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MINUTES OF EAST TEXAS DISTRICT ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS WHEN CONVENED WITH
FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, HIGHWAY 59 NORTH, NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS, APRIL 7, 1984.

THEME: A HOLY CALLING

SCRIPTURE:....."AS THE LORD CALLED EVERYONE, SO LET HIM WALK." I CORINTHIANS 7:17

THOUGHT: THE SECRET OF TRUE SERVICE IS TO BE FAITHFUL WHEREVER GOD PLACES YOU.

Musical prelude by Mrs. Lillie Kee.

Invocation by Brother Clay Rogas.

Hymn: "All That Thrills My Soul Is Jesus." led by Rev. Harold Teague.

Devotional: Rev. Chester Satchelben who read Romans 6:7 and led in prayer. He said that after we are saved we are to lift up a standard of holiness before the world, and under the power of the Holy Spirit we are to live holy lives.

Hymn: "Have Faith In God" led by Rev. Harold Teague.

Reverend Billy Walker, State Executive Secretary, in behalf of the State Association of Free Will Baptists, stated that the offerings through his office have been increasing each month, and had reached almost \$10,000.00 last month. He said the Sunday School literature would still be handled through Rev. Clarence Hearron until the State meeting in June, but the walk-in bookstore would be phased out. He said he had brought along several boxes of books and some of them could be purchased at a good savings. He spoke briefly from Phil. 4 and gave dates of the State meeting as June 6-8th at Duncanville, National Association at Little Rock, July 15-19th and the Family Encampment at Pineywoods August 13-17th. The Family Encampment cost will be \$45.00 per adult.

A partial report of the Credentials Committee was given by Brother Clay Rogas, which showed nine (9) churches and one (1) Mission reporting. He read the names of the Delegates. The report received and the delegates seated. The Clerk read a letter from the Little Missouri River Association in Arkansas regarding Rev. Bennie Burrow's standing. Rev. Keith Phipps moved we receive Reverend Burrow into our fellowship. Motion carried and the hand of fellowship was given by Reverend Harold Teague, Assistant Moderator.

Rev. Berry read Psalm 133:1 and gave some pointers on procedures for the day's meeting.

Meeting was recessed by prayer led by Reverend Lee Roy Anderson, Sr.,

Meeting was reassembled by hymn "Victory in Jesus".

Reverend Walker stated that all National Dues sent through the State Office must be accompanied by letter. Each Church sends \$20.00 besides the money sent by the District.

Resolutions Committee was appointed: Rev. Don Ellis, Rev. Lee Roy Anderson, Sr. and Brother W. H. Stanland were appointed.

Worship hour opened with Hymn "Sunlight In My Soul Today".

An offering of \$43.50 was received by Brother Taylor Lunsford and Reverend A. F. Ferguson. Offertory Prayer was led by Rev. Ferguson.

Message: Rev. Keith Phipps brought the message. He read Mark 6:7, 31, 32 and spoke on Jesus feeding the five thousand (5000). He stated that with men, women and children there could have been twenty thousand (20,000) who were fed by the loaves and fishes. He brought a very challenging message on holy living. He closed with prayer.

The Moderator announced that the noon meal was ready and prayed the closing prayer with the blessing on the food.

LUNCH

The meeting was reconvened at 1:20 with the Hymn "At Calvary" led by Rev. A. F. Ferguson.

District Home Mission Board Report was read by Brother Clay Rogas. It was received.

Camp Board Report was read by Rev. Keith Phipps showing balance of \$9,525.51. He moved the report be received. Motion carried.

Devotional: Rev. Marvin Williams read II Peter 1:21 and II Tim. 3:16-17. He spoke on the Defense of the Home with Ephesians 5:18 "Be filled with the Spirit" closing with prayer led by Rev. Billy Walker.

A vacancy was filled on the Camp Board. Sister Marie Phipps nominated Brother Mark Nichols. He was elected.

Student Loan report was read by Mrs. Gladys Berry that showed a balance of \$963.05.

The Resolutions report was read by the Clerk as follows: Be it resolved:

- ITEM 1: That we give the host church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality in hosting the District Association.
- ITEM 2: That the District purchase a tape recorder to assist the Clerk in taking the minutes.
- ITEM 3: That each church be encouraged to actively support Brother Ron Parker in establishing a new Free Will Baptist Church in Tyler. Through prayer, financial support and in any other way that opportunity presents itself.
- ITEM 4: That we continue to support and encourage our church in Longview, through prayer and financial support.
- ITEM 5: That each actively support the Youth Camp with workers this year, and encourage their youth to attend. Report was received and items acted upon separately. All carried.

