

Arthur D. Cook Sr.

MINUTES  
OF THE  
FIRST NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS  
MAY 13 - 14, 1965  
WHEN CONVENED WITH  
FIRST FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH  
HOBBS, NEW MEXICO

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## OFFICERS

Moderator	Rev. S. M. Aragon,	P. O. Box 93 Grants, New Mexico
Assistant Moderator	Rev. R. R. Meade,	10364 Windsor, El Paso, Tex.
Clerk	Polly Aragon,	P. O. Box 93, Grants, New Mexico
Assistant Clerk	Katy Pollock,	1609 Runyan, Artesia, New Mexico
Promotional Secretary	Rev. S. M. Aragon,	P. O. Box 93, Grants, New Mexico
Treasurer	Doris Heard,	800 N. Burk, Hobbs, New Mexico
Sunday School Superintendent.	Willis R. Shimel Sr.,	8905 Neptune, El Paso, Tex.

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## CHURCHES AND PASTORS

First Free Will Baptist of El Paso,	5605 Threadgill Ave.	Rev. Richard R. Meade
First Free Will Baptist of Artesia,	304 N. 4th	Rev. B. G. McClintock
First Free Will Baptist of Hobbs,	601 E. Skelly	Rev. F. D. Nobles
First Free Will Baptist of Carlsbad,	Lea & Walnut	Rev. Dean Thompson
First Free Will Baptist of Albuquerque,	Leta Road	Rev. Warren Bell
First Free Will Baptist of Grants,	400 San Jose Drive	Rev. S. M. Aragon

(the above addresses are church addresses. See following for minister's).

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## ORDAINED MINISTERS

*Aragon, S. M.	*Bell, Warren	Davis, Delbert	*McClintock, B. G.
P. O. Box 93, Grants	Box 2441 Milan	302 La Mesa, N. M.	304 N. 4th, Artesia
*Meade, R. R.	*Nobles, F. D.	Pierce, A. F.	Parrish, Thomas
10364 Windsor El Paso	601 E. Skelly, Hobbs	3405 Garnet, El Paso	El Paso
*Thompson, Dean	Whitten, Earl	Wooten, J. R.	
5130 El Paso Rd. Carlsbad	4430 2nd St. N. W. Albuq	10272 Shenandoah El Paso	

\* pastors

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## ORDAINED DEACONS

Pollock, Jim	Palmer, Owen	Rice, Claud	Bailey, Lonnie	Gilchrest, Howard
1809 Runyan	308 K St.	407 Soper	104 1/2 S. Olive	3409 Dundee
Artesia	Carlsbad	Carlsbad	Carlsbad	El Paso
Vandivort, Norman	Baker, Doyle	Shimel, Willis	Sparger, Freddie	Shoulders, Jimmie
7808 Mustang	El Paso	8905 Neptune	Hobbs	218 N. Coleman
El Paso		El Paso		Hobbs
	Heard, Arnold			
	800 N. Burk			
	Hobbs			

EXECUTIVE BOARD

A. F. Pierce, 1 Year

R. R. Meade 2 Years

F. D. Nobles, 3 Years

CREDENTIAL BOARD

Dean Thompson 1 Year

A. F. Pierce, 2 Years

S. M. Aragon, 3 Years

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Arthur Cook, 1 Year

Richard Meade, 2 Years

Warren Bell, 3 Years

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD

Richard Meade, 1 Year

Dorothy Shoulders, 2 Years

Polly Aragon, 3 Years

MISSION BOARD

S. M. Aragon, 1 Year

Jimmy Pollock, 2 Years

F. D. Nobles, 3 Years

SUPERANNUATION

Richard Meade, 1 Year

Howard Gilchrest, 2 years

B. G. McClintock, 3 Years

YOUTH CAMP BOARDMrs. Willis Shimel, Richard Meade, Dean Thompson, Polly Aragon,  
Mabel Palmer

Irene Wood

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Warren Bell, 1 Year

Freddie Sparger, 2 Years  
Freddie

Richard Meade, 3 Years

RESOLUTION BOARD

S. M. Aragon

Willis Shimel Sr.

