

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PASTORS AND CHURCH CLERKS

Buncombe-Rev. C. F. Ferguson, Route 2, Carthage, Texas
Clerk-Billy Ferguson, Route 2, Carthage, Texas

Youngblood-Rev. Gaston Clary, 405 North Alta Vista, Henderson, Texas
Clerk-Mrs. Claude Tompkins, Route 1, Beckville, Texas

Good Hope-Rev. R. O. O'Dell, Henderson, Texas
Clerk-Mrs. Clarence Lollar, Box 184, Henderson, Texas

✓ Stewart-Rev. Bill Jones, Route 4, Henderson, Texas
Clerk-Elizabeth Silvey, Route 1, Box 137, Tatum, Texas

Mt. Olive-Rev. Billy Sharpston, Route 1, Laneville, Texas
Clerk-Mrs. Joe Ferguson, Route 1, Laneville, Texas

Union Arbor-Rev. Lee Roy Anderson, 704 Elvin, Carthage, Texas
Clerk-Mrs. Inez Weaver, Beckville, Texas

Mt. Union-Rev. L. K. Brashier, Route 7, Nacogdoches, Texas
Clerk-Mrs. Clara Little, Route 2, Garrison, Texas

Carthage-Rev. J. M. Goode, 707 West Holly, Carthage, Texas
Clerk-Mrs. Ethel Carmichael, Clayton, Texas

Henderson First Church-Rev. Don Ellis, 101 Mockingbird, Henderson, Texas
Clerk-Mrs. Ruben Hays, Route 1, Henderson, Texas

Kilgore-Rev. Allen Godwin, 1311 Bellamy Street, Kilgore, Texas
Clerk-Mrs. Allen Godwin, 1311 Bellamy Street, Kilgore, Texas

CONSTITUTION

We, the members of the Free Will Baptist denomination, having been baptized upon a profession of faith in Jesus Christ, and realizing the necessity of a bond of union and fellowship among us as a church; To protect the Free Will Baptist Doctrine as set forth by the Free Will Baptist Treatise; And promote the spreading of the Gospel of Christ, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

ARTICLE I

NAME-This organization shall be known as the East Texas District Association of Free Will Baptist.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE-The purpose of this association shall be to bring unity among the Churches and to bring them together in such a manner that they will be able to plan work that will result in the spreading of the Gospel.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP-Membership in this organization shall be limited to regularly organized and well disciplined Free Will Baptist Churches which accept and teach Free Will Baptist Doctrine as set forth in the Treatise of Faith and Practices of The Free Will Baptist of the National Association. Any church, meeting the above requirements, may upon proper application become a member by a majority vote of the Association.

ARTICLE IV

COMPOSITION-This Association shall consist of all ordained and licensed ministers and ordained deacons, who are Free Will Baptist in good standing and members of churches of the association. Also delegates appointed or elected by member churches. The executive committee will have the privilege of voting, with the moderator voting only in case of tie.

ARTICLE V

REPRESENTATION-Each church composed of fifty members or less shall be entitled to two delegates. Churches having more than fifty members shall be entitled to one additional delegate for each additional fifty members or fractional part thereof.

Amendment-No church shall be entitled to more than five delegates, regardless of size of membership.

ARTICLE VI

✓ FINANCE-The work of this association shall be financed by the churches of which it is composed. Each church shall send monthly to the clerk of the association 10% of its income.

Section 2. The clerk shall receive Ten Dollars (\$10.00) annually for service.

Amendment-The item on Clerk's salary shall be changed to read twenty-Five Dollars Annually. The clerk of the association shall receive \$8.00 for each of the quarters ending in December, March and June respectively and \$16.00 for the quarter ending in September, for service.

Section 3. The duties of the Clerk shall be to make records of all association business, do necessary correspondence, and to prepare

Manuscript of Minutes for printing. The duties of the clerk shall be to make records of all association business, all necessary correspondence, and to prepare manuscript of minutes for printing.

