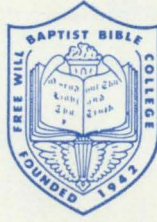


MINUTES
OF THE
Third Annual Session
OF THE
Eastern Oklahoma Association
OF THE
Church of God
(Denominated Free Will Baptist)
WHICH CONVENED WITH
Felker Church
SATURDAY NIGHT, OCT. 11, 1930.

ELD. C. A. SLEDGE	Moderator
W. H. HUNT	Assistant Moderator
J. C. BYRNS	Clerk
T. F. WALL	Assistant Clerk

The next Association will convene with Water Mill Church on Saturday Night before the Fourth Sunday in August, A. D. 1931, Three and One-Half Miles Southwest of Valliant, Oklahoma.

AYDEN, N. C.
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS
1930



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented By

the daughters of

Rev. G. W. Million

in his memory

- 1.
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- 8.
9. New business.
10. Call for reports of committees.
11. Election of minister to preach introductory sermon.
12. Adjournment of Association.

PROCEEDINGS

The Third Annual Session of the Eastern Oklahoma Association of the Church of God (Denominated Free Will Baptist) met with Felker church, on Saturday night before the second Lord's Day in October, 1930.

Song by choir and prayer by Sister Byrne. Introductory sermon by G. W. Oliver. Text, Luke 14:17.

Letters from the different churches were called for by the Moderator.

List of Churches

Felker Church—Pastor, J. C. Byrne and Sister Byrne, Post Office, Idabell, Okla. Church clerk, Nettie Grabul, Valliant, Okla.

Morrand Church—Pastor, Elder J. C. Byrne, Idabell, Okla. Church clerk, Naomaza Bryant, Slim, Okla.

Water Mill Church—Pastor, Bro. and Sister Byrne, Idabell, Okla. Church clerk, Norma Mahan, Valliant, Okla.

Holly Creek Church—Pastor, Bro. and Sister Byrne, Idabell, Okla. Church clerk, Mary Bonner, Idabell, Okla.

Spencerville Church—Pastor, J. A. Davidson, Sobol, Okla. Church clerk, Beulah Wall, Spencerville, Okla.

Honey Grove Church—A petitionary letter was received and approved by the Association and the right hand of fellowship extended by the Moderator. Pastor, C. A. Sledge, Valliant, Okla. Church clerk, B. Westbrook, Brokenbow, Okla., Route 1.

Cisco Church—Pastor, Eld. J. C. Byrne, Idabell, Okla. Church clerk, Mary Smith, Idabell, Okla.

After an old time handshake and the manifestation of the love of God, we adjourned to meet Sunday at 11:00 A. M.

Sunday Morning Service

The eleven o'clock service was conducted by H. W. Finney. Text John 3:3. Subject, The Operation of the Holy Spirit.

Sunday Night Service

The body met pursuant to adjournment Sunday night. Song by choir. A real devotional service was conducted by Sister Byrne. Preaching by Rev. J. A. Davidson. Subject, Communion and Feetwashing.

Monday Morning Session

On Monday morning, the body met pursuant to adjournment at 9 o'clock. Song by choir and prayer by J. A. Davidson. Romans 5:1-10 was read by the Moderator. Preaching by C. A. Sledge.

Appointment of Committees

ON RESOLUTIONS—W. H. Hunt, R. E. Bray, J. W. McKenney and Mary Smith.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS—Walter Snow, J. A. Davidson, W. M. Freeman, Kate Topping and Norma Mahan.

ON OBITUARIES—Lillie Snow, A. U. Westbrook, Ida Johnson and R. C. Malone.

ON TEMPERANCE—Osie McKenney, G. W. Oliver, Bell Mayberry and T. F. Wall.

FINANCE—Norma Mahan, J. A. Davidson and A. U. Westbrook.

Motion and second that we adjourn for preaching at eleven o'clock.

Song by choir and prayer by Bro. G. W. Olivier. Preaching by Elder J. C. Byrne. Text, Gal 5:1.

Under motion and second, we adjourn to meet at 1:30 P. M.

Afternoon Session

Came together as per adjournment. Song by the choir and prayer by Bro. W. M. Freeman.

Reports of Committees

Temperance—We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to report as follows: We cannot place too high an estimation on this subject. Temperance is indispensable to the well-being in this life and in the life which is to come. Intemperance is disloyal to the laws of nature and morals as well and is always hurtful and many times destructive to both soul and body, therefore, we urge that abstinence is the only safe-guard against its baneful influence and that all true hearted children of God should take part in assisting fallen humanity from its blighting influence. We respectfully demand that each minister in this Association preach at least two sermons each year against intemperance.

