

Minutes
of the
Chattahoochee
Free Will Baptist
Association
1997

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Calendar of 1988 Events	1
1998 Directory of Officers	2
1998 Ministerial Prayer Fellowships	5
<hr/>	
1997 Minutes	6
Clerks	7
Ministerial Roll	8
Deacons	9
1997 Directory of Officers	10
Minutes: 162nd Annual Session	11
Minutes: 3rd Quarterly Meeting	17
Minutes: 2nd Quarterly Meeting	19
Minutes: 1st Quarterly Meeting	22
Statistical Table	26
Financial Table	27
Memorials	28
Church Covenant	29
Articles of Faith & Doctrinal Views	30
Government & Ordinances	31
Church Organization	32
Church Decorum	33
Order of Church Business	34
Constitution of Chattahoochee Association	35
Order of Business For Quarterly Meetings	36
Order of Business For Annual Session	36
Youth Group Constitution	37

Calendar of Events

First Quarterly Meeting
Turner's Chapel
Jan. 10, 1998
Sermon: Rev. Jeff Lunsford

Second Quarterly Meeting
New Life
April 4, 1998
Sermon: Rev. Arthur Smith

Third Quarterly Meeting
1st- Thomaston
July 11, 1998
Sermon:

163rd Annual Meeting
New Prospect
Oct. 3, 1998
Sermon: Rev. Sidney Jones

Youth Rally Dates & Locations

January 17, 1998	Mt. Olive
April 25, 1998	Turner's Chapel
October 17, 1998	Little Bethel

1998

MODERATOR 1999

ASSISTANT MODERATOR 1999

CLERK/TREASURER 1998

ASSISTANT CLERK/TREASURER 1998

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

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. A.P. Wainwright 1999
Rt. 2, Box 93-A, Reynolds, GA 31076
* (912) 847-4679

Dwight Smith..... 1998
Rt. 1, Box 1790, Box Springs, GA 31801
* (912) 649-7755

Rev. Warren Wyatt 2000
P.O. Box 68, Howard, GA 31039 * (912) 862-5585
(912) 862-9058 (fax)

SUGGESTION COMMITTEE

Marilyn Smith 2000
Rt. 1, Box 208, Mauk, GA 31058 * (912) 862-3958

Rev. Joe L. Tyler 1999
Rt. 1, Box 1600, Box Springs, GA 31801
(912) 649-7464

Syd Crook 1998
Rt. 2, Reynolds, GA 31076 * (912) 847-4241

YOUTH / CAMP DIRECTOR

Rev. Arthur Smith..... 1998
2266 Rocky Bottom Road, The Rock, GA 30285
(706) 648-2204

STATE BOARD & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Board of Christian Education 1999
Rev. Jeff Lunsford
P.O. Box 302, Thomaston, GA 30286-0004
(706) 648-3834 Office
(706) 647-6526 Fax
(706) 648-2055 Home

Board of Camp Mt. Bethel 1999

Roy McHargue

2266 Rocky Bottom Road, The Rock, GA 30285
(706) 647-2204

State Mission Board 2001

Rev. Arthur Smith

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

State Board of Trustees 2001

E.A. Welch, Jr.

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

Double In A Decade 1998

Rev. Brian Fuller

3693 Grier Ave., Columbus, GA 31909
(706) 569-9921

CHATTAHOOCHEE ASSOCIATION

1998 MINISTERIAL FELLOWSHIPS

The following is a TENTATIVE list of dates and locations for our ministers 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 8, 1997	Mt. Olive
February 5, 1998	Trinity
March 5, 1998	Turner's Chapel
April 2, 1998	1st - Thomaston
May 7, 1998	Mt. Olive
June 4, 1998	Trinity
July 2, 1998	Turner's Chapel
August 6, 1998	1st - Thomaston
September 3, 1998	Mt. Olive
October 1, 1997	Trinity
November 5, 1998	Turner's Chapel
December , 1998	Christmas Fellowship

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. Sidney Jones
Assistant Moderator.....Rev. Eugene Ross
Clerk.....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 AM.

CLERKS

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

FIRST - THOMASTON: Elaine McHargue
2244 Rocky Bottom Rd., The Rock, GA 30285
(912) 647-2204

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

MOUNT OLIVE : Mr. Joe Logue
P.O. Box 714, Butler, GA 31006
(912) 847-2583

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

MINISTERIAL ROLL

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

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

Rev. Charles Clark
136 Carter Woods Drive
Warner Robins, GA 31088
(912) 953-3486

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

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

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

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

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

Rev. Sidney Jones
Rt. 2, Box 58
Reynolds, GA 31076-9614
(912) 949-2893

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

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

Rev. Warren Wyatt
P.O. Box 68
Howard, GA 31039-0068
(912) 862-5585
(912) 862-9058 Fax

Rev. Jeff Lunsford
P.O. Box 302
Thomaston, GA 30286-0004
(706) 648-3834 Office
(706) 648-3834 Home
(706) 647-6526 Fax

