

***CHATTAHOOCHEE***  
***ASSOCIATION***  
***OF***  
***FREE WILL BAPTIST***

***174th***  
***ANNUAL***  
***REPORT***  
***2009***

***REV. TERRY TRIBBLE***  
***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  
2009-2010**

**GENERAL OFFICERS**

**MODERATOR**

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

**OCT 2011**

**ASSISTANT MODERATOR**

Rev. Dallas Short  
249 Saddle Trail  
Box Springs, Ga. 31801  
(229)649-6041

**OCT 2011**

**CLERK/TREASURER**

**OCT**

**ASSISTANT CLERK/TREASURER**

**OCT**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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

Rev. Charles Fuller  
139 Pine Knot Road  
Mauk, Ga. 31058  
(229) 649-5765

**OCT 2010**

Rev. Ruble Youngblood  
1164 Pine Knot Road  
Box Springs, Ga. 31801  
(229) 649-7511

**OCT 2011**

Ralph Windham  
1139 Hwy 127 E.  
Butler, Ga. 31006  
(478) 862-3704

**OCT 2012**

## **ORDAINING COUNCIL**

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

**OCT 2010**

**Rev. Charles Johnson  
430 Joe Posey Road  
Butler, Ga. 31006  
(478) 862-2757**

**OCT 2011**

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

**OCT 2012**

## **YOUTH/CAMP DIRECTOR**

**OCT 2012**

## **DISTRICT YOUTH COMPETITION DIRECTOR**

**OCT 2010**

## **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Rex Robinson  
1137 Roberta Hwy  
Butler, Ga. 31006  
(478) 862-3947**

**OCT 2010**

**Mike Armor  
253 Saddle Trail  
Box Springs, Ga 31801  
(229) 649-2274**

**OCT 2010**

## **STATE BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

### **BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**Billy Patterson**  
8 Lee Street  
Reynolds, Ga. 31076  
(478) 847-3493

**March 2011**

### **BOARD OF CAMPING**

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

**March 2011**

### **STATE MISSION BOARD**

**Gerald Moore**  
4 Fickling Mill Road  
Butler, Ga. 31006  
(478) 847-4462

**March 2013**

### **STATE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**Rev. Charles Johnson**  
430 Joe Posey Road  
Butler, GA 31006  
(478) 862-2757

**March 2013**

## DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES

<b>CHURCH</b>	<b>PASTOR</b>	<b>CLERK</b>
<b>Bethany Free Will Baptist</b> 1164 Pine Knot Road Box Springs, GA 31801	<b>Rev. Ruble Youngblood</b> 1164 Pine Knot Road Box Springs, GA 31801 (229) 649-7511	<b>Martha Youngblood</b> 1164 Pine Knot Road Box Springs, GA 31801 (229) 649-7511
<b>First Free Will Baptist of Thomaston</b> P. O. Box 302 146 Harp Road Thomaston, GA 30286 (706) 648-3834	<b>Rev. Mitch Griffin</b> 203 N Poplar Street Thomaston, GA 30286 (706) 648-2516	<b>Elaine McHargue</b> 2266 Rocky Bottom Rd. The Rock, GA 30285 (706) 647-2204
<b>Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist</b> Reynolds, GA 31076		<b>Kim Carpenter</b> 1180 Tommy Purvis Road Reynolds, GA 31076 (478)847-4708
<b>New Beginning Free Will Baptist</b> 5651 Ga Hwy 240 N Box Springs, GA 31801 (229) 649-6041	<b>Rev. Dallas Short</b> 249 Saddle Trail Box Springs, GA.31801 (229) 649-6041	<b>Louise Brooker</b> 308 Sunnyside Dr Box Springs,GA 31801 (229) 314-1092
<b>New Liberty Free Will Baptist</b> Tazewell,Ga	<b>Rev. J. C. Grimsley</b> 4118 16th Ave. Columbus, GA 31904 (706) 327-6419	<b>Perry Lunsford</b> P. O. Box 714 Ellaville, GA 31806 (229) 937-2488
<b>New Life Free Will Baptist</b> Box Springs, GA 31801	<b>Rev. Charles Fuller</b> 139 Pine Knot Road Mauk, GA. 31058 (229) 649-5765	<b>Sara Anthony</b> 1049 Sand Pit Road Mauk, GA. 31058 (706) 269-3839
<b>Spring Hill Free Will Baptist</b> 2818 Ga. Hwy 127 Mauk, GA 31058		<b>Sharon McAllister</b> 2818 Ga Hwy 127 Mauk, GA 31058 (229) 649-7704
<b>Trinity Free Will Baptist</b> 1335 Highway 90 W Mauk, GA 31058 (478) 862-2745	<b>Rev. Terry Tribble</b> P. O. Box 16 Mauk, GA 31058 (478) 862-2745	<b>Alane Patterson</b> 8 Lee Street Reynolds, GA 31076 (478) 847-3493
<b>Turners Chapel Free Will Baptist</b> 911 Roberta Hwy Butler, GA 31006 (478)862-3828	<b>Rev. Charles Johnson</b> 430 Joe Posey Rd Butler, GA 31006 (478) 862-2757	<b>Gerald Moore</b> 4 Fickling Mill Road Butler, GA 31006 (478)847-4462