Respectfully submitted,

T. F. WALL,
OSIE MCKENNEY,
EARL JOHNSON,
G. W. OLIVER,
BELL MAYBERRY, Committee.

Sunday Schools—We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, report as follows: That we cannot place too much stress on Sunday schools, for in them (if properly conducted) is sown the seed of our future churches. Therefore, we feel that each member of the Free Will Baptist Church of God, should earnestly strive to maintain a Sunday school in each church and other places where they may reside. We know that for the upbuilding of the Sunday school, we should first be cleansed of all sin and be a faithful member of the school and worker for Christ.

We recommend that the teacher of each class should be a Christian and set a good example for the younger followers. We further recommend that all parents bring their children to the Sunday school instead of sending them.

Respectfully submitted,

WALTER SNOW,
J. A. DAVIDSON,
NORMA MAHAN,
W. M. FREEMAN, Committee.

Obituaries—We, your Committee on Obituaries, report as follows: It is fitting that we stop amid the turmoil of this life and give thought and medita-

tion to our dead, for the living know that they must die. We sorrow but not as those who have no hope.

Whereas, it has pleased the dear Lord to take from our midst our beloved Bro. Otto Sims of Spencerville church and Sister Cross of Holly Creek church and Sister Survester Cogburn of Spencerville church, they will be sadly missed by those who knew them, therefore, we resolve to humbly bow in submission to Him who doeth all things well and for His glory.

But like the fragrance of the rose that remains after the flower is gone, so shall the memory of them continue on and on. We know the Lord doeth all things well and we realize, too, that our loss is their gain.

A. U. WESTBROOK,
R. C. MALONE,
LILLIE SNOW,
IDA JOHNSON, Committee.

Finance—We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to report that we find in the hands of the delegates the following amounts: Cisco church, \$2.60; Felker church, \$3.90; Honey Grove, \$2.75; Water Mill, \$3.03; Spencerville, \$3.55; Holly Creek, \$2.50; donation by Bro. W. H. Hunt, \$.50; Total, \$18.83.

Respectfully submitted,

NORMA MAHAN,
J. A. DAVIDSON,
A. U. WESTBROOK, Committee.

Under motion and second, the Association adjourned until 7:30 P. M.

The body met pursuant to adjournment at 7:30 P. M. Song by the choir followed by devotional services. Preaching by Elder C. A. Sledge. Text, Luke 9:62.

The following brethren were appointed, by the Moderator, as an ordaining council to ordain three deacons: Rev. J. A. Davidson, Rev. H. W. Finney, and T. F. Wall.

After an old time hand shake and the manifestation of the love of God, the Association adjourned to meet Tuesday morning at 8:30.

Tuesday Morning Session

The body met pursuant to adjournment at 8:30. Song by the choir and prayer by Sister Effie Fennie.

A committee on Ministerial Character and Credentials, were appointed as follows: T. F. Wall, Walter Snow, and J. W. McKenney. This committee made report as follows:

We find all our ministers in good standing and a majority of them doing a good work.

We recommend that each church report in its letter to the Association the character and manner of preaching of the pastor and all ministers belonging to the church.

When a minister is called to the charge of any church and fails to respond without a reasonable excuse, the church making the call should report said minister to the Association. And, also, where any church calls a pastor and

fails to contribute to his needs as the Lord has prospered them, the pastor should report such acts of said church to the Annual Association. We further recommend that each minister preach, as least, one sermon to each church they serve, on the financial support of the gospel.

Respectfully submitted,

T. F. WALL,
J. W. McKENNEY,
W. C. SNOW, Committee.

Report of Committee on Resolutions

We, your Committee on Resolutions, recommend:

1. That the Moderator of this Association, whose duty it shall be to arrange programs for the Quarterly Meetings during the Associational Year, shall have said programs prepared for the various Quarterly Meetings and distributed a quarter ahead of the meeting for which it is prepared.

2. Be it resolved that the next session of the Eastern Oklahoma Association of the Church of God (Denominated Free Will Baptist) shall convene with the Water Mill church, three miles southwest of Valliant, Okla., on Saturday night before the fourth Sunday in August, 1931.

3. Be it further resolved that we have three Quarterly Meetings of the Association, the first one to meet with Cisco church on Friday night before the second Lord's Day in January, A. D., 1931, five miles west of Idabell, Okla. The second meeting will convene with Felker church on Friday night before the 3rd Lord's Day in April, A. D., 1931, three and one-half miles north of Valliant, Okla. The third meeting is to convene with Spencerville church on Friday night before the second Lord's Day in July, A. D., 1931, at Spencerville, Okla., 10½ miles north of Sawyer, Okla.