ACTIVE DEACONS

BETHANY

FIRST - THOMASTON

Herbert Salter;	112 Sherwood Drive, Thomaston, GA 30286	(706) 648-3622
George Willis;	1124 E. Moores Crossing Road Thomaston, GA 30286	(706) 647-1615

LITTLE BETHEL

Morris Lawhorn;	P.O. Box 661, Butler, GA 31006	(912) 862-3526
Leonard Layfield;	Rt. 1, Box 234, Butler, GA 31006	(912) 862-3907
Tyson Ray;	P.O. Box 36, Ideal, GA 31041	(912) 949-2851
W.T. Williams;	P.O. Box 412, Reynolds, GA 31076	(912) 847-3377

MOUNT OLIVE

David Tharpe;	Rt. 2, Reynolds, GA 31076	
James Wilhoite;	Rt. 2, Reynolds, GA 31076	(912) 847-3133
Eugene Windham;	Rt. 2, Reynolds, GA	(912) 847-3230
Ralph Windham;	Rt. 1, Butler, GA 31006	(912) 862-3704

NEW LIBERTY

Elbert Streetman;	Rt. 1, Ellaville, GA 31806	(912) 937-2885
-------------------	----------------------------	----------------

NEW LIFE

Richard Anthony;	Rt. 1, Box 122, Mauk, GA 31058	(912) 269-3839
Dwight Smith;	Rt. 1, Box 1790, Mauk, GA 31801	(912) 649-7755
Oliver Stubbs;	Rt. 1, Box 87, Mauk, GA 31058	(912) 649-4816
J.W. Teat;	Rt. 1, Box 134, Mauk, GA 31058	(912) 862-3412

NEW PROSPECT

SPRING HILL

Monroe Grier;	Rt. 1, Box 15, Mauk, GA 31058	(912) 649-7644
Norman Grier;	Rt. 1, Box 28-A, Mauk, GA 31058	(912) 649-7306
James Wyrick;	P.O. Box 51, Mauk, GA 31058	(912) 862-3772

TRINITY

Larry Bell;	Rt. 1, Mauk, Ga 31058	(912) 862-3943
Nelson Brady;	125 Carter Woods Drive Warner Robins, GA 31088	(912) 953-3783
Tommy Watson;	Rt. 2, Box 212, Preston, GA 31824	(912) 828-3715
David Welch;	Rt. 1, Box 254, Mauk, GA 31058	(912) 862-5976
E.A. Welch, Jr.;	Rt. 1, Box 253, Mauk, GA 31058	(912) 862-3356

TURNER'S CHAPEL

Leroy Lowe;	Rt. 2, Box 75, Butler, GA 31006	(912) 862-3004
Elie Robinson;	P.O. Box 681, Butler, GA 31006	(912) 862-3154

DIRECTORY
 Of The
 CHATTAHOOCHEE ASSOCIATION
 Of
 FREE WILL BAPTISTS
 1997

GENERAL OFFICERS

MODERATOR 1997

Rev. Sidney Jones
 Rt. 2, Box 58
 Reynolds, GA 31076 * (912) 949-2893

ASSISTANT MODERATOR 1997

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

CLERK/TREASURER 1997

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

ASSISTANT CLERK/TREASURER 1997

Sis. Barbara Jean Windham
 Rt. 1
 Butler, GA 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. 1999
 Rt. 1, Box 253, Mauk, GA 31058 * (912) 862-3356

Norman Grier 1998
 Rt. 1, Box 28-A, Mauk, GA 31058 * (912) 649-7306

Tyson Ray 1997
 P.O. Box 36, Ideal, GA 31041 * (912) 949-2851

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Rev. A.P. Wainwright 1999
 Rt. 2, Box 93-A, Reynolds, GA 31076
 * (912) 847-4679

Dwight Smith..... 1998
 Rt. 1, Box 1790, Box Springs, GA 31801
 * (912) 649-7755

Rev. Warren Wyatt 1997
 P.O. Box 68, Howard, GA 31039 * (912) 862-5585
 (912) (fax)

SUGGESTION COMMITTEE

Rev. Joe L. Tyler 1999
Rt. 1, Box 1600, Box Springs, GA 31801
(912) 649-7464

Syd Crook 1998
Rt. 2, Reynolds, GA 31076.* (912) 847-4241

Roy McHargue 1997
2266 Rocky Bottom Road, The Rock, GA 30285
(706) 647-2204

YOUTH / CAMP DIRECTOR

Roy McHargue 1997
2266 Rocky Bottom Road, The Rock, GA 30285
(706) 648-2204

STATE BOARD & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Board of Christian Education 1999
Rev. Jeff Lunsford
P.O. Box 302, Thomaston, GA 30286-0302
(706) 648-3834 Office
(706) 648-6473 Fax
(706) 648-2055 Home

Board of Camp Mt. Bethel 1999
Roy McHargue
2266 Rocky Bottom Road, The Rock, GA 30285
(706) 647-2204

State Mission Board 1997
Rev. Charles Clark
136 Carter Woods Drive, Warner Robins, GA 31093
(912) 862-3356

State Board of Trustees 1997
E.A. Welch, Jr.
Rt. 1, Box 253, Mauk, GA 31058
(912) 862-3356

Double In A Decade 1997
Rev. Jeff Lunsford
P.O. Box 302, Thomaston, GA 30286-0302
(706) 648-3834 Office
(706) 648-6473 Fax
(706) 648-2055 Home

**162nd ANNUAL SESSION OF THE
CHATTAHOOCHEE FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION**

The fourth quarterly meeting of the Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Association was held October 4, 1997, at the Turner's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Butler, Georgia.

