

First Mission Association of Free Will Baptists
Proceedings of the 90th annual session
Convened at the
Crosspointe Free Will Baptist Church
Stillwater, OK



Minutes

2017

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Information at a Glance

Executive Officers:

Moderator: James Coffelt 918.864.6397
3808 N Norfolk
Cushing, OK 74023
gathering.james@gmail.com

Asst. Moderator: Bill Sagely 918.247.3065
20889 W Hwy 33
Sapulpa, OK 74066

Clerk/Treasurer: Robin Smith 918.729.6741
PO Box 266
Drumright, OK 74030
robinhoodmltjohn@yahoo.com

Assist Clerk/Treasurer: Robin Haskins 918.865.7942
41866 W 51st St South
Jennings, OK 74038
birdonthego@msm.com

Trustee Board

2022	Coswell Thompson
2021	Keith Harness
2020	Andrew Gosnell
2018	JD Harness

Christian Education Board

2024	Andrew Whisett
2023	Ryan Smith
2022	Jack Prather
2021	Daniel Doss
2020	Sharai Gosnell
2019	Steve Thompson
2018	Kenneth Smith

Credential Board

2022	Everette Walrath
2021	Bill Sagely
2020	Gene Jackson
2019	Dale Haskins
2018	John Smith

State General Board Member

Mike King	2018
Bill Sagely	2017

Quarterly Meeting Dates, Places and Preaching

May 13, 2017	-	First Mission Campground	Everette Walrath
August 19, 2017	-	Blue Bell	Dale Haskins
November 14, 2017	-	Pretty Water	Johnny Bilby
February 17, 2018	-	Cushing	Bill Sagely

*First Mission Quarterly Associational Meeting
of Free Will Baptists
at Crosspointe Free Will Baptist Church
Stillwater, OK
February 18, 2017*

The First Mission Quarterly Associational annual meeting was called to order by moderator, James Coffelt. Prayer was given by Bro. Joe Conn.

The Congregation was lead in singing "How Majestic is Your Name" and "Blessed Assurance" by Dwayne Hunter.

The following representatives reported: Tim Eaton from Randall University, reported that they have 40 ministerial students enrolled. Pray more men are called into the ministry.

Mike Wade, State Office, reminded everyone of the Minister's Retreat on March 6th-8th in Wagner, OK.

Earl Jennings from AMC reported they have been overhaul and are working on transparency.

Jonathan Spyres from Cushing gave the devotion. Scripture: Hebrews 12:14 & 15: Change of position, Eph. 1:4-6 and 1 Peter: 1:14-16 Holiness is a bridge to intimacy with God. Grace gives us the ability to go beyond.

Business Session

- Moderator read the By-Laws
- Church Letters and Seating of the Church Delegates were read. Motion made, seconded to approve and motion carried
- The following were appointed to the Resolution Committee: Nathan Painter, Norman Richmond and Bill Sagely
- Robin Smith, clerk treasurer, gave the treasurer's report and minutes of the November meeting. Motion made and seconded to approve. Motion carried. (attached page 6 - 8)
- No Executive Report was given
- Keith Harness, Trustee Board Member, reported the camp's year ending balance of \$15,651.01. They will be having a work day on March 11th at the camp. They

are planning to replace the roof on the Judy Dorm. The Canadian Valley Association is using the camp for their church camp. He also asked for more members on the board. Motion made, seconded and motion carried.

- **The Credential Board** reviewed one candidate. Motion made, seconded and motion carried to accept recommendation. (page 9)
- Shari Gosnell, **Christian Education Board**, reported they will be having one camp June 4th-9th. Linda Barnes will be the cook. Their year ending balance was \$4,065.64. Motion made, seconded to approve. Motion carried.
- **The Women Active for Christ** report was given (pg10) motion made, seconded and carried to accept as read.
- **Obituary Report** was received. (page 8)
- It was reported 43 registered and 4 guests are in attendance.

