

MINUTES
of the
FIFTIETH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
EASTERN CONFERENCE
of the
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
PROCEEDINGS
of the
FIFTIETH ANNUAL SESSION
held at
ST. JOHN FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
FLORENCE COUNTY, S. C.
OCTOBER 29, 1965
REV. H. E. POWELL, Moderator
CARLISLE JONES, Clerk
The next session will convene at Mill Branch
Free Will Baptist Church in Florence
October 29, 1966

EASTERN CONFERENCE OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The Fiftieth Annual Session of the Original Free Will Baptists of South Carolina convened at St. John Church, Florence County, Route 2, Pamplico, S. C., on October 29, 1965.

The meeting was called in session by Rev. Hoyt E. Powell, moderator.

Brother Lloyd Gore led the congregation in singing, followed by prayer. Brother Ronnie Lee Jones gave the devotion.

Brother Ronnie Lee Jones read the Rules of Decorum. The motion was made that the chair appoint the various committees. MSC. The chair appointed Brother Willie Powell, Brother Emerson Hayes and Brother Manley Poston as the Devotion Committee. Brother W. F. Fulton, Brother S. J. Jones and Brother Walter Scott for the Finance Committee. Rev. Liston Williams, Rev. Charlton Powell, and Brother Rutledge Alford for the Sunday School and Temperance Committee. Rev. Lloyd Gore, Rev. Michael Jones, and Rev. Joseph Cagle as the Mission and Education Committee. Rev. Paul Sheehan, Rev. Ronnie Lee Jones, and Brother Carlisle Jones as the Investigating Committee.

The roll call of ministers was called and twelve were present, one absent.

The list of churches was called with present and none absent. The chair then recognized the visitors and extended them all privileges except that of voting.

The By-Laws were read by the reading clerk.

It was moved that the minutes of the Forty-ninth Annual Session be accepted as read. MSC.

The moderator called for a short recess.

The Morning Worship Service began by singing led by Brother Lloyd Gore. Rev. Charlie Tyler brought the message, reading from Matthew 23:36, St. John 14:1, and from Thessalonians. Rev. Paul Sheehan dismissed in prayer.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon session was opened with singing led by Rev. Lloyd Gore.

Rev. Paul Sheehan gave an oral report of the Childrens Home, stating some of the needs and bringing us some information concerning the repairs then in progress, also the need that we visit the home so as to keep up to date on its needs. A motion was made to receive a free will offering for the Childrens Home to purchase throw rugs for the boys dormitory. MSC. A nice offering was received.

The Sunday School and Temperance Committee gave its report and it was adopted. (See reports)

The report of Mission and Education Committee was adopted. (See reports)

The Financial report was read. Motion to accept the report and released the committee. MSC. (See reports)

Motion made that the treasurer be authorized to pay all postage out of treasure. MSC.

A motion that the same clerk serve the Conference and Union meetings was tabled until later.

Bro. Emerson Hayes and Bro. Z. G. Tanner were appointed delegates to represent the Eastern Conference at the State Association to be held Thursday and Friday, November 18th, 19th, 1965, at Mill Branch Church, Route 1, Johnsonville, S. C.

The Ordaining Council recommended that Bro. Ronnie Lee Jones and Bro. Liston Williams receive their Credentials of Ordination on or after the 28th day of November, 1965. (See reports)

A motion that the Conference Moderator and Clerk serve at the Union Meetings for one (1) year. MSC. The following were nominated: Moderator, Bro. Hoyt E. Powell; Assistant Moderator, Bro. Paul Sheehan; Clerk and Treasurer, Bro. Carlisle Jones; Reading Clerk, Bro. Ronnie Lee Jones; Ordaining Council, Bro. Hoyt E. Powell. These were elected.

Sister Lloyd Gore was appointed delegate to the National Association of Free Will Baptist Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas, July 1966.

A motion that the roll of churches, ministers, and church clerks appear in the next minutes. MSC.

A motion to change Section 6 of By-Laws to read "each **Union or Conference**". MSC.

A motion that the Constitution and By-Laws, rules of Decorum and Church Covenant appear in the next minutes. MSC.

A motion that the clerk notify each Church Clerk and minister by letter one or two weeks before each Union Meeting and Annual Conference. MSC.

Motion to raise the clerk's pay to twenty dollars (\$20.00) for each session. MSC.

A rising vote of thanks was given to the host church for their kind hospitality.

Motion carried that the session adjourn to meet again at the Mill Branch Church, Florence County, Route 1, Johnsonville, S. C., October 29, 1966.

Dismissed in prayer.

REPORTS

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

"We your Sunday School and Temperance Committee recommend that our Sunday School teachers be qualified for the job. That the teacher try to make sure they teach the lesson so that the children can understand it. We emphasize the need of an every week study of the lesson at home by the teachers and also the parents and children."

