

CHATTAHOOCHEE
ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST

169th
ANNUAL
REPORT

2004

REV. DWIGHT SMITH
MODERATOR

BILLY PATTERSON
CLERK

ORDER OF BUSINESS

> CALL TO ORDER

> CALL FOR CORRESPONDING LETTERS

> SEAT DELEGATES

> INVITE VISITING BRETHREN TO SEATS

> ROLL CALL

> CALL FOR PETITION LETTERS

> REINFORCE/APPOINT COMMITTEES

> RECESS

> APPROVE MINUTES

> BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

> BUSINESS, OLD AND NEW

> ADJOURNMENT

**DIRECTORY
OF
FREE WILL BAPTIST
2004-2005**

GENERAL OFFICERS

MODERATOR

Rev. Dwight Smith
110 Governors Dr.
Box Springs, Ga. 31801
(229) 649-7755

2005

ASSISTANT MODERATOR

Rev. Terry Tribble
PO Box 16
Mauk, Ga. 31058
(478) 862-2745
terryone@pstel.net

2005

CLERK/TREASURER

Billy Patterson
PO Box 586
Reynolds, Ga. 31076
(478) 847-3493
bap@pstel.net

2005

ASSISTANT CLERK/TREASURER

Alane Patterson
PO Box 586
Reynolds, Ga. 31076
(478) 847-3493

2005

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee consists of the Moderator,
Clerk, and three(3) members elected at-large:

E.A. Welch Jr.
Rt. 2, Box 253
Mauk, Ga. 31058
(478) 862-3356

2005

Gerald Moore
Rt. 2, Box 130
Butler, Ga. 31006
(478) 847-4462

2006

Rev. Ben Crabtree
PO Box 2183
Butler, Ga. 31006
(478) 862-3828

2007

ORDAINING COUNCIL

E.A. Welch Jr. 2006
Rt.2, Box 253
Mauk, Ga. 31058
(478)862-3356

Rev. Mitch Griffin 2005
203 N. Poplar St.
Thomaston, Ga. 30286
(706)648-2055

Rev. Daniel Smith 2007
Rt 2, Box 136D
Reynolds, Ga 31076
(478) 847- 9331

YOUTH/CAMP DIRECTOR

Mark Moore 2005
Rt. 2 Box 91
Butler, Ga. 31006
(478)862-5521

DISTRICT YOUTH COMPETITION DIRECTOR

Pam Guined 2004
P.O. Box 2424
Butler, Ga. 31006
(478)862-3637

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Herbert Salter 2005
112 Sherwood Dr.
Thomaston, Ga. 30286
(706)648-3622

Mike Armour 2005
249 Saddle Trail
Box Springs, Ga. 31801
(229)649-2274

STATE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

**Rev. Dwight Smith
110 Governors Dr
Box Springs, Ga 31801
(229) 649-7755**

March 2007

BOARD OF CAMPING

**Rev. Terry Tribble
P O Box 16
Mauk, Ga. 31058
(478) 862-2745**

March 2007

STATE MISSION BOARD

**Billy Patterson
P O Box 586
Reynolds, Ga. 31076
(478)847-3493**

March 2005

STATE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**Rev. Mitch Griffin
203 North Poplar St
Thomaston, Ga. 30286
(706) 648-2055**

March 2005

DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK
First Freewill Baptist of Thomaston P. O. Box 302 146 Harp Road Thomaston, GA 30286 (706) 648-3834	Rev. Mitch Griffin 203 N Poplar Street Thomaston, GA 30286 (706) 648-2055	Geraldine Taunton 805 Rocky Bottom Rd. Thomaston, GA 30286 (706) 647-4689
Little Bethel Free Will Baptist Ideal, GA 31041		Diane Hinton P.O. Box 574 Reynolds, GA 31076 (478) 847-4657
Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Reynolds, GA 31076	Rev. Daniel Smith Rt. 2, Box 136D Reynolds, GA 31076 (478) 847-9331	Joe B. Logue P. O. Box 714 Butler, GA 31006 (478) 847-2583
New Beginning Free Will Baptist Box Springs, GA 31801	Bro. Dallas Short (interim) 249 Saddle Trail Box Springs, GA 31801	Louise Brooker 4463 GA Hwy 240 N Mauk, GA 31058
New Liberty Free Will Baptist Tazewell, GA	Rev. J. C. Grimsley 4118 16th Ave. Columbus, GA 31904 (706) 317-6419	Perry Lunsford P. O. Box 714 Ellaville, GA 31806 (229) 937-2488
New Life Free Will Baptist Box Springs, GA 31801	Rev. Jimmy Stubbs (Interim) 5809 Fornoff Road Columbus, GA 31909 (706) 563-0522	Sarah Anthony 1049 Sand Pit Road Mauk, GA 31058 (706) 269-3839
Spring Hill Free Will Baptist 396 Ga. Hwy 127 Mauk, GA 31058 (229) 649-7306		Bernice G. McCall 485 Ga Hwy 127 Mauk, GA 31058 (229) 649-7273
Trinity Free Will Baptist Highway 90 Mauk, GA 31058 (478) 862-2745	Rev. Terry Tribble P. O. Box 16 Mauk, GA 31058 (478) 863-2745	Alane Patterson P. O. Box 586 Reynolds, GA 31076 (478) 847-3493
Turners Chapel Free Will Baptist P. O. Box 2183 Butler, GA 31006 (478) 862-3828	Rev. Ben Crabtree P. O. Box 2183 Butler, Ga. 31006 (478) 862-3828	Gerald Moore Route 2, Box 130 Butler, GA 31006 (478) 847-4462

