

MINUTES
of the
TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
EASTERN CONFERENCE
of the
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST
of
SOUTH CAROLINA
which convened with
New Hope Free Will Baptist Church

Florence County

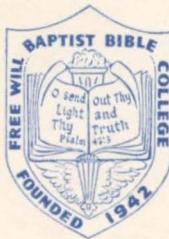
NOVEMBER 2nd-4th, 1944

—o—

The next session of the Conference will convene with Gethsemane
Church on Thursday before First Sunday in November,
1945, at 9:30 o'clock A. M., Eastern War Time.



1944
FREE WILL BAPTIST PRESS
AYDEN, N. C.



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Mrs. M. H. Mellette

in memory of
Rev. M. H. Mellette

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PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of the twenty-ninth annual session of the Eastern Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist of South Carolina which convened with New Hope Church, in Florence County, November 2-4, 1944.

Song: "We're Marching to Zion," by congregation. Prayer by moderator. Scripture lesson: Hebrews, 9th chapter, verses 11-28 was read by moderator, T. A. Williams, who after an impressive comment, declared the conference was opened for business which was duly entered into as follows:

ORGANIZATION

First came before us at this time the election of a new clerk and treasurer to fill the unexpired term of present clerk who has united with a church of another denomination. Brother J. M. Williams was elected to fill this place until his successor is appointed.

Committees were appointed as follows:

Devotional—Brothers B. E. Thompson, Willie Benton, and Sister Matthews.

Finance—Brothers T. B. Williams, A. B. Powell and Zenol Eaddy.

Sunday School and Temperance—Elders M. S. Todd, T. D. Lyerly, James Powell.

Missions—Elders N. N. Davis, M. F. Howell, Brother E. R. Roberts.

Investigation—Brothers A. B. Powell, T. B. Williams, Zenol Eaddy.

Programs—Elders N. N. Davis, M. F. Howell, and Brother E. R. Roberts.

Education—Elders M. S. Todd, M. F. Howell, J. L. Smith.

On motion all visiting brethren were given seat, voice, and welcome in our conference. Brother L. V. Matthews represented the S. C. Conference and Elder L. L. Moore represented the Pee Dee Conference.

List of ministers was called which responded as follows:

Elder T. A. Williams, Hemingway, S. C., present, paid one dollar.

Elder J. L. Smith, Andrews, S. C., present, paid one dollar.

Elder N. N. Davis, Johnsonville, S. C., present, paid one dollar.

Elder M. F. Howell, Rt. 2, Conway, S. C., present, paid one dollar.

Elder S. J. Player, absent—excused.

Elder R. G. Gaskins, Johnsonville, S. C., absent—excused.

Elder T. D. Lyerly, Johnsonville, S. C., present, paid one dollar.

Elder James Powell, Johnsonville, S. C., present, paid one dollar.

Elder M. S. Todd, Leo, S. C., present, paid one dollar.

Elder N. V. Sturgeon, Hemingway, S. C., present, paid one dollar.

Elder C. J. Hearl, Rt. 2, Conway, S. C., absent—excused.

Elder G. W. Howell, Rt. 2, Conway, S. C., present, paid one dollar.

Elder J. D. Branton, absent.

Elder T. C. Port, deceased.

Elder E. J. Moore, Licentiate, Latta, S. C., present, paid one dollar.

CHURCH CLERK AND ADDRESS

Antioch—

Black River—O. S. Powell, Andrews, S. C.

Greelyville—J. O. Gamble, Greelyville, S. C.

Little Lamb—Woodrow Howell, Conway, S. C.

New Hope—J. L. Hughes, Johnsonville, S. C.

New Prospect—M. L. Stone, Hyman, S. C.

New Zion—C. R. Cribb, Hemingway, S. C.

Spring Pond—A. C. Player, Andrews, S. C.

Williams Hill—Z. G. Tanner, Hemingway, S. C.

Gethsemane—

Saint John—

After which the conference was called off for preaching and refreshments. Preaching at 12:00 o'clock by Elder M. F. Howell—text: Mark, the eighth chapter and thirty-eighth verse. After an inspiring message dinner was served on the grounds.