Old Business: none

New Business:

Motion made, seconded and carried to retain the executive officers. The following in bold are the newly elected officers

Officers

Moderator: James Coffelt
Asst. Moderator: Bill Sagely
Clerk/Treasurer: Robin Smith
Assist Clerk/Treas: Robin Haskins

Christian Education Board

Andrew Whisett	2044
Ryan Smith	2023
Jack Prather	2022
Daniel Doss	2021
Sharai Gosnell	2020
Steve Thompson	2019
Kenneth Smith	2018

Trustee Board

Coswell Thompson	2022
Keith Harness	2021
Andrew Gosnell	2020
JD Harness	2018

Credential Board

Everett Walrath	2022
Bill Sagely	2021
Gene Jackson	2020
Dale Haskins	2019
John Smith	2018
Nathan Painter	2017

State General Board Member

Mike King	2018
Bill Sagely	2017

*Quarterly Meetings Dates
& Places*

May 13, 2017

First Mission Campground

August 19, 2017

Blue Bell Free Will Baptist Church

November 14, 2017

Pretty Water Free Will Baptist Church

February 17, 2018

Cushing First Free Will Baptist Church

The Resolution Committee recommended the we give Crosspointe Church a resounding vote of thanks for hosting the meeting. Motion made, seconded and carried to approve.

Motion made, seconded and carried to give the morning **offering** to Arms of Compassion.

Morning Worship

The congregation was lead in singing, "I Sing Praises" and "Glorify Thy Name."

Offering was taken and \$194.00 will go to Arms of Compassion.

Mike King sang "I Stand Redeemed."

James Coffelt introduced Adam Phillips, pastor of the Ponca City Free Will Baptist Church.

Rev. Adam Phillips preached about being hurt in church and bringing healing. Scripture Eph. 4:1-3, 11-12, 25-27, 29, 31 & 32, Eph. 5:25, & 31-32.

First Mission Quarterly Association Annual Income 2016

Churches	Total	Co-op	TSP	Randall Univ	randall chapel	ACM	Family Ministries	camp	quarterly fees	quarterly acct	Direct Giving
Allen	2,385.00							2,025.00	360.00		
Blue Bell	360.00								360.00		
Bristow	5,966.00		5,606.00						360.00		
Crosspointe	360.00								360.00		
Cushing	360.00								360.00		
Drumright	360.00								360.00		
Garden Heights	2,960.00							2,600.00	360.00		
Lake Area	360.00								360.00		
Lewis Avenue	360.00								360.00		
Liberty	1,275.42		915.42						360.00		
Oilton	6,076.94		3,878.04	650.00				1,188.90	360.00		5,752.76
Okmulgee	4,072.00	1,856.00							360.00	1,856.00	
Ponca City	8,560.00		4,200.00	3,250.00				750.00	360.00		29,819.22
Pretty Water	11,195.00	5,975.00	1,920.00	780.00		500.00		1,560.00	360.00	100.00	2,250.00
Silver City	6,833.79		3,420.00	1,200.00	120.00		1,733.79		360.00		5,379.00
Subtotal	51,484.15	7,831.00	19,939.46	5,880.00	120.00	500.00	1,733.79	8,123.90	5,400.00	1,956.00	43,200.98

	Total	Co-op	TSP	Randall Univ	randall chapel	ACM	Family Ministries	camp	quarterly fees	quarterly acct
misc income	1,062.62							1062.62		
Prather	23.98							23.98		
Rolland Rushing	292.45									292.45
robin Smith-tithe	164.72									164.72
quarterly offering	150.27									150.27
quarterly offering	212.00							212.00		
quarterly offering	160.00						160.00			
subtotal	\$ 2,066.04						\$ 160.00	\$ 1,298.60		\$ 607.44
total	53,550.19						1,893.79	9,422.50		2,563.44

2016 First Mission Quarterly Association

Annual Disbursements

	Total	Co-op	TSP	Randall Univ	randall chapel	ACM	Family Ministries	camp	quarterly fees	quarterly acct
Oklahoma State Assn	\$ 37,284.35	7831.00	19939.46	5980.00	120.00	500.00	1893.89		1020.00	
1st Mission Campground	\$ 10,322.50							9422.50	900.00	
CE Board	\$ 338.48								305.00	
Staples - office supplies	\$ 125.90									33.48
RCB - new account setup **	\$ 1,870.00									125.90
Robin Smith - reporting fee **	\$ 62.02									1870.00
US Post Office	\$ 164.72									62.02
Blue Bell - quarterly Offering	\$ 150.27									164.72
FWB Foundation - quart. Offer.	\$ -									150.27
Oklahoma State Assn- dues	\$ 3,000.00								3000.00	
total	\$ 53,318.24	\$ 7,831.00	\$ 19,939.46	\$ 5,980.00	\$ 120.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,893.89	\$ 9,422.50	\$ 5,225.00	\$ 2,406.39

beginning balance	\$	1,226.26
deposits		53,550.19
disbursements		(53,318.24)
ending balance	\$	1,458.21

