862-3943
(912) 953-3783
(912) 828-3715
(912) 862-5976
(912) 862-3356

(912) 862-3004 (912) 862-3154

DIRECTORY of the CHATTAHOOCHEE ASSOCIATION of FREE WILL BAPTISTS 1996

<u>GENERAL OFFICERS</u>

ORDAINING COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Denotes Chairman

SUGGESTION COMMITTEE

YOUTH / CAMP DIRECTOR

STATE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

State B	oard of Trus E.A. Welc Rt. 1, Box		31058 •	(912) 862	2-3356	1
Double	In A Decad Rev. Jeff I P.O. Box		GA 3028		(706) 648-2055 (706) 648-3834	
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161st ANNUAL SESSION OF THE CHATTAHOOCHEE FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

The 161st Annual Meeting of the Chattahoochee Association was held October 5, 1996, at the First Free Will Baptist of Thomaston, Georgia.

Bro. Herbert Salter led the congregation in singing and in prayer. The meeting was then turned over to the Moderator, the Rev. Sidney Jones. After words of welcome, the Moderator called the meeting to order and called for corresponding letters. All churches reported and their elected delegates were as follows:

- 1. Bethany: Hubert Barbaree, Arthur Bullock
- 2. First Thomaston: Melissa Lunsford
- 3. Little Bethel: Ruby Layfield, Ruby Ray
- 4. Mt. Olive: Syd Crook, Junior Smith, Arline Smith, Barabra Jean Windham
- 5. New. Liberty: Bro. J.C. Kirkland, Christine Kirkland, Perry Lunsford, Sara Lunsford, Anne Ross, Stephanie Carr
- 6. New Life:
- 7. New Prospect: Chris Cotney, Lee Sawyer, Nettie Lee Wainwright
 - 8. Spring Hill: Ruth Amerson, Pat Hagler, April Wyrick
 - 9. Trinity: Marilyn Smith, Josephine Welch
- 10. Turner's Chapel:

The corresponding letters were read by Bro. Dwight Smith and the Rev. Warren Wyatt. The elected church delegates were seated.

Rev. Charles Clark reported that the State Mission Board is working diligently to get our mission works self-supporting. The Lord is blessing our works. We were asked to remember them in prayer.

It was announced that the new guidelines books for the national Youth Conference are now available through Randall House Publications, the same source for our Sunday School literature. Any church who wants their youth to be involved in youth competition needs to get a copy of the new NYC guidelines.

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The minutes of the previous meeting were read and received.

Following the appointment of committees by the Moderator, the meeting was turned over to the host pastor for the worship service. Bro. Herbert Salter again led the congregation in singing and the offering was received. Special music was provided by a trio of young men: Joseph & Benjamin Lunsford and Blake McHargue. The Rev. Charles Clark brought our moring message from I Cor. 3:9ff, providing a picture of the Church. His stirring sermon addressed the purpose potential, power, problems and prospects of the Church. It was a very encouraging message. The meeting was then recessed for the noon meal.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The meeting was reconvened at 1:15 PM by singing "That Glad Reunion Day."

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

General Fund Balance	\$ 401.54
Benevolent Fund Balance	\$ 233.89
Mission Fund Balance	\$ 1,056.84
	-
Received Today: Representation Fees	\$ 480.00
Received Today: Representation Fees Offering Total	\$ 77.00

"We have examined the Clerk/Treasurer's financial records for the quarter and find everything to be in order."

Ruby Ray Marilyn Smith Bro. J.C. Kirkland, Chmn.

SUGGESTION COMMITTEE

We, the Suggestion Committee, suggest the following: 1. That we limit each church's elected delegates to 3 for the first 100 members, then 1 for each 50 additional members or fraction thereof. MSC

2. That the Mission Fund C.D. not be renewed until we are sure we have sufficient funds to pay for the printing of our minutes. MSC

3. That we give the host church a rising vote of thanks for the good food and fellowship enjoyed today. MSC

Sid Crook Leonard Layfield Roy McHargue, Chmn.

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

We, your Temperance Committee, report the following:

According to God's Word, we should live upright in all things. We should be temperate in speech, deeds, and the way we dress. I Cor. 9:25 says, "And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things." We should also follow the admonition of Titus 2:1-8.

> Ruby Layfield Junior Smith Melissa Lunsford, Chmn.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Sunday School is a very important area of the local church. Here our people are taught many truths of the gospel that are otherwise lost. Our youth needs this ministry and its outreach more than what they are receiving from the world.

The challenge goes to each of us to attend, support and promote the Sunday School and its officers. Let us meet this challenge during the next year and watch our churches grow.

> Barbara Jean Windham Hubert Barbaree Rev. A.G. Windham, Chmn.

OBITUARY COMMITTEE

We, your Obituary Committee, regretfully report our loss of the following:

Mrs. Jeffie Childree Thurston "Pete" Faulk Henry W. Grimsley Alvin Milam Nannie Lou Moore Rogers Brandy Nichole Sawyer

(New Prospect)
(Little Bethel)
(New Liberty)
(Spring Hill)
(Turner's Chapel)
(New Prospect)

We further recommend that we have a moment of silence in their memory.

MSC

Respectfully, Nettie Wainwright Pat Hagler Ruth Amerson, Chmn.