Respectfully submitted,

Liston Williams
Charlton Powell
Rutledge Alford

REPORT OF THE MISSION AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

"We your Mission and Education Committee make the following report. We always promise our missionaries our help in finance and in prayers, but somehow seem to do little of either. We believe that when we pass a motion we should abide by that motion or not pass it. So we ask that we support our missionaries and christian education to the very best of our ability with our continued prayer and financial support. We who work expect a raise every now and then, due to the increased cost of living, and yet we are willing to let our missionaries struggle along on the same or less pay each year when we as christians could if we would help them much more. There are very few of us who wish to leave our homes and friends to go into the mission field, so let us help send them who do go to spread God's gospel everywhere."

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Cagle
Michael Jones
Lloyd Gore

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

We the Finance Committee make the following report:

Balance on hand Oct. 29, 1965	\$ 36.00
Received from churches	\$70.00
Received from Ministers	12.00
Total received today	82.00
Total balance on hand and received	118.00
Disbursements:	
State Association dues	\$10.00
Clerk hire	10.00
Total disbursements	20.00
Total balance in treasure	\$ 98.00

Respectfully submitted,

Walter F. Scott
S. J. Jones
W. F. Fulton

REPORT OF THE ORDAINING COUNCIL

The Ordaining Council met with Bro. Ronnie Lee Jones and Bro. Liston Williams and questioned them at length. After questioning and consideration, the council made the following motion. "That Bro. Ronnie Lee Jones and Bro. Liston Williams have met the requirements of this Conference and that they receive their Credentials of Ordination on or after the 28th day of November 1965."

Respectfully submitted,

Hoyt E. Powell

Lloyd Gore

Paul Sheehan

PASTORS AND CHURCH CLERKS AND ADDRESSES

HAPPY HOME—Rev. Lloyd Gore, Route 1, Andrews, S. C. Omeca McCutcheon, Andrews, S. C.

HILL SIDE—Rev. Melvin Adams, Pamplico Highway, Florence, S. C. Lenwood Poston

MILL BRANCH—Rev. Joseph Cagle, Route 2, Pamplico, S. C. Ronnie Lee Jones, Route 1, Johnsonville, S. C.

NEW PROSPECT—Rev. J. A. Hucks, Route 3, Conway, S. C. Carlisle Jones, Route 2, Pamplico, S. C.

ST. JOHN—Rev. Joseph Cagle, Route 2, Pamplico, S. C. William D. Powell, Route 2, Pamplico, S. C.

WILLIAMS HILL—Rev. Paul Sheehan, Childrens Home, Turbeville, S. C. T. B. Williams, Route 3, Hemingway, S. C.

EASTERN CONFERENCE MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES

Melvin Adams—Pamplico Highway, Florence, S. C.

Joseph Cagle—Route 2, Pamplico, S. C.

Ralph Giordiano—2611 Spring St., Florence, S. C.

Lloyd Gore—Route 1, Andrews, S. C.

Michael Jones—Route 1, Johnsonville, S. C.

Charlton Powell—2802 Rose Ave., Florence, S. C.

Hoyt E. Powell, Route 2, Pamplico, S. C.

Clarence Poston—Route 1, Johnsonville, S. C.

Paul Sheehan—F. W. B. Childrens Home, Turbeville, S. C.

Charlie Tyler—8 North Tracy St., Charleston, S. C.

LICENTIATES

Ronnie Lee Jones—Route 1, Johnsonville, S. C.

*Oscar Tedder—Andrews, S. C.

Liston Williams—Route 3, Hemingway, S. C.

*Denotes Absent.

ORDAINING COUNCIL

Hoyt E. Powell	_____	3 years
Paul Sheehan	_____	2 years
Lloyd Gore	_____	1 year

CONSTITUTION OF THE EASTERN CONFERENCE OF ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTISTS

ARTICLE I

This conference shall be called the Eastern Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist.

ARTICLE II

The officers of this conference shall be: a moderator, a clerk, reading clerk, treasurer, and an Ordaining Council consisting of three (3) duly ordained ministers to be elected or reelected yearly.

ARTICLE III

Any brother desiring to be licensed or ordained must have a letter of recommendation from the church of which he is a member. Said church must be a member of the Eastern Conference.

ARTICLE IV

A minister coming from another conference or Association must come by letter from his former conference or Association.

ARTICLE V

Each minister duly licensed or ordained of said conference may have the privilege to vote.

ARTICLE VI

This constitution shall be revised at any annual conference by a vote of two-thirds majority.

BY-LAWS

1. No minister of the Eastern Conference shall pastor a church that is not in fellowship with the Free Will Baptist denomination.