Section 4. The duties of Assistant Clerk shall be to assist Clerk. Duties of the assistant clerk shall be to assist clerk and to act in all capacities of clerk in absence of or on request of clerk.

Section 5. ^{50%} 75% of all funds received into district Treasury shall be channelled through State Executive Secretary to National Cooperative plan.

Section 6. All money received into District treasury shall be broken down as follows:

1. 50%--District General Fund
2. 25%--Student Loan
3. 10%--District Home Missions
4. 15%--Promotional Work -
10 - Bible College

ARTICLE VII

QUORUM-Representation from five churches of the association shall be declared a quorum at any regular or called session of the association.

ARTICLE VIII

DISCIPLINE-This association shall have power to discipline member churches and to withdraw fellowship from any church when its action is inconsistent with the Doctrine of Free Will Baptists as set forth in the Free Will Baptist Treatise.

ARTICLE IX

MINISTERS-Section 1. Every pastor who holds membership in this association should be a member of a church under his care.

Section 2. When a church desires to license or ordain one of its members to preach the Gospel, it should request the association to examine same through its Ordaining Council, and should agree to abide by the recommendation of its Ordaining Council. The Ordaining Council shall be guided in making decision in regard to applicant for license or ordination by the following standards:

1. The applicant shall believe the Free Will Baptist Doctrine as set forth in the Treatise of the National Association of Free Will Baptist.
2. The applicant shall present plans to prepare himself for the work of the ministry.

3. The applicant shall present to the council three personal references in regard to character.
4. In case of ordination or renewal of license, the applicant shall either be actively engaged in the work of the ministry or show evidence of preparation for the ministry.

Section 3. A Minister, who is a member of this association and who is subject to discipline for unChristian or unsound doctrine of doctrine contrary to Free Will Baptist belief as set forth in the Free Will Baptist Treatise of the National Association, shall be brought to trial by the Church of which he is a member; or by this East Texas District Association. The Ordaining Council must sit in the conference in an advisory capacity.

Section 4. All Ministers of this association shall make annual reports in writing to the Annual Session of this association.

ARTICLE X

OFFICERS-The officers of this association shall be a Moderator, an assistant Moderator, executive Secretary, a Clerk-Treasurer and an assistant Clerk. These officers shall be elected at each annual session by vote of the body. They shall serve as an Executive Committee of the Association and shall have power to transact business between sessions. This committee shall make written report to each regular session of all business transacted between sessions.

Section 2. Committees, as necessary shall be appointed by the Moderator, unless otherwise provided for, and shall hold office until their work is completed, or until their successors are elected.

Section 3. "The duties of the Executive Secretary shall be to promote all phases of the work on a district level, to act as a secretary and an assistant to the Executive Committee. He shall be paid 5 cents per mile for necessary travel but not to exceed that which is allocated for this purpose."

ARTICLE XI

SESSIONS-The regular sessions of this association shall be on Saturday before the second Sunday in January, April, and July and on Friday night and Saturday before the second Sunday in October, at a place designated by vote of the association at its previous regular session. Adjourned sessions may be called by the Moderator or by a majority of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee must call an adjourned session at the request of as many as three churches, if the requests are in writing.

Section 2. The association shall receive written reports from the churches of which it is composed on approved forms and such other reports that do not violate this Constitution. These reports shall be received quarterly and shall cover the preceding church quarter, except the report of the annual session in October which shall cover the entire Church year.

ARTICLE XII

COUNCIL- The Ordaining Council shall consist of five members, whose term of office shall be one year. Each member of the Council shall be re-elected or replaced at each annual session.

Section 2. The duties of the Ordaining Council shall be: to examine each applicant for license to preach the Gospel, or ordination; make appropriate recommendation on the basis of such examination; to examine the Minister's reports, and make proper recommendation on basis of findings; to sit in Church Conference of Meetings (regular or adjourned) of this association in an advisory capacity when ministers are on trial for reasons set forth in Art. IX, Section 3; And to serve as a Credentials Committee at each session.