### **ADDITIONAL MINISTERS**

Rev. A. G. Windham  
P. O. Box 912  
Reynolds, Ga. 31076  
(478) 847-3268

Rev. Harry Winters  
325 Wood Stubbs Road  
Mauk, Ga 31058  
(229) 649-2055

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

Rev. John Cook  
403 Bryant Road  
Buena Vista, Ga. 31803  
(229)649-3620

## ACTIVE DEACONS

### First Thomaston

Herbert Salter

112 Sherwood Drive, Thomaston, Ga. 30286

(706)648-3622

### Mount Olive

Clifford Carpenter

1180 Tommy Purvis Rd. Reynolds, Ga 31076

(478)847-4708

Joe Logue

PO Box 714 Butler, Ga. 31006

(478)862-2583

Mark Windham

21AG Windham Rd Reynolds, Ga.31076

(478)847-9383

Ralph Windham

1139 Hwy 127 E. Butler, Ga. 31006

(478)862-3704

### New Beginning

Mike Armour

253 Saddle Trail, Box Springs, Ga. 31801

(229)649-2274

### New Liberty

Elbert Streetman

Bridges Store Rd, Ellaville, Ga. 31086

(229)937-2885

Chadwick Childs

118 Old Buena Vista Road, Ellaville, Ga. 31806

(229)937-5070

### New Life

Richard Anthony

1049 Sand Pit Road, Mauk, Ga,31058

(706)269-3839

### Spring Hill

Mark McCallister

2818 Ga. Hwy 127, Mauk, Ga. 31058

(229)649-7704

Leonard Stubbs

2719 Ga. Hwy 127, Mauk, Ga. 31058

(229)649-3304

Daniel Whitt

157 Watermelon Lane, Mauk, Ga. 31058

(229)649-5648

### Trinity

Larry Bell

Rt. 1, Mauk, Ga. 31058

(478)862-3943

David Welch

204 Welch Road Mauk, Ga. 31058

(478)862-5976

### Turners Chapel

Jessie Carroll

155 Dillon Road, Butler, Ga. 31006

(478)862-5880

Gerald Moore

4 Fickling Mill Rd, Reynolds, Ga. 31006

(478)847-4462

Rex Robinson

1137 Roberta Hwy , Butler, Ga.31006

(478)862-3947

Chris Guined

1427 Roberta Hwy , Butler, Ga 31006

(478)847-2303



**YOUTH CAMP BOARD**

Director:

**Bethany**

**First Thomaston**

**Mt. Olive**

Barbara Jean Windham

(478)862-3704

**New Beginning**

Lisa Armour

(229)649-2274

**New Liberty**

**New Life**

**Spring Hill**

**Trinity**

Jennifer Welch

(478)862-9722

**Turners Chapel**

## Statistical Table

Church	Bethany	First Thomaston	Mt. Olive	New Beginning	New Liberty	New Life	Spring Hill	Trinity	Turners Chapel	Totals
Ordained Ministers	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	8
Licensed Ministers	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Ordained Deacons	0	1	5	1	2	1	3	2	4	19
Baptisms		3	1	0	0	N/R	0	1	3	8
Members Added	0	1	2	0	0	N/R	0	1	0	4
Members Lost	0	3	1	16	1	N/R	1	0	3	25
Total Members	14	80	N/R	35	16	N/R	N/R	48	97	290
Sunday School	15	18	N/R	N/R	No	N/R	20	35	30	118
Women's Auxiliary	No	No	N/R	Yes	No	N/R	No	No	No	0
Master's Men	No	No	N/R	No	No	N/R	No	No	No	0