The Rev. Charles Clark, pastor of the host church began the meeting at 10:30 AM by leading in singing "To God Be The Glory."

A season of prayer around the altar followed for many prayer requests that were shared. The prayer was led by Herbert Waid. Words of welcome were then given by the host pastor. He then introduced our Moderator, the Rev. Sidney Jones.

Guests were greeted: Bro. Chester Huckaby and his wife, Rev. Michael Bourgeois, and Rev. Carl Miller.

Corresponding letters were called for. The Reverend Arthur Smith and Bro. Junior Welch were asked to read the letters. Churches reporting and their elected church delegates are as follows:

Bethany	:	(no report)
First-Thomaston	:	Melissa Lunsford
Little Bethel	:	Ruby Ray
Mt. Olive	:	Junior Smith, Barbara Jean Windham, Arline Smith
New Liberty	:	Anne Ross, Perry Lunsford, Sara Lunford
New Life	:	
New Prospect	:	Lee Sawyer, Chris Cotney, Nettie Lee Wainwright
Spring Hill	:	no elected delegates
Trinity	:	Marilyn Smith, Bess Williams, Josephine Welch
Turner's Chapel	:	Janice Clark, Bobby Rodgers, Corine Rodgers, Ruby Carroll

Elected church delegates were seated.

Ministerial roll was called.

The Moderator then appointed the following committees:

Finance:	Perry Lunsford, Ruby Ray, Barbara Windham
Temperance:	Arline Smith, Nettie Lee Wainwright, Janice Clark
Sunday School:	Melissa Lunsford, Josephine Welch, Ann Ross
Obituary:	Junior Smith, Corine Rogers, Louise Mitchell
Nominating :	Lee Sawyer, Arthur Smith, Marilyn Smith

Rolls were called for the Executive Committee, Ordaining Council, Suggestion Committee, and all other officers. Bro. Chris Cotney and Reverend A.G. Windham were asked to fill vacancies on today's Suggestion Committee.

Minutes (just the high spots!) of the previous meeting were received, including a "Thank You" note from our State Executive Secretary and his wife, Herbert & Geraldine Waid.

The Executive Committee reported they had no business to bring to this session.

Camp Resolution: The following resolution was presented concerning state camp property:

RESOLUTION

"Whereas district associations have gone through difficult struggles to locate sites for camp sessions since the closing of Camp Mt. Bethel, and

Whereas the Executive Board offered it's services as a Steering Committee to search for new camp property, and

Whereas the Steering Committee is well aware of the sensitivity of Georgia Free Will Baptists toward owning our own camp property, and

Whereas the lack of aggressiveness evidenced by the Steering Committee in trying to locate property seems to indicate that, at best, the Committee is dragging its feet on this matter, or, at worst, is opposed to the purchase of a camp property altogether and is blocking the matter, and

Whereas the Steering Committee does not regularly report to our people across the state (through the Promotional Bulletin or through representatives at district meetings) as to the efforts or progress of the Committee,

Be it therefore resolved that the Chattahoochee Association go on record as being displeased with the manner in which the Steering Committee has acted in failing to keep us informed of their efforts. If it is the intent of the Executive Board that a camp property not be purchased, tell us.

Be it further resolved that we recommend that the responsibility to search for camp property be put back into the hands of the camp board."

Exec. Secretary Herbert Waid shared information with us. We have \$186,452.89 in the camp fund. Much discussion was ensued. A motion was made by Rev. Jeff Lunsford to adopt the resolution. It was seconded. The motion was adopted 16 votes to 11. A copy will be sent along to the GA State Association Resolution Committee.

Bro. Chester Huckaby shared a brief report about CONTACT magazine and gave away complimentary copies to those who are not currently subscribed. He noted that as the official publication of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, it is a magazine BY Free Will Baptists FOR Free Will Baptists. Every Free Will Baptist home should receive it.

The meeting was then turned over to the host church for the Worship Hour. The congregation was led in singing "Living By Faith." A offering was received. Then we sang "I Will Sing The Wondrous Story." Host pastor Charles Clark introduced our speaker, Rev. Carl Miller, pastor at Double Branch FWB Church, Hawkinsville, GA. His message was entitled, "Being A Preaching Minister" from II Tim. 4:1-8, II Cor. 2:14-17. We must preach the whole Bible, and nothing else! Preach the truth conscientiously, continuously, comprehensively, courageously.

The meeting was then adjourned for lunch.

The meeting reconvened at 1:15 with prayer and Moderator Jones called for committee reports.