ending balance	1458.21
due to Statae & National	-750
true balance	708.21

** clerk was reimbursed \$500 from Aug - Dec 2015 as well as \$110 a month reporting fee in 2016

** RCB - start up: checks, extra deposit slips, and bank deposit stamp

2016 First Mission Associational Church Stats

churches	ordained ministers	licensed ministers	ordained deacons	baptisms	members added	members lost	total members	Sunday school	offerings received	value of church property	pastor full-time	pastor bi-vocational
Allen	3		3	3		5	200	100		3,000,000.00		
Blue Bell	3		2	2	5	3	72		129,755.38			
Bristow	1			6	1	7					X	
Crosspointe	2	2		4	4	1	81				X	
Cushing	2		4	4	10			97	267,830.38	750,000.00	X	
Drumright	1		1						67,532.54	425,000.00	X	
Garden Heights	1	2									X	
Lake Area	1		2	2	1	1	33	9	43,700.54		X	
Lewis Ave			2		2		46	26				
Liberty	1	1						15	52,471.59		X	
Oilton												
Okmulgee			1				10	10	37,156.55	500,000.00		
Ponca City	2		1	2	10	2	149	95	199,376.50	2,002,000.00	X	
Pretty Water												
Silver City	2		3				90	61	52,866.61	200,000.00		X
total	19	5	19	23	33	19	681	413	\$ 850,690.09	\$ 6,877,000.00		

2016 Church Obits

Allen	
Blue Bell	10/25/16 Bill Pridmore, 10/30/16 RD Rogers, 11/10/16 Laverne Cornwell
Bristow	Rosemary Ashley, Helen Orlene McArthur
Crosspointe	Iva Karraker
Cushing	
Drumright	Bill Burchett, Bea Nichols
Garden Heights	
Lake Area	Neil Collins
Lewis Ave	
Liberty	
Oilton	Daniel Parker, Virginia Whilsett
Okmulgee	
Ponca City	Gaylord Ford, Mark English
Pretty Water	
Silver City	

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

The credential board of the FIRST MISSION ASSOCIATION of FREE WILL BAPTIST met

Feb , 14, 2017

Jonathon Spyres was presented to the credential board to be examined for the purpose of being licensed to preach the GOSPEL of JESUS CHRIST.

After examination it is the board's recommendation that he be licensed to preach for a period of 1 year.

This recommendation is presented for consideration by the following board members.

Rev. [Signature]
John H. [Signature]

First Mission Women Active for Christ
December 3, 2016
Silver City Free Will Baptist Church

The First Mission Women Active for Christ met on December 3, 2016 at the Silver City Free Will Baptist Church. The theme for the day was "Grace for Giving." Our president, Sis. April Bridwell welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with prayer. Sis. Laura Biswell led us in congregational singing. The business session began with the appointment of committees. The minutes and treasurer's report were read and approved. A report was given on the projects for Oklahoma Women Active for Christ that were adopted at the state meeting in October. The projects this year are to raise funds to help Lori Torrison sponsor a ladies retreat in Uruguay, to raise funds to help purchase airfare for a Cuban Dr and 3 nurses to go to Doropo, Ivory Coast, Africa to work in the hospital there and Smart Lecterns for Randall University. Louise Richmond gave a report on our District Retreat. The offering was taken. Door prizes were awarded. Prayer was led by Sis. April Bridwell and then we had a break for refreshments and fellowship together.

Following the break we had a visit from "Edith Ann and her Grandma." They read us the Real Christmas Story. The committee reports were then given. Registration reported 17 present. Finance committee reported an offering of \$121.00. The Resolution Committee presented 3 resolutions for consideration. 1) Be it resolved that we give \$100.00 to our speaker, Sis. Joan Warren. Carried. 2) Be it resolved that we give the Silver City church a vote of thanks for hosting today's meeting. Carried. 3) Be it resolved that we give a vote of thanks for all who provided the refreshments today. Carried. There was no old business. In new business a motion was made and carried that the camp project funds in our treasury be sent to First Mission for campground expenses. Motion made and carried that the offering be put in our General Fund. The business session was adjourned.

The worship service began with Sis. Laura Biswell leading us in congregational singing. Special music was provided by Sis. Molly Smith who sang "Except For Grace." Sis. Joan Warren introduced our speaker, Sis. Laura Biswell. She began with prayer then spoke to us about "Christian Graces." She told us that Grace-Giving is sacrificial, spontaneous, selfless, systematic and sincere. The closer we are to Christ the more His compassion flows to others. She concluded her message in prayer. Sis. Joan Warren read her Christmas poem.

Announcements were made and the service was dismissed in prayer led by Sis. April Bridwell.