ADDITIONAL MINISTERS

Rev. Hubert Arnold
P. O. Box 912
Reynolds, GA 31076
(478) 847-4627

Rev. Warren Wyatt
P. O. Box 68
Howard, GA 31039
(478) 862-5585

Rev. Dwight Smith
110 Governor's Drive
Box Springs, GA 31801

Rev. A. G. Windham
Rt. 2, Box 133A
Reynolds, GA 31076
(478) 847-3268

Rev. Sidney Jones
3665 State Road 127 W
Reynolds, GA 31076
(478) 949-2893

ACTIVE DEACONS

First Thomaston Herbert Salter

112 Sherwood Drive, Thomaston, Ga. 30286

(706)648-3622

Little Bethel

Scotty P. Jones
Leonard Layfield
Jim Nolan

4036 St. Rd. 127 W. Reynolds, Ga. 31076
Rt. 1 Box 234 , Butler, Ga. 31006
404 N. Dooly Street, Oglethorpe, Ga. 31068

(478)949-2307
(478)862-3907
(478)472-0040

Mount Olive

Clifford Carpenter
Joe Logue
Clarence Wainwright
Eugene Windham
Mark Windham
Ralph Windham

Rt. 2 Reynolds, Ga. 31076
PO Box 714 Butler, Ga. 31006
Rt. 2 Reynolds, Ga. 31076
Rt. 2 Reynolds, Ga. 31076
Rt. 2 Reynolds, Ga. 31076
Rt. 1 Butler, Ga. 31006

(478)847-4708
(478)862-2583
(478)847-3627
(478)847-3230
(478)847-9383
(478)862-3704

New Beginning

New Liberty

Elbert Streetman
Chadwick Childs

Rt. 1, Ellaville, Ga. 31086
118 Old Buena Vista Road, Ellaville, Ga. 31806

(229)937-2885
(229)937-5070

New Life

Richard Anthony
J.W. Teat
Daniel Whitt

Sand Pit Road, Mauk, Ga,31058
Rt. 1 Box 134, Mauk, Ga. 31058
157 Watermelon Lane, Mauk, GA 31058

(706)269-3839
(478)862-3412
(229)649-5638

Spring Hill

Mark McCallister
Leonard Stubbs

2818 Ga. Hwy 127, Mauk, Ga. 31058
2719 Ga. Hwy 127, Mauk, Ga. 31058

(229)649-7704
(229)649-3304

Trinity

Larry Bell
David Welch
E.A. Welch Jr.

Rt. 1, Mauk, Ga. 31058
Rt. 1 Box 254, Mauk, Ga. 31058
Rt. 1 Box 253, Mauk, Ga. 31058

(478)862-3943
(478)862-5976
(478)862-3356

ACTIVE DEACONS

Turners Chapel

Jessie Carroll	Rt. 2 Box 90, Butler, Ga. 31006	(478)862-5880
Ned Ingram	Rt. 2 Box 85, Butler, Ga. 31006	(478)862-9493
Gerald Moore	Rt. 2 Box 130, Butler, Ga. 31006	(478)847-4462
Rex Robinson	Rt.2 Box 52 , Butler, Ga.31006	(478)862-3947

YOUTH CAMP BOARD

Mark Moore, Director
(478)862-5521

First Thomaston	Rev. Mitch Griffin	(706)648-2055
Little Bethel	Sheri Jones	(478)949-2307
Mt. Olive	Barbara Jean Windham	(478)862-3704
New Beginning	Lisa Armour	(229)649-2274
Spring Hill	Sam Whitt	(229)649-2126
Trinity	Marsha Starling	(478)862-2784
Turners Chapel	Mark Moore	(478)862-5521

Statistical Table

Church	First Thomaston	Little Bethel	Mt. Olive	New Beginning	New Liberty	New Life	Spring Hill	Trinity	Turners Chapel	Totals
Ordained Ministers	1	1	3	0	1	0	1	2	1	10
Licensed Ministers	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
Ordained Deacons	1	3	6	0	2	4	2	3	4	25
Baptisms	3	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	4	11
Members Added	13	0	3	0	0	0	6	3	9	34
Members Lost	1	4	5	0	0	0	2	0	5	17
Total Members	77	74	141	64	22	77*	43*	54	107*	659
Sunday School	50	55	75*	35*	12	15	15	45	60	362
Women's Auxiliary	0	8	No	17*	No	No	No	No	No	25
Master's Men	No	5	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	5

*2003 Information

Financial Table

Church	County	City/Rural	Pastor	Budget	Parsonage	Property Value	Annual Tithe
First Thomaston	Upson	City	FT	Yes	Yes	\$435,000	\$54,125
Little Bethel	Macon	Rural	FT	No	Yes	\$125,000	\$33,720
Mt. Olive	Taylor	Rural	FT	No	Yes	\$300,000	\$33,445
New Beginnings	Marion	Rural	PT	No	No	\$87,000	Not Reported
New Liberty	Schley	Rural	PT	No	No	Not Reported	Not Reported
New Life	Marion	Rural	PT	No	Yes	\$151,000	Not Reported
Spring Hill	Marion	Rural	PT	No	Yes	\$215,000	Not Reported
Trinity	Taylor	Rural	FT	Yes	Yes	\$385,000	\$51,370
Turners Chapel	Taylor	Rural	PT	No	Yes	\$450,000	\$66,040