Finance Committee:

Received today:	Representation fees:	\$470.00
	Offering:	\$ 64.01
	Total:	\$534.01
General Fund Balance		\$341.09
Benevolent Fund Balance		\$146.89
Mission Fund Balance		\$ 61.81

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

Barbara Windham
Ruby Ray
Perry Lunsford, Chmn.

Suggestion Committee:

We, your Suggestion Committee, recommend:

- #1 That we strive to uphold the Word with our daily living. MSC
- #2 That we strive to make prayer once again begin at home, thus to follow back to our schools. Prayer, just as charity, should begin at home. MSC
- #3 That "we" who are ministers to the world should take heed in our works for Christ that our hands are not found idle. MSC
- #4 That a rising [vote] of thanks [be given] to the host church for their hospitality. MSC

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. A.G. Windham
Bro. Sid Crook
Bro. Chris Cotney

(Two other items were submitted to the Suggestion Committee too late for their consideration. They were passed along to the body exactly as they were received without any recommendation.)

- #1 "The Chattahoochee District [Woman's] Auxiliary requests the Quarterly Association to allow us to meet during the January and July meetings at a convenient time, whether before or after lunch.

We hope to make more efficient use of our time by consolidating these meeting days, and we hope to further publicize the purpose of the Auxiliary. We also hope to gain support from other women's groups.

We request to try this new meeting for the year 1998."

- #2 "It is suggested that we alter the format of the meetings of the Chattahoochee Association to roughly follow the schedule below:

9:30 - 9:50 AM

Call to order.
Corresponding Letters
Seat Delegates.
Recognize guests.
Call rolls.
Appoint committees.

9:50 - 10:15 AM

Recess for committees to work.
Fellowship Time (coffee & donuts)

10:15 - 11:00 AM

Business resumes.
Minutes.
Reports of committees.
Miscellaneous business.
Adjourn business.

11:00 - 12:00 AM

Worship hour.

12:00 - 1:00 AM

Fellowship meal.

1:00 - 2:00 PM

District Woman's Auxiliary to meet
(Jan. & July)

The last two suggestions were considered together and a motion was made to try it for a year and then reevaluate at the 1998 Annual Meeting. MSC

In an effort to further streamline our meetings, the Clerk then offered to print copies of the minutes and distribute them rather than reading them during the meeting. MSC to do it at the discretion of the Clerk.

Church letters should also be brought up to the Clerk before the meeting begins.

Temperance Committee:

We your Temperance Committee wish to submit the following:

"As we heard in today's message how so many problems in our churches are a result of gossip and vain talking, we wish to urge our members to speak only for the good of our fellowships. James 1:26 says "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.""

Janice Clark
Nettie Wainwright
Arline Smith, chmn.

Sunday School Committee:

"Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Though Sunday School is often thought of as a children's ministry, we, the committee, wish to encourage all adults to become involved in it as well.

Let us pray for the growth and success of all Sunday Schools within our district."

Anne Ross
Josephine Welch
Melissa Lunsford, chmn.

Obituary Committee:

"We, your Obituary Committee, regret to report our loss of the following:

John Nelson	New Prospect
Dorothy W. Robinson	Turner's Chapel
Otis D. Windham	"
Willis Melvin Allen	"
Parker T. Williams	Little Bethel
Myrtice Lucille (Polly) Jordan	New Life
Ruby Nell O'Hearn	"
Lula Ellen Waller	"
Margaret Willis	First-Thomaston
Iva Tarrer	"
Lucille Waters	New Liberty
Rev. Clyde Melton	Mt. Olive
David Bryant	"
Susie Crook	"
Charlie Cromer	"

We further recommend that we stand for a moment of silent prayer in their memory." MSC

Corine Rodgers
Louise Mitchell
Junior Smith, chmn.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee's slate of nominees was considered item by item. The following were elected:

Moderator	: Rev. Gene Ross (2 yrs.)
Asst. Moderator	: Rev. Charles Clark (2 yrs.)
Clerk/Treasurer	: Rev. Jeff Lunsford
Asst. Clerk/Treasurer	: Barbara Windham
Exec. Committee At-Large Member	: Tyson Ray (3 yrs.)
Ordaining Council	: Warren Wyatt (3 yrs.)
Suggestion Committee	: Marilyn Smith (3 yrs.)
Youth/Camp Director	: Rev. Arthur Smith
State Mission Board	: Rev. Arthur Smith (4 yrs.)
State Bd. of Trustees	: E. A. Welch, Jr. (4 yrs.)
Double In A Decade	: Rev. Brian Fuller

As requested by his Pastor, Rev. Brian Fuller, due to failing health, Bro. Norman Grier was replaced on the Executive Committee. The body elected Rev. A.G. Windham to fill his term (1998).

At this point Moderator Sidney Jones had to leave in order to conduct a wedding. He called on the Assistant Moderator, Rev. Gene Ross, to preside over the remainder of the meeting.

State Mission Board

Rev. Charles Clark reported that the North Fayette mission work is meeting in a rented facility and is talking with a realtor about 3 acres of land on Hwy. 19.