Directory of Churches
Belonging to the First Mission Association
of Free Will Baptists
2017

Allen Free Will Baptist Church
7001 Hwy 97
Sapulpa, OK 74066
918.224.7744
afwboffice@gmail.com

Pastor: Johnny Bilby
518 W Cleveland, Sapulpa, 74066
918.906.9744
pastorjebibly@gmail.com

Texting

Clerk: Annie Bilby
513 E Lakeview, Sapulpa, 74066
918.519.0660
Annie.bilby@yahoo.com

Treasurer:

Ordained Ministers
Kenneth Myers
7001 Hwy 97, Sapulpa, 74066
918.740.0922
allenfpkenny@gmail.com

Jerry Myers
807 Dawn Lane, Sapulpa, 74066
918.346.5593

Blue Bell Free Will Baptist Church
20889 W Hwy 33
Sapulpa, OK 74066
918.247.6776

Pastor: Bill Sagely
20889 W Hwy 33, Sapulpa, 74066
918.247.3065

Clerk: Ann Kinsey
13419 Dusty Trail, Sapulpa, 74066
918.247.6020

Treasurer:

Ordained Ministers:
Ben Tuttle
Bill Oldham

Ordained Deacons
John Tuttle
Don Kinsey

Bristow First Free Will Baptist Church

211 W Hwy 16
PO Box 864
Bristow, OK 74010
918.367.3612

Fax: same

Bristowffwb@gmail.com

Pastor: Gene Jackson

434 W 2nd, Bristow, OK 74010
Home: 918.367.3755
Cell: 918.760.3258
genejackson@yahoo.com

Clerk/Treasurer: Judy Combs
PO Box 252, Depew, OK 74028
918.636.5134

CrossPointe

1807 N Jardot Rd
Stillwater, OK 74075
405.372.6721

Pastor: Mike King

2326 N Benjamin, Stillwater, 74075
580.251.1074
mikepastorking@gmail.com

clerk/Treasurer: Janet Gomez
1420 N Arrington Ct, Stillwater
405.742.7965
Jlgomez05@att.net

Ordained Ministers

Norman Richmond
2605 E Lakeview Rd, Stillwater
405.377.2789

Cushing Free Will Baptist

1130 N St
Cushing, OK 74023
918.225.2907

Pastor: James Coffelt

3808 N Norfolk, Cushing, OK 74023
918.864.6397
cushingfwb@gmail.com

Clerk:**Ordained Minister**

Tyler Dezort
1115 E Moses St, Cushing, 74023
405.780.3105
Tylerdezort35@gmail.com

Ordained Deacons

Curtis Cooper
Howard Matherly
Jerry Fox
Charlie Wood

Drumright First Free Will Baptist
PO Box 266
Drumright, OK 74030
Physical address:
309 N Ohio
918.325.9214

Pastor: John E. Smith
PO Box 266, Drumright, OK 74030
918.729.4660
johnthefwbaptist@yahoo.com

Texting
Yes

Clerk: Carolyn Glimp
48001 W 138th Pl. S., Drumright
918.352.3993

Treasurer: Earl Glimp
48001 W 138th Pl. S., Drumright
918.352.3993

Ordained Deacons
Ken Plute

Garden Heights Free Will Baptist
3415 S Summit Blvd
Sand Springs, OK 74063
918.245.5572

Pastor: Doyle Baker
1120 N Main, Sapulpa, 74066
918.695.5184

Texting
Yes

Clerk: Martha Howard
5202 S State Hwy 97, Apt 205
Sand Springs, OK 74063
mhoward3024@yahoo.com

Lake Area Free Will Baptist
371580 E Hwy 64
Cleveland, OK 74020
918.358.2120

Pastor: Daniel Doss
371580 E Hwy 64, Cleveland 74020
918.399.8080

Clerk: Ruth Ann Newman

Treasurer:

Ordained Deacons
Bill Reeves
Bill Ragle

Lewis Ave Free Will Baptist
PO Box 581958
Tulsa, OK
918.584.6695

Pastor:

Clerk: Tina Trampler
3934 S Norfolk, Tulsa, OK 74110
trompti@tulsaschools.org

Texting

Yes

Licensed:
Dustin Bowden
Ordained Deacons
Charles Nelson
Larry Mullin

Liberty Free Will Baptist
39490 W Hwy 33
Mannford, OK 74044
Physical address:
86954 W Hwy 33
Mannford, OK 74044

