

1914

MINUTES  
OF THE  
SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION  
OF THE  
EUREKA ASSOCIATION  
OF THE  
Free Will Baptist

Church of God

When convened with the View  
Church, Friday night before  
the 1st Sunday in Aug. 1914.

1914

Elder J. L. Keith - - - - -  
T. M. Arnold - - - - - Assistant  
J. W. Hays - - - - -  
W. T. Trickett - - - - -

The next Association will convene  
with Lenox Church, Lenox, Okla.  
on Thursday night before the  
first Sunday in Aug. 1915

Elder R. H. Byrd to Preach the in-  
troduction. Elder J. L. Keith  
Alternate.

# MINUTES

OF THE  
SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE  
EUREKA ASSOCIATION OF THE CHURCH  
OF GOD, DENOMINATED  
FREE WILL BAPTIST  
CONVENED WITH PRAIRIE VIEW CHURCH ON FRIDAY,  
BEFORE THE FIRST SUNDAY IN AUGUST, 1914.

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OFFICERS:

J. L. KEITH, Moderator. J. W. HAYS, Clerk.  
T. M. ARNOLD, Asst. Moderator. W. T. TRICKETT, Asst. Clerk.

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## Proceedings of The Association

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By the permission of the All Wise and Omnipotent God the Seventh Annual Session of the Eureka Association met with Prairie View Church, Prairie View, Okla., on Friday night, before the first Sunday in August, 1914.

Eld. T. M. Summers preached the introductory sermon, from James 4-14. "For what is your life."

Adjourned to meet Saturday 8:30 o'clock a. m.

### SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Met Saturday 8:30 a. m., pursuant to adjournment. House called to order by Moderator. Prayer by Bro. W. T. Trickett, after which the following business was transacted: Call for let-

ters from different churches and received the following:

| CHURCH        | DELEGATE         |
|---------------|------------------|
| Lenox         | R. E. Nolden     |
| Perry         | Sister Ella Hill |
| Union Prairie | G. P. Pratt      |
| Prairie View  | H. A. McMerlin   |
| Plain View    | J. M. Kay        |
| Rucker        | C. W. Edwards    |
| Rocky Ridge   | T. D. Ary        |
| Eureka        | R. H. Byrd       |

#### CHURCHES NOT REPRESENTED

Mountain View, Race Track, Oak Grove, Brazil, Oak Ridge, Reno, Murray's Chappel, Old Panther, New Hope and Rocky Point.

#### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

##### DEVOTIONAL SERVICE

Committee: W. M. LaFave, W. L. Roberts and J. W. Lewis.

##### SABBATH SCHOOL

Committee: Ella Hill, S. N. Hays and H. M. Hill.

##### ON RESOLUTIONS

Committee: A. M. Peck, G. P. Pratt and W. L. Reynolds.

##### ON OBITUARIES

Committee: T. M. Arnold, T. D. Ary and H. A. McMerlin.

##### ON MINISTERS' CREDENTIALS

Committee: A. M. Peck, W. M. LaFave and G. P. Pratt.

Motion and second, that we adjourn till 2 p. m.

##### SATURDAY EVENING SESSION

House call to order by Moderator. Prayer by Moderator.

ON TEMPERANCE

Committee: T. D. Ary, A. N. Brown and G. W. Nichols.

ON FINANCE

Committee: T. M. Summers, W. M. LaFave and C. W. Edwards.

ON PERIODICALS

Committee: H. M. Hill, T. M. Chappel and W. L. Roberts.

COMMITTEES' REPORTS

We, your committee on Sabbath School, beg leave to submit the following report: That it is the duty of each church to maintain a Sabbath School and let it be understood, that we, as the Church of God, recommend union as basis, for all the people of God, to do the will of our Father in Heaven, that we unite all of our efforts, to keep all of our children in Sabbath School that it may be the means of bringing them to Christ, we earnestly request all of our ministers and deacons, to do all they can to hold a lively Sabbath school and prayer meeting in all of our churches. We heartily recommend the use of our denominational literature.

S. W. HAYS,

Chairman.

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We, your committee on obituaries, submit the following: Whereas, the All Wise God has seen fit to remove from our midst, Bro. Jeff Snow of Perry Church and Bro. Provine and Sister Ester of Rocky Ridge church, be it resolved,

That we extend to the bereaved our greatest sympathy, and let us not weep, as those who have no hope, but realize that our loss is Heaven's gain.

H. A. McMERLIN,

Chairman.