N/R Not Reported

## Financial Table

Church	County	City/Rural	Pastor	Budget	Parsonage	Property Value	Annual Tithe
Bethany	Marion	Rural	FT	No	No	\$100,000	\$3,844
First Thomaston	Upson	City	B-Voc	Yes	Yes	\$435,000	\$37,645
Mt. Olive	Taylor	Rural	N/R	N/R	Yes	\$325,000	\$31,055
New Beginnings	Marion	Rural	Bi-Voc	No	No	\$87,000	Not Reported
New Liberty	Schley	Rural	FT	No	No	Not Reported	Not Reported
New Life	Marion	Rural	FT	N/R	Yes	\$150,000	N/R
Spring Hill	Marion	Rural	N/R	No	Yes	\$215,000	Not Reported
Trinity	Taylor	Rural	FT	Yes	Yes	\$385,000	\$47,490
Turners Chapel	Taylor	Rural	FT	No	Yes	\$700,000	\$81,342

N/R Not Reported

## FINANCIAL REPORT

**GENERAL FUND**[illegible]

**FREE WILL BAPTIST FOUNDATION**

Beginning Balance - \$ 1786.79  
Interest Earnings - \$ 73.99  
Balance 6/30/08 - \$ 1860.78

## Financial Report

## ***Benevolence Fund***

[illegible]

## FINANCIAL REPORT

## YOUTH CAMP

[illegible]

## 2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Quarterly Meetings

January 9,2010  
April 10,2010  
July 10,2010  
October 9,2010

Trinity Free Will Baptist  
Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist  
New Beginning Free Will Baptist  
Turners Chapel Free Will Baptist

### Youth Rally

January  
April  
October

### State Meeting

March 25-26, 2010

CartersvilleFamily Church, Cartersville, Ga

### National Meeting

July 18 - 21,2010

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

### Homecomings

June 27,2010  
July 4,2010  
July 25,2010  
July 25,2010  
August 15,2010  
September 19,2010  
September 26,2010

New Life  
Spring Hill  
Trinity  
Turners Chapel  
New Liberty  
Mt. Olive  
First Thomaston

### Revival

July 5-7,2010  
August 16-18,2010  
Oct. 3 -6,2010  
Oct 17-21,2010

Spring Hill  
New Liberty  
Turner's Chapel  
Trinity

### Youth Camp

### Association Picnic

September , 2009

Turner's Chapel, host

### Singings

Jan-Jul ,4th Sat.  
Jan 30 ; May 29  
April 25,2010

Sep 25 and Oct 23, 2010  
Aug 28; Oct 30,2010  
Friends and Family Day -

New Liberty  
Trinity  
Turner's Chapel

### Men's Breakfast (4th Sat., Jan. - Sept.)

Host: Jan.- Bethany  
Feb. - New Beginning  
Mar - Trinity

Apr. -Turners Chapel  
May - Bethany  
June - Trinity

July - New Beginning  
Aug. -  
Sept.-



**FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING 2009**  
**OF CHATTAHOOCHEE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

The first quarterly meeting of the Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptist convened at 9:30 a.m. on January 3, 2009 at Trinity Free Will Baptist Church, Mauk, GA. Rev. Terry Tribble welcomed everyone and Bro. Larry Starling offered a prayer. The congregation joined in singing "He Set Me Free". Rev. Terry Tribble called the meeting to order and brought a devotion from John 18:33. Bro. Gerald Moore read the corresponding letters from the churches.

Bethany	1 delegate	
1st Thomaston	0 delegates	
Little Bethel	0 delegates	
Mt. Olive	4 delegates	1 deacon
New Beginning	2 delegates	1 deacon
New Liberty	3 delegates	
New Life	0 delegates	
Spring Hill	1 delegate	
Trinity	4 delegates	
Turner's Chapel	3 delegates	1 deacon

A motion was made by Bro. Gerald Moore to accept the letters and to seat the delegates. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The moderator recognized visitors Tom Morris and Fred Hersey and invited them to seat.