Pastor: Henry Stahl
PO Box 164, Bristow, OK 74010
918.497.0720

Texting
Yes

Clerk/Treasurer: LaDonna VanZant
39480 W Hwy 33, Mannford 74044
918.706.8017
LaDonnavz511@gmail.com

Oilton Free Will Baptist
PO Box 61
Oilton, OK 74052
Physical address:
108 N A
Oilton, OK 74052
918.862.3591

Pastor: Nathan Painter
51190 W 61st St, Jennings, 74052

Texting
Yes

Clerk: Joan Warren
PO Box 66, Oilton, OK 74052
918.862.3368

Okmulgee First Free Will
601 S Oklahoma
Okmulgee, OK 74447
918.759.9936

Pastor:

Clerk/Treasurer: Ethellea Frye
916 S Mission, Okmulgee, 74447
918.756.8568

Ordained Deacon
Bob Patterson

Ponca City Free Will Baptist
1900 E Hubbard Rd
Ponca City, OK 74604
580.765.5393

Pastor: Adam Phillips
1125 Rosedale, Ponca City, 74064
580.716.0628
adam@poncafwbchurch.com

Texting
Yes

Clerk: Becky Robertson
2405 Oriole, Ponca City, 74601
580.716.6109
Onefoxynurse1959@yahoo.com

Ordained Minister:
Matt Hanshaw
408 N 13th Ponca City, 74601
matt@poncafwbchurch.com

Ordained Deacons
Bobby Calhoun

Pretty Water Free Will Baptist

PO Box 898
8335 S 145th W Ave
Sapulpa, OK 74067
918.224.9580

Pastor: Everett Walrath

2933 Hickory Bluff Rd, Sapulpa 74066
405.207.4469
Everett.walrath@yahoo.com

Clerk: Linda Austin

15930 W 86th St So, Sapulpa, 74066
918.232.7904

Ordained Deacon

Mike Graves

Silver City Free Will Baptist

44840 W 51st St S
Jennings, OK 74038
198.865.3816

Pastor: Dale Haskins

41866 W 51st St S, Jennings, 74038
918.520.9290
deaconfrog@msn.com

Texting

Yes

clerk/Treasurer: Susan Williams

7044 S 369th W Ave
Mannford, OK 74044
918.798.9562
susanmaybe@hotmail.com

Yes

Ordained Ministers:

Paul Collins

Ordained Deacons

Paul Haskins
David Rusco

First Mission Women Active for Christ

President:	April Bridwell – 918.857.5866
Vice-President:	Helen Geyer – 918.352.9741 or 918.978.3191
Secretary:	Robin Haskins – 918.520.1990
Asst. Secretary	Carolyn Glimp – 918.352.3992
Treasurer	Donna Kinsey – 918.224.7233
Field Worker	Louise Richmond – 405.334.8681
Missions	Vicki Chambers – 918.693.6781
At Large	Rylee Whitsett – 918.306.1611
At Large	Carol Smith – 918.224.0572 or 918.798.9070
At Large	Laura Biswell (Music) – 918.226.8800

Annual Theme:

Scripture Reference:

Upcoming Meetings

Retreat:

Quarterly Meeting:

Questionnaire on Doctrine
Ministers & Deacons

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____

1. Do you believe that the Scriptures, the Old and New Testament, are the infallible Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice? _____
2. Do you believe in the Trinity? _____
3. Name the Godhead? _____
4. Is salvation obtained only through the blood of Christ? _____
5. Name the conditions of salvation? _____
6. Do you believe that speaking in an unknown tongue is evidence of having received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit? _____ Do you believe that one gift of the Holy Spirit is speaking in an "unknown" or heavenly language unknown to mankind? _____
7. Do you believe in a second definite work of Grace or Baptism of the Holy Ghost (Spirit) separate and apart from regeneration? _____
8. What composes or makes up the body of Christ? _____
9. Does the Bible teach that God has an organized visible Church on this earth? _____
10. Do you believe that Baptism is a Gospel Ordinance? _____
11. Who are the proper subjects for Baptism? _____
12. What is the proper method of water baptism? Immersion Sprinkling Pouring Other _____
13. Do you believe that the Lord's Supper and Feet Washing are divine ordinances and should be observed repeatedly? _____
14. Do you teach and practice these ordinances? _____ Do you practice these ordinances at night? _____
15. Do you believe in the possibility of apostasy? _____
16. Do you believe in the resurrection of the bodies of all men? _____
17. Do you believe that there will be a judgement when time and man's probation will close forever and then all will be judged according to their works? _____
18. Do you believe that immediately after judgment, the righteous will enter into eternal life, and the wicked into a state of endless punishment? _____
19. Do you believe that Christ at His second coming will close the gospel dispensation, glorify His saints and judge the world? _____
20. I pledge myself to teach and defend the Free Will Baptist Doctrine to the best of my ability. If at any future time I preach or teach any doctrine contrary to the Free Will Baptist articles of faith, I will surrender my credentials to the Quarterly Conference or Association of which I am a member.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

