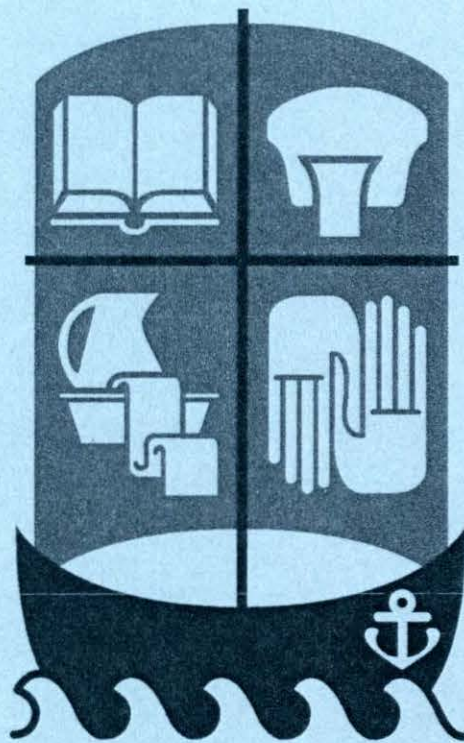


**THE COASTAL ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**



**ANNUAL DIGEST
FOR
2016-2017**

OFFICERS FOR 2017-2018

Moderator

Rudolph Outlaw, Hubert

Assistant Moderator

Larry Haggard, Jacksonville

Clerk

Jeff Davis, New Bern

Assistant Clerk

David Rackley, New Bern

Treasurer

Henry Potter, Maple Hill

Assistant Treasurer

Chase Bright, Cove City

BOARDS

Examining

Richard Patterson (2018)

Jeff Davis (2019)

William Sealy (2020)

Missions

Jimmy Mercer (2018)

Rudolph Outlaw (2019)

Brownie Woolard (2020)

Executive

Moderator

Pat Hall (2018)

Assistant Moderator

Henry Potter (2019)

Clerk

David Hall (2020)

Assistant Clerk

Treasurer

Herbert Thompson (2018)

Sutton Raynor (2019)

Buster Radford (2020)

Mike Gray (2021)

List of Ordained Ministers

Bragan, Robert

Bright, Chase

Bryan, Volney

Bulla, Tommy

Cahoon, Lester

Coghill, Scott

Coleman, Willie

Davis, Jeff

Edwards, Freeman

Golding, Walt

Haggard, Larry

Hall, Joseph

Hall, Pat

Hart, Gordon

Huffman, Kenneth

Jenkins, Fred

Johnson, Jerry

Kellum, Bill

Kennedy, Glenwood

Laxton, Ernest

Mercer, Jimmy

*Moore, Andy (Brazil)

Outlaw, Rudolph

Patterson, Richard

Petty, Steve

Potter, Henry

Rackley, Jerry

Sealy, William

Senn, Jason

Thompson, Tim

Wiggs, Dennis

*Wolf, Logan (Utah)

National Association of Free Will Baptists										
Coastal Association of North Carolina										
Ordained Ministers										
	Jan. 15	Apr. 15	Jul. 15	Oct. 15	Jan. 16	Apr. 16	Aug. 16	Oct. 16	Jan. 17	Apr. 17
Bragan, Robert	P	A	P	P	A	A	A	P	A*	P
Bright, Chase					P	P	A	A	A	A
Bryan, Volney	P	P	A*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Bulla, Tommy	P	P	A*	A*	A*	A*	A	P	A	A
Cahoon, Lester							P	A*	P	P
Coghill, Scott	P	A	P	P	A	A	P	P	A	A
Coleman, Willie	A*	A	P	A*	P	P	P	A*	A*	A*
Davis, Jeff			P	P	P	P	A*	P	P	P
Edwards, Freeman	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*
Golding, Walt	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*
Haggard, Larry	P	A*	P	P	P	P	A*	A	P	A
Hall, Joseph	A*	A	A	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A
Hall, Pat	A*	P	P	A*	P	P	A	A*	P	A*
Hart, Gordan	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	P	P	A*
Huffman, Kenneth	A	P	P	A*	A*	P	A	P	P	A*
Jenkins, Fred	A	A	A*	A*	A*	A*	A	P	A	A
Johnson, Jerry	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A*	P
Kellum, Bill	A*	A*	P	P	A*	A*	A*	A*	P	A*
Kennedy, Glenwood	P	P	A*	P	P	P	P	P	P	A*
Kimbrell, Bruce		P	P	P	A	A	A	A	A	A
Laxton, Ernest	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A*	P	A*
Mercer, Jimmy	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Moore, Andy (Brazil)										
Outlaw, Rudolph	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Patterson, Richard	A*	P	P	A*	P	P	P	A*	P	P
Petty, Steve	P	A*	P	P	A*	P	A	P	A*	A*
Potter, Henry	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Rackley, Jerry	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A*
Sealy, William	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A*
Thompson, Tim	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Wiggs, Dennis	P	A*	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Wolf, Logan (Utah)										

