

XXX - Mrs. Gaston Clary

Important - Do not remove from my file

Bill Barry - Secretary

MINUTES
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
EAST TEXAS DISTRICT ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

~~1962~~
1963

PROCEEDINGS

85th ANNUAL SESSION
86

CONVENED WITH THE

~~TYLER~~

Mt Olive

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

~~TYLER, TEXAS~~

Laneville

Resolutions
Programs
nominating
obituary

~~Shreveport Church - Pastor: Rev. J. M. Scott, 5411 Offord St., Bossier City, La.~~
~~Club - Mrs. Denny Rupp, 330 Wilhelmina, Bossier City, La.~~
~~Dayle Sheppard~~
~~213 Westfield - Bossier City, La.~~

NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PASTORS AND CHURCH CLERKS

Clyde Buellentine

BUNCOMBE - Rev. ~~G. F. Ferguson~~, Route 2, Carthage, Texas
Clerk: L. D. Ritter, Route 1, Carthage, Texas

Carthage First church - Rev. J. M. Goode, 707 W. Holly, Carthage, Texas
Clerk: Mrs. Ethel Carmichael, Clayton, Texas *Mrs. Goode*

~~Bobby Ferguson, 205 Charleston, La.~~
Good Hope - Rev. ~~Gaston Clary, 405 N. Alta Vista~~, Henderson, Texas
Clerk: Mrs. Bill Burns, Route 5, Henderson, Texas

J. R. Kennedy, Jr., 501 Russell
Henderson First Church - Rev. ~~Bill Parker, 301 Russell~~, Henderson, Texas
Clerk: Mrs. Leeman King, Route 2, Henderson, Texas

Mt. Olive - Rev. ~~Marvin Williams~~, Route 1, Laneville, Texas - *C. F. Ferguson - Rte 3*
Clerk: Mrs. Joe Ferguson, Route 1, Laneville, Texas *Henderson*

~~Bobby Ferguson, Henderson, La.~~
Mt. Union - Rev. ~~L. G. Anderson, Tyler, Texas~~
Clerk: Mr. ~~Bill Parker~~, Garrison, Texas *Mrs. Gladys Lunsford*

Rte 4, Henderson
Stewart - Rev. L. K. Brashier, ~~Garrison, Texas~~

Clerk: ~~Mrs. Charlene Martin, Route 1, Box 262, Tatum, Texas~~ *Mrs. Mike Fears - Rte 4 - Henderson*

~~Mrs. Alma Wilbur, Route 1, Tatum, Texas - Box 183~~
Youngblood - ~~Pastor not listed~~ *Lee Roy Anderson, 704 Elvin, Carthage, Texas*
Clerk: Mrs. Claud Tompkins, Route 1, Beckville, Texas

Lee Fears, Route 1, Laneville
Union Arbor - Rev. ~~Lee Roy Anderson, 704 Elvin, Carthage, Texas~~
Clerk: Mrs. Inez Weaver, Route 1, Beckville, Texas

Tyler - Rev. Bobby Ferguson, 316 S. Mahon, Tyler, Texas
Clerk: Not listed

Center Point - Pastor not listed

Clerk: Mrs. Dottie Hasser, Route 2, Beckville, Texas

Campbell - C. F. Ferguson, Route 3, Henderson, Texas
Clerk: ~~Mrs. Charlene Martin, Route 1, Box 262, Tatum, Texas~~

MINISTERS

Rev. Ivan Godwin, Route 1, Box 211, Carthage, Texas

Carthage
Rev. Billy Sharpston, 309 ~~Truman St.~~, Henderson, Texas

~~Rev. Earl Ferguson, Route 2, Beckville, Texas~~

~~Rev. Harry Denny, 1003 Jones, Henderson, Texas~~

Gaston Clary, 405 N. Alta Vista, Henderson, Texas

C. F. Ferguson, Rte 3, Henderson, Texas

Rev. J. M. Scott, 5411 Offord St., Bossier City, La.

Rev. Dayle Sheppard
8503 Denny Dr.
Shreveport, La. 71108

Clerk - Mrs. Nora Campbell
1712 Offord
Shreveport La. 71103

FRIDAY NIGHT SESSION

The meeting was called to order by the Clerk and prayer was led by Rev. C. F. Ferguson.