Camp Report.

It was reported that we had a good camp last year but that we had outgrown our camp site. This coming year's camp session will be held at the 4-H Camp near Perry, June 8-12. Rev. Charles Barnard of Macon will be the Director. The cost will be \$100 per camper for those who pre-register. Churches are encouraged to help their youth have fundraisers to help their kids with the cost.

Executive Secretary's Report

Rev. Herbert Waid reported that this would be his last official meeting with us. Mentioned the Acts 1:8 Plan, a great new plan for supporting all home and foreign missionaries from Georgia. Be sure to read the Promotional Bulletin for much important information about our upcoming State Association meeting in Savannah, November 13-15.

A rising vote of appreciation was given to our Moderator and other outgoing officers.

Youth workers need to get kids started now if they are going to be involved in competitive activities.

Delegates to State Meeting: MSC for clerk to appoint.

Next year's meetings:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
January 3	Turner's Chapel	Jeff Lunsford
April 4	New Life	Arthur Smith
July 11	1st-Thomaston	
October 3	New Prospect	Sidney Jones

Respectfully,

Rev. Sidney Jones, Moderator

Rev. Jeff Lunsford, Clerk

There were approximately 50 people in attendance.

Third Quarterly Meeting

The third quarterly meeting of the Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Association was held July 12, 1997, at the Little Bethel Free Will Baptist Church, Macon County, Georgia.

The Rev. Sidney Jones, pastor of the host church and Moderator of the Association, began the meeting at 10:30 AM by leading in singing "Amazing Grace."

A season of prayer followed for many prayer requests that were shared. The prayer was led by Rev. Gene Ross. We were also reminded that tomorrow, July 13, is set aside as a day of prayer for our upcoming National Association.

Corresponding letters were called for. The Reverends Gene Ross and Perry Wainwright were asked to read the letters. Churches reporting and their elected church delegates are as follows:

Bethany	:	(no report)
First-Thomaston:		Elaine McHargue, Melissa Lunsford
Little Bethel	:	Ruby Ray, Jean Albritton
Mt. Olive	:	Junior Smith, Barbara Jean Windham, Arline Smith, Thomas Windham
New Liberty	:	J.C. Kirkland, Christine Kirkland, Sara Lunford
New Life	:	(no report)
New Prospect	:	Anna Cotney, Kevin Cotney, Nettie Lee Wainwright
Spring Hill	:	no elected delegates
Trinity	:	Marilyn Smith
Turner's Chapel:		no elected delegates

Elected church delegates were seated. It was noted that there was a death in the family of Trinity Church members.

Minutes (just the high spots!) of the previous meeting were received.

Rolls of officers and ministers were called. It was noted that Rev. Curtis Kirksey has missed 4 quarterly meetings. MSC to ask Bro. Perry Wainwright to talk with him and report back at next meeting. It was also noted that Rev. Hubert Arnold has missed two meetings. Bro. A.G. Windham was asked to meet with him and report back at the next meeting.

Roy McHargue gave the Camp/ Youth report. He reported that we had a good camp session with 103 campers and 19 professions of faith. Also, another youth rally is being planned. Information will be sent out to the churches.

Finance Committee Appointed: Ruby Ray, Thomas Windham, J.C. Kirkland, Chmn.

Sis. Wainwright was asked to serve today on the Suggestion Committee.

Youth Competitive Activities: Melissa Lunsford reported that we had several competitors win at State competition and qualify to go on to National Competition in Cincinnati:

Bible Tic-Tac-Toe: Robin McCallister, Shane Grimsley,
Douglas Whitt - Spring Hill
1st Grade Bible Memorization: Benjamin Lunsford - 1st Thomaston
Bible Sword Drill: Joseph Lunsford - 1st Thomaston
Keyboard Solo: Benjamin Lunsford - 1st Thomaston.

Missionaries Ronald & Janice Wallace were recognized.

The worship hour was begun by singing "Showers of Blessing" and "What A Day That Will Be." Missionary Janice Wallace sang "The Haven of Rest". The Rev. Arthur Smith then brought our message from Colossians 1. What do you pray for the brethren every day? 1. Spiritual vision 2. Spiritual vitality 3. Spiritual victory.

Morning offering was received totaling \$53.00. The meeting was then adjourned for lunch.

The meeting reconvened at 1:00 with singing "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart."

The Rev. Ronald Wallace, missionary appointee to Fairbanks, Alaska, shared with us about their soon expected move to the mission field.

The Ordaining Council and the Executive Committee had no reports to give.

Finance Committee report:

Received today:	Representation fees:	\$160.00
	Offering:	\$ 53.00
	* Other:	\$ 25.00
	Total:	\$238.00

(* New Prospect representation fee from April)

General Fund Balance	\$405.44
Benevolent Fund Balance	\$296.89
Mission Fund Balance	\$ 68.81

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

Thomas Windham
Ruby Ray
J.C.Kirkland, Chmn.

The clerk reported that our district youth competitors have the money they need to go to the National, but next year it may be that some of our kids will need help in going.

