

MIRCHEAL L. JONES

MINUTES
of the
FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION
of the
EASTERN CONFERENCE
of the
ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
PROCEEDINGS
of the
FIFTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION
held at
NEW PROSPECT FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
RT. 2 - PAMPLICO, S. C.
OCTOBER 28, 1967
REV. H. E. POWELL, Moderator
CARLISLE JONES, Clerk
The next session will convene at Hill Side
Free Will Baptist Church in Florence
September 28, 1968

EASTERN CONFERENCE OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST OF SOUTH CAROLINA

The fifty-second annual session of the Eastern Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist of S. C. convened at New Prospect Church, Route 2, Pamplico, S. C. October 28, 1967.

The meeting was called in session by Rev. Hoyt E. Powell, moderator. Bro. Lloyd Gore led the congregation in singing "An Old Account Settled", followed with prayer by Bro. Joseph Cagle. The devotion was brought by Bro. Joseph Cagle, who spoke from St. John 3:1-13.

Business:

The rule of decorum was read by Bro. Ronnie Lee Jones reading clerk. The motion was made that the chair appoint the various committees. MSC. The chair appointed Bro. Emerson Hayes, Bro. Manley Poston, and Bro. Archie Huggins, for finance committee. Bro. Ronnie Lee Jones, Bro. Joseph Cagle, and Bro. Oscar Tedder for Sunday School and Temperance Committee. Bro. Lloyd Gore, Bro. Charlton Powell, and Bro. Johnny Evans for Mission and Education Committee. Bro. Charlie Tyler, Bro. Melvin Adams, and Bro. Carlisle Jones for Investigating Committee.

There was a motion to accept the minutes of the fifty-first annual session as read. MSC.

The chair recognized the visiting ministers and the following were present. Rev. Floyd Ard, Johnsonville, S. C., and Rev. Jack Evans, Pamplico, S. C. These visiting ministers and other visitors were given a seat in this session and allowed every privilege except voting.

The roll call of ministers was called with nine (9) present. Three (3) ordained ministers and two (2) licentiates absent. An invitation was given to any minister who may wish to unite with this body.

The list of churches was called with seven (7) present none absent. There was an invitation to any church who may wish to unite with this body.

The treasurer reported a balance on hand of \$50.54.

The moderator called for a short recess. Bro. William Evans dismissed in prayer.

The worship service began with Bro. Lloyd Gore leading the congregation in singing "I Will Sing The Wondrous Story" followed by prayer by Bro. Emerson Hayes. Bro. Ronnie Lee Jones brought the morning message. He spoke from Genesis 6:1-7. It was a very good message. Bro. Melvin Adams dismissed in prayer, with special prayer offered in behalf of the sick.

Bro. William Evans made the announcement concerning the noon meal. Bro. Joseph Cagle asked Gods blessings on the food and partakers.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon session was opened with the congregation singing "Wonderful Words Of Life", led by Bro. Lloyd Gore. Bro. Melvin Adams brought the devotion, he spoke from Romans 9:1-3; 10:1-3, his subject "compassion for souls". Bro. Floyd Ard led us in Prayer.

The moderator gave an oral report on the Childrens Home in the absence of Rev. Paul Sheehan, the superintendent. The financial report from the Children Home (as pertaining to this body) was distributed. (See report)

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

The Mission and Education Committee gave its report and it was adopted. (See report)

The Finance Committee report was read, there was a motion to accept the report and release the committee. MSC. (See report)

The Investigating Committee gave its report and it was adopted. (See report)

The Ordaining council gave its annual report. There was a motion to accept the ordination of Bro. Oscar Tedder and withdraw fellowship from Bro. Clarence Poston until charges against Bro. Poston is cleared up. MSC. (See report) 13 to 4.

Upon motion and second Bro. Paul Sheehan was elected to serve on the ordaining council.

Bro. Emerson Hayes was appointed to represent the Eastern Conference at the State Association to be held November 16th. and 17th.

Upon a motion the appointing of a delegate to the National Association was tabled until later. MSC.

Motion made that the present officers serve in the same capacity for the incoming year. Moderator, Bro. Hoyt Powell; Assistant moderator, Bro. Lloyd Gore; clerk and treasurer Bro. Carlisle Jones; reading clerk, Bro. Ronnie Lee Jones. MSC.