(NOTE: Please see the full report of the Obituary Committee on p. $\frac{30}{2}$

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Nominating Committee's slate of nominees was considered item by item and all were elected to serve:

Clerk Asst. Clerk Excutive Committee At-Large Members

Ordaining Council Suggestion Committe

- Rev. Jeff Lunsford
- Barbara Jean Windham
- E.A. Welch, Jr. Norman Grier Tyson Ray
- Rev. A.P. Wainwright (3 yrs.)
- Rev. Joe Tyler (3 yrs.)

Roy McHargue

Respectfully, Elmer Lee Sawyer Tyson Ray Rev. Brian Fuller, Chmn.

(NOTE: It was decided that the at-large members of the Executive Committee would serve on a 3 year rotating basis as they were submitted above. Thus, Bro. Welch will serve a 3 year term, Norman Grier 2 years, and Tyson Ray 1 year.)

MISCELLANEOUS

Bro. Lee Sawyer expressed his appreciation to the Association for the love offering received for his daughter, Brandy.

The Rev. Arthur Smith recommended that all offerings for one (1) year go into the General Fund in order to help us with operating expenses. MSC

Our next youth rally will be a "special" fashion show at Mt. Olive Church, on October 19 at 7:00 PM.

Moderator Jones asked for volunteers to serve as delegates to the State Association, which will meet at the Calvary FWB Church in Colmbus on November 14-16. Delegates are Arline Smith, Melissa Lunsford, and Josephine Welch. A motion was made, seconded and carried to allow the Moderator or Clerk to fill vacancies at the meeting.

The dates and locations of next year's meetings are as follows:

January 4	Mt. Olive
April 5	Trinity

July 12Little BethelOctober 4Turner's Chapel

Our Moderator closed the meeting by leading the body in reciting the Model Prayer in unison.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Sidney Jones, Moderator Rev. Jeff Lunsford, Clerk

THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING

The third quarterly meeting of the Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptists was held July 13, 1996, at Mt. Olive F.W.B. Church in Reynolds, Georgia.

Rev. A.G. Windham opened the meeting by leading the congregation in singing, and then gave a word of greeting from the host church. Prayer was offered up by Rev. Gene Ross.

Moderator Sidney Jones called the meeting to order. Bro. Dwight Smith was then recognized to give a report from the Ordaining Council. The Council recommended that Rev. Arthur Smith be received as a minister in good standing in the Chattahoochee Association, pending a letter of good standing from the association he is coming to us from. MSC

Rev. & Mrs. Huckaby were recognized as honored guests with us today.

Corresponding letters were then called for. Bro. Roy McHargue and Rev. Curtis Kirksey read the letters. Churches reporting and their delegates are as follows:

BETHANY	:	(No report)
FIRST THOMASTON	:	Melissa Lunsford
LITTLE BETHEL	:	Blondell Layfield
		Barbara Windham, Sissy Windham, James Windham
NEW LIBERTY	:	J.C. Kirkland, Christine Kirkland, Anne Ross, A.J. Vissage
NEW LIFE	:	
NEW PROSPECT		Trudy Kirksey, Nettie Lee Wainwright
		Linda Whitt, Ruth Amerson, April Wyrick, Bernice McCall Myrtle Grier

TRINITY : Marilyn Smith, Peggy Gibb TURNER'S CHAPEL : Gloria Lowe

All elected church delegates were seated.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and received. Rolls were then called for committees and ministers. All were present except Bro. Norman Grier, who serves on the Executive Committee, and Rev. Joe Tyler.

Moderator Jones appointed a Finance Committee consisting of Linda Whitt, James Windham, and J.C. Kirkland.

In the way of old business, a proposed amendment to the Constitution was lifted from the table. Recommended was that the Executive Committee consist of the Moderator, Clerk, and three other members to be elected at large. After extensive discussion the motion carried. Rev. A.G. Windham then made a motion to allow current officers to serve until the Annual Meeting in October. The Nominating Committee will need to be prepared to bring nominations for the three at-large members. MSC

Bro. Roy McHargue gave the Youth Director's Report. The last youth rally was held April 13 at First FWB - Thomaston. Mr. Kelly Barrow gave a presentation on Christianity during the Civil War. Those who missed it missed a really interesting presentation. Mr. Barrow came in full military dress of the period. There was a total of 15 in attendance, 12 from First - Thomaston, and 3 from Turner's Chapel. The next youth rally will be July 20th at Little Bethel. Youth Camp was June 23-27 at Camp Eunice near Roberta, Georgia. There were a total of 50 campers, 15+ visitors, 22 workers, 7 salvations and 2 rededications. Last year we had 55 campers from the Chattahoochee Association. This year we had only 5!

There is a total of \$515.90 in the Youth Fund.

The meeting was then turned over to Rev. A.G. Windham for the worship hour. He led the congregation in singing, "Power In The Blood." Rev. Herbert Waid brought the morning message from Romans 8:26, his message entitled, "Our Friend the Holy Spirit." Bro. Waid did an outstanding job of presenting the Person and work of the Spirit of God. Following the sermon we sang a hymn as the offering was received. The meeting was them recessed for lunch.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The meeting reconvened at 1:15 PM with special music rendered by the Mt. Olive Trio singing, "When God Dips His Love In My Heart." Rev. Arthur Smith then brought a brief devotional and prayer was offered by Bro. E.A. Welch, Jr.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Received Today:	Representation Fees Benevolent Fund Offering Total	\$ \$	100.00
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	*	.,
Benevolent Fund Balance	5	283.89

"We have examined the Clerk/Treasurer's financial records for the quarter and find everything to be in order."