Suggestion Committee report:

We, your suggestion committee recommend:

- 1. That we continue with our brotherly love toward one another. MSC
- 2. That we encourage our church members to attend church regularly and faithfully. MSC
- 3. That we give the host church a rising vote of appreciation for the excellent food and warm fellowship enjoyed here today. MSC

The Rev. Charles Clark reported for State Home Missions. North Fayette now has a new meeting place and is trying to sell the old property. Please pray for your State Mission Board.

Much discussion was had concerning the prospects of us having our own state camp property. It is the sentiment of the body that we very much want our own property, but it seems that our State leaders are dragging their feet in finding us a site. The clerk reported that a resolution will be brought to this body at the next meeting concerning this matter.

Following local church announcements the meeting was dismissed by the Moderator leading the body in reciting The Model Prayer.

There were 43 people in attendance.

Respectfully,

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

NOTE: Letters were received from two churches the week following the quarterly meeting:

New Life	Representation fees	\$25.00
Trinity	Representation fees	\$35.00
		<u>\$60.00</u>

Their representation fees bring the total received this quarter to \$298.00.

SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING

The second quarterly meeting of the Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptists was held April 5, 1997, at Trinity FNB Church, Mauk, GA.

The meeting began at 10:30 AM with Bro. Welch leading the congregation in "Power In The Blood". Host pastor, the Rev. Warren Wyatt then gave words of greeting.

Corresponding letters were called for and were read by the Reverends Warren Wyatt and Arthur Smith. The churches and their elected delegates were as follows:

Bethany: No elected delegates.

First-Thomaston: Melissa Smith

Little Bethel: No elected delegates.

Mt. Olive: Barbara Jean Windham, Syd Crook, Arline Smith

New Liberty: John C. Kirkland, Christine Kirkland, Ann Ross

New Life: No elected delegates.

New Prospect: No report.

Spring Hill: Linda Grimsley, Linda Whitt, April Fuller

Trinity: Alane Patterson, Bess Willlams, Josephine Welch,
Marilyn Smith

Turner's Chapel: Wylodine Pearson

Elected church delegates were seated. A Finance Committee was then appointed consisting of: J.C. Kirkland, Linda Whitt, Alaine Patterson.

Minutes of the previous meeting were then read and received.

National Youth Conference Activities:

1. 1st Grade Bible Memorization: Benjamin Lunsford from First FWB Thomaston
2. 4th Grade Bible Sword Drill: Joseph Lunsford from First FWB Thomaston
3. Bible Tic-Tac-Toe: Robin McCallister, Douglas Whitt, Shane Grimsley from Spring Hill FWB Church
4. Category 5 Keyboard Solo: Benjamin Lunsford from First FWB Thomaston
5. Category 5 Keyboard Solo: Joseph Lunsford from First FWB Thomaston.
6. Category 2 Vocal Ensemble: "The Thomaston Ensemble"
Joseph & Benjamin Lunsford,
Crystal Callenback, Crystal Mathis, Jake & Josh McCoy, Russell Baker, Jonathan Smith

Brother Chester Huckabee then gave a promotional word for CONTACT magazine, distributing free copies and encouraging subscriptions. He pointed out that it was a publication by Free Will Baptists, for Free Will Baptists. Every Free Will Baptist should have this publication in their home.

Rev. Paul Smith reported about the North Fayette mission work. The mission received a new member on Easter Sunday. Also, the members of the mission have voted to sell the property and relocate, pending approval by the State Association.

Bro. Smith then gave a tribute to Rev. & Mrs. Herbert Wald, based on Philippians 1, stating that verse 27, "Only let your conversation be as it

becometh the gospel of Christ:" was especially applicable to Brother & Sister Waid in their years of service at the Georgia State Office. On behalf of the Chattahoochee Association, he then presented the Waids with a monetary love gift.

It was announced that each of our NYC contestants scored high enough to advance to State Competition. Participation certificates and awards were then given to the contestants.

Following the reception of the offering, the meeting was recessed for lunch.

The meeting was reconvened at 1:00 PM by singing "Amazing Grace".

Following prayer, Debbie Griffin, our missionary to Japan, was invited to share with us. Her uplifting report was enjoyed by all.

The Executive Committee had no business to report.

The Suggestion Committee offered the following suggestions:

1. Each church encourage their youth to attend the next youth rally at New Life church, April 12th.
2. Give the host church a rising vote of thanks for having us today and for the good food and fine fellowship enjoyed.

The Finance Committee Report was given:

Received Today:	Representation Fees:	\$ 215.00
	Offering :	\$ 57.90
	Benevolence Fund :	\$ 150.00
	Mission Fund :	\$ 0.00
	Other (Waids) :	\$ 100.00
	Total :	\$ 522.90

General Fund Balance	(03-31-97)	:	\$ 271.74
Benevolent Fund Balance	"	:	\$ 296.89
Mission Fund Balance	"	:	\$1,068.81

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

J.C. Kirkland, Chmn.

Alane Patterson

Linda Whitt

MSC to accept finance report.