A. F. Pierce

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## HOBBS, NEW MEXICO

May 14, 1965

## OPENING SESSION

The meeting was opened with an altar of prayer. Rev. S. M. Aragon, Moderator.

Congregational singing, led by Rev. McClintock and Gwen Dismuke at the piano.

Songs: "Blessed Assurance" and "He Leadeth Me"

Meeting called to order by the moderator.

Devotion brought by Rev. Warren Bell, using Romans 10:8-16.

The By-Laws were read by the moderator. Rev. Rufus Coffey, national director of conference ministries was recognized as visitor.

The church letters were read by the clerk and a motion was carried that they be received collectively as read.

The delegates were seated and given the right hand of fellowship as the congregation sang "When We All Get To Heaven"

#### APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

A motion was carried that the moderator and the assistant moderator be given power to appoint the following committees:

##### PULPIT

Mrs. Irene Wood

Mrs. Owen Palmer

Mrs. Freddie Sparger

##### OBITUARY

Mrs. Hakes

Mrs. W. Shimel

Miss. Sarah Montoya

##### TEMPERANCE

Mrs. Katie Pollock

Arthur Cook

Mrs. Gwen Dismuke

##### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Stanley Gooch

Rev. Warren Bell

Mrs. B. G. McClintock

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the clerk, Polly Aragon.

Rev. S. M. Aragon gave a report on his trip to the moderators and promotional secretaries meeting in Nashville, Tenn., and expressing his appreciation to association for paying his way to this meeting. He explained the co-operative plan of giving urging all churches to adopt this plan.

Dismissed for recess. Prayer by brother Arthur Cook.

Session re-opened with congregation singing, "When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder" and "I'll Fly Away"

Specials: Rev. Nobles, "Leave It There" Bro. Cook, bro. Bell, bro. Aragon and sis Aragon, "Jesus Use Me", Christy Pollock, "I'll Stroll Over Heaven With You" and Linda Hakes, "Cleanse Me"

Rev. Meade brought the morning message using II Cor. 8:1-18; Ex. 35:21-23. His theme, "Obedience To God".

Invitation Hymn, "Is Your All Upon The Alter"

Dismissed for lunch and fellowship with prayer by Rev. Nobles.

##### AFTERNOON

Session opened with congregation singing, "Where The Soul Never Dies" and "Showers Of Blessings"

Prayer offered by Bro. Willis Shimel Sr.

Specials: Bro. and Sis. Aragon, "What A Day" Gwen Dismuke and Jo Helen Sparger, "Blessed Redeemer"

Reports of the following committees were given and accepted as given with amendment carried to act upon the recommendation of the Sunday school committee separately. The motion and amendment carried.

## Sunday School Committee

## Youth Camp Board

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An oral report from the Mission Board was given by Rev. Aragon.

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There was no report from the following boards: Executive, Board of Trustees, Superannuation Board.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Moderator, Rev. S. M. Aragon  
Assistant Moderator, Rev. R. R. Meade

Clerk, Polly Aragon  
Assistant Clerk, Katy Pollock

Treasurer, Doris Heard

BOARDS

Executive: Rev. F. D. Nobles, 3 Years      Credential Board: Rev. S. M. Aragon, 3 Years  
Rev. R. R. Meade, 2 Years

Board of Trustees: Rev. Warren Bell, 3 Years      Christian Education: Polly Aragon

Mission Board: Rev. F. D. Nobles, 3 Years      Superannuation: Rev. R. R. Meade 1 Year  
Rev. McClintock 3 Years

Youth Camp: Same members retained, R. Meade, Polly Aragon, Dean Thompson, Irene Wood and Mabel Palmer.

Auditing Board: Rev. R. Meade, 3 Years      Resolution: Rev. Pierce and Bro. Shimel

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Dismissed for recess, Prayer by Miss. Sharon Bell.

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Session re-opened with congregation singing, "Oh How I Love Jesus"

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Rev. Rufus Coffey gave a report of the Foreign Mission Board, challenging us to go "regions beyond" with our giving and our prayer for missions. New Mexico giving averaged \$1.00 per person for the last year.

An offering of \$20.00 was taken for Home Missions at this time as the congregation sang, "Power In The Blood"

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Since Rev. B. G. McClintock had just accepted the pastorate at Artesia, but had not had an opportunity to officially unite with said church, the moderator ruled with the consent of the Artesia delegation to be permitted to accept offices in the association if nominated.