Mrs. Catherine Williams announced Woman's Auxiliary Convention and Retreat September 21-22 at Whispering Pines Free Will Baptist Camp grounds.

Rev. Keith Phipps moved we remove for action the constitutional change that was tabled at the January meeting. The Item tabled read as follows: "Be it resolved that the Friday night service be consolidated into the Saturday service since the business session on Friday night has been so brief and it is such a long distance for some to travel to both meetings." Motion carried.

Rev. A. F. Ferguson moved that we amend the time by deletion from Article 10 - Sessions, the words, 'FRIDAY NIGHT AND' in the second sentence, making the amended sentence read as follows: "The annual session shall be on Saturday before the second Sunday in January". . . Motion carried. The rest of ARTICLE 10 - SESSIONS remains the same.

Rev. Lee Roy Anderson, Sr., resigned his position on the District Home Mission Board.

Rev. A. F. Ferguson nominated Mrs. Josephine Wilbanks who was elected.

Rev. William Ellis moved that the Camp Board with the approval of the Executive Committee be directed to build a new girls dorm. Motion carried.

Rev. William Ellis moved that our District Women's Auxiliary give a report at each Quarterly Meeting. Motion carried.

Bro. Clay Rogas announced Church Training Rally at Stewart Free Will Baptist Church April 27th at 7:00 P. M.

Bro. W. H. Stanaland moved we adjourn. He prayed the Benediction.

Mrs. Asa H. Berry, Clerk

MINUTES OF EAST TEXAS DISTRICT QUARTERLY CONFERENCE OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS JULY 7, 1984 AT OLD TIME GOSPEL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH, TEXARKANA, ARKANSAS.

The meeting was convened at 10:00 A. M. with the Moderator, H. Ray Berry presiding. Rev. Harold Teague directed the singing with Mrs. Norma Teague at the piano. The Theme for the meeting was "Power Shortage - Has The Church Forgotten?"

Rev. Ron Parker of Lifegate Free Will Baptist Mission at Tyler gave the invocation. Rev. Teague led "Glory To His Name" and "There's A Great Day Coming".

Rev. Dale Price brought the Devotional and commented about the impressive council present, with Rev. Billy Walker, State Executive Secretary, Rev. Ron Parker and Rev. Harold Teague National Home Missionaries, and Rev. Ken Eagleton, Foreign Missionary to Brazil, along with our regular members, and the new mission at Tyler represented in the beautiful Host Church that had recently come into our fellowship. He stated this is a solemn time for Christians and challenged us with a short message from Phil. 3:10. He closed with prayer.

The Moderator recognized our visitors and stated that if the group would be as gracious and courteous this time as the last time that the fellowship would be sweet and the Lord glorified. He read Eph. 4:11 and Luke 11:13 as a Biblical basis for his moderator's comments.

The Credentials Committee was excused and Rev. Ron Parker was invited to speak. He stated that Tyler was petitioning today for membership in the District. The Group is meeting in the Missionaries' home at 3114 Harwood Dr. and are looking for property. They have about 20 people and average about 17 in the meetings. Their mid-week service is on Thursday night at 7:00 o'clock. He stressed the importance of getting people saved instead of majoring on numbers.

Rev. Billy Walker said the state work is going well, but the offerings were in a summer slump. He said, however, that the State Association in Duncanville was the best in several years. We were urged to attend the Family Oriented Camp Meeting at Pineywoods, August 13-17th. He asked for pictures of all our Texas Churches to be used in the Camp seminars. The Cornerstone Book Store has been closed and now all Sunday School literature and helps are to be ordered direct from Randall House.

The Credentials Committee report was read by Clay Rogas showing Lifegate Mission at Tyler's petition for membership and that their Missionary be received in good standing. The Credentials Committee recommended he be received on receipt of a letter from his former District. Union Arbor has a new Pastor, Rev. Ernest Holland, and the Church asked that he be received upon receipt of his letter from former church. The Credentials Committee recommended he be received upon receipt of letter and his former District. Eight Churches were represented and one Mission plus the new mission's petition for membership. Carthage Free Will Baptist Church invited the next meeting of the conference which will be October 13th. Bro. Clay Rogas moved the report be received. The report was received and the elected Delegates seated.