The Clerk reported that we had a total of 614 people in our churches on Roll Call Sunday, with two saved. He also reminded us of the Minister's Retreat, April 2-23, at Jekyll Island. Every minister in our district is encouraged to go.

MSC to have Chattahoochee Association Youth Fund pay our competitor's fees (\$110.00) for State competition.

Georgia State Executive Secretary Herbert Waid then reported: Thank you for recognition... "it was kind of embarrassing, but it felt good." Hurry and register for the State Ministers Retreat. Couples Retreat is May 2-3. Speakers: Dr. & Mrs. LaVerne Miley. Cut-off date is April 15th. Two teen camps this year: Grades 7-9 at Camp Tatnall near Reidsville, directed by Glenn Poston. Grades 10-12 in Albany area, directed by Terry Pierce.

National Association is expensive! Consider doubling up with another family to help save money. Churches, your pastor needs to go. Help him. Laura Belle Barnard Mission Day offering has been renamed Georgia Missions Day, Oct. 12.

On April 19 there will be a District Woman's Aux. Workshop at First Thomaston. All ladies in the district are encouraged to attend, even if you do not presently have an Auxiliary in your church. On May 9th there will be a Mother/Daughter Banquet at First Thomaston. Speaker is missionary Debbie Griffin (\$4.00 registration fee).

Announcements:

Revival April 28-30 at Little Bethel. Rev. Terry Pierce, Evangelist.

Singing April 26 at New Liberty. Featuring The Generations from Taylor County.

Revival May 5-7 at Mt. Olive.

Revival Sept. 22-26 at mt. Olive. Rev. Paul Smith, Evangelist.

The next meeting of the Chattahoochee Association will be held July 12th at Little Bethel Free Will Baptist Church.

(There were approx. 65 in attendance today.)

Respectfully,

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

FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING

The first quarterly meeting of the Chattahoochee Free Will Baptist Association was held January 4, 1997, at the Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church, Reynolds, Georgia.

The meeting began at 10:30 AM with the Rev. A.G. Windham leading the congregation in singing "Glory To His Name." Host pastor, the Rev. Arthur Smith, gave words of welcome and called on the Rev. Warren Wyatt to lead in prayer. Pastor Smith then turned the meeting over to our Moderator, the Rev. Sidney Jones, who called the meeting to order.

Brother Jones said he felt led of the Lord to invite folks to share prayer concerns. Many needs were mentioned, including those of the Rev. Charles Clark, who is recuperating from very serious surgery, and the Rev. Herbert Waid, our State Executive Secretary, and his wife, Geraldine, who were in a serious auto accident earlier this week. A season of prayer was led by Bro. Leonard Layfield.

The Rev. John Breeden, interim pastor at New Life F.W.B. Church, was introduced to the Association and welcomed.

Corresponding letters were called for and each of our churches reported. The Revs. A.G. Windham and Brian Fuller read the letters. The churches and their elected church delegates are as follows:

Bethany:	Hubert Barbaree
First-Thomaston:	Melissa Lunsford
Little Bethel:	Ruby Layfield, Blondell Layfield
Mt. Olive:	Barbara Jean Windham, Barbara Arnold, Arline Smith, Junior Smith
New Liberty:	J.C. Kirkland, Christine Kirkland, Perry Lunsford
New Life:	
New Prospect:	Nettie Lee Wainwright, Chris Cotney, Lou Riner
Spring Hill:	Ruth Amerson, Linda Whitt
Trinity:	Juanita Wyatt, Josephine Welch, Marilyn Smith, Bess Williams
Turner's Chapel:	Wylodine Pearson, Gloria Lowe

MSC to receive the letters and seat elected church delegates.

Rolls were called for officers and ministers.

A synopsis of the minutes of the previous meeting was read and the minutes received.

Moderator Jones appointed a Finance Committee and then called for any brief reports. Melissa Lunsford reported concerning our National Youth Conference (NYC) competitive activities. Churches are encouraged to involve their young people in these activities, but they need to hurry. The deadline to register for district level competition this year is March 6th.

Bro Roy McHargue, our Camp/Youth Director, then reported that our last youth rally was held October 19th At Mt. Olive. The program was a very "special" fashion show, presented by the Mt. Olive youth. It was very entertaining and everyone enjoyed it. There was a total attendance of 79 present, representing 4 of our churches and 8 guests. Total offering for the rally was \$58.42.

Camp this year will again be held at Camp Eunice in Roberta, June 22nd - 26th. We need volunteers for every area.

Our Youth Fund account now stands at \$549.32. (\$100.00 was sent to cover the Chattahoochee Association's part for camp start-up expenses.)

The clerk then reported that churches in our Association reported a total membership of 796 in 1996. This is 132 fewer than in 1995.

The meeting was then turned over to the host pastor for the Worship Hour. The speaker was the Rev. Paul Smith, missionary at our North Fayette mission work, and Moderator of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists. Bro. Smith's impassioned preaching focused on "3 Motivating Forces in Paul's Life", taken from II Cor. 5:10-14. The Spirit of God truly ministered through the sermon and Moderator Jones invited folks to an altar of prayer. The altar filled quickly and was covered with many a tear. Following the receiving of the morning offering, the meeting was recessed for lunch.