First Mission Association
Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptists

Questionnaire for Ordination
Deacon

Name: _____ Date: _____
Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____

Home Church: _____

1. How long have you been a Christian? _____
2. How long have you been a Free Will Baptist? _____
3. Is your wife a Christian? _____ Church Member? _____
4. How many times have you been married? _____ Your wife? _____
5. Do you, or your wife, have a former living spouse? _____
6. Does your wife support you being ordained as a deacon? _____
7. How many children do you have? _____
8. Are your children Christians? _____
9. Are your children members of the church? _____
10. How long have you been serving as a deacon? _____
11. What is God's plan for financing the church? _____
12. What is tithing? _____
13. Do you tithe? _____ Do you teach and encourage tithing? _____
14. How should your church support the overall Free Will Baptists denominational programs? _____
15. How should your church support the overall Free Will Baptists denominational programs? _____
16. What are the Scriptural qualifications for a deacon? _____
Bible Reference? _____
17. Based upon these teachings, are you qualified for the office of deacon? _____
18. Are you in agreement with the provisions of the Deacons as outlined in the Free Will Baptists Treatise? _____
19. What section in the Treatise refers to these provisions? _____
20. Name some of the duties of a deacon?
(1) _____
(2) _____
(3) _____
(4) _____
21. Do you support the State Association's stand on gambling? _____

First Mission Association
Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptists

Questionnaire for License
Ministers

Name: _____ Age: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ ZIP: _____

Member of _____ Church?

1. How long have you been a Christian? _____
2. Do you believe in a Divine call to the ministry? _____
3. If so, have you definitely felt this call? _____ Describe the calling:

4. Are you married? _____ If so, how many times? _____
5. If more than once, is there a former companion living? _____
6. If not married, do you plan to marry in the near future? _____
7. If married, is your wife a Christian? _____ Is your wife a Free Will Baptist? _____
8. How long have you been a Free Will Baptist? _____
9. If you have belonged to any denomination other than Free Will Baptist, please state which and how long with each. _____
10. What is God's plan for supporting His work? _____
11. Do you practice tithing? _____ Where do you pay your tithes? _____
12. Are you willing to make any sacrifice that may be involved in this ministry?

13. Will you abstain from any indulgence that might hinder your effective influence
14. Do you believe that as a minister, you should study to show yourself approved of God?

Explain: _____
15. Have you ever had training in doctrinal theology? _____
16. Have you ever had any training in homiletics? _____
17. Have you ever had any training in ministerial ethics? _____
18. What are your immediate plans concerning the ministry? _____
19. What are the Biblical Qualifications of a minister? Please give references:

20. Are you acquainted with what Free Will Baptist believe? _____
21. Is there anything we teach which you do not believe? _____ If so, what?

**First Mission Association
Of
Free Will Baptists**

Application for Ordination of Minister

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Marital Status: _____ Age: _____ Number of Children: _____
Church Membership: _____
How long have you carried a license? _____
Who issued the license? _____
Why do you want to be ordained? _____

Do you, or your spouse, have a living spouse from a previous marriage? _____
How long have you been a Christian? _____
How long have you been a Free Will Baptist? _____
Does your wife support your ordination? _____
Do you, or your wife, have any habits that would hinder your ministry? _____
Do you use tobacco in any form? _____
Do you support the "Church Covenant" statement on alcohol? _____
What sacrifices are you willing to make in order to be successful at your ministry? _____

Will your financial circumstances hinder your ministry? _____
Have you belonged to another denomination? _____
Do you believe in tithing? _____ Do you practice tithing? _____
Describe your previous education: _____

What have you done educationally to prepare for your ministry? _____

Do you have plans to better qualify yourself for your ministry? _____

Are you willing to continue preaching under a license if this committee deems it would be best? _____

Do you support the work of the Quarterly conference, State and National ministries? _____

What have you done in the past to support these ministries? _____

What is the ministry in which you are currently involved? _____

**First Mission Association
Of
Free Will Baptists**

Application for Acceptance as an Ordained Minister

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Marital Status: _____ Age: _____ Number of Children: _____
Church Membership: _____
Are you ordained? _____ Which Free Will Baptist Association last ratified your
Ordination Certificate? _____
Can you receive a letter of recommendation from your previous association? _____
Why do you want to be accepted into this Association? _____