National Association of Free Will Baptists										
Coastal Association of North Carolina										
Churches										
	Jan. 15	Apr. 15	Jul. 15	Oct. 15	Jan. 16	Apr. 16	Aug. 16	Oct. 16	Jan. 17	Apr. 17
Angola	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Bridgeton	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A*
Calvary	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Cape Fear	A	P	A	A	P	P	A	A	P	A*
Cardinal Village	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Community	P	P	A*	P	P	P	P	P	P	A*
Cove City	P	A	A	P	P	P	A	P	P	P
Davis	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Emmanuel	A	P	A	P	A*	P	A*	P	A	A*
Faith	P	A	A	P	A*	P	A*	P	P	A*
First, Beaufort	A*	P	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P
First, Jacksonville	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A*
First, Morehead City	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
First, Richlands	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Freedom Way	P	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P
Grace, Holly Ridge	A*	P	P	A*	A*	P	A	P	P	P
Palmetto Chapel	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	A*	A*
New Life	P	P	P	P	A	P	P	P	A*	A*
Ruth's Chapel	P	A	P	P	A*	P	A*	P	A*	A*
Sherwood Forest	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Stacy	P	P	P	P	P	P	A*	A	P	A*

CONSTITUTION

Preamble

From long experience, we, the Original Free Will Baptist Churches, being convinced of the advantages of cooperative programs and united efforts for advancing the cause of our Lord, do purpose to establish and maintain an association of churches for the purpose of spiritual fellowship, united efforts in missions, Christian education and church extension upon the following plan:

- I. This Association shall be named the *Coastal Association of Original Free Will Baptist Churches of North Carolina* and shall be composed of such well-regulated Free Will Baptist Churches as may embody themselves under this constitution.
- II. The acting members of the Association shall be five (5) delegates from each organized church (chosen by the members of the respective church, while in session), associational officers and board members, and all ordained and licensed ministers, whose names appear on the roll of ministers of the Association belonging to any church composing this body.
- III. The officers of this Association shall be a moderator, an assistant moderator, a treasurer, and a clerk, who shall superintend the printing of the minutes. These officers shall be elected annually, and shall hold their offices until their successors are elected. An Executive Board of four (4) members is elected from the laity, whose term of office shall be as follows: one elected for one year, one elected for two years, one elected for three years, and one elected for four years; and at the expiration of each of these terms, one shall be elected for four years. The officers of the Association are named: Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer and shall be members of the Executive Board, and shall meet with the Board and shall have a vote on any and all matters that shall come before the Executive Board.
- IV. Any regular organized Free Will Baptist Church maintaining gospel order, agreeing with the denomination in doctrine and practice as set forth in the *Treatise of Faith and Practice of the National Association of Free Will Baptist*, and in favor of benevolent enterprises such as Sunday School, Missions, Temperance, Christian Education, etc., may be received into this body by presenting a Petitionary Letter requesting membership and upon examination and recommendation of the Examining Board, and by majority vote of the body in session. Moreover, any church holding membership in this Association reserves the right to participate, or refrain from participating in any or all programs of the body, or may withdraw from the Association at her own pleasure.