James Windham Linda Whitt J.C. Kirkland

A brief report was given concerning our National Youth Conference in Ft. Worth. Two of our young people, April Wyrick and Joseph Lunsford, qualified to go to national competition in their respective categories.

Rev. Herbert Waid, Executive Secretary of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists, brought an encouraging report about the status of our missionaries and about our work throughout the state. He also informed us that he would be retiring from the State Office in November of 1997.

SUGGESTION COMMITTEE REPORT

1. We suggest that we receive a special offering today to help defray the medical expenses of Brandy Sawyer, who has cystic fibrosis and is in need of a double lung transplant. MSC

2. We suggest that the regular offering received today go to the General Fund. MSC

3. We suggest that a rising vote of thanks be given to the host church for their kind hospitality and for the delicious food! MSC

All ministers were reminded of the Ministers Fellowship to be help the 1st Thursday of August at the home of Rev. & Mrs. Hubert Arnold. Prayer concerns and local church announcements were shared. The meeting was then closed by reciting the Model Prayer in unison.

(The offering received for Brandy Sawyer totaled \$165.32.)

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Sidney Jones, Moderator Rev. Jeff Lunsford, Clerk

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SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING

The Second Quarterly Meeting was held April 6 1995, at the New Life Free Will Baptist Church, Mauk, Georgia. The meeting began at 10:30 AM with prayer by Bro. Dwight Smith. Sister Helen Fye then led the congregation in enthusiastic singing of the song, "A Meeting In The Air." The meeting was then turned over to Moderator Sidney Jones.

Moderator Jones welcomed everyone and then called for church letters to be read by Bros. Ralph Windham and Warren Wyatt. Churches reporting and their delegates were as follows:

BETHANY -

FIRST THOMASTON LITTLE BETHEL MOUNT OLIVE

NEW LIBERTY NEW LIFE

NEW PROSPECT SPRING HILL

TRINITY

TURNER'S CHAPEL

- Melissa Lunsford, Elaine McHargue
- Mrs. Leonard Layfield
- Sissy Windham, Mary Wilhoite, Annie Laura Windham, Barbara Windham
- J.C. Kirkland, Christine Kirkland
- Emma Lou Montgomery, Helen Fye, Mary Patrick, Arline Smith, Junior Smith
- Linda Whitt, Myrtle Grier, Laura M. Koonce, Ruth Amerson, Houston James, Doris Daniel, Sylvia Catchings, April Wyrick
- Juanita Wyatt, Melissa Hearn, Marilyn Smith, Josephine Welch
- Wylodene Pearson

MSC to accept the letters and seat elected church delegates.

Minutes of the last meeting were received with one correction: October 19 Youth Rally will be at Mt. Olive. Rolls were then called for elected officers and ministers.

ROLL CALL FOR GENERAL OFFICERS

Rev. Sidney Jones, Moderator	Present
Rev. Eugene Ross, Asst. Moderator	
Rev. Jeff Lunsford, Clerk	
Melissa Lunsford, Asst. Clerk	Present

ROLL CALL FOR ORDAINING COUNCIL

Dwight Smith	Present
	Present

ROLL CALL FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ralph Windham	Present
Leroy Lowe	Absent
Tyson Ray	
E.A. Welch, Jr.	Present
Norman Grier	Present

ROLL CALL FOR SUGGESTION COMMITTEE

Syd Crook	Present
Roy McHargue	
Leonard Layfield	

ROLL CALL FOR MINISTERS

Rev. Hubert Arnold Preser	nt
Rev. Charles Clark	nt
Rev. J.C. Grimsley Preses	nt
Rev. Sidney Jones Preser	nt
Rev. Jeff Lunsford Preser	nt
Rev. Clyde Melton Abset	nt
Rev. Eugene Ross Abse	
Rev. Joe Tyler Prese	
Rev. A.P. Wainwright Abser	
Rev. A.G. Windham	
Rev. Brian Fuller Preser	nt
Rev. Curtis Kirksey Abser	nt

New Prospect church sent a letter asking to be excused from today's meeting inasmuch as they had a schedule conflict. Moderator Jones then appointed a Finance Committee consisting of Sissy Windham, J.C. Kirkland, and Ruth Amerson.

In place of the usual morning devotion, the meeting was then turned over to the Rev. & Mrs. Jeff Lunsford, who led our district NYC (National Youth Conference) Competition. We had a Bible Tic-Tac-Toe team from Spring Hill Church (Robin McCallister, Jason Mills and Douglas Whitt). We had Joseph Lunsford from First Thomston to compete in 3rd Grade Bible Memorization. And we had two piano solos: Joseph Lunsford from First Thomaston and April Wyrick from Spring Hill.

Following the competition the meeting was again turned over to the Moderator. Nathan & Linda Snow, missionary appointees to Japan were recognized and brought a word of greeting.

We then entered into a worship service. An offering totaling \$50.00 was received as we sang the beautiful chorus, "He Is Lord." The Rev. Arthur Smith brought the morning message from Romans 6:16-23. His message was titled, "How To Kill A Church." He pointed out that <u>The Church</u> will never die, but a church can if it fails to keep first things first. It was a wonderful message, well received by all.