FINANCIAL REPORT

GENERAL FUND

CK. NO.	DATE	ISSUED TO	FOR	DEBIT	CREDIT	BALANCE
	10/01/03	BEGIN BALANCE				862.58
Deposit	10/06/03	DEPOSIT	Annual Meeting		1324.00	2186.58
Deposit	12/08/03	DEPOSIT			100.00	2286.58
505	12/08/03	US Postal	Stamps	37.00		2249.58
506	12/08/03	Taylor Co. Printing	Annual Report	256.30		1992.78
Deposit	1/03/04	DEPOSIT	Assoc		472.50	2465.28
507	1/15/04	Ga. State Assoc FWB	National/State	945.00		1520.28
Deposit	2/14/04	DEPOSIT	Assoc Revival		200.00	1720.28
Deposit	2/24/04	DEPOSIT	Assoc. Revival		400.00	2120.28
Deposit	3/12/04	DEPOSIT	Assoc. Revival		200.00	2320.28
Deposit	3/23/04	DEPOSIT	Assoc. Revival		300.00	2620.28
508	3/24/04	Rev. Bobby Jackson	Assoc. Revival	1200.00		1420.28
Deposit	4/03/04	DEPOSIT	Assoc		603.00	2023.28
Deposit	7/12/04	DEPOSIT	Assoc		453.00	2476.28
509	8/02/04	Rev. Dwight Smith	Mileage-National	420.00		2056.28
510	9/30/04	Rev. Dwight Smith	Honorarium	90.00		1966.28
511	9/30/04	Billy Patterson	Honorarium	200.00		1766.28

FREE WILL BAPTIST FOUNDATION

Beginning Balance - \$ 1459.12
Interest Earnings - \$30.28
Balance 6/30/04 - \$1489.40

BENEVOLENCE FUND

[illegible]

2005 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Quarterly Meetings

January 8, 2005
April 2, 2005
July 9, 2005
October 1, 2005

Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist
First Thomaston Free Will Baptist
New Beginning Free Will Baptist
Turners Chapel Free Will Baptist

Youth Rally

January 15, 2005
April 16, 2005
July
October 15, 2005

Turners Chapel Free Will Baptist
Mount Olive Free Will Baptist
Youth Camp

Association Revival

March 21 - 26, 2005

Mount Olive Free Will Baptist

State Meeting

March 17 - 19, 2005

Shallowford FWB, Marietta, Ga

National Meeting

July 17 - 21

Louisville, Ky.

Homecomings

May 22, 2005
July 10, 2005
July 24, 2005
August 21, 2005
September 25, 2005

Little Bethel
Spring Hill
Trinity
New Liberty
First Thomaston

Revivals

July 11 - 13, 2005
July 25 - 29, 2005
August 22 - 2005

Spring Hill
Trinity
New Liberty

Singings

January 22, 2005
February 26, 2005
March 26, 2005
April 23, 2005
May 28, 2005
June 25, 2005

New Liberty
New Liberty
New Liberty
New Liberty
Little Bethel
New Liberty

July 23, 2005
August 20, 2005
September 24, 2005
October 22, 2005
November 19, 2005

New Liberty
Little Bethel
New Liberty
New Liberty
Little Bethel

FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING 2004
OF CHATTAHOOCHEE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The First Quarterly meeting of the Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptists convened at 9:30 a.m. on January 3, 2004 at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Mauk, GA. Billy Patterson let the congregation in singing "Power in the Blood". Rev. Terry Tribble welcomed everyone. Rev. Dwight Smith called the meeting to order and brought a devotion from Ephesians 3:8. Rev. Smith reminded everyone that we are living in a high tech world. We don't have to leave a message on an answering machine with God but we can call on Him any time. If you are too busy to pray, you're too busy. Bro. Sam Whitt and Rev. A. G. Windham were asked to read the corresponding letters from the churches.

1st Thomaston	4 delegates
Little Bethel	2 delegates
Mt. Olive	1 delegates
New Beginning	4 delegates
New Liberty	3 delegates
New Life	2 delegates
Spring Hill	1 delegates
Trinity	4 delegates
Turners Chapel	2 delegates

A motion was made by Rev. A. G. Windham to accept the letters and to seat the delegates. The motion was seconded the vote was unanimous.

Rev. Smith welcomed visitors Jessica Holt and Rev. William Smith, Executive Secretary of Georgia Association of Free Will Baptist.

Rolls of officers and committees were called by the clerk and a copy is attached as a part of these minutes.

Committees were strengthened or appointed as follows:

<u>Finance Committee</u>	Bro. Perry Lunsford
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Prior to the recess an offering was received.

The meeting reconvened at 10:10 with the following reports:

Minutes of the 168th Annual Session were read and approved. Rev. Dwight Smith reported that an additional \$100 was received for National Fees after the Finance Committee had met.

Board of Christian Education

Rev. Charles Clark reported that he attended the last Senior Retreat and encouraged others to attend. He reminded everyone of the upcoming Associational Revival to be held at Turners Chapel and encouraged each church to assign a prayer chairman to pray for the revival.

State Board of Camping - No report.

State Board of Trustees - No report.

District Youth Committee - The district Youth Competition will be held at Trinity on March 20, 2004.

Executive Committee - No report.

Ordaining Council - No report.

District Youth Board - Rev. Terry Tribble reported that the Youth Camp will be held at Friendship Baptist Camp July 12 - 16, 2004. The registration is \$80.00 prior to June 20 and \$90.00 after that date.