ARTICLE XIII

BOARDS- The Board of Trustees of the Student Loan Fund shall be composed of five members. The members are to be elected on the following basis: two members for a term of three years. After which all members shall be elected to serve three year terms.

Section 2. The duties of The Board of Trustees of the Student Loan Fund shall be to supervise and promote this enterprise. The Board shall have power to organize itself and devise its own government in harmony with principles of this association.

Section 3. The Board shall make a written report of work and funds to each annual session of this association.

ARTICLE XIV

AUXILIARIES- The East Texas District Woman's Auxiliary Convention and other organizations shall be recognized as subordinate organizations. They shall organize at their own discretion, and have power to adopt their Constitution and By-Laws, and to maintain complete management of the work for which they are consisted. The scope and character of the work of these organizations shall conform to the general program and plans of this association. They shall report their accomplishments annually to the association.

ARTICLE XV

This Constitution may be amended at any regular session of this body, provided the proposed amendment is presented to the body in writing at the session immediately preceding the one in which the vote is taken. Any recess of activities of association shall be considered sufficient to declare a new session for this purpose.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I

Each session and adjourned session of this association shall be called to order by the Moderator and shall be opened with prayer.

Each session shall be closed with prayer. In the absence of the Moderator, the body may be called to order by any member of the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE II

The association shall hold correspondence by Messenger or otherwise with other religious bodies as it may deem advisable.

ARTICLE III

Conference will sit with open doors except when it goes into committee of the whole.

ARTICLE IV

Any person, not of this conference, may be allowed to take part in discussion with permission of body. However, voting power is granted only to standing and duly elected or appointed delegates.

ARTICLE V

It shall be the duty of the Clerk to maintain a permanent record of all activities and business transactions of the body. These records are to be produced by the Clerk upon request of the association.

ARTICLE VI

The conference may determine the time when its daily sessions begin and close.

ARTICLE VII

It shall be the duty of all the members of the association to be present at the time appointed for each daily session; and anyone wishing to retire must first obtain leave of the Moderator.

ARTICLE VIII

A member wishing to make a motion or to speak in conference shall first rise, address the Moderator and be recognized by him, before proceeding. A member may second a motion without rising or addressing the Moderator.

ARTICLE IX

No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one person or member on any committee, provided the one nominated be elected.

ARTICLE X

No person shall be allowed to speak more than ten minutes at any one time, nor more than twice on any one subject without leave of the conference.

ARTICLE XI

The following committees shall be appointed at each sitting of the association: Resolutions, or any other committees that the body may deem necessary to appoint at the annual session three additional committees shall be elected: Program, Obituary and Nominating.

ARTICLE XII

The program of each session of the association shall be prepared by the regularly elected or appointed Program Committee and host pastor. Programs to be distributed not less than two weeks in advance of date of association session.

ARTICLE XIII

The Minutes shall be carefully read and corrected before adjournment.

ARTICLE XIV

The Constitution and By-Laws of this Conference shall be read at each annual session of this association.

ARTICLE XV

These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds majority vote of the members present at any regular session, providing the proposed amendment has been presented to the body in writing at session immediately preceding the one in which the vote is taken. Any recess of the association shall be considered sufficient to declare a new session for this purpose.

MINUTES OF EAST TEXAS DISTRICT ASSOCIATION
YOUNGBLOOD FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
BECKVILLE, TEXAS
OCTOBER 6-7, 1960

The clerk called the meeting to order and read Eph. 4:1-3. Mrs. J. M. Goode led in prayer.

The moderator, Rev. Don Ellis, appointed Rev. Billy Sharpston and Mr. Will Hays to assist Rev. C. F. Ferguson on the Credentials Committee.

Mrs. Wade led the congregational singing with Mrs. Ellis at the piano.

Mrs. Floyd Tompkins brought a devotion on the second coming of Christ. Prayer was led by Rev. Bobby Ferguson.