Singing was led by Rev. Bobby Ferguson with Mrs. Bill Sharpston at the Piano. Prayer was led by Mr. O. D. Breedlove.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

The Moderator, Rev. Bill Sharpston, appointed the committees as follows: Resolutions, Rev. C. F. Ferguson, O. D. Breedlove and Jake Fears. Digest, Grace Lockridge, Mrs. Leeman King. Nominating, Gaston Clary, Lee Fears, J. M. Goode.

The evening offering was received by Frank and Robert Steincipher, Rev. Sharpston prayed the offertory prayer.

Another hymn was sung.

The message was brought by Rev. Gaston Clary. His topic was, "The Return of Christ," And he used as his Scripture John 14:3. Prayer by Rev. Clary.

After announcements by Moderator, Rev. Bobby Ferguson prayed the closing prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The Clerk called the meeting to order and asked Rev. H. Ray Berry to lead the opening prayer.

Singing was led by Rev. Bobby Ferguson with Mrs. Bill Sharpston at the piano.

Prayer was led by Rev. L. K. Brashier.

Program for the day was adopted by motion.

Devotion was given by Rev. F. B. Welch of Dallas. He used Matt. 24:12-13 as his scripture.

Another hymn was sung and then the constitution and by laws were read by the Clerk.

Credentials Committee gave their report.

Motion was made to accept letters and seat delegates. Motion seconded and carried.

Motion was made to grant new cards of good standing to the ministers of this association. The motion was seconded and carried.

Motion carried to accept the invitation of Buncombe to meet there next time.

Motion passed to recognize Rev. F. W. Welch and some of his people as visitors. Rev. H. Ray Berry was also recognized as a visitor.

Because so many committee members were absent, the Moderator re-appointed committees as follows: Nominating-J. M. Goode, O. D. Breedlove and Watt Williamson. Digest-Joe Winn, Mrs. Bill Berry, and Gaston Clary. Resolutions-C. F. Ferguson, Mrs. L. K. Brashier, and Mrs. Claud Tompkins. Obituary-Mrs. D. F. Ferguson, Mrs. S. A. Hyatt and Mrs. Lee Hager.

Time was given to Rev. H. Ray Berry, Member of the State Home Mission Board to speak on the need to establish more churches in the cities and the need to support State Home Mission work.

A hymn was sung and Rev. Clary led in prayer.

After another hymn, the offering was received. The offertory prayer was by Rev. Sharpston.

A special song, "Nothing Between" was sung by Bobby Ferguson.

The Morning message was brought by Rev. J. M. Goode using John 17:2-17 as his Scripture. Prayer by Rev. Goode.

Rev. Bobby Ferguson made announcements and invited all to lunch.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Burl Ferguson.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The afternoon session began with special music by a sextet composed of Burl Ferguson, Bobby Ferguson, Ruth Ferguson, Loretta Winn, C. F. Ferguson and L. K. Brashier.

The devotion was by Rev. C. F. Ferguson using II Tim. 3:7 as his Scripture.

The digest committee gave a report which was accepted.

The resolutions committee gave a report which was received and acted upon item by item. Item 1. Be it resolved that this body elect a qualified man to investigate the possibility of a Free Will Baptist church in Longview, Texas; and that funds be allotted for advertisement in the Longview paper in connection with this Resolution. The resolution was adopted. Item 2. Be it resolved that we dispense with the annual church letter reading since we have the digest committee's report. Resolution adopted. Item 3. Be it resolved that the East Texas District Association present to the State Association a resolution to support a full time Home Missions man; and that we commit ourselves to a definite support of this work. Motion was made and seconded to adopt item No. 3. After discussion a motion was made and seconded to amend item No. 3 to read a full time man instead of Home Missions Man. Motion to amend carried. The motion as amended was adopted.

Motion carried to support this man with the amount of \$50.00 per month.

Motion carried to give the host church a rising vote of thanks for hospitality.

The nominating committee gave their report as follows: Moderator, Rev. Bobby Ferguson - Assistant Moderator, Rev. Billy Sharpston - Clerk, Mrs. Gaston Clary - Assistant Clerk, Mrs. Claud Tompkins - Executive Sec., Rev. Gaston Clary - Ordaining Council, Rev. J. M. Goode, C. F. Ferguson, L. K. Brashier, Watt Williamson and Bill Berry - Camp Board, Mrs. Bill Thrasher and Mrs. O. D. Breedlove, - Student Loan - Bill Thrasher. Motion passed to receive report and elect one by one. Rev. C. F. Ferguson was nominated from the floor as moderator. Rev. Bobby Ferguson was elected. Rev. C. F. Ferguson was nominated as assistant Moderator. Motion carried that nominations cease. Rev. C. F. Ferguson was elected. Motion carried that Mrs. Clary be elected Clerk. Motion carried that Mrs. Tompkins be elected assistant Clerk. Rev. Gaston Clary elected Executive Secretary by association. Election was by acclamation. Ordaining Council elected by acclamation. Camp Board members elected by acclamation. Student Loan Members was elected by acclamation.