Respectfully submitted,

W. H. HUNT,
J. W. McKENNEY,
R. E. BRAY,
MARY SMITH, Committee.

Motion and second that we elect an evangelist. Elder J. A. Davidson was elected.

Motion and second that we tender our heartfelt thanks to the good people of Felker church and community for their hospitality toward us during our stay in their midst.

Motion and second that the Association adjourn to meet with Water Mill church on Saturday night before the fourth Lord's Day in August, A. D., 1931, three and one-half miles southwest from Valliant, Okla.

C. A. SLEDGE, Moderator.
W. H. HUNT, Assistant Moderator.
J. C. BYRNE, Clerk.
T. F. WALL, Assistant Clerk.

Articles of Faith

1. We believe in one true and living God, Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and these three are one in Divine Essence, power and glory.—Rom.1:20; John 1:1.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament is the word of God, and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.—II Tim. 3:16, 17; II Peter 1:21.

3. We believe that God created man good, gave him holy commandments whereby he should live holy, but man voluntarily disobeyed the commandments of God, transgressed the law, and fell under the just condemnation of the same, whereby all mankind are sinners, not by constraint but by choice; being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the fall and that man is unable to save himself with his own power, but we see Jesus for the suffering of death crowned with glory, that He, by the grace of God, tasted death for every man.—Gen. 1:31; Heb. 2:9.

4. We believe that Christ, by his death, burial and resurrection, purchased our pardon and offered it freely to all mankind upon the principles of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He now commands all men everywhere to repent; therefore he sayeth, "Look unto me and be ye saved all ye ends of the earth, for I am God, and there is none else."—Matt. 4:17; Isa. 45:22; Acts 20:21.

5. We believe that adult persons must be regenerated and born of the Spirit of God if they inherit eternal life.—John 3:3; Rom. 5:1-13.

6. We believe that infants and idiots are save upon the merits of the Son of God.—Jonah 4:11; Mark 10:14; Luke 18:16.

7. We believe that all Christians should persevere in grace and be faithful to the end, if they inherit eternal life, for "Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."—Rev. 22:14.

8. We believe that baptism by immersion is the apostolic mode, even the burial of the believer in water, and that Christ who is our life, showed this humble example to His children and bids us walk therein.—John 3:22; Matt. 3:16; Romans 6:2-5; Matt. 28:19, 20.

9. We believe that God in His goodness displays His power of grace to a great degree in calling and qualifying His servants, by the teaching of the Holy Ghost and the instruction of His word to go forth and proclaim life and salvation without price. He bids us freely come, and nothing prevents the salvation of any, but their own stubborn rebellion and sinful refusal to come.—I Cor. 12:3; Eph. 3:7; Rev. 22:17.

10. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper and the washing of the saints' feet are Gospel Ordinances. And keeping of the Lord's Day holy and abstaining from worldly lusts and carnal cares and to assemble ourselves together, are ornaments which prepare and beautify the soldiers of the cross to march on in the army of the Lord.—Matt. 26:28; John 13:4, 5.

11. We believe that none have a right to baptism, only those who have ob-

tained a living hope in the Lord Jesus, and none have a right to administer the same only those who are called of God and have come under the hands of the presbytery of the elders; and each church ought to have a pastor, deacons, and clerk chosen by the church, and continue in office during the good pleasure of the same; and in dealing with disorderly members, reference should be had to the 18th chapter of Matthew and other Scriptures relative to dealing with disorderly members. In all cases a majority shall rule, except in receiving members, which shall be unanimous.—Titus 1:5; Acts 14:23; II Cor. 6:6.

12. We believe it is the duty of each church to assemble themselves together once a month, and that it is the duty of the pastor of the church when setting forth the Lord's Supper and washing the saints' feet, to let a man examine himself, and so let him eat.—I Cor. 11:17-28; Hebrews 10:26.

13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, both the just and the unjust. The resurrection of the just to glory and immortality in the presence of God; the unjust to everlasting shame and banishment from the presence of God.—Matt. 25:31; I Cor. 15:42-45; II Thess. 1:11; Job 19:2.

14. We believe the Christian Sabbath is a divine institution binding all, and should be observed by abstaining from all secular business and amusements, and consecrated to the worship of God and spiritual improvement.—Mark 2:27; Luke 24:1-7; John 20:19-26; Acts 2:1; I Cor. 16:2; Rev. 1:10; Psalms 118:22-24.