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Rev. S. M. Aragon was re-elected editor of "THE NEW MEXICO MISSION GRAFT"

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The treasurer's report was given and a motion was carried to receive it

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Those elected delegates to the National Association were: Sister Polly Aragon, Sister Gaye Nobles and sister Sarah Montoya.

A motion was carried that the state give each delegate \$125.00 for expences to the national meeting. \$275.00 being transfered from the mission fund for this purpose. If for some reason the delegates could not go, this money would remain in the mission fund.

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The host church was given a rising vote of thanks.

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A motion was carried to accept the invitation of the Carlsbad church to host the next quarterly meeting.

The moderator intertained a motion that the Association give Rev. Delbert Davis a citation for faithful service. The motion was made and seconded and carried. Rev. Davis is retired and due to his age and health is unable to be active in work no longer.

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The El Paso delegation was given a rising vote of appreciation for their fine work done in their Sunday School resulting in a 13% increase in attendance.

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The minutes of this meeting were read and approved as read.

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## REPORTS

### AUDITING COLMITTEE

We, the auditing committee have examined the treasurer's books and have found them to be in satisfactory condition.

Signed: Fred Sparger, Rev. Bell, Rev. Maade

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### CREDENTIAL BOARD

We the credential board have examined Rev. F. D. Nobles and Rev. B. G. McClintock and have found them sound in doctrine.

Signed: Rev. S. M. Aragon, Rev. A. F. Pierce

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### SUNDAY SCHOOL COLMITTEE

A motion made and seconded we recommend to the association that we send \$75.00 to repair the roof on the hospital in the Dr. Laverre Miley district. Motion carried.

We, the Sunday school Committee recommend each Sunday school department of our churches in this association establish an active Sunday school visitation program if they haven't already done so. They may adopt the motto: "Don't Hesitate Visit-ate". We futher recommend that this body give the El Paso church a rising vote of appreciation for their fine work resulting an increase. We also make a motion that these recommendations be adopted and this committee dismissed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mr. Stanley Gooch

Mrs. B. G. McClintock

Rev. Warren Bell

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### APPOINTED SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

We the appointed Sunday school committee recommend the disbursement from the state Sunday school fund the following;

1. \$10.00 to be used quarterly to further the education of some student in the F. W. B. Bible College. (Possibly some one from New Mexico).
- a. Applicants may apply to the New Mexico Sunday school Department for this.
2. That each yearly meeting, if there has been a build up of funds exceeding \$50.00 that the balance be sent to the National Association for the most needed project at the time.

Prayerfully Submitted, Jo Helen Sparger,  
F. D. Nobles, Katy Pollock

OBITUARY COMMITTEE

We wish to report that sister Hazel Green of El Paso, Texas passed away Jan. 1965.

Signed: Vanita Hakes  
Sarah Montoya  
W. R. Shimel Sr.

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YOUTH CAMP COMMITTEE

Youth Camp has been procured for the week of May 30th through June 6. We must have a list of the number going by May 25. We recommend the following officers:

Director,	Rev. Meade
Assistant Director,	Rev. Nobles
Kitchen Supervisor,	Sis. Hall
Cooks,	Sis. Palmer
	Sis. Young
	Sis. Thompson
Registrar,	Sis. Nobles
Sr. High teacher,	Bro. McClintock
Jr. Teacher,	Sis. Shimel
Primary Teacher,	Sis. Nobles
Recreational Dir.,	Mr. Bailey
Evangelist,	Rev. Nobles
Concession stand,	Bro. Pierce
	Bro. Palmer

There must be one (1) adult for each seven (7) children as cabin sponsor.

Children will be arranged in cabin according to age and sex.

FEES: If member of Sunday school or church \$7.50, If non member \$10.00. All workers free, not including those who are sponsors.

Signed: R. Meade, chairman  
Polly Aragon  
Irene Wood  
Mabel Palmer

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REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

We the registration committee report that there are:

18 delegates  
25 visitors  
7 ministers  
1 deacon  
51 total

Signed: Mary Smith  
Gaye Nobles

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TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE:

We, the Temperance Committee deem it fit and proper to recommend to this association that we as a body as well as individuals present our bodies a living sacrifice, holy acceptable unto God which is our reasonable service. (continued page 7).