The Moderator appointed the program committee as follows: Gaston Clary, Bill Thrasher and O. D. Breedlove.

The obituary Committee reported eight deaths in the District the past year and requested the congregation stand for a moment of silent prayer. The report was received and the body stood in silent prayer.

Delegates to the State Association were appointed as follows: Mrs. O. D. Breedlove, Mrs. Bill Sharpston, Mrs. L. K. Brashier, Mrs. C. F. Ferguson and Mrs. Leeman King.

Report of Tyler church was given by Bobby Ferguson and received as information. Treasurer's report was given and adopted.

Student Loan report was given and adopted.

Motion was made and seconded that we go along with Central Texas for Camp in 1963 unless we have a State Camp. Motion carried.

Motion passed that we use same method of printing minutes as last year.

Motion to adjourn passed.

Respectfully submitted

Mrs. Gaston Clary, Clerk

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR OCT. 1, 1961 to Oct. 1, 1962

RECEIVED COOPERATIVE AND DUES

Buncombe	59.63
Carthage	20.00
Center Point	9.70
Good Hope	313.35
First Church, Hender.	167.14
Kilgore	3.14 78
Mt. Olive	279.46
Mt. Union	59.29
Stewart	131.58
Tyler	65.00
Union Arbor	110.04
Youngblood	25.89

Total	1244.86
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Offerings & Ministers

Cards	69.72
Special Offering	31.23
State Home Missions	20.00
State Association Exp.	150.00
Bible College	143.00
Natl. Home Missions	90.45
Foreign Missions	180.48

Total	684.88
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Total Rec. 1929.74

Total Dis. 1820.65

109.09 ----- 109.09

Brought forward Oct. 1, 1961 --- 119.07

Total Oct. 1, 1962 ----- 228.16

DISBURSED

Texas State Asso.	650.77
Student Loan	121.77
Bible College from Coop.	67.41
F. W. B. Encampment	100.00
State Dues	15.00
Supplies for paper	43.66
Clerk salary	40.00
Tyler church	103.88
Releif Bayshore church	51.66
Programs, postage & Min.	24.70
Telephone	3.74
Guest Speakers	20.00
Food Special Meeting	15.97
Total	1203.16

CHANNELLED FUNDS

Bible College	143.00
Natl. Home Missions	90.45
Foreign Missions	180.48
State Home Missions	20.00
Total	433.93

DESIGNATED FUNDS

District Home missions	64.09
District Promotional	64.07
Total	128.16

Total of all Disbursed funds \$1820.65

Note: The church year ended Sept. 30, therefore the State Association expense is not shown in this report.

C O N S T I T U T I O N

We, the members of the Free Will Baptist denomination, having been baptized upon a profession of faith in Jesus Christ, and realizing the nedessity 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.

amended
SECTION 2. The Clerk of the association shall receive ^{15.00} \$8.00 for each of the quarters ^{annual meeting} ending in December, March and June respectively and ^{30.00} \$16.00 for the ^{quarter ending} quarter ending ^{meeting} 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.

SECTION 4. The duties of 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% of all funds received into district Treasury shall be broken down as follows;

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. 50% - District General Fund | 4. 10% Promotional Work |
| 2. 20% - Student Loan | 5. 10% Free Will Baptist Bible College |
| 3. 10% - District Home Missions | |

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 VII

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

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 or 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 will 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 *perme* not to exceed that which is allocated for this purpose.

amendment
Section 4. - no one hold more than one office in association at the time

ARTICLE XI

SESSIONS - The regular sessions of this association shall be on Saturday before the second Sunday in January, April, and ~~July~~ ^{October} and on Friday night and Saturday before the ~~second~~ ^{first} Sunday in ~~October~~ ^{July}, 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 preceeding church quarter, except the report of the annual session in ~~October~~ ^{July} 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: One member for a term of one year, two members for a term of two years and 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 constituted. 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 preceeding 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.