The meeting reconvened at 1:00 PM with a brief devotion by the host pastor.

Finance Committee Report

<u>Received Today:</u>	<u>Representation Fees</u>	<u>\$ 240.00</u>
	<u>Offering</u>	<u>\$ 56.25</u>
	<u>Benevolence Fund</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	<u>Mission Fund</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
	<u>Other</u>	<u>\$ 105.00</u>
	(Waid - Love Offering)	
	<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 401.25</u>

General Fund Balance: \$ 79.95

Benevolent Fund Balance: \$ 33.89

Missions Fund Balance: \$ 918.81
(\$150 was transferred to Gen. Fund to pay for Minutes)

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

Chris Cotney, Chmn.
Ruth Amerson
Dwight Smith

Suggestion Committee Report

We the Suggestion Committee recommend:

1. That each church keep Bro. Charles Clark and the Waids in their prayers.

MSC

2. That we give the host church a rising vote of thanks for the delicious food and warm fellowship; shown here today. MSC

Respectfully,

Roy McHargue
Rev. Joe Tyler
Sid Crook

Neither the Executive Committee nor the Ordaining Council had any business to report.

The clerk shared several items, the first of which was to call attention to the report of the Finance Committee concerning the

Benevolent Fund. There is a balance of only \$33.89, not enough even to send out next month's checks. MSC to receive a special offering today to build up the Fund. Brother Welch encouraged our churches to give regular designated support to this Fund so that the balance does not dip this low again. (The offering received totaled \$163.00).

Every church is encouraged to purchase from Randall House a copy of the new NYC Guidelines booklets. The Association has a copy if anyone would like to browse through it.

January 13 is the date for the Ministers & Deacons "Christmas" fellowship. Bring wives, 7:00 PM, Golden Corral, Thomaston.

The Georgia State Ministers Retreat is April 21-23 at Jekyll Island. Every minister in our association is encouraged to attend. Each church is encouraged to send their pastor... he deserves it! Send in his \$10 non-refundable registration fee right away.

Bro. Roy McHargue announced after having met today with several local church youth leaders that the next youth rally would be April 12th at New Life F.W.B. Church.

The meeting closed with Moderator Sidney Jones leading the body in reciting the Model Prayer in unison.

Respectfully,

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	--	--	--	-- No Report --			--	--	--	--	--
First Thomaston	Rev. Jeff Lunsford	1	0	2	0	3	2	52	36	0	8	0
Little Bethel	Rev. Sidney Jones	1	0	4	8	12	1	108	55	0	10	5
Mt. Olive	Rev. Arthur Smith	3	0	5	1	4	9	140	60	0	0	0
New Liberty	Rev. Eugene R. Ross	2	0	1	0	1	1	34	17	0	0	0
New Life		0	1	4	0	2	2	136	36	0	10	12
New Prospect	Rev. Perry Wainwright	2	0	0	0	1	0	21	18	0	5	0
Spring Hill	Rev. Brian Fuller	1	0	3	0	5	1	67	32	0	0	0
Trinity	Rev. Warren Wyatt	1	0	5	2	2	0	47	38	0	0	0
Turner's Chapel	Rev. Charles Clark	1	0	2	2	4	3	187	48	0	0	0
TOTALS		12	1	26	13	34	19	792	340	0	33	17

FINANCIAL TABLE

Church	County	City/Town Rural	Pastor: Full/Part Time	Budget	Parsonage	Value of Church & Parsonage	Tithes & Offerings
Bethany	Marion	--	--	--	No Report	--	--
First Thomaston	Upson	C/T	FT	Yes	Yes	350,000.00	30,363.06
Little Bethel	Macon	R	FT	No	Yes	80,000.00	24,141.00
Mt. Olive	Taylor	R	FT	No	Yes	275,000.00	23,167.71
New Liberty	Schley	R	PT	No	No	No Report	No Report
New Life	Marion	R	PT	No	Yes	150,000.00	No Report
New Prospect	Taylor	R	PT	No	No	80,000.00	10,220.72
Spring Hill	Marion	R	PT	No	No	95,000.00	No Report
Trinity	Taylor	R	PT	No	No	200,00.00	30,343.00
Turner's Chapel	Taylor	R	PT	No	Yes	450,000.00	30,842.28
TOTALS						1,405,000.00	149,077.77

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

Thurston "Pete" Faulk
Nov. 23, 1933 -- Jan. 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

Alvin Milam
June 24, 1911 -- Dec. 8, 1995

TURNER'S CHAPEL

Nannie Lou Moore Rogers
Annie Spillers Nelson

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.

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

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

8th. That we will avoid all improper intercourse of all ungodliness 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 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 assurances, 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. 1:3, 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 assemblies 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 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 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.

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 than 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 an 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 preceded by the primitive usage of any self-created bodies.

We, the delegates from our respective churches, being authorized by our churches, to agree to form ourselves into an association to be known by the name of the Chattahoochee 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.