

15TH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
FIRST NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION
of
FREE WILL BAPTIST

February 13, 1971

when convened with
First Free Will Baptist Church
Roswell, New Mexico

OFFICERS

Moderator Garland Davidson
5033 Debeers, El Paso
Assistant Moderator Muril Wilson
400 S. Pine, Roswell
Clerk Mrs. J. N. Pollock
1809 Runyon, Artesia
Assistant Clerk Mrs. Arnold Heard
800 N. Burk, Hobbs
Treasurer Mrs. Harry Gibb
311 S. Cochran, Hobbs

EXECUTIVE BOARD

1971-1974 A. F. Pierce, 1714 N. Delaware, Roswell
1971-1973 W. R. Shimel, 5624 Hemingway, El Paso
1971-1972 Robert Ellis, 614 S. Birch, Roswell

CREDENTIAL BOARD

1971-1974 Muril Wilson, 400 S. Pine, Roswell
1971-1973 Burnett Lunsford, 601 E. Skelly, Hobbs
1971-1972 Garland Davidson, 5033 Debeers, El Paso

MISSION BOARD

1971-1974 Robert Ellis, 614 S. Birch, Roswell
1971-1973 Harold T. Sexton, 2209 Mann, Artesia
1971-1972 Jim Cook, 113 W. Yeso, Hobbs

AUDITING

1971-1974 Eunice Lunsford, 601 E. Skelly, Hobbs
1971-1973 Harold Sexton, 2209 Mann, Artesia
1971-1972 Irene Woods, 312 West Hank, Artesia

ORDAINED MINISTERS

Burnett Lunsford, 601 E. Skelly, Hobbs
Muril Wilson, 400 S. Pine, Roswell
Garland Davidson, 5033 Debeers, El Paso
A. F. Pierce, 1714 N. Delaware, Roswell

ORDAINED DEACONS

Robert W. Ellis, 614 S. Birch, Roswell
Freddy Sparger, 1403 Breckon, Hobbs
Arnold Heard, 800 N. Burk, Hobbs
Howard Gilchrest, 3409 Dundee, El Paso
Willis Shimel Sr., 5624 Hemingway, El Paso
Norman Vandivart, 1501 Oakdale, El Paso
Owen Palmer, 308 K. Street, Carlsbad
Claude Rice, 407 Soper, Carlsbad
J. N. Pollock, 1809 Runyon, Artesia

CLERKS

Ted Short, 615 E. Skelly, Hobbs
Peggy Settlemaier, 9513 Charleston, El Paso
Irene Ellis, 614 S. Birch, Roswell
Mable Palmer, 308 K Street, Carlsbad

The First New Mexico Association of Free Will Baptist opened their yearly meeting by singing "Blessed Assurance. Rev. Burnett Lunsford led the singing with Eunice Lunsford at the piano.

Prayer by Robert Ellis.

Song "Jesus Saves" followed with an altar of Prayer.

Devotion: Jude 1-5 by Rev. Muril Wilson.

Reading of the by-laws by Garland Davidson, the district moderator.

Moderator declared the session in Conference, and ask of reading of church letters.

Motion carried to receive the letters and seat the delegates. Right hand of fellowship was given to the delegates by Rev. Burnett Lunsford, the assistant moderator. Motion carried to give the moderator and assistant moderator the power to appoint the temporary committees.

Pulpit Committee: Irene Ellis, Ann Britz, Birdie Pinson.

Obituary Committee: Gwen Dismuke, Debbie Ellis, Rev. A. F. Pierce.

Temperance Committee: Willis Shimel Sr., Jim Pollock, Olivia Postelle.

Resolution Committee: Rev. Merle Wilson, Robert Ellis, Thelma Shimel.

Reading of previous minutes. Motion carried to accept minutes as read. Reading of Treasurer's report. Motion made to accept treasurer's report. Second an amendment made to channel the Superannuation percentage into the general fund. The amendment carried. The motion carried. Motion carried to give Sis Wanda Gibb standing vote of thanks for the complete treasurers report. Call for report of Executive board on cheaper way to print minutes. Motion carried to proceed with the same method of printing that we used previously. Motion carried that the executive board write a farm report that's acceptable and send to the various churches. Motion carried to recess until worship hour. Jim Pollock led dismissal prayer.

Worship hour opened by singing "Are You Washed In The Blood," with Jim Pollock leading and Eunice Lunsford, pianist.

Songs "An Old Account Settled." The Old Rugged Cross."

Prayer by Sis Jewel Wilson.