- V. This Association shall have the power to discipline its churches; exclude them for disorderly conduct if labor proves unsuccessful; to license and ordain ministers (such as give evidence of qualifications); to settle questions of doctrine and discipline as the churches may refer to it; and to make any rules necessary to its regulation and not inconsistent with its internal regulations. The Association may not exert any ecclesiastical authority over the churches composing it (see National Treatise).
- VI. This Association shall convene quarterly at 10:00 A.M. on the fourth Saturday in January, July, and October for fellowship and the conducting of such business as may be deemed necessary. The annual business meeting shall be on the fourth Saturday of April, beginning at 9:30 at which time the Association shall act upon questions and topics as may be referred to it committees and transact such other business not repugnant to this constitution, or to the usage of the denomination as in their judgment may promote the cause of Christ and the interest of the churches within the limits of the Association. The churches shall make such reports of their work as required by the Association.
- VII. It is the duty of this Association to provide for general union of churches, to point out their interests, and to aid them in securing pastors when requested, to put evangelists and other ministers in places where the gospel is most needed, and require an annual written report from each minister belonging to this Association.
- VIII. Duties and job descriptions of the Boards of the Coastal Association:
- A. **THE MISSIONS BOARD:** It shall be the responsibility of the Missions Board of this Association to promote the cause of Home and Foreign Missions among the churches of the Association through information provided them at the associational meetings, references from the mission boards of the National Association, inquiries from various churches, and actively promoting the actual ministry of various missionaries by scheduling services for them in the churches when requesting them to do so. In addition, the Mission Board shall maintain an up-to-date listing of all missionaries, both Home and Foreign, with their addresses and current needs so as to be of use to the churches as a source of information.

- B. **THE EXAMINING BOARD:** It shall inquire as to the qualifications of ministers, approving or disapproving them for recommendations accordingly. They shall be the investigating committee for new churches wishing to unite with this Association, and upon satisfactory recommendation, the churches shall be recommended to the Association. They shall examine the credentials of ministers transferred to this Association and shall make recommendation to the Association as to their reception.
- C. **THE CHURCH TRAINING AND YOUTH RELATIONS BOARD:** It shall promote the training program for the youth among the churches of this Association; shall be responsible for conducting team and individual competitions for the various youth competitive programs offered by the National C.T.S. Department; and shall be responsible for conducting youth camp sessions on behalf of the youth of this Association, the time and frequency to be determined by the board. They shall encourage area youth rallies.
- D. **THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:** It shall transact all the business of the Association when this body is not in session. If any vacancies occur between sessions of the Association, the board shall fill such vacancies until the next session of the Association: all of whom shall perform such duties as usually devolve to such officers, or as directed by the Association in session.
- E. The general responsibility of all boards of this Association shall be to promote the good of the cause of Christ among the churches of the Association and seek to help the churches to become more effective in the work of the Gospel.

IX This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds majority of all members voting at any regular session of the Association, written notice having been given at the previous session.

Proposed Guidelines for Organizing and Accepting New Churches into The Coastal Association of North Carolina Free Will Baptists.

- I. When a church or mission church desires the fellowship with the Coastal Association, the following procedures should be followed:
 - A. The church presents a written request at a regularly scheduled association session.
 - B. The church provides for this session.
 - C. The representatives of the church meet with the Examining Board for questioning pertaining to the church's former association, present organization, purpose, and doctrinal practices.
- II. If the Examining Board recommends the church to our fellowship, the following procedures should be followed:
 - A. The church coming from other denominations or associations shall be taken under the watch care of the Association for one year.
 - B. The church submits a statistical report to the Examining Board's chairman at the end of each six months.
 - C. After one year's watch care, the Examining Board may recommend that the church be taken into full fellowship of the Coastal Association.
 - D. During the year of watch care, the church should send non-voting representatives to the Coastal Association.
- III. When a Mission Church desires fellowship with the Coastal Association, the following procedures should be followed:
 - A. The mission church should follow the above guidelines, with the exception of the one year waiting period, plus:
 - B. After becoming established enough to operate as a church and having twenty-five charter members, organize into a church with an organizational service. The Coastal Association Moderator, Chairman of the Mission Board, and Examining Board should participate in the service.
 - C. Recognize the KJV Bible as the only rule of faith and practice.
 - D. Adopt the Free Will Baptist Church Covenant.
 - E. Adopt a Constitution and Bylaws based upon the National Association Treatise.
 - F. Request to be accepted by the Coastal Association in full fellowship at the next session.