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:

Finance Committee                      Sis. Tina Duncan

Prior to the recess an offering was received.

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

Minutes of the 173rd Annual Session were read and approved.

Board of Christian Education - In the absence of Bro. Billy Patterson the following written report is presented. Christian Education Board met in Macon November 1, 2008. It was reported that 2008 began with a negative bank balance but is now financially stable. Youth competition will be in May at White Oaks FWB and the Couples Retreat will be in February. Everyone is encouraged to check the promotion bulletin for events.



State Board of Camping - Rev. Terry Tribble reported the board met and discussed the budget. In an effort to cut expenses there will be no winter retreat this year. The Teen camp has been changed to June 28 through July 3rd so as not to conflict with the schools calendars..

State Board of Trustees - No report.

State Mission Board - Bro. Gerald Moore reported that the Board has decided to continue the Valdosta work until the end of 2009. That church is growing with a average attendance of 29. The Harris County Church is doing well with an average attendance of 32 and is looking for tables, appliances, etc. The Cartersville Church is doing well. Building costs are exceeding the expectations and they seek your prayers for this work.

District Youth Competition - Sis. Tina Duncan reported that letters will be going out soon concerning the Youth Competition. She encouraged all youth to participate in the opportunities that are available.

State Executive Committee - Rev. Terry Tribble reported the committee met December 15 and discussed dealing with financial issues and how to be better stewards. He reported the State Meeting will be March 19 at Calvary FWB Church in Columbus.

Association Executive Committee - The committee met during the recess concerning the temporary appointment of a Director of the District Youth Camp. Rev. Ruble Youngblood made a motion to appoint Rev. Charles Johnson as temporary director to serve until October, 2009. The motion was seconded. There was an out of order motion made by Sis. Donna Whitt to appoint Sis. Cathy Cook. After much discussion from the floor Sis. Cathy Cook withdrew. A vote was taken on the motion to appoint Rev. Charles Johnson as the temporary director with 21 voting for and none opposed. The motion carried.

District Youth Camp Board - No report.

Finance Committee

General Fund Balance	\$6772.84
Benevolence Fund Balance	4809.44
Mission Fund Balance	1786.79
Youth Camp Fund	2450.88

Received at this meeting:

Representation Fees	\$320.00
Offering	113.00
Benevolence Fund	0

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

Ordination Council - No report.

Old Business

There was no old business.

New Business

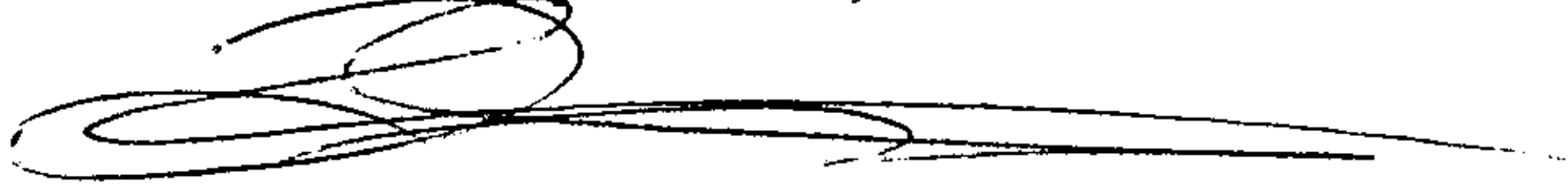
Bro. Fred Hersey of International Mission Board reported that April 26, 2009 will be World Missions Offering Sunday. He encouraged churches to use the coin banks, which he made available, to get everyone involved in the effort.

Various announcements were made.

Rev. Terry Tribble read from Matthew 14:13 and stated that the impossible can be accomplished in and through our lives with Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Terry Tribble, Moderator

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Terry Tribble', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sis. Alane Patterson, Assistant Clerk

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'Alane Patterson', written in a cursive style.

**SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING 2009**  
**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 4, 2009 at Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church, Reynolds GA. Rev. John Cook welcomed everyone and Rev. A.G. Windham led in prayer. Before calling the meeting to order Moderator, Rev. Terry Tribble, read from 1 Corinthians 13 and spoke on love for one another. Rev. Ruble Youngblood was asked to read corresponding letters from the churches.