Specials: "Sheltered In The Arms of God" by Roswell and Artesia church.

"I'm Gonna Cling and When God Dips His Love in My Heart" by Hobbs.

Morning message Acts 16:8 by Rev. Burnett Lunsford.

Afternoon session opened by singing "Redeemed," Gwen Dismuke leading and Eunice Lunsford at the piano.

Devotion by Jim Pollock.

Specials "Had It Not Been" by Roswell. "Go Bring Some Sheaves and Hallelujah" by the Hobbs choir. "Remind Me Dear Lord" by Debbie Boggs and "When All Gods Singers Get Home" by Hobbs.

Call for the reports. Resolution Board see reports. Motion carried to accept this report and dismiss the Committee. Pulpit Committee report. Motion carried to accept the report and dismiss the committee. Auditing report. Motion carried to receive the auditing report. Temperance committee report. Motion carried to accept the report and dissolve the committee. Obituary committee report. Motion carried to accept this report and dismiss the committee. Motion carried to accept the request from the El Paso Church for the next meeting. Youth camp report given by Garland Davidson. Motion carried to accept the \$8.00 per camper route. Motion carried for Doris Heard to replace Irene Woods as state delegate due to Sis Woods health. Motion carried to accept Jewel Wilson, Irene Ellis, Mozelle Harcrow, Thelma Shimel, Ann Britz, Katy Pollock, Birdie Pinson, Oleta Magee, Eunice Lunsford, and Doris Heard as delegates to the state meeting. Motion carried that our youth pay no more than \$10.00 camp fee with the association to make up the difference if we go the other route. Election of officers as follows. Motion carried to retain Garland Davidson as moderator. Assistant moderator, Muril Wilson. Clerk, Katy Pollock and Doris Heard as assistant clerk. Treasurer, Wanda Gibb. Executive board member for 3 years Rev. A. F. Pierce. Credential board member for three years Muril Wilson. Three years to the mission board, Robert Ellis. Auditing committee for three years, Eunice Lunsford. Promotional secretary Rev. A. F. Pierce. Motion carried for the Executive board to investigate the condition of some of our churches. Motion carried to adjourn. Dismissed with an altar of prayer.

Doris Heard, Clerk.

REPORTS

Resolution Board

Be it resolved that the Mission Board run a news item in the want ad section of local newspaper seeking Free Will Baptist in our district.

Muril Wilson
Robert Ellis
Thelma Shimel

Pulpit Committee Report

Theme: "Win the Lost."

Morning devotion: Jim Pollock.

Morning message: Rev. Garland Davidson.

Afternoon devotion by Willis Shimel Sr.

Irene Ellis
Birdie Pinson
Ann Britz

AUDITING REPORT

We the auditing committee have examined the treasurers books and have found them to be in order to Jan. 1, 1971.

J. N. Pollock
Doris Heard
Burnett Lunsford

TEMPERANCE REPORT

We the temperance committee recommend that each individual member of Free Will Baptist churches in the state of New Mexico re-dedicate ourselves to our church covenant.

J. N. Pollock
Olivia Postelle
W. R. Shimel

OBITUARY

One death. Bro. Alton D. Byrd of the El Paso church passed away in Vietnam.

A. F. Pierce
Debbie Ellis
Gwen Dismuke

TREASURER'S REPORT

Quarter—October 8, 1970 thru December 31, 1970

Quarterly Receipts

Co-op Giving	Amount	
Hobbs	\$66.56	
Roswell	60.67	
El Paso	53.82	
Total	\$181.05	\$181.05
Designated Giving		
Hobbs	\$200.13	
Roswell	30.00	
El Paso	.00	
District Meet in Nov.	13.35	
Total	\$243.48	\$243.48
Total all money received		\$424.53

Expenditures

Co-op		
New Mexico State Asso. (tithes)	\$41.83	
Total	\$41.83	\$41.83
Tithes not disbursed until late	12.49	12.49
Total	54.32	54.72

Designated

New Mexico State Association

For: Foreign Missions	\$96.91	
Home Missions (Nat'l)	63.57	
Children's Home	10.00	
Gage's Account	73.00	
Total	243.48	243.48
Total all expenditures		297.80 297.80

Balance remaining to our Dist

Co-op Accounts: 126.73

LADIES AUXILIARY MEETING — FEBRUARY 12, 1971

Meeting opened by the President Eunice Lunsford.

Opening song "Love Lifted Me" was led by Sis. Doris Heard. Prayer by Sis. Fannie Gipson.