Coastal Association of Free Will Baptists
BYLAWS

1. At every setting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded with prayer by the moderator or whomever he may request.
2. The clerk shall place these bylaws in the hands of all delegates immediately after the convening of the Association.
3. The moderator shall call his assistant to fill the chair when he wishes to speak or otherwise vacate his place.
4. The moderator shall declare out of order any speaker who fails to speak on the subject, or who makes unkind use of personalities.
5. The moderator shall not succeed himself more than once within a period of five (5) years.
6. The body shall elect all committees unless otherwise provided by the Association.
7. While the Association is in session, no member shall absent himself without permission from the moderator.
8. Anyone wishing to speak shall rise and address the moderator and be recognized by him before speaking.
9. All visiting brethren may have the privilege to speak on any subject before the body but not to vote unless ruled otherwise by the body.
10. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association and not longer than five (5) minutes.
11. No subject shall be discussed without a motion and a second and the question having been stated by the moderator.
12. When a motion has been made and seconded and stated by the chair, and any member opposes its discussion, the moderator shall put the question, "Shall it be discussed?" If the majority response is negative, the question shall be dismissed.
13. A motion shall be put writing if any member of the body requests it.
14. No report shall be adopted except by motion and second and a vote to that effect.
15. Any member of the Association violating any of these rules shall subject himself to the forfeiting of voting privileges for the remainder of the day.

16. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order.
17. A minister seeking membership in the Association shall present a petitionary letter to the Association; and after he has been recommended and approved by the Examining Board and upon a majority vote of the Body in session, his name shall be placed on the "Roll of Ministers of the Association." Each new minister coming into the Coastal Association shall be contacted by the Examining Board and notified of a date to appear before the board for approval. This should be done within two (2) months after he has arrived and begun his pastorate in the Association.
18. No one shall be licensed or ordained to the Gospel ministry or received into our Association who is divorced or married to a divorcee, homosexual, or immoral in his lifestyle; who uses tobacco, alcoholic beverages, or illegal narcotics; or who has a tolerant attitude toward liberalism, modernism, communism, Catholicism, or tongues-speaking as a part of the practice of the Christian life and evidence of the Holy Spirit's presence and approval. One who seeks to be licensed to preach must be recommended by his local church to this body for membership. He should possess the same standards as the ordained minister. The license must be for a period of one (1) year.
19. The ministers are required to attend the Coastal Association meetings unless prohibited by a legitimate reason, approved by the body. If a minister fails to report to the meetings by presence or letter or proper communication over a continuous period of two (2) years, or he assumes a pastorate outside the Coastal Association, his name shall be removed from the roll. Before the name is deleted, the moderator must contact him.
20. Each member church shall be required to make an annual report to the Association. Any church failing to report for two (2) consecutive years shall be declared out of fellowship with the Association until such a time as report is made. Churches affected by this action shall be notified by the clerk and given one month to report. If a church fails to respond, a visit shall be made by the General Officers to the pastor. Those churches failing to comply shall be notified that they are out of fellowship until such a time as they report.
21. The rules contained in *Robert's Rules of Order* shall govern this body in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of this Association.
22. These rules may be amended and the order of business may be temporarily suspended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the body.

(Revised 10/24/98)

August 13, 2016

Convening at Davis Free Will Baptist Church on August 13, 2016, the Coastal Association's session began by the One Man's Quartet's rendering of "Jesus Will Take Care of Me" and "I'll Meet You on the Other Side."

The formal welcome by host church pastor Jimmy Mercer was followed by Meresa Mercer's leading the congregation in choruses and then prayer by William Sealy.

Moderator Jerry Johnson called the business session to order and after delegates were seated, visitors were recognized and encouraged to provide an update on various ministries: Carl Miller for Harvest Child Care, Reuben Cason for the State Promotional Office, Tom Boehm with plans for a missions trip to Haiti in October, and Molly Barker, retired veteran missionary to Uruguay for 53 years. Miss Molly, who recently received a plaque of appreciation from our National Association, was greeted by a standing ovation from the Coastal body. Scott Coghill then provided a positive assessment of the recent "God's Man" conference hosted by the New Life Church, New Bern.

Committees secured by the Moderator were composed of the following: Finance (Henry Potter, David Rackley); Digest (Jimmy Mercer, William Sealy); Resolutions (Tim Thompson, Richard Patterson).

Henry Potter's initial treasurer's report revealed an April 23rd balance of \$1,015.49, receipts totaling \$4,682.00, disbursements of \$4,854.60, and an ending balance of \$842.89.

The Youth Board report by Henry Potter proved an encouraging analysis of June's Youth Camp, though attendance was somewhat under normal.

Jimmy Mercer's Missions' Board report informed us that John Moran has already had his first service in the new ministry in Apex and that Rex and Brenda

Evans need a few more dedicated families to help promote the ministry at the Roanoke Rapids Church.

Following the break, during which the "One Man Quartet" sang, Committee/Board reports began with Treasurer Henry Potter, whose record reported a beginning balance of \$842.89, receipts totaling \$676.10, total disbursements of \$1,118.80, and a final balance of \$400.19.