THURSDAY EVENING

Conference re-assembled at 2:00 o'clock P. M., with singing by the congregation and prayer by Elder M. S. Todd, then business of the conference was resumed as follows:

List of churches was called and represented as follows:

Antioch—absent—(see minutes) represented by Brother Smith.

Black River—not represented.

Greelyville—represented by Bros. M. K. Dennis, J. E. Asbon. Deaths one; received none; baptized two; number of members, males 4, females 6, total 10. Number of members in Sunday School 38; number of members that belong to the church 10. Incidental funds \$10.

Little Lamb—Troy Pope was the representative. Deaths none; received none; received 3; baptized 4; dismissed none; excommunicated none. Numbers in church, males 24, females 33, total 57. Number of members in Sunday School 35; number of members that belong to the church 30. Incidental fund \$10.25.

New Hope—represented by Sisters Matthews, Edith Ard, Sister Hughes, and Sister Thomas. Died, three; received none; baptized none; dismissed none and excommunicated none. Number of males 7, number of females 37, total 44. Number of members in Sunday School 50, number of members that belong to the church 20. Incidental fund \$11.40.

New Prospect—Hubert Creel and Liston Poston. Incidental fund \$10.

New Zion—Gary Powers. Died, none; received 12; baptized 8; and dismissed none. Number of members, males 11, females 9, total 20. Number of members in Sunday School 27; number of members that belong to the church 18. Incidental fund, \$4.50.

Little Bethel—Z. B. Eaddy, B. E. Thompson, and W. L. Benton. Died, none; received 3; baptized 4; dismissed none; excommunicated none. Number of males in church 20, number of females 34, total 54. Number of members in Sunday School 82, number of Sunday School members that belong to the church 75%. Incidental fund \$2.00.

Spring Pond—not represented.

Williams Hill—J. M. Williams and T. B. Williams. Died, 2; received 4; baptized 1; dismissed 3; excommunicated none. Number of members in Sunday School 80; number of Sunday School members that belong to the church 40. Incidental fund \$10. Total members 85.

Gethsemane—John Skipper and C. R. Roberts. Died, none; received 10; baptized 8; dismissed none; excommunicated none. Number of members, males 22, females 34, total 56. Sunday School members that belong to the church 30. Incidental fund \$7.30. Turned in Orphanage work 1 quilt and \$27.

Saint John—W. A. Powell and H. B. Wise. Died, none; received 9; baptized 5; dismissed none; excommunicated none. Number of members, males 14, females 49, total 63. Number of members in Sunday School 61; number of Sunday School members that belong to the church 16. Incidental fund, \$10.

By motion petitions were considered for the next conference agreed it goes to Gethsemane Free Will Baptist Church in Horry County. It was then motioned we adjourn until Friday morning at 9:30 o'clock. After song, "God Be With You Till We Meet Again," benediction by Moderator.

FRIDAY MORNING, 9:30—November 3, 1944

Conference re-assembled. After singing by congregation a scripture lesson was read by Brother B. E. Wise, Psalm 56. Prayer by Elder J. L. Smith, then we entered into business as follows:

It was motioned we excuse Elder S. J. Player for non-attendance by reason of ill health. Motion names of churches not represented yesterday (Thursday) were called again and their report was heard and accepted. Elder J. L. Smith made report on Antioch Church and whereas Brother Smith was appointed in our last conference to secure clear deed to property of said church; reported that he had done so and on motion we reimburse him for his expenses involved in this matter. Motion we give him \$5.00 and extend to him our heartfelt thanks for his kindness in rendering this service. On motion, St. John's Free Will Baptist Church was received into our conference by extending to her delegates the right hand of Christian fellowship which was done by a spirit of "heartfelt welcome" to them in our midst.

It was motioned all committees make their report. Reports were accepted, committees were released (except investigation committee which was retained until next conference.)

The various committees made reports as follows:

Investigation—no report.

Finance Committee:

We, your committee on finance submit following report:

Received from various churches	\$ 75.45
Received from ministers	12.00
Total receipts at this conference	\$ 87.45

Disbursements

Paid Elder S. J. Player	\$ 10.00
Paid Elder C. J. Hearl	15.00
Paid Brother Poston	10.00
Paid Elder G. W. Howell	5.00
Paid Elder J. L. Smith	5.00
Paid Clerk	10.00
Total	\$ 55.00
Balance on hand	32.45
In bank	92.00
Total balance	\$124.45

T. B. Williams

Z. B. Eaddy

Troy Pope

Sunday School and Temperance Committee Report:

We recommend that the membership of each church belong to the Sunday School and attend regularly and that we carry our children to Sunday School, not send them; and that we provide able teachers to teach our classes. Further, on Temperance; Let us teach it, let us preach it and live it.