Church Covenant

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice in this solemn covenant:

Article 1. We believe that a union of Christians is a visible church, sanctioned by the teachings of Christ and the practice of His apostles, and we believe it conducive to stronger Christian ties and greater influence of the church; Therefore, we enter into this covenant.

Art. 2. We shall constantly strive to maintain true piety in our hearts, and by constant loyalty to the commands of our Saviour, commend His life to others, leading a holy, devout life before the world.

Art. 3. We will watch over each other in the spirit of true charity, helping to bear each other's burdens, assist the needy, strengthen the weak, encourage the despondent, sympathize with the sorrowful, reform the erring to the best of our ability, keeping the unity of the Spirit in the bonds of peace, cheerfully submitting to Christian admonition, contributing to the support of the gospel as the Lord has prospered us, maintain secret and family prayer and aid by our presence in sustaining public worship. We will refuse all sanction to all worldly amusements that tend to lessen true piety in ourselves to others, or weaken Christian influence, so that the religion of our Master be not reproached on our account.

Art. 4. May He who has promised His help, enable us to keep this covenant, and grant us to be faithful in all things, until He shall gather us unto Himself and crown us with final victory. Amen.

Constitution

From long experience, we, the members of the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist) are convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches into an associational body, for the purpose of perpetuating a union and communion, and to maintain a correspondence with each other, and for the dissemination of our doctrine, and the upbuilding of Christianity; and to maintain a general oneness of faith and practice. Therefore, we do ordain the following constitution for our Associational Government.

1. This Association shall be known as the Eastern Oklahoma Association of the Church of God, (denominated Free Will Baptist) and shall be composed of delegates chosen by the various churches of the Association, and ordained ministers and deacons who are members of the churches in the Association.

2. This associational body shall have no power to lord it over God's heritage, and shall have no ecclesiastical power over the churches composing this body, except that it shall have the right to expel any church becoming disorderly.

3. This Association shall have a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Recording Clerk, and a Treasurer; which shall be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

4. Letters from the churches of this Association shall show the number of members in fellowship, the number received during the past year, by experience, by recommendation, and how many have been dismissed, excluded and died. They shall show also, how many ministers are members of their church, if any, and whether or not they are in good standing as such. They shall state the time of their regular meetings, and whether or not they have an established Sunday school and prayer meeting, and shall give the names of their Moderator and Clerk, and their post office addresses.

5. Newly constituted churches desiring admittance into this Association, shall send duly chosen delegates, bearing a petitionary letter, asking for admittance. And if, upon examination, they are found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the Association by a vote of the body, and the hand of fellowship extended to them.

6. All motions, when seconded, shall come under the consideration of this body; unless withdrawn by the ones making and seconding them.

7. No questions or differences, arising in any of the churches of this Association, shall be taken under consideration by this body, until it has first been duly considered by the church in which it originated.

Form of Church Letter to Association

From _____ to the Church of God (denominated
Free Will Baptist) Eastern Okla. Association. Dear Brethren: We send as
messengers to your body, Brothers _____

Days of meeting _____
Present pastor _____
Pastor elect _____

(If any minister belonging to the body state here)

(Here give the standing and state whether worthy or unworthy of certificate)
Members received _____ by letter _____ by statement _____
excluded _____ dismissed by letter _____ died _____
Total membership _____ paid pastor \$ _____ for Minutes
\$ _____ Associational purposes \$ _____ Number enrolled in
Sunday School _____ We have _____ prayer meeting _____
Remarks _____
Done in conference by the church set _____ before
the _____ Lord's Day in _____, 19____
_____ Clerk, _____ Moderator.

Letter of Dismission

A _____ B _____, 19____
This Certifies that _____
is a regular member of the Free Will Baptist church at _____
_____ in good standing;
as such we recommend _____ to the fellowship of God's people.
Done in conference at _____
_____ Pastor.
_____ Clerk.

Form of Deacon's Letter

This is to certify that Brother _____
is a worthy deacon of our church and we recommend him as being worthy of
his calling.
Done by order of the church assembled in conference, this _____
day of _____, 19____.
_____ Pastor.
_____ Clerk.

Rules of Order

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded by prayer, by the Moderator or whomsoever he may request.
2. Ministers present are invited to seats, allowed to take part in debates on all subjects, and to vote.
3. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Personal reflection shall be avoided in all debates.
4. No motion shall be discussed without a second.
5. When a motion has been made and seconded, and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question, "Shall it be discussed?" If negative, the question shall be dismissed.
6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.
7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.
9. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote of all members present.
10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the Moderator.
11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the close of the Association, if necessary.
12. At all future session of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and the chair shall announce just before adjournment who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.
13. These Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.
14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