The Moderator announced time for recess and Bro. Clay Rogas led in prayer.

We reassembled to Hymn - "He Brought Me Out" led by Rev. Teague.

The Resolutions Committee was appointed. Rev. Steve Bevan, Mrs. Ruth Ferguson, and Rev. Marvin Williams were appointed to serve.

An offering was received in the amount of \$25.00.

Rev. and Mrs. Bennie Burrow sang "Jesus Will Outshine Them All".

Hymn - "When Jesus Comes to Reward His Servants".

Hymn - "It is Well with My Soul" - sung by Rev. and Mrs. Harold Teague.

Rev. Don Ellis yielded his schedule to preach to Missionary to Brazil, Rev. Ken Eagleton who brought an inspiring message from Luke 24 "The Message, The Means, The Mandate". He said his oldest son, Kenny, who is a Doctor, is scheduled to take Dr. Leverne Miley's place at the hospital in Africa, and Kenny will be moving his family to Nashville very soon to begin his itinerate in preparation to go to France for language study. Rev. and Mrs. Ken Eagleton will move to Nashville to help them get settled. An invitation was extended and Rev. Teague led "Let Him Have His Way With Thee".

Rev. Bennie Burrow announced plans for lunch and dismissed the session in prayer, asking the blessing on the food.

The conference assembled again at 1:20 and the Hymn "Jesus Is The Rock In A Weary Land" was sung.

Devotional was brought by Rev. Bennie Burrow. He spoke on "The Power In The Spirit" and read Acts 1:8, Micah 3:8, and 8:3. He stated that the Spirit is mightier than physical forces, and we should stand for holy living and rebuke sin. He said that they had five (5) saved this Quarter. He closed with prayer.

The clerk read a letter of grateful thanks from Rev. A. F. Ferguson for the plaque the District Association presented to him in appreciation for the more than fifty (50) years that he has spent in preaching God's Word.

The Clerk gave the Financial Report and had copies passed out to the assembly. The report was received as information.

The Resolutions report was read by Rev. Steve Bevan, Chairman of the Committee. The resolution was that we give a rising vote of thanks to the Texarkana Church for the gracious hospitality they showed in hosting this Quarterly Meeting. Motion carried.

A partial Camp report was given by Rev. Keith Phipps and Rev. Steve Bevan. They brought out that there had been 78 to 90 kids at camp, and fifteen (15) had made first time decisions for Christ and ten (10) rededications. The Evangelist had been Rev. Bill Fulcher, former Missionary to Panama. Swimming and other sports had been enjoyed as well as the good preaching and teaching. The full report is to be given later by Mrs. Morris.

Rev. Don Ellis announced that items of clothing and shoes were lost at Camp. He asked parents to check their children's clothes to see if they brought home any by mistake.

Rev. Clay Rogas gave the Home Mission Board report. He asked that the Association extend the time limit on the Longview Land Fund of \$1877.00 to 18 mos. from now to help future churches. He said there might be need for help or repairs. He made motion to extend the fund. It was seconded and carried.

A Woman's Auxiliary Report was given by Mrs. Lillie Kee, Vice-President. The Women were urged to attend the W. N. A. C. Retreat at Ridgecrest, Sept. 6 - 8 and our District Retreat at Whispering Pines, September 21-22. The planning Committee has arranged for Mrs. Eunice Edwards, former Executive Secretary to W.N.A.C. for a number of years, to be the speaker at Whispering Pines. Our current state goal is \$2,000.00 for Tyler Mission and \$1,000.00 for Bible College.

Rev. Don Ellis made motion that Moderator appoint a committee to study the financial needs of the Association and report to the next Quarterly Meeting. Motion carried. Those appointed to the Committee are: Rev. Don Ellis, Bro. James Kee, and Bro. Steve Bevan.

Motion was made that Lifegate Mission in Tylen be received into our District and Missionary Ron Parker be received upon receipt of a letter from his former District. Seconded and Carried.

Motion was made that Rev. Ernest Holland be received into our District upon receipt of letter from his Church and his former District. Seconded and Carried.

Motion to adjourn carried and we were dismissed in prayer by the Moderator, H. Ray Berry.

Asa H. Berry, Clerk