Winners were announced for NYC Competition. Each entry from our district scored high enough to go on to State Competition. Each contestant received a medal and a rousing round of applause. We were then dismissed to lunch.

AFTERNOON SESSION

1:15 PM the meeting reconvened with the congregation singing, "I'm Getting Ready To Leave This World." A group of ministers provided special music singing "Amazing Grace."

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Church Representation Fees	\$ 235.00
Today's Offering	\$ 50.00
Total Received Today	\$ 285.00

General Fund Balance	. \$ 12.97
Mission Fund Balance	\$1,045.00
Benevolent Fund Balance	

MSC to receive the Finance Committee Report.

SUGGESTION COMMITTEE REPORT

1. Recommend that \$1,000.00 in the Mission Fund be placed in a 6-month C.D.

2. Recommend that those of our youth who make it to State Competition have their registration paid out of the youth fund.

3. Recommend that the offering today go to the General Fund.

4. Recommend that we give the host church a rising vote of thanks for the

hospitality and good food enjoyed today.

The suggestions were considered item by item and each of them was adopted.

NEXT MEETING

New Prospect church sent a letter to this body requesting that another church host the July 6th association meeting. There were no volunteers.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Executive Committee recommends that the clerk draw up an amendment to the Constitution making the Executive Committee consist of five (5) members: the Moderator, Clerk and three other members. MSC to place the proposed amendment on the table until our next meeting.

The Executive Committee also recommends that we support Brother Wilbur Carroll's widow out of the Benevolent Fund for a 2 year period at \$25.00 per month. MSC.

ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT

It was recommended that the Reverend Grover Bunting be dropped from our ministerial roll, as per his request. MSC

STATE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Reverend Herbert Waid reported that several exciting things are happening across our state. He especially reminded us of the Laura Belle Barnard World Missions Emphasis on April 28th. The Senior Saints Retreat has been rescheduled for October 21-23.

YOUTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bro. Roy McHargue reported we had our last youth rally at Spring Hill church on Jan. 20th. We had 46 youth and 34 adults, giving a total attendance of 80. The Free Will Baptist Bible College Quartet ministered and really did a fine job.

We will be having camp this summer at Camp Eunice, located just south of Roberta. The dates are June 23-27 and the cost per camper is \$50.00. We have already made our downpayment from the youth fund. The balance in the youth fund is \$691.53.

Our next rally will be at First Thomaston on April 13th at 7:00 PM. Mr. Kelly Barrow will present a program on Christianity during the Civil War. He will be in full uniform. Please try to attend.

STATE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD REPORT

Jeff Lunsford reported that much of our history is on file, either at the GA State office of Free Will Baptists or at the GA Baptist Historical Depository at Mercer State University. However, there are gaps. If you have old minutes from the Chattahoochee Association, please allow us to borrow them in order to make copies.

Also, we need to record histories of our individual churches. Please ask the grey-headed folks in your church about its history, or else, when they're gone, the history will be gone. Specifically, ask about your church's organization, brush arbors, revivals, unusual incidents, outstanding people, etc.

Finally, we need a profile on your church's pastor. You might want to send in a resume, brief biographical sketch or a photograph. Future generations ought to know what kind of man you've had to put up with!

DOUBLE IN A DECADE

This year we had a total of 535 in our churches on Roll Call Sunday, an increase of 121 over last year. Three were saved, two rededicated their lives and four joined churches on that day.

MISCELLANEOUS

We were reminded of the upcoming Couples Retreat on May 10-11. It will be very enjoyable.

A motion was made, seconded and carried to change the date of the next Chattahoochee Association meeting to July 13th. Mt. Olive will host the meeting.

Following local church announcements, Moderator Jones led us in reciting the Model Prayer in unison. The meeting was then adjourned.

FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING

The First Quarterly Meeting of the Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptists was held January 6, 1996, at the Turner's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church. The meeting began at 10:30 AM with Bro. Rex Robinson leading the body in singing "To God Be The Glory." Bro. Robinson further led us in a unison reading of the scripture based on John's gospel chapters 14 and 16, then in singing "His Name Is Wonderful." Words of welcome were given by the host pastor, Rev. Charles Clark, and the meeting was then turned over to the Moderator, Rev. Sidney Jones. Corresponding letters were called for and visitors were welcomed. The church letters were read by Rev. Charles Clark and Bro. E.A. Welch, Jr., with the following churches reporting and their elected church delegates: BETHANY - Hubert Barbaree, Jutta Deal, Wynona Lajoie, John

FIRST THOMASTON LITTLE BETHEL MOUNT OLIVE

NEW LIBERTY

NEW LIFE NEW PROSPECT

SPRING HILL TRINITY

- Hubert Barbaree, Jutta Deal, Wynona Lajoie, John Dozier
- Melissa Lunsford
- Blondell Layfield, Ruby Layfield
- Syd Crook, Barbara Windham, Rhonda Windham, Sissy Windham, Eddie Windham
- Perry Lunsford, Sara Lunsford, J.C. Kirkland, Christine Kirkland, Anne Ross
- Nettie Lee Wainwright, Trudy Kirksey, Todd Kirksey, Duain Kirksey, Dean McElroy, Lou Riner, Chris Cotney, Elmer Lee Sawyer
- Myrtle Grier, Linda Whitt, Sam Whitt
- Juanita Wyatt, Melissa Hearn, Marilyn Smith, Josephine Welch
 Laura Martin, Gloria Lowe, Rex Robinson, Jack Spell, Laurette Robinson, Janice Clark, Heather Clark