We, your committee on periodicals submit the following: That our people make the Bible the leading study to be studied in the home, church and Sabbath School, and that we abstain from trashy literature of all kinds, and we also recommend that all Free Will Baptist take and read Free Will Baptist Paper and literature.

T. M. CHAPPELL,  
Chairman.

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We, your committee on ministers' characters and credentials, submit the following report: After due consideration we find all of our preachers in good standing and recommend as such.

W. M. LAFAVE,  
Chairman.

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We, your committee on temperance, beg leave to submit the following report: We find that Intemperance is the direct cause of nine-tenths of the crimes committed, is traceable to the use of alcohol in some way. It debauches the courts, the pulpit and the bar. It makes widows and orphans. We believe that the children of God should abstain from the use of intoxicants in any way. Therefore, we should be temperate in all things.

A. N. BROWN,  
Chairman.

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We, your committee on resolutions, beg leave to submit the following report: Resolved, that the Eureka Association meet on Thursday before the first Sunday in August and, Resolve that we will not receive baptism from Cambellites or Mormon churches, nor from any other church that denies God calling men to preach the gospel and bringing their preachers under the laying

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on of hands. Resolve that the words call of God be added in the 11th article of faith. Resolve, that we appoint a committee to make a contract with some printer to print our minutes and they be printed as early as possible. Resolve, that we use our influence to get all of the subordinate associations to become members of the state association, and that we adopt the same articles of faith and rules, order and constitution.

A. M. PECK,  
Chairman.

We, your committee on finance, beg leave to submit the following report: Money collected for minutes, Perry Church \$1.25; Booker Church \$1.50; Eureka Church 50c; Union Prairie Church \$1.50; Lenox Church \$1.50; Prairie View Church \$3.15.

Motion to adjourn to meet Monday morning.  
8:30 a. m.

#### MONDAY MORNING SESSION

House called to order by Moderator, J. L. Keith. Prayer by Bro. Nichols. After which Ministers' reports were called for and the following reports were received:

#### MINISTERS' REPORTS

I beg leave to submit the following: I have preached 29 sermons, witnessed 29 conversions, baptized 3, preached 2 funerals, married 1 couple, paid out \$10.00. Received for work 89cts.

T. D. ARY.

I beg leave to submit the following report: I have preached 142 sermons, witnessed 27 conversions, baptized 4, organized 1 church, debates 1. Received on work \$8.00.

L. B. CLARK.

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I beg leave to submit the following report. I have preached 7 sermons, no conversions, baptized none, married 1 couple, paid out \$35.00. Received for work \$72.00.

J. M. ROBERTS,  
Locust Grove, Okla.

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I beg leave to submit the following: I have preached 8 sermons, traveled about 200 miles, witnessed 13 conversions, preached 2 funerals, baptized none. Received \$22.50.

J. L. KEITH.

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I beg leave to submit the following report: I have preached 50 sermons, baptized 17, witnessed 25 conversions, married 12 couple, preached 5 funerals, traveled 200 miles. Received \$23.00.

R. H. BYRD.

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I submit the following report: I have preached 27 sermons, organized one Sabbath school and superintended it. Held prayer meeting most of the time, traveled 82 miles. Received for work \$3.65.

F. B. PRATHER.

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Motion and second that this Delegation tend to Prairie View church and vicinity our heartfelt thanks for the hospitality shown us during our stay with them.

Where shall the next Association be held?

Lenox Church, Kanima.

Motion in order to adjourn.

Motion and second to adjourn to meet with Lenox church on Thursday night before the 1st Sunday in August 1915. With R. H. Byrd to preach the Introductory sermon. Rev. J. L. Keith, Alternate.

J. L. KEITH, Moderator.  
J. W. HAYS, Clerk.

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# Constitution

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From long experience, we, the members of the Free Will Baptist Church of Christ, being regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith in Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of the combination of churches to perpetuate a union and communion among us, and to preserve and maintain correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this constitution for our better church government.

1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by different churches in our union, not exceeding three delegates from each church, and on producing letters shall be entitled to seats.

2. Letters from the different churches are to express the number in fellowship, the number received by experience, letters of recommendation, the number dismissed, excluded, restored and those who have died since the Association.

3. The members thus chosen and convened to be denominated the Eureka Association of Free Will Baptist, being composed of sundry churches in Oklahoma—the Association having no power to lord over Gods heritage, nor to have any ecclesiastical power over the churches reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly.

4. The Association to have a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

5. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association, who are to petition by let-



ter and delegates, and if upon examination they are found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received in the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

6. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless it has first been discussed in its own church.

7. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

8. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the Association in proportion to the number of members in each church distribution being at the discretion of the Association.

9. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep a regular file of the minutes of the Association a book to be kept by the Association for this purpose.

10. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected if needed and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before close of the Association.

## AMENDMENTS

Whereas we the Free Will Baptist church of Christ or [God] known as the Eureka Association of Free Will Baptist realize the fact that many flowers are being plucked from the church of God, and placed over halls and secret institutions, in the way of looking after the sick and the widows and orphans, and the poor of our country,

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and the lodges are doing things that the church ought to be doing.

We furthermore realize the fact that the church cannot do those things without a financial system, and it is our duty to pay into the church as God prospered. We also realize the fact that many of our churches are without pastors.

Many of our preachers have been drove from the field of labor and are toiling with manual labor to support their families. The cause of this is for the want of a financial system. We also know that God's Book teaches the support of his cause and that it is the duty of the members of the church to contribute of their means as God has prospered them to the support of his cause.

11. Be it resolved, that each church have a Treasurer and that it shall be the duty of each member to contribute something to that Treasurer.

12. It shall be the duty of the pastor to call on the church before the the Association closes to know how much they are going to give to the support of the cause of Christ during the next Association. It shall be the duty of each member of that church to hand to the Clerk the amount on a slip of paper that they are willing to give with the understanding that it is to be paid quarterly; say if a member agrees to pay six dollars that would be \$1.50 every three months. The Clerk shall keep a true record of the assessment, and the church shall report to the Association the amount that is pledged. The church in calling their pastor shall say how much they are willing to give him for his year's work.

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### MONEY PAID INTO TREASURER

13. All the money that is paid into the treasurer shall be a general fund and shall not be paid out only by order of the church, and any member that refuses to assess themselves or pay into the treasury, unless such members can show to the church good reasons for not paying into the treasury, the church shall not report to the Association such persons as church members, however the church can use its own judgement in withdrawing fellowship.

14. It shall be the duty of each church to become a member of the quarterly conference, and that each church to report to the quarterly conference the amount of their assessment and how much that has been paid into the church treasury, the amount that has been paid out and for what purpose.

15. This Association shall be divided into two or more quarterly conferences, and each quarterly conference appoint an ordaining council for the purpose of examining all candidates for the Ministry in their district. If any brother or sister is impressed with the call to the Ministry they shall make the call known to their church, and the church shall pass on the candidate's spiritual qualifications and if found worthy, the church shall recommend said candidate to the ordaining council of their quarterly conference, and if the candidate passes the qualifications as a teacher, they will proceed to ordain the candidate to the full work of the Ministry, but if the candidate has not the qualification as a teacher his ordination shall be deferred until the next quarterly conference and so on until he can pass the examination to the full work of the Ministry.

16. It shall be the duty of the ministers, deacons, clerks and treasurers to attend each quarterly conference and association and make a written report of their official work, and any minister that fails to make a written report to his association his name shall be dropped from the roll of publication in the minutes and he will be published in the church paper.

17. Amendments to the constitution may be made when necessary by a majority of the members present.

Resolve that we earnestly request all of our ministers and deacons and churches composing of the association to co-operate with each other and to assist in every way they can to help further the Gospel and that each church should help their pastor and if an evangelist should visit any destitute places and organize church that we urge upon the people to assist the evangelist so he can go and preach the word.

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## ARTICLES OF FAITH OF THE OKLAHOMA STATE ASSOCIATION

1. We believe in one true and living God, the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit and these three are one in divine essence, power and glory.—*Rom. 1:20; St. John 1:1.*

2. We believe the scriptures of the Old and New Testament are of divine origin and the only infallible rule of faith and practice.—*II Tim, 3:15; II Pet. 1:21.*

3. We believe that God created man good and gave His holy commandments whereby he should live holy, but man voluntarily disobeyed the commands of God, transgressed the law: fell under

the just condemnation of same, and that man is unable to save himself with his own power. But we see Jesus, for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor 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 and suffering and resurrection purchased our pardon and offers it freely upon the principles of repentance toward God and faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.—*St. John 3:16; Acts 20:21.*

5. We believe that adult persons must be regenerated or born again if they inherit eternal life.—*John 3:35.*

6. We believe that infants are in a saved condition, and we must be like them in innocency if we are saved.—*Luke 18:16; Matt. 18:13.*

7. We believe that all regenerated persons must persevere in faith and be faithful to the end if they gain an entrance into the City of God.—*Rev. 22:24; Matt. 10:24.*