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE CONTINUED

Signed: Katy Pollock  
 Arthur D. Cook  
 Gwen Dismuke

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MINISTER'S REPORTSS. M. Aragon

Churches pastored	1
Sermons preached	101
Exhortations	15
Sunday School Lectures	5
Members received	9
Conversions	12
Baptized	11
Marriages	3
Funerals (Revivals 1)	3
Miles traveled	7,000
Money received	\$1060.00

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Richard Meade

Churches pastored	1
Sermons preached	156
Exhortations	6
Sunday School lectures	120
Members received	25
Conversions	25
Revivals held	0
Marriages	1
Funerals	0
Baptized	13
Money received	\$1050.00

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THOMAS PARRISH

Churches pastored	0
Sermons preached	20
Sunday school lectures	5
Exhortations	4
Conversions	4
Revivals held	1
Miles traveled	1200
Money received	\$50.00

Served in Armed Forces as Chaplain's Assistant in Post Chapel at White Sands Missile Range.

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A. F. Pierce

Churches pastored	0
Sermons preached	25
Exhortations	0
Sunday school lectures	0
Conversions	1
Revivals held	1
Miles traveled	1000
Money received	\$160.00



MINISTER'S REPORTS CONTINUEDRev. Dean Thompson

Churches pastored	1
Sermons preached	97
Exhortations	34
Sunday school lectures	52
Members received	0
Conversions, witnessed	7
Revivals held	1
Marriages	0
Funerals	0
Baptized	6
Miles traveled	1500
Money received	\$1200.00

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The host church was given a rising vote of thanks.

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A motion carried to adjourn, dismissed in prayer by Sister Thompson.

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COMPILED SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

A	Average Attendance	316
	Number of Classes	49
	Number of Departments	10
	Number on Roll	398
	Number of Teachers	48
	Increase over last 3 months	10
	Spent for S. S. Literature	\$291.76

- W. R. Shimel Sr., Moderator

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STATISTICAL REPORT BY CHURCHES

Carlsbad:

No. of ordained ministers	1	S. S. Enrollment	74	Total expenditures	\$3727.48
No. of licensed ministers	1	C. T. S. Enrollment	24	Spent for outside causes:	
No. of deacons	3	Woman's Aux. Mbrship	7	Co-operative plan	-0-
No. of following Auxiliaries:		<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u>		Foreign Missions	-0-
Sunday Schools	1	Total giving in Ch.	9	Home Missions	-0-
C. T. S.	1	Gen. Offering	\$3354.60	Education	-0-
Woman's Auxiliary	1	Bldg. Funds	41.73	Orphanage	-0-
G. T. A's	0	Spent locally		Superannuation	-0-
Y. P. A's	0	Pastor's salary	1275.00	State & Ntl. projects	-0-
Boy's Aux.	0	Evangelist	175.00	Other	-0-
Master's Men	0	Bldg. & Repair	1722.00	Total outside exp.	-0-
Prayer Meetings	1	Literature	242.56	Value of church	\$25000.00
Church Membership	33	Advertising	40.00	Parsonage	-0-
Resident	27	Misc.	279.92		
Non-Resident	6	Other	-0-		

STATISTICAL REPORT CONTINUED:

## Hobbs

No. of ordained ministers	2	S. S. Enrollment	120	Other	-0-
No. of licensed ministers	0	C. T. S. Enrollment	70	Total expenditures	6027.83
No. of ordained Deacons	3	Woman's Aux. Mbrship	12	Spent for outside causes:	
No. of following auxiliaries:		<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u>		Co-operative plan	703.26
Sunday Schools	1	Total giving in Ch.		Foreign Missions	234.95
C. T. S.	1		\$7045.04	Home Missions	79.00
Woman's Aux.	1	General Offering	_____	Education	-0-
Master's Men	0	Building fund	_____	Orphanage	-0-
Prayer Meetings	1	Spent Locally		Superannuation	-0-
G. T. A's	0	Pastor's salary	3768.00	State & Natl. Projects	-0-
Y. P. A's	0	Evangelistic	155.00	Other	-0-
Boy's Aux.	0	Bldg & Repairs	1249.46	Total outside exp.	1017.21
Church membership	77	Literature	481.24	Value of Church and	
Resident	72	Advertising	-0-	parsonage	25000.00
Non-resident	5	Miscl.	374.13		