2. No brother shall receive credentials except he has been a member of a church, in good standing in said conference, for a period of twelve (12) months or more. He must be licensed for twelve (12) months before he can be ordained.

3. He that desires to be licensed must come with a letter of recommendation, stating whether or not he has tithed during said period, signed by his pastor and church treasurer. Also bringing a personal record of his work to be presented to the ordaining council. The same applies to his ordination.

4. Any minister who makes a shipwreck of his life or brings a reproach upon himself or conference, the accuser shall present a written charge properly signed to the ordaining council, if proven guilty shall surrender his credentials for a period of six (6) months on first offense. The penalty for second offense is the surrender of credentials for two (2) years.

5. From this, The Lord's Day—December 7, 1963, the ordaining council shall not license, ordain, or accept anyone who has two (2) living wives or if wife has two (2) living husbands. Scripture: Titus 1:6. 1 Timothy 3:1-2.)

6. Each minister of the said conference must report in person or by letter to each union or conference. All ministers who fail to conform to this ruling will have to surrender his credentials and go before the Ordaining Council before they can be reinstated. But, in case of an emergency, a minister has one week from date of the conference to send in his excuse.

7. These by-laws may be amended by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at any regular conference.

8. All visiting ministers will be given a seat in our conference with this restriction, they will not be privileged to vote.

9. The dues of this conference are one dollar (\$1.00) per quarter; payable each quarter at the regular conference.

10. The clerk is to inform the Ordaining Council of all ministers of said conference who do not conform to rule number six of these by-laws.

11. The minutes of all ministers meetings are to be published in the Association minutes rather than just the minutes of the annual meeting as has been done in previous years.

12. A committee is to be appointed to judge whether or not the excuse of absent ministers is to be accepted. The committee shall consist of the clerk and two ministers of our conference. If any excuse is rejected the sender is to be notified and more information is to be asked for.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant.

We promise by His grace, to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid all appearance of evil, to abstain from all sinful amusements and unholy conformity to the world from all sanctions of the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to "provide things honest in the sight of all men."

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions and social worship and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church, conferences, public worship and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel; nor fail to pray according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace. To be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme; counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

CHURCHES	DELEGATES	RECEIVED				DISMISSED			
		Total on Roll Beginning of Year		Total		Total		Total on Roll End of Year	
		By Letter	By Baptism	By Restoration	Total	By Letter	By Expulsion	Died	Total
Happy Home	W. F. Fulton and E. P. Alford	66	0	18	0	16	0	1	17
Hill Side	Archie Poston and Manley Poston	59	0	14	0	1	0	1	2
Mill Branch	Narvel Poston and Talmadge Jones	70	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
New Prospect	C. R. Stone and S. J. Jones	169	4	0	4	1	0	5	6
St. John	James Adams, Emerson Hayes, Willie Powell	53	1	14	0	15	0	0	68
Williams Hill	W. F. Scott and Z. G. Tanner	60	1	0	1	1	0	2	3
Totals		477	6	46	0	52	0	9	30
									499

FINANCIAL REPORT

CHURCHES	Total Received and on Hand	Pastor	Charity	Repairs	Total Expenditures for Year	Balance in Treasury	Total Value of Churches and Property
Happy Home	\$ 3,584.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 0	\$ 4,012.97	\$ 0	\$ 12,000.00
Hill Side	3,471.54	2,759.81	0	0	3,279.36	192.18	14,000.00
Mill Branch	7,662.21	930.00	180.00	0	7,078.71	583.50	53,000.00
New Prospect	18,617.27	1,140.00	90.05	0	16,185.14	2,432.13	38,713.71
St. John	838.74	520.00	16.00	65.04	740.30	123.25	8,750.00
Williams Hill	4,833.35	1,450.00	153.00	34.51	3,553.00	1,280.35	32,000.00
Totals	\$ 39,007.11	\$ 9,799.81	\$ 489.05	\$ 99.55	\$ 34,849.48	\$ 4,611.41	\$ 158,463.71

RULES OF DECORUM

1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.
2. There shall be no conversation by the members, one with another so as to interrupt business while in session.
3. Every member speaking shall first rise and address the moderator.
4. No member shall interrupt a member while speaking.
5. We shall admit no other title while in session but that of "Brother."
6. Every member speaking shall attend to the subject under consideration.
7. No member shall speak more than twice on any one subject.
8. Every motion made and seconded shall be attended unless withdrawn by the person who made it.
9. No member shall absent himself from the body without leave of the moderator.
10. On motion made where the vote of the body is taken a majority shall prevail.
11. The moderator shall have the same privilege to speak as any other member, provided the chair is filled.
12. Any members transgressing the above rules shall be admonished by the moderator.
13. Not less than nine members shall constitute a quorum.