Welcome address was given by Sis. Jo Helen Sparger.

Poem "Their Blood Will I Require of Thee", was rendered by Sis. Oleta Magee.

Devotion was presented by Doris Heard. Scripture location as John 3:16.

Had the reading of the annual letters.

Motion to seat all present as there wasn't 5 delegates from each church present. Seconded and carried.

Minutes of November meeting read. Motion carried to accept Minutes as read.

Treasurer report given. Motion to accept report and it carried.

These committees appointed by the President.

Resolution: Oleta Magee and Thelma Shimel.

Auditing: Fannie Gipson, Doris Heard and Ann Britz.

Obituary: Sue Davidson.

Standard of Achievement: Jo Helen Sparger and Sue Davidson.

Dismissed for short committee meetings.

Resolution report: We the resolution committee would like to recommend that our auxiliaries show more concern with lost souls and more dedication to our auxiliary work, which is promoting missions.

Motion to accept report, seconded and carried.

Auditing reports the books and bank statements balance. Motion to accept report as read. Carried.

Obituary reports no deaths this past year. Motion to accept report as read. Seconded and carried.

Standard of Achievement reports Hobbs was B plus and El Paso was A-1. Motion and second to accept report as given. Carried.

Project: Funds for needed vehicle. Take up free offering in local auxiliaries to send to Patsy Tyson for vehicle. Motion to accept this project for next quarter. Carried

Election of Officers:

President: Eunice Lunsford.
Vice-President: Thelma Shimel.
Secretary: Sue Davidson.
Asst. Secretary: Sharron Wilson.
Treasurer: Ann Britz.
Field Worker: Jewell Wilson.
Study Course Chairman: Mariellyn Smagar.
Project Chairman: Thelma Shimel.
Missions Chairman: Doris Heard.
Mission offering: Motion to send the offering to the Gages. Seconded and carried. \$4.75 amount of offering.
Dismissed with alter of prayer.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION ANNUAL MEETING

February 12, 1971

The Sunday School Convention of the First New Mexico Association of Free Will Baptist when convened at Hobbs, New Mexico, was opened by singing "I'll Be Satisfied". Prayer by Bro. Garland Davidson.

Special music by the choir of Hobbs. Congregational song "He Abides". Special song by a quartet from Hobbs, "I Know MY Saviour Cares".

Welcome by Bro. Shimel.

Devotion scripture text was Matthew 28:19 & 20, "Go and teach all nations".

Received mission offering while the congregation sang "At Calvary". Altar of prayer led by Bro. Burnett Lunsford. Amount of offering \$11.20.

Read letters from Churches. Motion and second to accept the church letters as read. Carried.

Delegates given right hand of fellowship by Garland Davidson, moderator of District Meeting.

Read Minutes from last meeting. Motion and second to receive the minutes as read. Carried.

Treasurer's report was given. Motion and second we accept the treasurer report as read. Carried.

Committee to decide where the mission offering goes, Bros. Lunsford, Pierce, and Davidson.

Congregation song "I Shall Not Be Moved."

Mission offering goes to Bro. Billows, in Old Mexico.

Attendance Banner goes to the El Paso Sunday School. Andy Vandivart accepted the banner.

Election of Officers.

President: Bro. Willis Shimel.

Vice-President: Robert Ellis.

Secretary: Sue Davidson.

Treasurer: Jo Helen Sparger.

Director of Organization: Garland Davidson.

Read these minutes. Motion and second to accept these minutes as read. Carried.

Motion and second that we adjourn. Carried.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Pierce.

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, when 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 benevolent 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).
- 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 communication 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."

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.

CONSTITUTION
OF THE
FIRST NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

PREAMBLE

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 perpetrate better Association Government.

ARTICLE I

This organization shall be known as the First New Mexico Association of Free Will Baptist 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 its 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 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) days 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. Each church of this Association shall send church letters with their delegates. Also the church clerk send the names of their delegates and alternates to the church entertaining the Association.

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 the association shall consist of three members each, having staggered term, 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 the 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 on 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 cooperation 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 cooperate 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 cooperation 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; to 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 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 its designated representatives.

SECTION 2: At each meeting of the association the body shall conduct all necessary business, 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 the 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.

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and 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 tolling 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 our Lord Jesus Christ.



40% N.M.

10% Nat

30 Nat Home Miss

10 Nat N. Mex.

5 - O.C.C.

5 - J.W.D.C.

State

30

St

40 Miss

30 General Fund

70 Days