Do you, or your spouse, have a living spouse from a previous marriage? _____
How long have you been a Christian? _____
How long have you been a Free Will Baptist? _____
Do you, or your wife, have any habits that would hinder your ministry? _____
Do you use tobacco in any form? _____
Do you support the "Church Covenant" statement on alcohol? _____
What sacrifices are you willing to make in order to be successful at your ministry? _____

Will your financial circumstances hinder your ministry? _____
Have you belonged to another denomination? _____
Do you believe in tithing? _____ Do you practice tithing? _____
Describe your previous education: _____

What have you done educationally to prepare for your ministry? _____

Do you have plans to better qualify yourself for your ministry? _____

Do you support the work of the Quarterly conferences, State and National ministries? _____

In what capacities have you served in Quarterly conferences, State and National
ministries? _____

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 sanction 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 pay 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.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. *The Bible.* The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule of faith and practice.

2. *God.* There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver, and Righteous Governor of the universe; and in the Scriptures as Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.

3. *Christ.* Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our ever present Saviour and Lord.

4. *The Holy Spirit.* The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God.

5. *The Government of God.* God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men requires.

6. *The Sinfulness of Man.* Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherits a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin and become guilty before God.

7. *The Work of Christ.* The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free, and is the ground of salvation by faith.

8. *The Terms of Salvation.* The conditions of salvation are: (1) Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. (2) Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith, the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit, freed from the dominion of sin, and becomes a child of God (3) Continuance of faith and obedience unto death.

- 9. Election.** God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence, by faith in Christ men become His elect.
- 10. Freedom of the Will.** The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit, or to resist them and perish.
- 11. Salvation Free.** God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.
- 12. Perseverance.** All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.
- 13. Gospel Ordinances.** BAPTISM, or the immersion of believers in water, and the LORD'S SUPPER, are the ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel. FEET WASHING, an ordinance teaching humility, is of universal obligation, and is to be ministered to all true believers.
- 14. Tithing.** God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23), and the apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him" (1 Cor. 16:2a).
- 15. The Christian Sabbath.** The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.
- 16. Resurrection, Judgment, and Final Retribution.** The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. Those who have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

**Constitution and By-Laws
Of the
First Mission Association of Free Will Baptists**

Constitution

Article 1. This Association shall be called the First Mission Association, and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well-disciplined Free Will Baptist Churches, conveniently located, as may embody themselves under this constitution.

Article 2. The Conference of this Association shall consist of all Ordained Ministers, Ministers wives, Ordained Deacons, Church Clerks, and three delegates from all duly organized Free Will Baptist Churches of the First Mission Association. Each church shall represent by letter.

Article 3. The officers of this Association shall be: (1) A standing clerk and treasurer and a moderator who shall be chosen at the yearly session of the Association, with assistants as may be found necessary. (2) The Associational General Board shall be composed of the Association Officers and the Chairman of the Associational Boards. The Association Moderator, Clerk and the Chairman of the Associational Boards shall compose the Associational Executive Committee. (3) A Trustee Board so elected as to require two to be elected each year. They shall act as custodians of all property belonging to the Association and shall sign legal papers when authorized by the Association to do so. This board shall consist of no less than ten members. This board shall also serve as planning board. (4) All Association Boards to be paid travelling expenses at the current allowable rate of the IRS.

Article 4. Any well organized and well regulated Free Will Baptist Church who will conform to the practice, endorse the enterprises, and prove themselves orthodox in doctrine may at any time on application by vote of this body, become a member thereof.

Article 5. This Association shall have power to discipline the Churches of which it is composed and to exclude them for disorderly walk if labor proves unsuccessful, but in no case to reverse their decisions, not to interfere with any of their internal regulations.

Article 6. The sessions of this Association shall be held quarterly on the Saturday following the second Sunday of February, May, August, and November and the place shall be decided upon by the Association. At which time the Association shall act upon such questions and topics as may be referred to it by its respective churches and transact such other business not repugnant to this constitution, nor to the practices of the denomination, but such as may in their judgement promote the cause of Christ and the interest of the churches within the limits of this Association.

Article 7. This Association shall have the power to adopt any regulations or by-laws, not inconsistent with this constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulation of its sessions.

Article 8. This Association shall no license, ordain or receive from any other association any person to the ministry or as a deacon who has more than one living wife. Let it be known also, that any ordained personnel in the Association who shall

remarry and have two living wives shall forfeit his credentials. Let it also be known, if they marry someone with a living companion, they shall forfeit their credentials.