The Digest report by Jimmy Mercer communicated the following: churches reporting (15), number received (19), lost by death (7), lost by transfer (7), membership total (2,055), baptized (17), enrolled in Sunday school (988), Church Training Service (228), Women Active for Christ (91), Master's Men (45), and average attending mid-week prayer service (630).

William Sealy for the Examining Board explained that Lester Cahoon (Cardinal Village Church) has petitioned the Coastal for membership and that the Board recommends that his Certificate of Ordination be ratified (approved) by the Body and signed by Moderator and Clerk as sufficient for Rev. Cahoon's membership admission. The Body then unanimously voted accordingly.

Two resolutions were adopted:

"Whereas the Davis Free Will Baptist Church has so graciously hosted today's Association, therefore, be it resolved that we signal our gratitude by a rising vote of thanks."

A second resolution concerned the necessity of our pleading with Almighty God for a genuine moral/spiritual revival on behalf of our beloved nation.

"O Worship the King" was the hymn introducing the worship service. Just prior to the message by our State Promotional Director Reuben Cason, a quartet from the host church graced us with singing "God Moves in a Windstorm."

Basing his message on 1 Samuel 16:6-12, detailing Samuel's anointing David as Israel's second king, Rev. Cason utilized verse 11 for the sermon title

"Don't Sit Down Until the King Comes." Addressing the difficulties and discouragements characterizing much of our ministering for Christ, especially in pastoring, Bro. Cason urged us to "Preach On" and keep serving until *our* King appears.

A time for announcements was followed by Lester Cahoon's receiving the "right hand of fellowship"; Bro. Cahoon then offered the closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Thompson, clerk

October 29, 2016

On October 29, 2016, Emmanuel Free Will Baptist Church served as the site for the convening of the Coastal Association of Free Will Baptists, the session's commencing with the congregational "I'd Rather Have Jesus." Host pastor Tommy Bulla extended the formal welcome and offered the opening prayer.

Moderator Jerry Johnson called the business session to order and, following the normal procedures, secured permission to select committees for the day as follows: Finance (Henry Potter, Glenwood Kennedy); Digest (Jimmy Mercer, Tommy Bulla, Dennis Wiggs); Resolutions (Tim Thompson, William Sealy).

The Treasurer's report by Henry Potter reflected a disbursements total of \$1,118.80 from an accountability total of \$1,623.99, and a balance total (10-22-16) of \$505.19.

Following the Youth Board report by Henry Potter, Moderator Johnson invited the following to provide insights on their respective ministries: Robert Travis (Family Ministries, Greeneville, Tennessee); Carl Miller (Harvest Child Care, Duffield, Virginia); and Reuben Cason (N.C. State Promotional Office). Bro. Cason informed us of the recent alliance of our State Office with the North Carolina Life and Liberty Institute under Attorney David Gibbs III, who serves as legal counsel for our entire state.

On behalf of the Missions Board, following an update by Molly Barker on the country of Uruguay, South America, and her plans to return there for a visit, Jimmy Mercer provided positive assessments of the outreach of John Moran in Apex and Rex Evans in Roanoke Rapids.

Committee reports immediately following the morning break began with Treasurer Potter's revelation that from receipts of \$643.00, and disbursements of \$1,009.40, a treasury balance of \$138.79 remains.

Jimmy Mercer's Digest Report mirrored the following: number of churches reporting (15); number received (34); lost by death (4); lost by transfer (0); membership total (1501); baptized (21); enrolled in Sunday school (1,011); church training service (129); Women Nationally Active for Christ (92); Master's Men (49); mid-week prayer service average (668).

Two resolutions were adopted by the body:

1. Whereas the Emmanuel Free Will Baptist Church has so graciously hosted today's Coastal session, therefore, be it resolved that we express our gratitude by a rising vote of thanks.
2. Whereas, ten days hence, through the process and privilege of voting, United States citizens from coast to coast will participate in choosing leaders for our beloved land, and

Whereas, apart from a genuine repentance of grievous sins and a stirring, Heaven-sent moral and spiritual revival, this once glorious republic to which we, over the years, have eagerly and loyally pledged our allegiance, perches precariously on the threshold of inevitable judgment from Almighty God, (Whose Truth we have suppressed, Whose precepts we have flouted, and from Whose ways we have wandered), and

Whereas, if time remains, this national election on November 8, 2016, will likely be recorded as the most critical, not only in America's history but also in the history of the world, and

Whereas, we as leaders in this Association not only bear the responsibility in our churches to speak the truth but also to do our practical part to ensure that the truth can be *spoken* in "the land of the free and the home of the brave,"

Therefore, be it resolved that today's Association offer special prayer to our gracious God on behalf of our beleaguered nation and further that we lead our respective churches in prayer, prior to and on behalf of this national election, that we ourselves vote responsibly, and that we aid our congregants in responsible voting by freely and Biblically addressing the moral/spiritual/social issues which loom at the forefront of our current crisis.