Finance Committee

General Fund Balance	\$1992.78
Benevolence Fund Balance	728.04
Mission Fund Balance	1430.51
Youth Camp Fund	1975.87

Received at this meeting:

Representation Fees	380.00
Offering	91.50

Bro. Herbert Salter made a motion to receive the report as presented. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Rev. William Smith brought a report from the State Office among which he explained the purpose of the National Fees. These fees pay for the National Convention and maintains tax exempt status for the individual church. He reported that the Mission Board will be busy looking for a missionary to start a church in Cartersville this year; Richmond Hill in 2005; and Bonaire in 2006.

Old Business

Rev. Dwight Smith reported that the letter of good standing has been received on Rev. Mitch Griffin.

Miscellaneous Business

The State Meeting will be at Albany Free Will Baptist Church March 18, 19, 20. Rev. Smith appointed Sister Carolyn Smith and Sister Delois Tribble as delegates. Rev. Smith was given authority to appoint delegates in the case of absences.

Due to Rev. Arthur Smith moving to another association the following appointments were made by the moderator:

State Mission Board - Bro. Billy Patterson (2005)
State Board of Trustees - Rev. Mitch Griffin (2005)

Due to the resignation of Danny Whitt Rev. Smith appointed the following:

State Board of Camping - Rev. Terry Tribble (2007)

Rev. Mitch Griffin made a motion to adjourn the business session.
Rev. Terry Tribble introduced Rev. Sidney Jones who brought the message from Matthew 25:22-27. Rev. Jones asked the question "What Will I Do With Jesus?"

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dwight Smith, Moderator

Bro. Billy Patterson, Clerk

SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING 2004
OF CHATTAHOOCHEE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The Second Quarterly meeting of the Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptists convened at 9:30 a.m. on April 3, 2004 at Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church, Reynolds, GA. Rev. A. G. Windham welcomed everyone and led the body in singing Stand Up For Jesus. Rev. Daniel Smith opened the meeting with prayer. Before calling the meeting to order Moderator, Rev. Dwight Smith, read the 23rd Psalm and then spoke on the loss of Rev. Charles Clark. Rev. Terry Tribble and Bro. Dallas Short were asked to read corresponding letters from the churches.

1st Thomaston	2 delegates
Little Bethel	2 delegates
Mt. Olive	4 delegates
New Beginning	4 delegates
New Liberty	2 delegates
New Life	2 delegates
Spring Hill	3 delegates
Trinity	3 delegates
Turners Chapel	2 delegates

A motion was made by Rev. Mitch Griffin to accept the letters and seat the delegates. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Rolls of officers and committees were called by the clerk and a copy is attached as a part of these minutes.

Committees were strengthened or appointed as follows:

<u>Ordaining Counsel</u>	Bro. Gerald Moore
of	Rev. Charles Clark's position was left vacant until the end
	the year in honor of him.

<u>Finance Committee</u>	Bro. Bud Tyler
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<u>Christian Education</u>	Rev. Dwight Smith
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Prior to the recess an offering was received.

The meeting reconvened at 10:15 with the following reports:

The clerk read the minutes of the last meeting. Bro. Dallas Short noted a correction of the name of Jessica Holt. Rev. Terry Tribble made a motion to accept the minutes. The

motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Executive Committee - No report.

Ordaining Counsel - Recommends that Rev. Daniel Smith be ordained as pastor of Mount Olive Free Will Baptist Church. A motion was made by Rev. Mitch Griffin and seconded to receive this recommendation. The vote was unanimous.

State Mission Board - Bro. Billy Patterson reported that the Mission Handbook has been accepted, interviews are on-going for the Cartersville Mission and the Hampton property has not been sold. A motion was made by Billy Patterson and seconded to accept this information.

The vote was unanimous.

Board of Trustees - Rev. Mitch Griffin reported that the committee had met to discuss the State Office Project. At the time of the meeting there was a possibility that the existing office was going to be donated. After some discussion about designated funds for the building Gerald Moore reported that the property was not given but is being purchased. The state will be contacting churches that had designated funds for the building concerning use of the funds.

Rev. Griffin made a motion to accept this report. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.

Board of Camping - Rev. Terry Tribble reported that Teen Camp will be May 30 - June 4, 2004 at Camp Echeecoonee, Lizella, GA. A trip to Six Flags is planned and the camp speaker will be Mark Roberts. Rev. Tribble made a motion to accept this report. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.

Finance Committee

General Fund Balance	\$1520.28
Benevolence Fund Balance	578.04
Mission Fund Balance	1459.12
Youth Fund Balance	1960.98

Received at this meeting:

Representation fees	370.00
Offering	133.00

Bro. Herbert Salter made a motion to receive the report as presented. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Youth Camp Director - Rev. Terry Tribble reported that the Junior Camp will be July 11 - 16, 2004. Martin and Midway Associations will be participation with the Chattahoochee

Association. He encouraged participation and expressed appreciation to the Camp Board Members for their work. Rev. Tribble made a motion to receive the report. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Old Business - There was none.

New Business - The Association was reminded of Roll Call Sunday, April 11. Everyone should call the clerk to report. The Trustee Board was asked to question having Roll Call Sunday on Easter Sunday.