The Credentials Committee reported that nine churches were reporting. Motion was made to receive the church letters and seat the delegates. Motion carried. A motion was made to stand in prayer for the Kilgore Church in memory of Rev. James Godwin and his family. The motion carried and Rev. L. K. Brashier led the prayer.

The church letters were read.

Rev. Bill Jones was recognized as a visiting minister.

Minutes were read and approved.

Committees were appointed as follows: Resolutions; Rev. Bobby Ferguson, Mrs. J. M. Goode, and Mrs. Lee Roy Anderson. Nominating; Bill Berry, Will Hays, Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. Floyd Tompkins, and Mrs. Lunsford. Digest; Rev. Sharpston, Mrs. King and Mrs. Holmes. Obituary; Mrs. Allen Godwin, Mrs. Wade, and Mrs. Brashier.

Recess was declared and Rev. Don Ellis led in prayer.

The worship period was begun by singing led by Rev. Bobby Ferguson. Prayer was led by Rev. C. F. Ferguson. After another hymn was sung, the offering was received by Mr. Donald Lunsford and Mr. Bill Berry. Mr. Berry led the offertory prayer.

Special music, "Wherever He Leads I'll Go," was sung by Mrs. Burley Tompkins.

The morning message was by Rev. Bill Jones. His subject was, "Are You Living A Sacrificial Life." Scripture Deut. 5:29.

The assistant moderator, Rev. Brashier, recognized the host pastor, Rev. Gaston Clary. Rev. Clary welcomed the congregation and invited all to stay for lunch.

A poem entitled "Not On Sunday Night" was read by Rev. Brashier. The assembled body was dismissed in prayer by Rev. Billy Sharpston.

AFTERNOON SESSION

The meeting was called to order by congregational singing led by Rev. Bobby Ferguson. The opening prayer was led by Rev. Bob Sheffield, a visiting minister.

Rev. C. F. Ferguson made a motion that the body accept the recommendation of the Credentials committee that Rev. Bill Jones be licensed to preach the gospel for one year. Motion carried.

The Obituary committee reported seven deaths in the association. The body was asked to stand in prayer for the bereaved. The report was accepted and Rev. J. M. Goode led the prayer.

The Resolution committee gave a report as follows:

ITEM I. Be it resolved that this body appoint a person to write Radio station KGRI and respectfully ask them to refrain from advertising alcoholic beverages. The motion carried.

ITEM II. Be it resolved that this body give \$100.00 to the encampment. The motion carried.

The Nominating committee placed the following names in nomination for the named offices: Moderator, Rev. Don Ellis; Assistant Moderator, Rev. L. K. Brashier; Clerk, Mrs. Gaston Clary; Assistant Clerk, Mrs. Bill Burns; Credentials committee, J. M. Goode, C. F. Ferguson, Will Hays, Billy Sharpston and Watt Williamson; Student Loan members, Jake Fears and Elbert Nations.

A motion was made to elect Mrs. Gaston Clary clerk by unanimous consent. The motion carried.

The Moderator declared that nominations were in order for Assistant Clerk from the floor. Mrs. Lee Roy Anderson was nominated. A motion passed that nominations cease and the body proceed to elect Mrs. Anderson.

A motion was made that the delegates elect all members of the Credentials committee by unanimous consent. The motion carried.

A motion was made that this body waive the rule and make Mr. P. H. Graves an honorary member of the Credentials committee for one year. The motion carried.

Motion passed that Rev. Brashier be elected assistant moderator by unanimous consent.

Rev. Bobby Ferguson was nominated for moderator from the floor. Rev. Ferguson declined. Rev. Sharpston was nominated. Rev. C. F.

Ferguson was nominated. Rev. Sharpston declined the nomination. Rev. Clary was nominated. Motion passed that the nominations cease. Rev. C. F. Ferguson was elected.

Rev. Don Ellis and the Clerk were nominated to write Radio Station KGRI. The Clerk, Mrs. Clary, was elected to do the writing.