Bethany	1 delegate	
1st Thomaston	2 delegates	1 deacon
Mt. Olive	4 delegates	2 deacon
New Beginning	3 delegates	1 deacon
New Liberty	0 delegates	
New Life	3 delegates	
Spring Hill	1 delegates	
Trinity	3 delegates	
Turners Chapel	1 delegates	2 deacons

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

Visiting was Debbie Griffin, Missionary to Japan.

The clerk called rolls of officers and committees and a copy is attached as a part of these minutes.

Committees were strengthened or appointed as follows:

Finance Committee                      Sis. Sybil Fuller and Brother Larry Starling

Prior to the recess an offering was received.

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

The clerk read the minutes of the last meeting. A motion was made to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

State Mission Board - Bro. Gerald Moore reported that the Mission Board met at the State Association meeting. The Valdosta work is still moving forward. They are in a building program and the board approved an increase in the loan. The Harris County work continues to progress as planned. The Cartersville church is overcrowded and in need to expand the building. Their building program has experienced delays due to

building permits.

Board of Christian Education - Bro. Billy Patterson reported that the Couples Retreat was held in Cordele in February and was successful and well attended by the Chattahoochee Association. He reminded everyone to continue to check the promotional bulletin for upcoming events.

Board of Camping - Rev. Terry Tribble reported that the Teen Camp will be held June 28 - July 3 and that there will be no Winter retreat this year due to the economy.

Association Youth Camp Director - No Report.

Executive Committee, Association - Bro. Billy Patterson read a letter from Rev. Charles Johnson whereby he resigned as Association Youth Camp Director.

Finance Committee

General Fund Balance	\$6235.84
Benevolence Fund Balance	4434.44
Mission Fund Balance	1824.78
Youth Fund Balance	2450.08

Received at this meeting:

Representation fees	360.00
Offering	140.00
Benevolence Fund	175.00

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

Youth Competition Director - Sis. Tina Duncan reported that we had three churches represented in the youth competition. We will have 11 youth competing at State level. There is a continuing need to support our youth.

Ordaining Council - No Report.

State Executive Committee - No Report.

Old Business - There was no old business.

New Business - The clerk read a letter advising of withdrawal of Little Bethel from the Chattahoochee Association. It was also requested that Bro. Dwight Smith have his name removed from any documents of the Chattahoochee Association. Rev. Ruble Youngblood made a motion to accept the letter. Rev. Dallas Short seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Rev. John Cook was appointed to head a committee to plan for an Association Bible Camp this year.

Rev. Ruble Youngblood made a motion to adjourn. There was a second and the vote was unanimous.

Rev. John Cook brought the morning message from Mark 9:30-40. Rev. Cook said if we are honest with ourselves we will know that God is still working on us and maturing us. Salvation is a continuing work.

A rising vote of thanks was given to the host church. Rev. Terry Tribble offered a prayer of thanks and blessing on the food.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Terry Tribble', written over a horizontal line.

Rev. Terry Tribble, Moderator

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Billy Patterson', written over a horizontal line.

Bro. Billy Patterson, Clerk



**THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING 2009**  
**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, 2009 at New Beginning Free Will Baptist Church, Box Springs, GA. Rev. Terry Tribble welcomed everyone and lead in an opening prayer. The congregation sang "Praise Him! Praise Him!". Rev. Tribble read from Lev. 19:13 and Phil. 2:3. He asked Rev. Charles Johnson to read letters from the corresponding churches.

	<u>Delegates</u>	<u>Deacons</u>
1st Thomaston	0	0
Bethany	1	0
Mt. Olive	4	1
New Beginning	4	1
New Liberty	3	0
New Life	2	1
Spring Hill	0	0
Trinity	3	0
Turners Chapel	2	2

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

Visiting was Brian Lamb, student of Free Will Baptist College who is working with the youth at Turners Chapel Free Will Baptist Church.

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. Ruble Youngblood Sis. Cathy Cook Rev. Charles Fuller
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<u>Finance Committee</u>	Sis. Sara Anthony
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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 clerk read the minutes. Rev. Ruble Youngblood made a motion to accept the minutes as read. The motion was seconded and carried.

The following reports were presented:

State Executive Committee - Rev. Terry Tribble reported that there has been no meeting but they will meet in September.