Rev. Hubert Arnold made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Rev. Mitch Griffin brought the morning message from Acts 2: 41-47. It's time for the church to come back to the place of the early church and what is the Church? The Church are those who have been called out.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dwight Smith, Moderator

Bro. Billy Patterson, Clerk

THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING 2004
OF CHATTAHOOCHEE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The Third Quarterly meeting of the Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptists convened at 9:30 a.m. on July 11, 2004 at New Beginning Free Will Baptist Church, Box Springs, GA. Bro. Dallas Short welcomed everyone and Bro. Sam Whitt opened with prayer. The congregation sang "Victory in Jesus". Rev. Dwight Smith brought a devotional from II Cor. 5:17 and the need for peace makers in the local church. Bro. Bud Tyler and Rev. Ben Crabtree were asked to read letters from the corresponding churches.

1st Thomaston	3
Little Bethel	2
Mt. Olive	2
New Beginning	4
New Liberty	0
New Life	0
Spring Hill	3
Trinity	4
Turners Chapel	3

Sis. Susie Gross made a motion to accept the letters and seat the delegates. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Bro. Charlie Sumner representing Alabama Free Will Baptist Children's Home and Rev. Earl Ransom, pastor of Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church, were welcomed as visitors.

Rolls of officers and committees were called by the clerk and a copy is attached as a part of these minutes.

Committees were strengthened or appointed as follows:

<u>Nominating Committee</u>	Rev. Mitch Griffin Bro. Dallas Short Bro. Gerald Moore
<u>Ordaining Counsel</u>	Bro. Sam Whitt Bro. Bud Tyler
<u>Finance Committee</u>	Bro. J. W. Teat Sis. Ruby Layfield

An offering was received and the body was dismissed for a break at 9:50 a.m..

The meeting reconvened at 10:10 and the following reports were presented:

Executive Committee - Rev. Dwight Smith reported on the spending of designated funds for the State building and the possibility of Georgia hosting the National Convention in 2013.

Ordaining Counsel - Rev. Mitch Griffin made a motion that we receive Rev. Ben Crabtree into full fellowship of the association.. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Board of Camping - Rev. Terry Tribble reported that there have been no meetings this past quarter and the next state meeting will be October 18 in Cordele.

State Mission Board - Bro. Billy Patterson reported that the candidates for Mission churches have withdrawn their application. The Mission Board has facilities and finances but cannot find the right man.

Finance Committee -

General Fund Balance	\$2,023.28
Benevolence Fund Balance	428.00
Mission Fund Balance	1,459.12

Received at this meeting:

Representation fees	\$360.00
Offering	93.00

Bro. Herbert Salter made a motion to receive the report as presented. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Youth Director, Association - Rev. Terry Tribble reported that Youth Camp starts tomorrow and they expect to have over 100 campers in attendance.

Old Business

It was reported that Rev. Daniel Smith has been ordained at Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church as their pastor.

New Business

The Associational Revival is tentatively planned for March to be held at Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church with Rev. Tim Horn as the evangelist. This will be approved at the annual meeting in October, 2004.

Rev. Mitch Griffin made a motion to adjourn the business meeting. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Special music was presented by Ashley Duncan and Rev. Ben Crabtree.

Bro. Charlie Sumner brought a report from the Alabama Free Will Baptist Children's Home. Rev. Ben Crabtree dismissed with prayer and blessings on the food.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dwight Smith, Moderator

Bro. Billy Patterson, Clerk

ONE HUNDRED SIXTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING
OF CHATTAHOOCHEE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The 169th annual meeting of the Chattahoochee Association convened at 9:30 a.m. on October 2, 2004, at Turner's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Butler, GA. The opening song was "To God Be the Glory". Bro. Tom Wainwright led in the opening prayer. Before calling the meeting to order, Moderator, Rev. Dwight Smith, brought a devotion from I John 1:5 on the Christian's need to recognize sin in our own life and to confess those sins.

Moderator, Rev. Dwight Smith, called the business session to order. Rev. Terry Tribble and Rev. Mitch Griffin read corresponding letters from the churches.

1st Thomaston	3
Little Bethel	2
Mt. Olive	4
New Beginning	4
New Liberty	4
New Life	2
Spring Hill	3
Trinity	3
Turners Chapel	3

Rev. Tribble made the motion to accept the letters and seat the delegates. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Rolls of officers and committees were called by the clerk and a copy is attached as a part of these minutes.

Committees were strengthened or appointed as follows:

<u>Finance Committee</u>	Brother Mike Armour Brother Tom Wainwright
<u>Temperance Committee</u>	Brother Ralph Windham Sister Marilyn Smith Sister Ruby Layfield
<u>Sunday School Committee</u>	Brother Perry Lunsford Brother Larry Starling Rev. Sidney Jones

Obituary Committee

Rev. Terry Tribble
Brother Bud Tyler
Sister Sherry Jones

Prior to the recess an offering was received.

The meeting reconvened at 10:15 and the clerk read the minutes. Rev. Terry Tribble made a motion to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The following reports were presented:

Board of Christian Education - There was no report.

State Mission Board - There was no report.

Youth/Camp Board - Rev. Terry Tribble reported that the Board had met in September and discussed the upcoming Chattahoochee Fall Festival to be held October 23, 2004 beginning at 3:00 p.m. at Little Bethel. This year's activities include a gospel sing.

District Youth Competition - Sister Pam Guined reported that she was pleased with the competition and encouraged the youth to begin practicing for the next year.