Rev. C. F. Ferguson announced that something should be done about Rev. Ivan Godwin's credentials since the group had not officially accepted them. Motion passed that Rev. Godwin's credentials be accepted.

Invitations for next meeting was extended by Union Arbor and Stewart Churches. Union Arbor was selected.

Motion passed to recess for five minutes. Rev. Ellis led the closing prayer.

The meeting was called to order for the worship period by congregational singing.

Rev. Billy Sharpston brought the afternoon message using Romans 12:1-2 as his scripture. He challenged all to live a life of sacrifice. An invitation was given as Rev. Bobby Ferguson sang, "I Surrender All".

Motion passed to adjourn and Mr. Hays led in prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING

The meeting was called to order and a prayer was led by Mrs. Clary.

The singing was led by Rev. C. F. Ferguson. A prayer was led by Rev. Bill Jones.

Mr. Elbert Nations brought the devotional using Titus 1:16 and Luke 6:46 as Scripture. He stressed the importance of giving God your time and your all.

The Moderator called for nominations for delegates to the State Association. Nominations were Mrs. Gaston Clary, Mrs. Jake Fears, Mrs. C. F. Ferguson, Mrs. Don Ellis, Mrs. S. P. Griffin, and Mrs. Leeman King. Motion was made and carried that the nominations cease and that these ladies be elected.

The treasurer's report was given and accepted.

The Student Loan report was given and accepted.

The Digest report was given and accepted.

Nominations were in order for a District Executive Secretary. Rev. Bobby Ferguson was nominated. Motion was made that nominations cease and Rev. Ferguson be elected by unanimous consent. Motion carried.

Mr. Berry requested that Student Loan Board meet during the day.

Recess was declared and Mrs. King led in prayer.

Worship period was begun by singing and prayer by Mrs. Goode.

The offering was received. Rev. Ellis led the offertory prayer.

Special Music was given by Rev. C. F. Ferguson, Bobby, and Ruth Ferguson.

Message by Rev. Bob Sheffield-Scripture 1 Thes. 5:17. He stressed the importance of prayer in living the sacrificial life.

Rev. Ferguson sang "Breathe On Me" as the invitation was given. Prayer was led by Rev. Ellis.

AFTERNOON SESSION

Singing was led by Mrs. Wade. The message was by Rev. J. M. Goode in memory of those who have passed away during the year. His Scripture was Phil. 3:1-19.

Program Committee for another year was appointed as follows: Mr. Elbert Nations, Rev. Lee Roy Anderson, and Mr. Woodroe Pellham.

Final Report of Resolutions Committee was given and received to be acted upon item by item.

ITEM I. Be it resolved that instead of meeting on Friday morning in our Annual meeting that East Texas District Association meet on Friday night and Saturday. Item No. I was tabled, and motion passed that moderator appoint a committee to amend the constitution in order to change the meeting date. Motion carried.

ITEM II. Be it resolved that minutes of this meeting be printed. Motion carried.

ITEM III. Be it resolved that the Credentials Committee draw up a plan of questions and a set of rules to go by in examining anyone coming into this district.

ITEM IV. Be it resolved that we give the host church a rising vote of thanks for the hospitality shown this association. Motion carried.

The body gave a vote of thanks to moderator for past work.

Committee to reword the Constitution was appointed as follows: J. M. Goode, Gaston Clary, and Bill Berry.

Final report of Credentials Committee reported all ministers in district in good standing.

A motion was made to issue cards of good standing to all ministers in district. Motion carried.

Nominations were in order for Youth Camp Committee. Mrs. Pauline Nations and Mrs. Lee Roy Anderson were nominated. A motion was passed that nominations cease and these two be elected.

The letter from Youngblood church was read.

Motion to adjourn passed.

"Amazing Grace" was sung as right hand of fellowship was given Rev. Jones.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Gaston Clary
Clerk

Note: The Student Loan Board now consists of the following members: Bill Berry and L. K. Brashier 1958-1961, Lee Roy Anderson 1959-1962 and Jake Fears and Elbert Nations 1960-1963.