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

Motion was carried that the session adjourn to meet again at the Hill Side Free Will Baptist Church, Florence, S. C. Sept. 28, 1968.

Dismissed in prayer.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHILDREN'S HOME

Receipts		Bus Fund	Total
Mill Branch Church	\$183.39	\$ 30.00	\$ 213.29
Happy Home Church	196.32	17.66	213.98
Williams Hill Church	96.64	25.00	121.64
New Prospect Church	186.00	38.00	224.00
St. John Church	125.00	45.16	170.16
District Meeting			75.40
Sunday School Convention			90.00
TOTAL	\$787.35	\$155.82	
GRAND TOTAL			\$1,108.57

COMMODITIES

St. John Church (mixed com.)	\$25.00
Mill Branch Ladies and Youth	85.00
Mr. Emerson Hayes (corn)	40.00

We have 40 children in the Home. When we came to the Home we only had 14. So with more children we will have more responsibilities and more expense. We need your prayers and your support. If you have corn, hay or any commodities, please contact me at the Home. I will be glad to bring the truck to your church for these things at your convenience.

We are starting on a new dormitory in the next two weeks. We will certainly need your support for this project because most of the money to build this addition will be borrowed. Please, don't let your children and me down.

Yours in His service,
Rev. Paul Sheehan, Supt.

REPORTS

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE

"We your Sunday School and Temperance Committee recommend the following, concerning Sunday School:

1. We have only Christian teachers, superintendents, clerks and all other officers. Let's ask them before appointing them.
2. We as Christians set the example by living the life, being on time and ready to serve.

CONCERNING TEMPERANCE

1. That we completely abstain from all alcoholic beverages, unless prescribed by a physician.
2. That we vote in the election against all measures promoting alcohol and alcoholic beverages.

Respectfully submitted,
 Ronnie Lee Jones, Joseph Cagle, Oscar Tedder

REPORT OF THE MISSION AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE

We your mission and education committee make the following report. "That we pray and ask God to refresh our minds and make us more mission minded. Support our missionairies prayerfully and financially. Education: That we read and study the word of God with an open mind and be spiritually educated, then pray and stand behind our educational functions of our denomination.

Respectfully submitted,
 Lloyd Gore, Charlton Powell, Johnny Evans

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

We the finance committee make the following report.

Balance on hand Oct. 28, 1967	\$ 50.54
Received from churches	\$80.00
Received from ministers	10.00
Total received today	\$ 90.00
Total balance on hand and received	140.54

Disbursements:

Clerk hire	\$20.00
Total balance on hand	\$120.54

Respectfully submitted,
 Manley Poston, Archie Huggins, Emerson Hayes

REPORT OF THE INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE

We your investigating committee are happy to report that all excuses offered at this session are reasonable and excuseable.

Respectfully submitted,
 Charlie Tyler, Melvin Adams, Carlisle Jones

REPORT OF THE ORDAINING COUNCIL

We your ordaining council make the following report.

"The council met with Happy Home Free Will Baptist Church for the purpose of ordaining Bro. Oscar Tedder for the ministry, Bro. Ronnie Lee Jones set in on the council with the absence of Bro. Lloyd Gore.

The council was called into meeting August 1, 1967 by the pastor and deacons of Mill Barnch Church for the purpose of helping the church settle a Question of unchristian conduct that had been brought to the councils attention some time before. This charge was against Bro. Clarence Poston one of our ministers in the Eastern Conference. The council agreed at this meeting that they would call a meeting with the accused.

The council met with Bro. Clarence Poston at Mill Branch Church August 3rd. on Thursday night at 8:00 P.M. and presented the charges and evidence

that we had gathered investigating the charges made against him. Bro. Clarence stated that he could prove these charges were untrue and if he had time he would present said evidence to the council.

The council agreed to set another meeting and give accused time to get his evidence together. The meeting was set for August 17th., 1967.

The council met with the accused at the Children's Home at Turbeville, S. C. on the 17th of August at approximately 8:00 P. M. We entered into the meeting with prayer, afterwards asked Bro. Clarence Poston to present the evidence that he said he would have for the council. No such evidence was presented.

After prayerfully and carefully going over the charges and evidence against the accused, we your ordaining council agreed that it would be best for the conference that the accused submit his credentials until this question be cleared up.