Finance Committee -

General Fund Balance	1766.28
Benevolence Fund Balance	328.04
Mission Fund Balance	1489.40
Youth Fund Balance	3469.67

Received today:

Representation fees	1270.00
Offering	124.65
Benevolence Fund	600.00
National Fees	900.00

Bro. Herbert Salter made a motion to accept this report as presented. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Temperance Committee - Sister Marilyn Smith reported that we need to encourage the parents to bring their children to Sunday School and Church and to read their bibles to them daily. Parents need to communicate with their children and make sure they know God's way over man's way. She made a motion that the report be accepted. It was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Sunday School Committee - Brother Larry Starling encouraged parents to come to all services with their children, including Sunday School. They encouraged church members to go into the community and get children involved in Sunday School and Church programs. He made a motion to accept the report. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Obituary Committee - Brother Bud Tyler and Sister Sheri Jones read the obituaries and they are included in this book of minutes. Brother Tyler made a motion to accept this report as presented. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Nominating Committee - They recommended the following:

Executive Committee	Rev. Ben Crabtree
Ordaining Council:	Rev. Daniel Smith. (3 yr.)
Youth Camp	Brother Mark Moore
District Youth Comp.	Sis. Pam Guined
Finance Committee	Bro. Herbert Salter
	Bro. Mike Armour
State Board of Camping	Rev. Ben Crabtree
Board of Christian Ed	Rev. Dwight Smith

Rev. Ben Crabtree made a motion to accept these nominations by acclamation. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Old Business

The Associational Revival will be held in March at Mt. Olive with Rev. Tim Horne as the evangelist and the host church to determine the date. Rev. Mitch Griffin made a motion to approve this recommendation. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

New Business

Brother Herbert Salter made a motion to change the January Quarterly to January 8th this year and to accept the following invitations:

1st Quarterly Meeting, January 8, 2005	Mt. Olive
2nd Quarterly Meeting, April 2, 2005	Thomaston
3rd Quarterly Meeting, July 9, 2005	New Beginning
Annual Meeting, October 1, 2005	Turners Chapel

Youth Rally

January 22, 2005

April 16, 2005

October 15, 2005

Turners Chapel

Mt. Olive

Thomaston

The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Other Business

Rev. Ben Crabtree asked about a schedule of church events. It was noted that if it is reported to the clerk it will be included in the Associational Minutes. Clerk, Billy Patterson, encouraged the church clerks to return quarterly reports in a timely manner so that information can be compiled before the meetings. This is especially important for annual reports.

Rev. Ben Crabtree brought a message from Malachi 1:10 asking the question "Do we give God our best or are we just getting by?"

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Dwight Smith
Moderator

Bro. Billy Patterson
Clerk

ROLL CALL -- 2004

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

		JAN	APR	JUL	OCT
OFFICERS	REV. DWIGHT SMITH - Moderator	X	X	X	X
	REV. TERRY TRIBBLE - Assist. Mod.	X	X	X	X
	BRO. BILLY PATTERSON - Clerk	X	X	X	X
	SIS. ALANE PATTERSON - Assist. Clerk	X	X	X	X
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	REV. A. G. WINDHAM	X	X		X
	BRO. E.A. WELCH JR.				
	BRO. GERALD MOORE	X	X		X
ORDAINING COUNCIL	BRO. E.A. WELCH JR.				
	REV. MITCH GRIFFIN	X	X	X	X
YOUTH CAMP DIRECTOR	REV. TERRY TRIBBLE	X	X	X	X
FINANCE COMMITTEE	BRO. HERBERT SALTER	X	X	X	X
	BRO. DALLAS SHORT	X	X	X	X
BD./CHRISTIAN ED					
BD. OF CAMPING	REV. TERRY TRIBBLE	X	X	X	X
STATE MISSION BOARD	BRO. BILLY PATTERSON	X	X	X	X
STATE BD/TRUSTEES	REV. MITCH GRIFFIN	X	X	X	X
DIST. YOUTH COMP.	SIS. PAM GUINED	X	X		X
	MINISTERS				
	REV .HUBERT ARNOLD		X		
	REV. BEN CRABTREE			X	X
	REV. MITCH GRIFFIN	X	X	X	X
	REV. J.C. GRIMSLEY				
	REV .SIDNEY JONES	X	X	X	X
	REV. DWIGHT SMITH	X	X	X	X
	REV. TERRY TRIBBLE	X	X	X	X
	REV. A.G.WINDHAM	X	X		X
	REV. WARREN WYATT				
	REV. DANIEL SMITH				X

OBITUARIES

We honor those who have gone before us.

First Free Will Baptist Church , Thomaston

Morris Clayton Taunton - Brother Clayton went to be with the Lord on December 12, 2003. He was a faithful member and a trustee of our church. Brother Clayton always gave special attention to the children of our church. His love for them was returned with love for Brother Clayton by all the little ones of our church. He will be greatly missed.

Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church

John Gregory (Greg) McCall - May 12, 1965 - June 10, 2004.

Greg left this life for his eternal home on June 10, 2004. He attended church at Spring Hill Free Will Baptist Church. Greg leaves a loving father, mother, grandmother, two sisters, three nieces and three nephews. Greg was the son of Johnnie and Bernice McCall and the grandson of Sister Myrtle Grier and the late Brother Norman C. Grier. He will be greatly missed by his family, church family and friends.

Turners Chapel Church

The following beloved members have left this world to be in their eternal home and will be greatly missed by their church family at Turners Chapel Church:

Brother Alton Spillers - January 30, 2004

Rev. Charles Clark - February 23, 2004

Sister Mary Lizzie Robinson - February 24, 2004

Sister Lila Pearl Winters

Sister Mary Francis Wainwright

CHURCH COVENANT
Presented to the Churches of the
Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptists

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 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 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 Savior'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 around us.

14th. That we will 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.

Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptist

Constitution

Preamble

We the Free Will Baptist of the Chattahoochee District do ordain this Constitution for the purpose of advancing, promoting and increasing all phases of the cause of Christ. It is with common good in mind that we come together to accomplish collectively those things we could not do alone. This organization shall not have any authority over the individual churches except those delegated to it by the individual churches.

Article I

This assembly shall be known as the Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptists.

Article II

Section I. The officers of this organization shall be Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk/Treasurer, and Assistant Clerk/ Treasurer.

Section II. The Executive Board shall be composed of the Moderator, Clerk, and three members elected by the body. The term of office will be three years rotating annually.

Section III. The voting body of this Association shall be composed of Ordained Ministers, Ordained Deacons, and delegates from the participating churches. Each church will be allowed four elected delegates.

Section IV. All delegates from the churches must be elected from the laity of the church sending them.

Section V. Funds for the current expenses of this organization will be paid to the Clerk quarterly. Each church will give a minimum of ten dollars per allowed delegate. This amount can be changed by the majority vote of the convened body in any regular session.

Section VI. In order to pay the Chattahoochee Association's annual representation fees to the Georgia State Association and the National Association of Free Will Baptists each church will be responsible to promote, receive, and forward the amounts delegated by the State and National Associations per church per year to the Clerk at, or before, the annual session.

Article III

Section I. Delegates will be elected to serve on Georgia State boards whose responsibility it will be to represent this body and to vote with the wishes of the Chattahoochee Association, not one's individual preference, to the greatest extent possible. These members will be elected to the terms designated by the state.

Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptist

Constitution

Section II. There shall be a Finance Committee consisting of two persons elected to serve annually and one delegate appointed at each quarterly session.

- A. The finance committee will be responsible for collecting and counting offerings taken each session.
- B. The Finance committee is to be responsible for counting and verifying all representation fees.
- C. It shall be the job of the Finance Committee to audit the Clerks records at each session and report the results to the body.

Section III. There shall be an Ordination Council made up of three men who explicitly meet the qualification required by this body for ordination.

- A. It shall be the duty of the Ordination Council to examine each candidate presented for ordination and to make recommendations to the board.
- B. The Ordination council will be responsible to see that each candidate gets a doctrinal examination booklet and to examine the answers provided.
- C. The Members are to serve three year terms rotating each year.
- D. The member having served the greatest portion of a three year term shall be considered the chairman.

Section IV. There shall be a Board of Camping which will be chaired by a person elected annually by the Association as Youth / Camp Director.

- A. This board will consist of one representative from each member church that has a desire for the spiritual growth of the young people, currently this will be a nine member board. It shall be their responsibility to plan and execute activities for the young people in this association. The board will have its own budget but will report to the Association.
- B. The Youth/Camp Director will be elected by the association annually and will be the chairman of the camp board. The Director will assist in planning camps, youth rallies, and fund raising events for the young people of this Association and, will also be responsible for the successful operation of youth camps. The Director will adhere to all guidelines set by this body and will report to the Association at each session.

Section V. There shall be a Youth Competition Director.

- A. It shall be the responsibility of the Youth Competition Director to coordinate all competitive events involving our young people.
- B. These Director duties will include acquiring dates for state and national competition and relaying them to the individual churches.
- C. The Director will promote and plan all District competitive events, inform the churches of rule changes as he/she is advised from the state and national organizations.
- D. The churches will be responsible for obtaining guidelines from the National Youth Conference and for training their young people.
- E. All events will be done according to the guidelines published by the national organization under the title of "National Youth Conference Competition Guidelines"

Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptist

Constitution

Article IV

Section I. All officers, except board and committee members, shall be elected to serve a term of two years. The Moderator may succeed himself one term.

Section II. Standing boards of the Association have no power or final authority to conduct any business until the matter has been presented to and acted upon by the Association in regular session except where otherwise provided.

Section III. Vacancies on any of the boards between sessions may be filled by appointment of the Moderator until the next business session.

Section IV. Elections of general officers shall take place on the odd years of the calendar.

Section V. If a member of any board fails in the function of his or her duty without good and sufficient reasons, the board of which the delinquent is a member may declare that particular office vacant. Further, this body shall have and does reserve the right to deal with the officer or board member who does not conduct his or her office in a Christian, business like manner according to the rules of Christian conduct as set forth in the New Testament.

Any standing board of this District Association may appoint proxies to serve in lieu of the absent members.

ARTICLE V

Section I. All candidates to be ordained in 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 he would be allowed to participate in the business of the Association. Any minister approved by the Council but is waiting for a letter from his previous Association will be considered approved until the next scheduled session. If no letter has been received the Ordaining Council shall meet and present a recommendation to the body.

Section II. To be considered a standing delegate in this Association all ordained men are required to meet the requirements as set forth in the Book of I Timothy. Any person not living according to these requirements and according to the principles of the New Testament may be removed as a standing delegate until acknowledgments are made and accepted by the body in regular session.

Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptist

Constitution

ARTICLE VI

Section I. The Moderator shall be elected to serve a two year term and may succeed himself one time, serving no more than 4 years consecutively. His duties are to moderate all sessions of the Association, represent the Association at State and National functions, and to serve as ex-officio member of all committees. He shall receive an honorarium each year to offset expenses occurred. He also shall receive reimbursement for travel to all official meetings at a rate of twenty cents per mile. This stipend can be changed as needed by a majority vote of the Association.