TURNER'S CHAPEL

The elected church delegates were seated and the minutes of the last meeting were received. The roll was then called for the following committees:

ROLL CALL FOR ORDAINING COUNCIL

Dwight Smith	Present
Rev. Warren Wyatt	
Rev. Hubert Arnold	Present

ROLL CALL FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Ralph Windham	Absent
Leroy Lowe	Present
Tyson Ray	
E.A. Welch, Jr.	Present
Norman Grier	Present

ROLL CALL FOR SUGGESTION COMMITTEE

Syd Crook	Present
•	Present

The deacons from New Life FWB Church requested to meet with the Ordaining Council. Bro. Dwight Smith asked to be replaced on the Council for today inasmuch as he was among those with a matter for the Council's consideration. Moderator Jones appointed Rev. Brian Fuller to sit on the Ordaining Council for today in Brother Smith's place.

A Finance Committee was appointed consisting of Charles Fuller, Sissy Windham, and Ruby Layfield.

YOUTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bro. Roy McHargue, Youth Director, gave the following report: The last youth rally was held on Oct. 21st at Turner's Chapel. Only two churches were represented at this rally with 22 from Turner's Chapel and 7 from First Thomaston, for a total attendance of 29.

Our newly appointed missionary to Japan, Nathan Snow, was the speaker for the evening. He showed a slide presentation so that our youth could see the difference in the lifestyles of the Japanese and what missionary life is like.

Our next youth rally will be held at Spring Hill FWB Church on January 20. The College Quartet from Free Will Baptist Bible College will minister to our youth with song and praise. I urge each church to have their young people there for this event.

We will be having youth camp the week of June 24-27 at Camp Eunice, located just south of Roberta. The age limit this year will be 8 through 14, and a fee of \$50 per camper will be charged. If you would be interested in working at camp this year please let me know as soon as possible. Our biggest need right now is for a cook and kitchen workers. We will again be sharing camp with GA Union and Twin Cities associations.

We still do not have a host church for the youth rallies scheduled for July 20 and October 19. I would like to have these filled before we leave this meeting today.

And last, I would like to ask each pastor and youth director to get ideas on what their youth would like to do or where they might like to go for future youth rallies. This information is important in letting me know what to plan in the near future.

YOUTH COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES

Melissa Lunsford reported concerning the Youth Competitive Activities: Our goal this year is to have three competitors from our District. District competition will be at the April Quarterly Meeting. Deadline for entries is March 6th.

Charles Clark and Jeff Lunsford expressed an interest in organizing monthly fellowship for the ministers in our District. They will meet the first Tuesday of each month at 8:00 AM. Locations to be announced.

STATE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD REPORT

Jeff Lunsford reported that the State C.E. Board is sponsoring several retreats this year:

Ministers Retreat: April 22-24, Perry, GA. Every minister is encouraged to attend. It is a great time of fellowship and spiritual refreshing. Senior Saints Retreat: Details forthcoming Couples Retreat: May 10-11, F.D.R. State Park, Pine Mtn., Ga. State Teen Camp: July 7-12, Camp Tatnall

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT

Rev. Herbert Waid, Executive Secretary for the Georgia State Association, reported the following items:

- 1. Camp Mt. Bethel property has been sold.
- 2. Statewide Day of Prayer & Fasting: January 21
- 3. State Teen Camp: Plan to attend!
- 4. Ministers Retreat: Every minister should try to attend. It will be a real blessing!
- 5. State Association Meeting: November 14-16 at Calvary Free Will Baptist Church, in Columbus, Georgia.
- 6. Rev. Paul Smith appointed as new home missionary to N. Fayette mission work.
- 7. Requested prayer for former State Exec. Secretary, Rev. C.B. Dowdney: back surgery.
- 8. Encouraged ministers to participate in the local monthly ministers fellowship.

MORNING WORSHIP

11:00 AM worship service: Bro. Rex Robinson led in congregational singing. The offering was received. The morning message was brought by the Clerk, Rev. Jeff Lunsford, who spoke from Romans 16:10 about being "Approved In Christ." The meeting was then recessed for lunch.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The meeting reconvened at 1:15 PM with more congregational singing. Moderator Jones called upon Bro. Tyson Ray to lead in prayer. The Clerk then reported that an anonymous layman, so in favor of the idea of our ministers having a monthly fellowship, said he would buy breakfast for all the ministers who attend the February 1st meeting to be held at Uncle Dave's restaurant in Butler!

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Sissy Windham gave the report for the Finance Committee which included the reading of the following note:

"We send \$20.00 to be placed in the General Fund to help support our Association.

Respectfully,

Rev. Hubert Arnold and 13 other members.

We ask the Association to pray for us in our "undertakings" and decisions."

Church Representation Fees\$	235.00
Offering Rec'd from individuals\$	20.00
General Offering Rec'd today	
Total Rec'd Today\$	

Gen. Fund Balance on Hand\$	- 30.09
Mission Fund Balance on Hand\$	795.00
Benevolent Fund\$	

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Fuller Ruby Layfield Sissy Windham

The report of the Finance Committee was received.