## Grants

No. of ordained ministers	2	S. S. Enrollment	37	Total expenditures	\$3078.93
No. of ordained deacons	0	C. T. S. Enrollment	7	Spent for outside causes:	
No. of licensed ministers	0	Woman's Aux Mbrship	-0	Co-operative plan	364.19
No. of following auxiliaries:		<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u>		Foreign Missions	-0-
Sunday Schools	1	Total giving in Ch.		Home Missions	13.79
C. T. S.	1	Gen. Offerings	3400.91	Education	-0-
Woman's Aux.	0	Building Fund	65.00	Orphanage	-0-
G. T. A's	0	Spent locally:		Superannuation	9.50
Y. P. A's	0	Pastor's salary	1060.00	State & Natl. projects	-0-
Boys Aux.	0	Evangelist	111.09	Total outside exp.	387.48
Prayer Meetings	1	Bldg & Repair	1292.66	Value of church	7000.00
Master's Men	0	Literature	343.75	Value of parsonage	-0-
Church Membership	40	Advertising	10.09		
Resident	20	Miscl.	261.00		
Non-resident	20	Other	-0-		

## Artesia

No. of ordained ministers	2	S. S. Enrollment	91	Total Expenditures	\$3825.83
No. of licensed ministers	-0-	C. T. S. Enrollment	38	Spent for outside causes:	
No. of ordained deacons	1	Woman's Atx. Mbrship	8	Co-operative Plan	287.17
No. of following auxiliaries:		<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u>		Foreign Missions	44.70
Sunday Schools	1	Total giving in Ch		Foreign Missions	22.25
C. T. S.	1		\$4256.19	Education	-0-
Woman's Aux.	1	Gen. Offering	_____	Orphanage	17.35
G. T. A's	0	Building fund	_____	Superannuation	-0-
Y. P. A's	0	Spent Locally:		State & Natl. projects	79.85
Boys Aux.	0	Pastor's salary	1041.27	Other	-0-
Master's Men	0	Evangelist	250.00	Total outside exp.	442.32
Missionary Midgets	1	Bld. & Repairs	2367.14	Value of church	14000.00
Prayer Meetings	1	Literature	142.72	Value of parsonage	4000.00
Church Membership	61	Advertising	-0-		
Resident	56	Miscl.	24.00		
Non-resident	5	Other	-0-		

## El Paso

No. of ordained ministers	5	S. S. Enrollment	129	Other	\$ 225.00
No. of licensed ministers	0	C. T. S. Enrollment	69	Total expenditures	4164.89
No. of ordained deacons	4	Woman's Aux mbrship	12	<u>Spent for outside causes</u>	
No. of following auxiliaries		<u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u>		CO-Operative plan	243.10
Sunday schools	1	Total giving in church		Foreign Missions	49.03
O. T. S.	1		\$4924.87	Home Missions	
Woman's Aux.	0	General offerings		Education	-0-
G. T. A's	0	Building funds		Orphanage	-0-
Y. P. A's	0	<u>Spent locally</u>		Superannuation	-0-
Boy's Aux.	0	Pasrot's salary	1050.00	State and Natl. projects	-0-
Master's Men	0	Evangelist	80.00	Other	-0-
Prayer Meetings	1	Blg. & Repairs	1258.53	Total outside exp.	292.13
Church Membership	127	Literature	682.53	Value of church	40,000.00
Resident	94	Advertising	-0-	Value of parsonage	-0-
Non-resident	33	Misl.	868.83		

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HIGHLIGHTS OF YEAR

A motion carried that we publish a state paper and Rev. Aragon elected as editor.

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A questionnaire to be used by the credential board for examining candidates for ordination was adopted by the association.

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That kitchen personnel, teachers and pastors be permitted to attend youth camp free of tuition.

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A motion was carried that each official of the association making telephone calls on official business report such calls with official bills to the clerk and they would be paid at next meeting.