Our worship service commenced with the congregational "There Is Power in the Blood" and the opening prayer by Scott Coghill. Jessica Morton from the host church graced the congregation with singing "His Life for Mine."

Steve Petty's sermon highlighting the grace of God was based primarily on I Corinthians 15:9,10. The grace that had humbled the apostle Paul, served as his

motivation for sacrifice and service to Christ, and sustained him during extreme difficulties is the identical grace that must undergird us as we build and battle and live and labor in our current ministries. Rev Petty's message culminated with a time of prayer around the altar led by Moderator Johnson whose intercession specifically thanked God for His amazing grace to and for us.

A time for announcements followed the service, and today's session was closed in prayer by Dennis Wiggs.

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Thompson, clerk

Coastal Minutes

January 28, 2017

Convening at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Jacksonville, on January 28, 2017, the Coastal Association commenced with the congregational "His Grace Is Sufficient," led by Mike Williams and the opening prayer by Jimmy Mercer. The formal welcome was extended by host pastor Larry Haggard.

Following both Moderator Jerry Johnson's calling the session to order and the normal scheduled procedure, the securing of committees by the Moderator was allowed as follows: Finance (Henry Potter, Jeff Davis); Digest (Richard Patterson, Jason Senn); Resolutions (Tim Thompson, Dennis Wiggs).

The Treasurer's report by Henry Potter revealed total receipts of \$1,009.40; and a remaining balance of \$603.79. Pat Hall announced the projected dates for this summer's Coastal Youth Camp as the week of June 26-30.

On behalf of the Missions Board, Brownie Woolard reported that our own district's "Women Active for Christ" had managed to raise \$9,000 toward the national organization's noble project of constructing desperately needed water wells in the country of Kenya, Africa. Bro. Woolard then asked Mollie Barker and Tom Boehm, respectively, to share updates on their ministries. Missionary Barker plans to return soon to Uruguay, South America, to help with the young people's camp. She requested prayer for the Bible Institute and for the two churches that are currently without pastors. Tom Boehm plans to leave shortly, leading a team of nine men to do maintenance repairs on structures in the area where Joel and April Hess minister in Haiti; at the present time, April is back in the states, relative to health issues. William Sealy then led in prayer for our missions works, especially for the John Moran family in the new outreach in Apex, North Carolina.

During the time allocated for petitionary letters, we received encouraging reports from Carl/Mary Miller (Harvest Child Care Ministries, Duffield, Virginia) and from Reuben Cason (N.C. State Promotional director), commending our Coastal Association for generous financial contributions to each of these ministries. Bro. Reuben confirmed that

\$6,229 had been contributed from among our Coastal churches to the state's ministry, with the Richlands Church being the top donor (\$1,700).

The Finance Committee's summary by Henry Potter reflected that from an ending balance of \$1,117.79 and a projected disbursements of \$1,009.40, a total balance of \$108.39 remains.

Richard Patterson presented the following Digest Committee's findings: churches reporting (15), number received (14), lost by death (7), lost by transfer (6), membership total (1,075), baptized (4), enrolled in Sunday school (717), Church Training Service (172), Women Nationally Active for Christ (109), enrolled in Master's Men (34), and average mid-week prayer service attendance (440).

William Sealy shared the Examining Board's recommendation that Jason Senn, youth pastor at the Sherwood Forest Church, be reinstated on the Coastal's roster of ministers. Rev. Senn's job in the past prevented him from attending the Association's quarterly sessions. A second recommendation, in the form of a motion, was that the discussion and vote relative to the Board's proposed minor changes to the Coastal Constitution be tabled until the annual session in April.

The Resolutions Committee's proposal to express our thanks to the host church for its hospitality in hosting today's Coastal was unanimously accepted.