SUGGESTION COMMITTEE

We the Suggestion Committee suggest the following:

- 1. That the offering today go to the General Fund. MSC
- 2. That we show unity among our churches and brotherly love to one another, and support one another in all things we do. MSC
- 3. That we give the host church a rising show of thanks and appreciation for the good fellowship and good food that we all enjoyed today. MSC

Respectfully submitted,

Roy McHargue Syd Crook Leonard Layfield

<u>ORDAINING COUNCIL REPORT</u>

We the ordaining Coucil went into session with New Life Church, after examining the petition, we table the petition back to New Life. We, the Ordaining Council, feel this matter should be taken care of by New Life Church.

Respectfully,

Rev. Warren Wyatt Rev. Hubert Arnold Rev. Brian Fuller

The report of the Ordaining Council was received.

DOUBLE IN A DECADE REPORT

The Clerk, Rev. Jeff Lunsford, reported concerning our Double In A Decade project. Georgia is the only state that is really doing anything toward this project. Our District baptized 25 new converts in 1995, sixteen more than the year before. We added a total of 37 new members in 1995, twenty more than the year before. Our attendance on Roll Call Sunday totaled 414, down 53 from 1994. Let's work harder and report accurate figures in 1996.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

An item of old business, a proposed amendment to our Constitution that was tabled at the last meeting was lifted from the table and considered. The amendment, as printed in the minutes of the October 7, 1995 meeting, received some discussion. The body adopted the amendment, 20 yeas to 14 nays.

MISCELLANEOUS

A question was raised whether we needed to call the roll of ministers in attendance at district meetings. There was a consensus that we should. The roll was called and we were pleased to learn that 100% of our ablebodied ministers were present today.

Following church announcements, the meeting was dismissed with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Sidney Jones, Moderator Rev. Jeff Lunsford, Clerk

STATISTICAL TABLE

Church	Pastor	Ordained Ministers	Licensed Ministers	Ordained Deacons	Baptisms	Members Added	Members Lost	Total Members	Sunday School Enrolled	C.T.S. Enrolled	Woman's Auxiliary	Master's Men
Bethany	Rev. Joe L. Tyler	1	0	. 0	4	5	0	20	20	0	0	0
First Thomaston	Rev. Jeff Lunsford	1	0	2	3	3	5	51	36	0	8	0
Little Bethel	Rev. Sidney Jones	1	0	4	18	18	2	92	50	0	8	5
Mt. Olive	Rev. Arthur Smith	4	0	4	0	11	1	148	50	0	0	0
New Liberty	Rev. Eugene R. Ross	2	0	1	1	0	1	34	20	0	0	0
New Life		0	0	4	0	1	0	138	30	0	12	10
New Prospect	Rev. Perry Wainwright	2	0	0	0	10	6	20	17	0	0	0
Spring Hill	Rev. Brian Fuller	1	0	3	5	11	0	63	31	0	0	0
Trinity	Rev. Warren Wyatt	1	0	5	2	2	2	45	36	0	0	0
Turner's Chapel	Rev. Charles Clark	1	0	2	0	3	2	185	40	0	0	0
TOTALS		14	0	25	33	64	19	796	330	0	28	15

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FINANCIAL TABLE

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Church	County	City/Town Rural	Pastor: Full/Part Time	Budget	Parsonage	Value of Church & Parsonage	Tithes & Offerings
Bethany	Marion	R	PT	No	No	50,000	Not Reporting
First Thomaston	Upson	C/T	FT	Yes	Yes	350,000	30,239.53
Little Bethel	Macon	R	FT	No	Yes	80,000	19,946.54
Mt. Olive	Taylor	R	FT	Yes	Yes	275,000	17,682.62
New Liberty	Schley	R	PT	No	No	Not Reporting	Not Reporting
New Life	Marion	R	PT	No	Yes	151,000	19,100.00
New Prospect	Taylor	R	PT	No	No	80,000	8900.00
Spring Hill	Marion	R	PT	No	No	95,000	10,219.21
Trinity	Taylor	R	PT	No	No	200,000	28,437.59
Turner's Chapel	Taylor	R	PT	No	Yes	200,000	21,802.48
TOTALS				2	5	1,481,000.00	156,327.97

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MEMORIALS

It is our custom to pause to remember those who have gone on to be with the Lord during the past year. It is the intent of this committee to have a time to honor the memory of those saints who precede us in going to heaven. We extend our deepest sympathy to their families and friends.

LITTLE BETHEL

In Memory of Thurston "Pete" Faulk

November 23, 1933 – January 4, 1996

NEW LIBERTY

In Memory of Bro. Henry W. Grimsley

Bro. Henry was born April 11, 1905 and died October 30, 1996. His 90 plus years touched many lives. He was a charter member and deacon of New Liberty Free Will Baptist Church. He took his church, family and community seriously, and he served them well.

Bro. Henry will be missed by all who knew him.

--Rev. R. Eugene Ross, Pastor

NEW PROSPECT *Heard The Master Calling*

Mrs. Jeffie Childree, gone home after many years of service to our Lord and Savior. Mrs. Jeffie served New Prospect from 1964 until failing health kept her home. Her gentle nature will always be remembered and cherished. Rest well in Jesus until we meet again.