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That the Youth Camp Board be empowered to select teachers for the youth camp.

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That bills for the expense of the NEW MEXICO MISSION GRAM be sent to the treasurer for payment.

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That the El Paso church complete the loan papers and mail to clerk for proper filing.

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That the Home Mission Loan Fund be dissolved and the monies therein be placed in State Home Mission Fund, making the percentage to go into this fund from the co-operative giving at 60%.

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The First Free Will Baptist Church of Albuquerque petitioned the association for membership, was examined, and found worthy, and was accepted.

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That we present a compiled report from the Thursday night services to the association on Friday.

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ARTICLES OF FAITH

- I. **THE BIBLE:** The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by inspiration of God, and are infallible rules of faith and practices.
- II. **GOD:** There is one living and true 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.
- III. **CHRIST:** Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is our present Saviour and Lord.
- IV. **THE HOLY SPIRIT:** The Scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all attributes of God.
- V. **THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD:** God exercises a wise and benovolent providence over all things by manifesting the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts, not otherwise provided for, as the welfare of men requires.
- VI. **THE SINFULNESS OF MAN:** Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability sin, and become guilty before God.
- VII. **THE WORK OF CHRIST:** The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death, and resurrection offered for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.
- VIII. **THE TERMS OF SALVATION:** The conditions of salvation are: (a) Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it, (b) Faith of the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour 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. (c) Continuance in faith and obedience until death.
- IX. **ELECTION:** God determined from the beginning to save who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ, men become His elect.
- X. **FREEDOM OF WILL:** The human will is free and self controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit and live, or to resist them and perish.
- XI. **SALVATION FREE:** God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.
- XII. **PERSEVERANCE:** All believers in Christ who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have the promise of eternal salvation.
- XIII. **GOSPEL ORDINANCES:** Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; Feet Washing an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.
- XIV. **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." (I Cor 16:2).

## ARTICLES OF FAITH CONTINUED

- XV. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH: The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from secular employment and amusements for rest, worship, holy works and activities and for personal communion with God.
- XVI. RESURRECTION JUDGEMENT AND FINAL RETRIBUTION: The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will "go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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### 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. Less number may adjourn until such a quorum is present.
4. Visiting brethren are invited to sit as advisory members.
5. Those who speak shall rise and address the moderator. Personal reflection 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 vote taken on separate parts.
7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded, unless it is on a question previously tabled.
8. No one shall speak more than once on the same subject without special permission of the moderator.
9. The moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in a Christian spirit.
10. The ruling of the moderator may be overruled by a two-thirds majority of the members voting.
11. At each meeting of the association, arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons or their equivalent devotional exercises, each day.

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## CONSTITUTION of the FIRST NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION of FREE WILL BAPTISTS

### P R E A M B L E

From experience, we, the members of the churches of God and Christ, commonly known as Free Will Baptist, realizing the necessity of a bond of union and fellowship among us as a group which desires to support and promote every phase of our State and National Enterprises, do hereby ordain this Constitution for our progress and to perpetuate better Association Government. -{continued next page}.

CONSTITUTION CONTINUED

## ARTICLE I

This organization shall be known as the First New Mexico Association of Free Baptists of New Mexico.

## ARTICLE II

SECTION 1: The purpose of this association shall be to bring into union such churches of New Mexico as desire the enterprises of the State of New Mexico and National Association.

SECTION 2: It shall not be the purpose of this Association to usurp authority over the churches, but to recommend such measures as would promote the unity of action among the churches, to harmonize the efforts of individual churches among each other in their efforts to accomplish good, and make each other more proficient in their undertakings to advance the cause of Christ.

## ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

SECTION 1: This association shall be composed of churches commonly known as Free Will Baptist who maintain gospel order, and shall subscribe to the Constitution and By-Laws and Articles of Faith as adopted by this said Association.

SECTION 2: Any church desiring membership in this association shall be examined and be found sound in it's doctrine, complying with the National Association in all it's branches of labor, for the promotion of God's work and also will be expected to be found sound in the associational work. Showing a desire to promote our Denominational work, for the cause of Christ in all different branches of our Association which consists of churches, Sunday school, Youth Encampment, Home Mission, Prayer Meeting, Vacation Bible School, F. W. B. Bible College, Woman's Auxiliaries and Young Folks meeting.