Article 9. This constitution may be amended or altered at any regular session of the association by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members present and voting, provided proposed amendment of alteration be presented in writing to the body one day in advance.

Permanent Resolutions

1. Be it resolved that all our By-Laws and Resolutions which are now in effect be printed in our minutes.
2. That our churches not send any Minister up for Ordination until he has been licensed for one year from date of examination.
3. That the examination of candidates for Ordination and License question and answer be recorded and filed with the Associational Clerk.
4. That no person can be an active Deacon or Minister in the Association who does not pay and teach tithes.
5. That the letter of all Churches be in the hands of the Associational Clerk at least one week before conference convenes.
6. That all of our Churches use the letter forms furnished by our Clerk.
7. That all the churches having candidates for ordination or license or ratification send request to the Association in session prior to examination.
8. That since we have grown to such proportions, and the demands of service are heavy, that no member of this Association be permitted or required to serve on more than one board at any one time.
9. That no Minister be received into the Association from another Denomination or Association unless accompanied by a letter of recommendation.
10. That the Moderator with his Assistant appoint all committees.
11. That the Treasurer be in charge of all insurance business.
12. That the Associational Moderator be Chairman of the General Board.
13. That no Ordained Minister or Deacon be recognized as active in the Association until a recommendation has been received from the Credential Board and approved by the Association.
14. That the First Mission Association have a printed program.
15. That the Associational Officers serve as the Associational Program Planning Committee.
16. That no two persons from the same church be elected to serve on the same board of this Association, with the exception of the Trustee Board which may have two persons from the same church.
17. That the Credential Board be urged to act as quickly as possible on candidates for license or ordination. Be it further resolved that if the board cannot reach a decision at the Association, that they be allowed to wait three months.
18. That no one be licensed or ordained by First Mission Association who uses tobacco and no one will be accepted as a Deacon or Minister into this Association who uses tobacco.

19. That sister churches which withdraw fellowship from the Association because of failure to meet requirements of good standing as prescribed by the Association not be accepted back into fellowship until such time as a church acknowledge the error of their way, and agree to abide by the Executive Boards recommendation as approved by the Association.

20. That no church, no Preacher, or Deacon be voted on or accepted into this Association unless they are present at that meeting with a petitionary letter and recommendation from the Credential Board unless excused by the Credential Board.

21. That licensed ministers be actively involved in pastoral or evangelistic ministry before being approved for ordination.

22. That this Association faithfully adopt and follow the Free Will Baptist Treatise as is currently published by the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

23. That this Association have the explicit authority to discipline, reprimand or withdraw fellowship from churches who call and or retain pastors who will not appear before the Credential Board or who, for doctrinal, moral, spiritual, or non-recommendation reasons cannot be recognized or accepted into our fellowship.

24. That Roberts Rules of Order be our guide and directive in conducting business.

25. That our Pastors not attending our Associational meetings be strongly encouraged to attend all meetings as possible, since this is a part of the work of the Lord.

26. That we give a standing vote of thanks to the Host Church for the meal and hospitality.

By-Laws

1. The moderator or assistant moderator, or in their absence, the oldest Minister present, shall call the Association into conference.
2. Each session shall be opened and closed with prayer.
3. Five members from two or more churches shall constitute a quorum. A less number may adjourn until such quorum is present.
4. Visiting brethren are invited to seats as advisory members.
5. Those who speak shall arise and address the moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.
6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and a vote taken separately.
7. Motion made and lost shall not be recorded.
8. No one will speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Moderator.
9. The Moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in Christian Spirit.
10. The ruling of the Moderator may be overruled by a two-thirds vote of the members present.
11. Any Minister opposed to any of the enterprises, organized Sunday School, CTS, Master's Men, Woman's Auxiliary, endorsed by the Association will not be entitled to a seat in Conference and we will not seat any Minister in this Association that teaches the Baptism of the Holy Ghost separate from regeneration of the birth of the Spirit.
12. No question from any church shall come under consideration of the Association unless it has been first discussed in its own church.
13. At each Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons or their equivalent devotional exercises each day.

Order of Business

1. Introductory Sermon
2. House called to order by the Moderator
3. Letters called for and read, and received
4. Seating of delegates
5. Election of officers
6. Petitionary letters called for
7. Reading Rules of Order
8. Inviting visiting brethren to set in council
9. Appointment of Committees
10. Unfinished business
11. New business
12. Report of Committees
13. Miscellaneous business