In Loving Memory

On September 18, 1996, Brandy Nicole Sawyer went home to Jesus. We will miss Brandy, yet we understand once she saw the hand of our Lord and Savior, she could no longer tarry here. New Prospect will always remember her precious smile and warm heart. We bid you peace, our loving sister, and long to see you again on the other side in Heaven.

SPRING HILL

In Loving Memory Of Alvin Milam June 24, 1911 -- December 8, 1995

TURNER'S CHAPEL

Nannie Lou Moore Rogers Annie Spillers Nelson Una Ree Wainwright

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 of 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 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 liberties of conscience, patiently bear each other's burdens, strengthen the weak, warn the wavering and instruct the young and the ignorer.

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

That we will not expose or ridicule our brethren because of their 6th. 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 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 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 Saviors'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 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. Matt. 18:15

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

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

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

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

23rd. Written and adopted at the 1937 session of the Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Association by Rev. W.H. Emerson, Rev. E.C. Grimsley, Rev. H.L. Lumpkin.

ARTICLES OF FAITH AND DOCTRINAL VIEWS

1. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is a treasure of heavenly instruction; that it has God for its author, salvation for its end, the truth without any mixture or error for its matter, that it reveals the principles by which God will judge us, and there 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 opinion confirm. - Rev. 19:13; John 5:39.

2. That there is one true and living God, whose name is Jehovah, the maker and ruler of heaven and earth, inexpressibly 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; 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, 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, to Satan, and their own sinful passions, and therefore are under just condemnation to eternal ruin without defense or excuse. -Gen. 1:27, 3:6, 19-23.

4. That the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, through the mediatorial office of the Son of God, who took upon himself our nature, yet without sin, honored the law by His own personal obedience, and made atonement for sin by his death; being risen from the dead, he is now enthroned in heaven, and uniting in his wonderful person the tenderest sympathies which divine perfection is every way qualified to be suitable, compassionate and all sufficient Savior. - 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 righteousness and atonement, and that brings us into a state of most blessed peace and favor with God. Rom. 8:30; Ezk. 18:28; John 3:14; Rom. 8:17 6. That the blessings of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that is the immediate duty of all who received them by a cordial and obedient faith and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but this 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. 1:20 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 3:2-8, Matt. 3:8-10. 8. That election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which he regenerates, sanctifies and saves sinners, it being perfectly consistent with the free agency of man, that it comprehend all means with the end; that it is a glorious display of God's goodness, being infinitely wise, wholly 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 voluntarily that it itterly 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 legree; that it is the foundation of Christian assurances, and that to ascertain it with egard to ourselves demands and deserves our utmost diligence.

). 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. 1:3, 14; 1 Pet. 1:3, 5

10. That the law of God is 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 is 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 the rest which remains for the children of God. -Ex. 20:8; Heb. 4:9; 1 Thes. 1:7; Psalm 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 King on Earth. -Ex. 23:7; Acts 23:5; 1 Tim. 5:17 13. That there is a radical and essential difference between the righteous and the wicked; that such only as are justified in his esteem, while such as continue in impenitence and unbelief are in his sight wicked and under his curse, and his distinction holds good among men both in and after death.

-Matt. 25:46; mark 16:16

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

GOVERNMENT AND ORDINANCES

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

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

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

4. That the establishment of central or catholic government over the invisible church, or any part thereof, is a devise of earthly ambitions 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 tribunal 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 assembles 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 right and authority of churches being inalienable, or in no wise

compromised or hindered by entering into and 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 on 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 an individual.

7. That the authority of the churches is designed for the perpetuation of the true religion of the gospel, and for the preservation of a true and orderly body of Christians on earth, that it is fully sufficient for the purpose intended, but that it does not extend to person, property or the conscience 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 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 pastor 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 members, and if he is guilty of transgressions 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 hear say.

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

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 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, and 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 for the poor, and conduct religious meetings in the absence of the pastor.



CHURCH DECORUM

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

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

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

4. There shall be two or more deacons in the church whose duty it shall be to superintend the collection and disbursement of the 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 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 3 male members well acquainted with business, shall be appointed, whose duty 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-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 remiss in attending the meetings of the church according to the covenant (Article 10), he shall be cited to appear in conference and answer for his neglect, but the church may exempt members from this rule if necessary.
 12. Conferences shall be opened and conducted as follows:

 1. Prayer (unless divine service has just been conducted and generally then.)

2. Invite visiting brethren to seats.

3. Open the door for the reception of members.

4. Call for absentees.

5. For acknowledgments.

6. For reference or deferred business.

7. For matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church.

8. Miscellaneous business.

13. Visiting brethren as helps called in from sister churches, shall be allowed to speak and make motions and 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 by baptism.

15. No member shall be received without the unanimous consent of the members present but unreasonable objections shall be liable to be taken under dealing by the church. 25

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 this trial; provided his residence be known to the church.

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

19. The evidence in every case of dealing and 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 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 to 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 the 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 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 a good feeling, those who speak must rise to their feet and address moderator, and keep to the point in debate.

27. No one shall speak more that three times on the same motion without permission from the moderator, nor shall the remarks of anyone 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 church sees proper.