SECTION 3: All duly constituted churches may be received into this Association by their messengers presenting a petitionary letter from their respective churches, if they shall be found orderly and orthodox.

Such reception shall be manifested by the moderator, or his assistant, giving the right hand of fellowship.

## ARTICLE IV

REPRESENTATION

SECTION 1: Standing delegates of this association shall be ordained ministers, minister's wives, ordained deacons, church clerk, and church treasurers who are members of churches in good standing in this Association.

SECTION 2: In addition each church shall represent by sending five (5) delegates to each meeting of the Association.

SECTION 3: Each church shall send a letter to the associational clerk at least ten (10) before the time set for the regular meeting of the association. These letters shall set forth the names of ministers and deacons belonging to the church. These letters shall be written on forms provided by the Association.

SECTION 4: The church may elect one alternate for each delegate, who will be seated in the absence of the regular delegate.

ARTICLE V

OFFICERS

The officers of this association shall consist of a moderator, an assistant moderator, a clerk, an assistant clerk, and a promotional secretary.

They shall be elected annually at the close of the yearly meeting, and shall act as a program committee to plan the programs of all meetings of the association.

ARTICLE VI

SECTION 1: The standing boards of this association shall consist of three members each, having staggered terms, so that one member is elected each year at the close of the annual association.

These boards shall be as follows

- a. Executive: b. Credential: c. Board of Trustees: d. Superannuation:  
e. Christian Education: f. Mission

The association shall pay travel expenses of members of these boards when engaged on associational business; the amount of reimbursement shall be set by association.

SECTION 2: The Executive Board shall act for the association when the association is not in session, and render a report to each sitting of the association for approval or rebuke.

SECTION 3: The Credential Board shall examine candidates for licensing or ordination, and shall pass on all ministers coming into this association. This board shall also review every minister belonging to this association for action.

This association shall adopt a set of rules for this board, and a set of questions for examining candidates, and the clerk shall keep a file of all persons examined.

SECTION 4: The Board of Trustees shall receive and assign all associational property as directed by the association.

SECTION 5: The Superannuation Board shall plan programs for the aged ministers of this association and in co-operation with the state and national programs.

SECTION 6: The Christian Education Board shall oversee the Sunday school, C. T. S. and other Christian education programs of the association, and shall co-operate with the state and national programs.

SECTION 7: The Mission Board shall be responsible for the extension of the Free Will Baptist work in the state, and in co-operation with the state and national programs, "to the uttermost parts of the earth."

SECTION 8: Other boards and committees may be chosen as needed.

ARTICLE VII

DISCIPLINE

SECTION 1: This association shall have the right to settle any question of discipline, doctrine, or practice that may properly come before it from any of the churches; or act upon any appeal that may be made at any of the meetings.

SECTION 2: All appeals coming before this association may be settled in any of the following ways:

- a. By this association when sitting as a committee as a whole; b. By  
b. By a special committee whose report shall be voted on without discussion.

SECTION 3: No question shall be received by this association from any church unless it has been acted upon in said church, and cannot be settled, in which the association shall take up same and act upon it.

## ARTICLE VIII

MEETINGS

SECTION 1: This body shall meet quarterly, dates and places to be set by association or it's designated representatives.

SECTION 2: At each meeting of the association the body shall conduct all necessary buisnes, receive reports, pass on credentials or persons who shall come before it. Buy or sell property, and in general, conduct any business which may be before it.

SECTION 3: The offices of this association shall be elected annually, but pro-tem officers may be elected at any sitting of the association in the absence of the regular officers. In the event any officers or board members move out of the jurisdiction of this association he may be replaced at any sitting of the association.

SECTION 4: Questions of deliberations shall be governed by "Robert's Rules of Order", and a parliamentarian shall be appointed for each meeting of the association.

## ARTICLE IX

AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting of the association by two-thirds majority of members voting.

~~BY THE ASSOCIATION • THE ASSOCIATION~~ CHURCH COVENANT ~~THE ASSOCIATION • THE ASSOCIATION~~

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 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, and 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 in 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; not 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.