State Mission Board - Bro. Gerald Moore thanked the association for the opportunity to serve and reported these are exciting times for the state Free Will Baptists. There are three active church planters working in Georgia with two churches being in construction. There was an 18 month evaluation of the Harris County work and growth in that area is tremendous.

Board of Christian Education - No report

Board of Trustees - No report.

State Board of Camping - Rev. Terry Tribble reported that there was good attendance at Teen Camp and asked for continued support of the youth.

Vacation Bible Camp - Rev. John Cook reported that Vacation Bible Camp was held June 12 and 13 at Taylor Mill Church Annex with 34 children and 33 adults in attendance. The spirit and attitude of the children were great and five decisions for the Lord were made.

Youth Competition Director - Sis. Tina Duncan reported that the State Competition was held in Macon with over 200 in attendance. The Chattahoochee Association had youth from three churches competing. She encouraged everyone to begin working now for next year.

Finance Committee -

General Fund Balance	\$6691.84
Benevolence Fund Balance	4159.44
Mission Fund Balance	1860.48
Youth Camp Fund	3366.80

Received at this meeting:

Representation fees	\$360.00
Offering	109.94
Benevolence	185.00

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

Ordaining Counsel - Rev. Terry Tribble reported that the Ordaining Counsel met and

examined Bro. Harry Winters and Rev. John Cook. They have completed all requirements and they recommend that they be received in full fellowship. The body voted to approve the recommendation as presented by the counsel.

#### Old Business

There was no old business.

#### New Business

There was no new business. Several announcements were made.

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

Rev. Charles Fuller read from Proverbs 1:7 and said the fear of God has left the church and homes. He reminded us that we need to live a holy life before a holy God. The body was dismissed with prayer and blessings on the food.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Terry Tribble, Moderator

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Billy Patterson".

Bro. Billy Patterson, Clerk



**ONE HUNDRED SEVENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING**  
**OF CHATTAHOOCHEE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

The 174th annual meeting of the Chattahoochee Association convened at 9:30 a.m. on October 3, 2009, at Turner's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church, Butler, GA. The opening song was "When We All Get to Heaven". Rev. Charles Johnson welcomed everyone and Bro. Eddie Swaney led in the opening prayer.

Moderator, Terry Tribble, called the business session to order and read from Ephesians 5 and brought a devotion on fruits of the spirit and the need to live and walk in the spirit. Rev. Dallas Short read corresponding letters from the churches.

	<u>Delegates</u>	<u>Deacons</u>
Bethany	1	
First Thomaston	0	
Mt. Olive	4	2
New Beginning	2	1
New Liberty	2	
New Life	2	1
Spring Hill	0	
Trinity	4	
Turners Chapel	2	2

Rev. Dallas Short 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>	Rev. Charles Fuller
<u>Temperance Committee</u>	Rev. Charles Johnson Sis. Bess Williams Sis. Marilyn Smith
<u>Sunday School Committee</u>	Rev. Harry Winters Bro. Larry Starling Sis. Sara Lunsford
<u>Obituary Committee</u>	Rev. A.G. Windham

Prior to the recess an offering was received.

The meeting reconvened at 10:25 and the clerk read the minutes. Rev. Harry Winters 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 - No report

State Board of Trustees - No report.

State Board of Camping - Rev. Tribble reported that the dates have changed to June 6 thru 11 at Lizella. The new director is James Judson.

State Board of Missions - Bro. Gerald Moore reported that no meeting had been held however reports were submitted via e-mail. Valdosta reports that they had moved into their new facility in August with 35 members. The Cartersville Church is also in a new building with 85 members and three saved last month. Rev. Harris is working hard to get his church planted and is enthusiastic about the opportunities there.

State Executive Board - Rev. Terry Tribble reported that the mission fields and support were discussed at the last meeting. It was also noted that sixteen churches are without pastors at this time.

Association Executive Committee- Bro. Billy Patterson reported that the committee had met on Sept. 26,2009 for the purpose of discussing the Youth Director position. It was the conclusion and recommendation of the committee to the Nominating Committee and to the Association that this position not be filled until the pastors develop a Youth Constitution.

District Youth Competition - Bro. Billy Patterson read a letter from Sis. Tina Duncan resigning from this position due to no longer attending a church in the Association.