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

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

ORDER OF CHURCH BUSINESS

- 1. Open Meeting and Prayer
- 2. Invite Visiting Brethren to seats.
- 3. Open the door of the Church for the reception of members.
- 4. Call for Absentees.
- 5. For Acknowledgements.
- 6. For reference of deferred business.
- 7. For Matters of Dealing which are in order to come before church.
- 8. Miscellaneous Business.

CONSTITUTION Of The CHATTAHOOCHEE FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Resolved, That we form as Association upon the principles laid down in the Holy Scriptures, to-wit: Associations appear from Scripture and ecclesiastical history to have originally been 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 subject designed to be accomplished by those churches. They were also considered as advisory council, and referred to as such, but never claimed any right or 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 association, notwithstanding the power abrogated to themselves, by some modern Baptist Association, 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 independence of churches composing it. It was not intended to establish creeds, rules of discipline, or make any law whatsoever 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 law-giver 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 concern of religion, and an equal right to express his opinion in any way which will not violate the laws of God or the rights of his fellow man.

A church has a right to adopt measures only as are in accordance with the Word of God, and such as 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.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

All candidates to be ordained into the ministry shall be required to come before the ordaining council for examination, before actually being ordained by some other body. All incoming preachers would be required to be examined by said council, before the church that he is to pastor would be allowed to participate in the business of the Chattahoochee Association.

All incoming preachers would be required to appear before said council before their names would appear on the Ministerial Roll.

Anyone failing to comply with this amendment to our Constitution will not be recognized as a duly ordained minister of the Chattahoochee Association.

The Executive Board shall consist of the Moderator, the Clerk, and three at-large members whose terms shall expire on a rotating basis. (Adopted Oct. 5, 1996)

When the Chattahoochee Association is not in session, the Executive Board shall be fully authorized to do any business in the name of the Chattahoochee Association.

The Chattahoochee Association has full authority to direct the Executive Board in all business conducted on its behalf.

The Executive Board has the prerogative of deferring on any matter to the Chattahoochee Association as a whole, but is not under any obligation to do so.

The Executive Board shall report to the Chattahoochee Association in session concerning any business conducted for the Association since its last convening.

No Chattahoochee Association committee or board may borrow money or financially obligate the Chattahoochee Association without the approval of the Executive Board.

Any individual in good standing with a member church in good standing with the Chattahoochee Association may be elected to any office, regardless of the office he holds in his local church (minister, deacon, etc.).

The individual having served the greatest portion of a three-year term on the Ordaining Council shall be considered chairman of that Council.

This Constitution may be changed, altered or amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all delegates present and voting at any regular session of the Chattahoochee Association. Prior to a final vote on any amendment, change or alteration, said amendment, change or alteration shall be submitted in writing to the Clerk and shall lie on the table from one (1) business meeting to the next during the same session (morning until afternoon), during which time it shall be read at least two (2) times in open session. Officers and board, committee or council members may be added or deleted as needed. (The preceding eight (8) items were adopted Jan. 6, 1996.)

ORDER OF BUSINESS OF QUARTERLY 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. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
- 4. Appoint Committees.
- 5. Call for Reports of Committees.
- 6. Program by Host Church.
- 7. Call for Miscellaneous Business.
- 8. Adjournment.

ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR ANNUAL ASSOCIATION

- 1. Call to order by Moderator or Assistant Moderator.
- 2. Invite visiting brethren to seats with us.
- 3. Call for Corresponding Letters or Appointing of Digest Committee.
- 4. Read Letter.
- 5. Call for Petition Letters.
- 6. Appoint various committees.
- 7. Miscellaneous Business

Appoint Corresponding Messengers to Sister Association, Obituaries, Number Minutes to print, Committee Reports, Selections of place for next session, elect Officers, vote of thanks to host church.

YOUTH CONSTITUTION

We, the youth of the Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptists, desiring to promote the cause of Christ as represented by our denomination and to advance the "Kingdom of God" through the training and nurturing of our youth, do establish this Constitution:

ARTICLE I: Name: This organization shall be known as the Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Youth Group.

ARTICLE II: Purpose: The purpose of the Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Youth Group is to train the youth of our association to be the church and denominational leaders of the future.

ARTICLE III: Members: This Group shall be composed of the youth of the Chattahoochee Association church members and adults with interest to sponsor and train youth.

ARTICLE IV: Officers: Officers of this group shall be a Director-Treasurer, who shall serve as coordinator between the group and the State Director of Camping and State Youth Director as well as be responsible for the receiving and disbursing of funds and to keep acceptable records of such transactions. A President to preside at all meetings and with help from the committee elected by the Association to appoint any other officer or sub-committee as is needed. A Vice-President to fill the position when the President is not present. General oversight to be provided by the Five (5) member committee elected by the Association at its discretion.

ARTICLE V: Finance: This group shall be supported by special offerings, Associational, Church, and/or Individual gifts.

ARTICLE VI: Meetings: Time and place of meetings for this group shall be arranged by the elected committee and may be changed from time to time without conflicting with this constitution.

ARTICLE VII: Alterations or Amendments: This Constitution may be altered or amended by the Youth Group at any regular meeting by a Two-thirds majority vote of those present.

This Constitution was adopted by the Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Youth Group meeting at Camp Mt. Bethel on April 19, 1986, and recommend its acceptance by the Chattahoochee Association Free Will Baptist at its next meeting.