Bro. Clarence Poston refused to submit these credentials to said council, therefore we your Ordaining council so move:

1. That we the Eastern Conference of the Original Free Will Baptist of S. C. withdraw fellowship with the accused.
2. That it be shown in the minutes that we are no longer responsible for anything he says or does.

Respectfully submitted,

Hoyt Powell, Lloyd Gore, Paul Sheehan

CHURCHES, PASTORS, CLERK AND ADDRESSES

HAPPY HOME—Rev. F. G. Ard, Johnsonville, S. C., Omeca McCutcheon, Andrews, S. C.

HILL SIDE—Rev. J. B. Faircloth, Route 3, Conway, S. C., Lenwood Poston, Route 2, Spring Valley Drive, Florence, S. C.

MILL BRANCH—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 L. Cagle, Route 2, Pamplico, S. C., Willie D. Powell, Route 2, Pamplico, S. C.

SWEET HOME—Rev. Oscar Tedder, Route 1, Box 284, Andrews, S. C. Edward Johnson, 106 Wasp Street, North Charleston, S. C.

WILLIAMS HILL—Rev. J. A. Hucks, Jr., Conway, S. C. T. B. Williams, Hemingway, S. C.

EASTERN CONFERENCE MINISTERS AND ADDRESSES

Rev. Melvin Adams, 66 Skipper Ave., Lancaster, S. C.

Rev. Joseph L. Cagle, Route 2, Pamplico, S. C.

Rev. Lloyd Gore, Route 2, Johnsonville, S. C.

Rev. Michael Jones, Route 1, Johnsonville, S. C. (service)

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

Rev. Charlton Powell, P. O. Box 1623, Florence, S. C.

Rev. Hoyt E. Powell, P. O. Box 248, Manning, S. C.

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

Rev. Paul Sheehan, Childrens Home, Turbeville, S. C.

Rev. Liston Williams, Hemingway, S. C.

Rev. Charlie Tyler, 35 Suffolk, Dorchester Terrace, Charleston Heights, S. C.

LICENTIATES

Rev. Oscar Tedder, Route 1, Box 284, Andrews, S. C.

Rev. Ronnie Floyd, Andrews, S. C. (service)

Rev. Benjamin Franklin Young (school), Nashville, Tenn.

ORDAINING CHURCH

Paul Sheehan	_____	3 years
Lloyd Gore	_____	2 years
Hoyt Powell	_____	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, 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 School, 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	Total on Roll Beginning of Year	RECEIVED				DISMISSED				Total on Roll End of Year
			By Letter	By Baptism	By Restoration	Total	By Letter	By Expulsion	Died		
Happy Home	Omeca McCutchen, W. F. Fulton	43	0	2	0	2	0	0	1	44	
Hill Side	Manley Poston, Ossie Stone	74	1	8	2	11	3	0	3	79	
Mill Branch	T. M. Jones, Keith Jones	76	2	2	1	5	0	0	2	79	
New Prospect	Willie Evans, C. R. Stone, Johnny Evans	167	0	1	0	1	3	0	3	162	
St. John	Emerson Hayes, Willie Powell	64	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	66	
Sweet Home	James Rabon, Woodrow Barnhill, Archie Huggins	46	0	3	0	3	6	0	6	43	
Williams Hill	J. M. Williams, S. S. Pope	55	1	1	0	2	0	0	2	55	
	Total	525	4	19	3	26	12	0	11	528	

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	\$ 3,468.31	1,625.00	727.24	763.26	3,115.50	398.49	\$ 17,000.00
Hill Side	3,540.39	2,060.00	-0-	-0-	3,086.09	450.30	18,000.00
Mill Branch	5,660.97	1,175.00	368.50	680.00	4,930.23	730.74	50,000.00
New Prospect	5,995.03	1,075.00	411.67	-0-	5,218.22	776.81	37,446.13
St. John	3,286.61	600.00	157.41	832.80	2,751.01	535.60	12,200.00
Sweet Home	1,674.80	800.00	92.34	471.33	1,363.67	311.13	1,000.00
Williams Hill	3,933.96	1,310.00	95.00	-0-	3,637.96	815.07	27,000.00
Total	\$ 27,560.07	8,645.00	1,852.16	2,747.39	24,102.68	4,018.14	\$ 162,646.13

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 another member while they are 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.