Temperance Committee - Rev. Charles Johnson quoted from I Corinthians 8:9 and stated that our business dealings, actions ,attitudes and behavior should be as a model of Jesus.

Sunday School Committee - Rev. Harry Winters presented the following recommendations: Encourage attendance, visit, involve everyone, encourage and work to make Sunday School interesting.

Obituary Committee - Rev. A.G. Windham read the obituaries and they are included in this book of minutes. Those in attendance stood in a moment of silence in remembrance of those gone home.

Finance Committee -

General Fund Balance	7161.84
Benevolence Fund Balance	3894.44
Mission Fund Balance	1860.78
Youth Fund Balance	3255.22

Received today:

Representation fees	360.00
Offering	102.00
Benevolence Fund	1725.00
National Fees	900.00

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

District Youth - No report.

Nominating Committee - They recommended the following:

Moderator	Rev. Terry Tribble
Assistant Moderator	Rev. Dallas Short
Clerk	No recommendation*
Assistant Clerk	No recommendation*
Executive Committee	Bro. Ralph Windham
Ordaining Council:	Rev. Terry Tribble
Youth Camp	Deferred
Youth Competition Dir.	Deferred
Finance Committee	Bro. Rex Robinson and Mike Armour
State Board of Trustees	Rev. Charles Johnson
State Mission Board	Bro. Gerald Moore

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

\* No nominations were made.

Old Business There was no old business

New Business Bro. Billy Patterson made a suggestion to move all meeting to the second Saturday of the scheduled month. Rev. Ruble Youngblood made a motion and the vote was unanimous.

1st Quarterly Meeting, January 9, 2010	Trinity
2nd Quarterly Meeting, April 10, 2010	Mt. Olive
3rd Quarterly Meeting, July 10, 2010	New Beginning
Annual Meeting, October 9, 2010	Turners Chapel

Youth Rally To be determined

New Life volunteered to host the associational annual picnic.

Announcements were made by various churches and Rev. Terry Tribble made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Special songs were presented by Bro. Donnie Burke. Rev. Danny Elliott brought the morning message from Acts 1:3-8 and challenged each person to ask himself "What does God expect from me?" We are to keep focused on God, be filled with power from the spirit and be faithful to obey the great commission.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Terry Tribble  
Moderator

  
Bro. Billy Patterson  
Clerk



# ROLL CALL -- 2009

## ASSOCIATION OFFICERS, COMMITTEES, MINISTERS

		JAN	APR	JUL	OCT
<b>OFFICERS</b>	<b>REV. TERRY TRIBBLE - Moderator</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>REV. DALLAS SHORT - Assist. Mod.</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>BRO. BILLY PATTERSON - Clerk</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>SIS. ALANE PATTERSON - Assist. Clerk</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>BRO. RALPH WINDHAM</b>		<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>
	<b>REV. CHARLES FULLER</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>REV. RUBLE YOUNGBLOOD</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>ORDAINING COUNCIL</b>	<b>REV. TERRY TRIBBLE</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>REV. MITCH GRIFFIN</b>				
	<b>REV. CHARLES JOHNSON</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>YOUTH CAMP DIRECTOR</b>					
<b>FINANCE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>BRO. REX ROBINSON</b>			<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>BRO. MIKE ARMOUR</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>BD./CHRISTIAN ED</b>	<b>BRO. BILLY PATTERSON</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>BD. OF CAMPING</b>	<b>REV. TERRY TRIBBLE</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>STATE MISSION BOARD</b>	<b>BRO. GERALD MOORE</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>STATE BD/TRUSTEES</b>	<b>BRO. JESSIE CARROLL</b>				
<b>DIST. YOUTH COMP.</b>	<b>SIS. TINA DUNCAN</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
	<b>MINISTERS</b>				
	<b>REV. CHARLES FULLER</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>REV. MITCH GRIFFIN</b>				
	<b>REV. J.C. GRIMSLEY</b>				
	<b>REV. CHARLES JOHNSON</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>REV. SIDNEY JONES</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	
	<b>REV. DALLAS SHORT</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>REV. JOHN COOK</b>			<b>X</b>	
	<b>REV. TERRY TRIBBLE</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>REV. A.G. WINDHAM</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>
	<b>REV. RUBLE YOUNGBLOOD</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
	<b>REV. HARRY WINTERS</b>			<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>

## OBITUARIES

*We honor those who have gone before us.*

### **Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church**

**Sis. Nancy Childers** - She went to be with her Lord on October 24, 2008 after an extended illness. She was born July 10, 1944 to her parents Eddie and Ethel Windham. Nancy was loved by all who knew her and is missed by her church family and friends. We look forward to the time we shall be reunited together.