8. We believe that baptism by immersion in water is the apostolic mode; even the burial of the believer in water and Christ obeyed it thus and bids us to follow him.—*John 3:22; Matt. 3:16 18:16; Rom. 6:3-4.*

9. We believe that God in His goodness displayed His power of grace in a great degree in calling and qualifying His servants by teaching of the Holy Spirit and by the instruction of His word to go forth and proclaim life and salvation without price.—*John 14:16; 1 Tim. 2:25.*

10. We believe that remission of sin and eternal life are free to all who will accept them.—*John 3:16; Pet. 3:9.*

11. We believe that baptism, the Lord's supper and the washing of the saints' feet are the

ordinances of Jesus Christ are appointed in the church and none but true believers are proper subjects and the only proper mode of baptism is immersion.—*Mark 1:4, 9:10; Luke 2:30; St. John 13:30.*

12. We believe that none have a right to baptism only those who have obtained a living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ, and none are authorized to officiate in the ordinance of baptism only those who are called of God and have been ordained by laying on of hands—*Acts 8:37 first clause 38:30.*

13. We believe that each church should have a pastor, deacons and clerk sworn to keep house for the Lord orderly—*Acts 6:3-6; 28:20.*

14. We believe that in dealing with disorderly members that reference should be had to the 18th chapter of Matt. and other scripture relative to dealing with disorderly members.

15. We believe that it is the duty of each church to assemble together as often as Providence will permit and in commemorating the Lord's death and washing the saints' feet a man should examine himself and so let him eat.—*Heb. 10:25; I Cor. 11 28.*

16. We believe that the Lord's supper should be observed at night and night only.

17. We believe in the resurrection of the dead of both the just and the unjust. The resurrection of the just to everlasting life, glory and immortality in the presence of God; and the resurrection of the unjust to everlasting shame and punishment from the presence of God—*Matt. 25:41; I Cor. 15:42-45; II Thes 2:7-9.*

18. We believe that the visible church of God as it now exists had its beginning during the

personal ministry of Jesus Christ.

19. We believe that every church of God should contribute of his means as the Lord has prospered him in the support of the ministry as the scripture says.—*Rom. 10.*

## CHURCH COVENANT

Having been bought, as we humble by divine grace truly to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ as our Savior and having obtained justification by faith in His name, we, as members of several churches that constitute the Eureka Association of Free Will Baptists, adopt the following as our Church Covenant:

1. To watch each other in love—to pray for each other as members of a common faith, ever striving to keep the unity of spirit in the bonds of peace.

2. We will not speak evil of each other nor will we persecute or expose the faults of the weak member of our church; but we will endeavor to be governed by Paul's instruction to Timothy. "That we will reprove, rebuke and exhort" each other as members of a common brotherhood.

3. We are commanded to do good unto all men especially to those who are of the household of faith—But we should remember that our relations to each other are closer, and the obligations more binding than that of a common bond of Christian charity. In adopting this Covenant we become as a family and assume in a Christian sense the care and responsibility that the members of a family should feel for each other.

4. We will attend the stated meeting of our church unless we are Providently hindered or

uncontrollable circumstances present us. And we will contribute of our means, as the Lord has prospered us for the support of our pastor and other necessary expenses of our church. And we will prefer the service of our own church to that of any other and will pray for our pastor while he is preaching the Word of God to us.

5. We will not injure our influence in the house of the Lord by occupying seats among the ungodly and sinners, but will occupy seats near the pulpit and use the natural powers which the Lord hath given us, to praise His holy name. We will sing with those who sing and pray with those who pray.

6. We will not be guilty of the sins of Sabbath breaking by making Sunday visits to our neighbors which is a double sin against the law of God, for in so doing we fail to attend the house of the Lord and hinder others who might wish to do so. Let us remember the law of Moses which condemns Sabbath breaking and the words of the inspired apostle which says: "Forsake not the assembling of yourselves together as the manner of some is."

7. We will not neglect secret and public prayers and those of us who are heads of families will strive to dedicate our household to the service of God by teaching our children the great necessity of the Christian religion as the only hope of happiness after death.

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## RULES OF ORDER

1. At every meeting, business shall be opened and conducted by prayer by Moderator or whomsoever he may request.
2. Ministers present are invited to seats are



allowed to take part in the debate on all subjects and votes.

3. Those who speak shall arise 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 decided at the request of any member and a vote taken.

7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.

8. No one shall speak more than twice on any question without special leave of the Moderator.

9. All questions decided by majority of the 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. In the future sessions of the Association arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons each day or other equivalent exercises.

13. The Rules of order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the association.

14. Alteration may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.