Respectfully submitted by

Elder M. S. Todd,

Elder T. D. Lyerly,

Elder James Powell,

Committee.

Committee on Education:

We, your committee on Education, recommend the same as last year.
(see minutes)

Elder M. S. Todd,

Elder J. L. Smith,

Elder M. F. Howell,

Committee.

On Missions:

We, your committee on missions, submit the following report: We ask

all ministers to try to encourage Missions, both Home and Foreign. Also we recommend a Field Worker on same. We further recommend, that this conference send \$50.00 to the Treasurer of the Foreign Disbursing office of U. S. A., and that our Home Mission be instructed to look after the needy of our churches.

Elder N. N. Davis,
Elder James Powell,
Elder M. F. Howell,
Committee.

Devotional:

Thursday noon Elder M. F. Howell preached; Friday at 12:00 o'clock, Elder J. L. Smith preached; Friday night at 8:00 o'clock Elder N. N. Davis preached; Saturday night at 8:00 o'clock Elder N. N. Davis preached.

Brother B. E. Thompson,
Brother Willie Benton,
Sister Matthews.

On Programs:

We, your Committee on Programs recommend following Programs:

- 10:00 o'clock A. M.—Thursday conference convenes.
- 10:00 o'clock—Organization.
- 11:00 o'clock—List of Ministers be called—reports be heard.
- 11:00 o'clock—Visiting Brethren be seated.
- 11:45 o'clock—Petition for new churches, etc.
- 12:00 o'clock—Preaching and refreshments.
- 2:30 o'clock—Reports of Delegates from and to other Conferences.
- 3:00 o'clock—Reports of our churches.
- 3:45 o'clock—The Business of the Orphanage.
- 4:00 o'clock—Adjourn until Friday morning.
- 9:00 o'clock—Friday—Conference re-assembled.
- 9:00 o'clock—Devotionals.
- 10:00 o'clock—Reports of Committees.
- 11:00 o'clock—New Business.
- 11:30 o'clock—Petition for next Conference.
- 12:00 o'clock—Preaching and if any other business reassemble. If not adjourned.

Your Committee:
Elder N. N. Davis,
Elder M. F. Howell
Brother E. B. Roberts.

It was motioned that the Investigation Committee be retained.

It was motioned: We accept new forms of church letter as suggested by Program Committee and that we have 500 of same printed. Also 500 copies of these minutes be printed and some forwarded to the clerks of our churches.

It was motioned; We send Eld. N. V. Sturgeon as Delegate to the next session of the S. C. Conference and Eld T. A. Williams to represent us in the State Association.

Motion: Eld. M. F. Howell do mission work in the bounds of our Conference.

Then Conference called off for preaching and refreshments.

After having heard a most wonderful message by Eld. J. L. Smith (Text: Acts 7: 17) and a very nice dinner which was served on the grounds (Thanks to the good people of the New Hope vicinity who were so kind and generous) we reassembled for business.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

New Business

Requests by Elds. M. S. Todd and T. D. Lyerly for a letter of dismissal from the Conference was debated. On motion we grant Brother Lyerly a Letter of recommendation "To Whom It May Concern" but on account of Brother Todd's absence at the time his request was deferred until later. As we could not legally grant his request in his absence on motion by request of Brother E. J. Moore (licentiate) We grant him a letter of recommendation to whom it may concern.

Motion by request of Delegate of Little Bethel, we grant a letter of recommendation to whom it may concern, to said church.

On motion, we returned our heart-felt thanks to the good and generous people of this vicinity for their kindness and hospitality shown us during the sitting of this Conference. On motion we adjourned to meet at our regular time in course, Thursday morning at 9:30 o'clock, before the first Sunday in November, 1945, with Contentnea Free Will Baptist Church in Horry County. Songs by congregation, benediction by moderator, Elder T. A. Williams.

T. A. Williams, Moderator,
J. M. Williams, Clerk and Treasurer.