(Submitted by her brother, A. G. Windham)

**Bro. Thurman Windham** - He departed this life December 9, 2008 and went to be with the Lord until we meet him again. Thurman was born September 14, 1934 and was a member of our church for many years. He was a veteran of our Armed Forces having served his country for over twenty years. Thurman leaves an extended family and many friends who loved him dearly and miss being with him. We look forward to the time we see him in the new life. (Submitted by his brother, A. G. Windham)

**Bro. Danny Morrell** - He was born August 20, 1952 and departed this life July 10, 2009 after an extended illness. Danny was a member of our community and a member of our church. Danny is missed by all who knew him. He leaves behind his beloved wife and family who loved him dearly. Our prayers go out to each of them in time of their sorrow. (Submitted by his former Pastor, A.G. Windham)

### **First Thomaston Free Will Baptist Church**

**Bro. Will Tucker** - Bro. Will Tucker was a member of First Thomaston Free Will Baptist Church. He will be greatly missed by his family, friends and church family.

### **New Liberty Free Will Baptist Church**

**Sis. Effie Virginia Anderson** - Sis. Anderson was born January 6, 1947 and passed away on January 19, 2009. She is sadly missed by her church family and friends. She was faithful to her church as long as she was able.

### **Turner's Chapel Free Will Baptist Church**

**Sis. Ramona Janet McCollum Swain** - Sis. Swain went to be with our Lord and Savior on January 31, 2009. She was 73 years of age and was loved by everyone that knew her. She left behind her husband, Clifford Swain, a daughter and a son. She will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved her.

**Sis. Sara Belle Hill Hobbs Wainwright** - Sis. Wainwright passed away on September 17, 2009. She is survived by her husband "Buddy" Wainwright, a son, Lewis Hobbs and two daughters, Brenda Moss and Peggy Allen. She is truly missed by her family and friends.

**Bro. Sidney Hudson** - Bro. Hudson passed away August 6, 2009. He leaves behind a wife, Lynn Spillers Hudson, a son Clifford Hudson and a daughter, Cynthia Hudson. He is missed by all who knew him.

**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:

1<sup>st</sup>. 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.

2<sup>nd</sup>. That we will labor together to remain free from all violations to the Bible doctrines, ordinances, and faith once delivered to the Saints.

3<sup>rd</sup>. That we will live mutually in fellowship and not estrange ourselves from any of the brethren.

4<sup>th</sup>. 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.

5<sup>th</sup>. 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.

6<sup>th</sup>. 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.

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

8<sup>th</sup>. That we will avoid all improper intercourse of all ungodliness, that we will not visit places where our Christian influence will be impaired.

9<sup>th</sup>. 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.

10<sup>th</sup>. That we will assist in supporting our pastor, in relieving the needy, and defraying the expenses of our churches according to our several abilities.

11<sup>th</sup>. 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".

12<sup>th</sup>. That we will exercise our spiritual gifts as well as we are able for the instruction and edification of our brethren and sisters.

13<sup>th</sup>. That we will strive to cultivate deep and uniform piety in our hearts and encourage the same around us.

14<sup>th</sup>. That we will strictly administer the government of the church laboring always to promote its purity and holy influence.

15<sup>th</sup>. That we will not knowingly condemn the innocent or favor the guilty and that we strive to prevent strife and factions in the church.

16<sup>th</sup>. 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 annul 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 individual preference, to the greatest extent possible. These members will be elected to the terms designated by the state.



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



# Chattahoochee Association of Free Will Baptist

## Constitution

Testament may be removed as a standing delegate until acknowledgments are made and accepted by the body in regular session.

## 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 place 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.

## AMENDMENTS

# 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.

## Amendment I

The reimbursement rate for travel to all official meetings for the moderator and clerk shall be the current IRS rate as reported by the clerk at each quarterly meeting.

*Approved 4/06*

## Amendment II

The Youth Camp Director shall be elected for a term of three years.

*Approved 10/07*

## 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.