The congregational "The Old Account Was Settled" commenced the worship service, and prayer was offered by Glenwood Kennedy. Mike and Debbie Williams graced the body with a duet rendition of "He's Been So Good to Me."

Colossians 2:23-3:4 served as the basis for William Sealy's sermon which challenged believers to recall that we have been spiritually resurrected with Christ and that we should seek the heavenly blessings such as enjoying our God and growing in our love for Him and for others and to rejoice in anticipation of enjoying Heaven around God's throne (Revelation 22:1), where Christ sits at the Father's right hand.

A time for announcements was followed by Larry Haggard's closing prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Thompson

April 22, 2017

The congregational "Victory in Jesus" led by Moderator Jerry Johnson and the opening prayer by Dennis Wiggs signaled the beginning of the Coastal Association's session on April 22, 2017, at First Free Will Baptist Church, Morehead City. As host pastor, Moderator Johnson issued the formal welcome then called the business meeting to order.

The body having granted the Moderator the privilege, committees for the day were chosen as follows: Finance (Henry Potter, Jeff Davis); Digest (Jimmy Mercer, Richard Patterson); Resolutions (Tim Thompson, Rudolph Outlaw).

Treasurer Henry Potter reported a total to be accounted for of \$2,034.00, a total disbursements of \$1,009.40, and a current balance of \$1,628.39. Rev. Potter also reported a balance of \$3,753.38 for the Youth Board treasury.

Missions Board reporter Brownie Woolard provided updates on our various mission points including the need for prayer relative to the John Moran family as our state missions board has decided to halt the project recently begun in Apex.

Following the session's break, delegates voted unanimously to accept Jimmy Mercer's presentation regarding the minor editions respecting the Coastal Constitution.

Richard Patterson read the list of new officers and Board members recommended by the Nominating Committee, and these were accepted enthusiastically.

From the twelve churches represented, the Digest report by Jimmy Mercer reflected the following: number received (10); lost by death (3); lost by transfer (4); total membership (996); baptized (3); enrolled in Sunday school (648); Church Training Service (200); Women Active for Christ (84); enrolled in Master's Men (30); Mid-week Prayer Service average (395).

Henry Potter provided the Finance report, predicting that a total treasury balance following receipts of \$5,235.39 and disbursements of \$4,854.60 will stand at \$380.79.

Also recommended by the Resolutions Committee, the Morehead City Church received a hearty rising vote of thanks for so graciously hosting today's Association.

The worship service commenced with the congregational "Amazing Grace" and prayer by Jerry Johnson. Host church singer Rod Gulder graced us with the special

song "One Pair of Hands." Basing his thoughts on John 6:53-69, Robert Bragan, principal of New Life Christian Academy, New Bern, presented a very practical message entitled, "Will You Also Go Away?" Rev. Bragan stressed the need for us to encourage one another as we all experience difficulties and times of doubt in our walk with the Lord and reminded us to maintain our focus on our Lord, Who will strengthen and sustain us on our journey.

A time for various announcements was offered; then Richard Patterson rendered the closing prayer, including the blessing on our noon meal.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Thompson, clerk

Leading and Laboring for our Lord
(1 Corinthians 3:9)

<u>Church</u>	<u>Pastor</u>	<u>Clerk</u>
Angola	Tim Thompson	Fanny Autry
Bridgeton	Jerry Rackley	T.J. Herring
Calvary	Henry Potter	Annie King
Cape Fear	Pat Hall	
Cardinal Village	Lester Cahoon	Joyce Johnston
Community	Glenwood Kennedy	Donna Kennedy
Cove City	Chase Bright	Sonja Gaskins
Davis	Jimmy Mercer	Nancy Grice
Emmanuel	Tommy Bulla	Hope Morton
Faith	Terry Thompson (Interim)	Viki Riggs
First, Beaufort	Richard Patterson	Gaye Atwood
First, Jacksonville	Larry Haggard	Andi Atoigue
First, Morehead City	Jerry Johnson	Peggie Hoffman
First, Richlands	Volney Bryan	Tammy Justice
Freedom Way	Steve Petty	Phyllis Gray
Grace	Kenneth Huffman	Cindy Woolard
New Life	Scott Coghill	Larry Moore
Palmetto Chapel	William Sealy	Carolyn Sealy
Ruth's Chapel	Ral Alsbrook	Beverly Adams
Sherwood Forest	Jeff Davis	Linda Simons
Stacy	Ernest Laxton	Beth Nelson