Section II. The Assistant Moderator shall assume the office of Moderator in the instance of the Moderator not being able to serve out his term. The Assistant Moderator will serve in the Moderator's if for any reason the Moderator has to be absent from a regular business session. The Assistant Moderator will only be compensated if he is fulfilling the duties of the moderator and then he is allowed the same honorium and expenses as the moderator would receive.

Section III. The Clerk/Treasurer shall be responsible for all records of the Association. He/She will be responsible for taking minutes at each session and preparing the Annual book of minutes. This officer will have the authority to purchase supplies as needed and to take whatever steps are necessary to see that the finances of this body are handled in a responsible way. It will be his duty to present a finance report each session that in detail shows the financial position of this body. While it is his responsibility to maintain the records, these records are considered open records and should be made available on request by any member of this Association. The Clerk/Treasure shall receive an annual honorarium to offset his expenses. Also, He shall receive reimbursement for travel expenses occurred in the official duties of his office representing this body at State and National functions. This stipend shall be at the rate of twenty cents per mile and can be changed by majority vote of the Association.

Section IV. The Assistant Clerk shall assume all duties and authorities of the office of Clerk/Treasurer if for any reason the Clerk cannot fulfill the term of his office. The Assistant should assist the clerk at all regular sessions and be familiar with all records.

ARTICLE VII

Section I. The order of succession shall be Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and then Assistant Clerk. If for some reason none of these officers are present then the senior person from the Executive committee shall serve as moderator at any regular business session.

ADMENDMENTS

Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptist

Constitution

This constitution may be changed, altered, or amended by a two-thirds vote of all delegates present and voting at any regular session of the Association. Prior to presentation of any amendment, change, or alteration it must be submitted to the clerk in writing and read during the session before the break for committees. After reconvening the amendment, change, or alteration will be read again, discussed, and voted upon.

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 is 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, subversive 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 cease 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 true and orderly body of Christians on earth, that it is fully sufficient for the propose intended, but that it does not extend to person, property or 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, all the elders are equal in rank, though they perform different functions since some may be bishops, or pastors of particular churches, while others may be simply elders, having no pastoral charge.
10. That the authority of a minister of the gospel extends to teaching, exhortation, and rebuke, but no further; that he cannot perform any acts that belong to the authority of the church—such as the reception of members in the church compact, or the expulsion of offenders; that as a member of the church, he is no more than any other member, and if he is guilty of 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 advisory help, especially if the minister is to be tried upon a charge of hearsay.
11. That Christian baptism is the immersion of a believer in water, in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.
12. That the Lord's Supper and Washing of the Saint's feet are ordinances to be observed in the church until the Lord comes.
13. That Elders and Deacons must be set apart to their offices by ordination, or the imposition of the hands of the presbytery and prayer, without which they are not authorized to administer the ordinances pertaining to their respective offices.
14. No preacher shall be ordained unless called to take charge of a church as pastor, or for some other good and sufficient reason.

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 Clerk, Treasure, 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 baptisms and the Lord's Supper, have care of 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 the 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 who 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 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:
 - a. Prayer (unless divine service has just been conducted and generally then.)
 - b. Invite visiting brethren to seats.
 - c. Open the door for the reception of members.
 - d. Call for absentees.
 - e. Call for acknowledgements.
 - f. Call for reference or deferred business.
 - g. Call for matters of dealing which are in order to come before the church.
 - h. Miscellaneous business.
13. Visiting brethren, as helps called in from sister churches, shall be allowed to speak and make motions and seconds, but not be 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 until 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 reasons 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 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 the moderator, and keep to the point of the 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 meetings.

ARTICLES OF FAITH AND DOCTRINAL VIEWS

1. We believe that the Holy Bible was written by men divinely inspired and is the treasure of heavenly instruction; that 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 that 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 conform. 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. Exodus 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 the nature utterly devoid of holiness required by the law of God, wholly given to the gratification of the world, 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 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 the very way qualified to be suitable, compassionate and all sufficient Savior. Eph. 2:5, 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 the promise of eternal life, upon principles of righteousness and atonement, and that brings us to a state of most blessed peace and favor with God. Rom. 8:30, Ezek. 18:28, John 3:14, Rom 8:17.
6. That the blessing of salvation are made free to all by the Gospel; that is the immediate duty of all who received them by cordial and obedient faith and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner on earth, but his own voluntary refusal to submit to the Lord Jesus Christ, which refusal will subject him to an aggravated condemnation. Mk. 16:16, John 17:20, Is. 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 free agency of man, that it comprehend all means with the end; that it is a glorious display of God's goodness, being infinite 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, I Pet. 1:3,5.
10. That the law of God is eternal, the unchangeable rule of government, that it is a holy, just, and good; that the inability which the scriptures ascribe to fallen man to fulfill its precepts, arises entirely from his love of sin; to deliver him through a mediator to unfeigned obedience to the Holy law is one design of the Gospel of the means of grace connected with the establishment of the visible church. Matt 5:13, Luke 10:13-20, 14:17.
11. That the first day of the week is the Lord's Day, or Christian Sabbath, that it should be kept sacred to religious purposes by abstaining from all secular labor and recreation; by the direct observances 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, I Thess. 1:7, Psalm 16:9
12. That civil government is of divine appointment for the interest and good 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 the Prince of the kings of the earth. Ex 23:7, Acts 23:5, I 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, which 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 be adjudged to everlasting happiness, and the wicked to endless punishment, and this judgment will forever be the final state in heaven or hell, on the principles of righteousness. John 5:25, Matt. 25:34, 41, 46.