

MINUTES

Of the Forty-First
Annual Session

First Oklahoma Association

FREE WILL BAPTIST

Held With
Box Church
September
21 to 28, 1938

OFFICERS

Moderator, Elder A. B. Epperson ----- Earlsboro, Okla.
Assistant Moderator Elder W. E. Dearmore, Wanette, Okla.
Clerk, Brother B. C. Wilson ----- Lexington, Okla.
Assistant Clerk, Sister Vivian Ketchem ---- Earlsboro, Okla.

The next Annual Session of this Association will be held with the Tecumseh Church, beginning on Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in September, 1939

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded by prayer by the moderator or whomsoever he may request.
2. Ministers present are invited to seats, allowed to take part in debates on all subjects, and to vote.
3. Those who speak shall arise and address the moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.
4. No motion shall be discussed without a second.
5. When a motion has been made and seconded, and a member opposes its discussion, the moderator shall put the question, "Shall it be discussed?" If negative the question shall be dismissed.
6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.
7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the moderator.
9. All questions shall be decided by a majority of all members present.
10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the moderator.
11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the close of the Association.
12. At all future sessions of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and the chair shall announce just before adjournment who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.
13. These Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after the organization of the Association.
14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

Wednesday Night

First Oklahoma Association assembled themselves together on Wednesday evening before the fourth Sunday in September, 1938.

Brother Munkus preacing the introductory sermon.

Thursday Morning

Meeting was opened by singing. Brother Christian lead in prayer. Letters called for by Moderator. Letters read and accepted from Earlsboro, Tecumseh, Box, Wolf, Spring Hill, North View, Minnaha, New Bethelham.

The Choir sang and the delegates came forward and the hand

of Christian fellowship was extended to them.

The Moderator called for petitionary letters. Snomac came forward, the body voted and accepted this church into the First Oklahoma Association, the Pastor and delegates were extended the right hand fellowship.

The moderator appointed the pulpit committee: Brother Munkus, chairman; Brother Lynn and Brother B. C. Wilson.

Election of Officers

Elder A. B. Epperson, Moderator, Earlsboro, Oklahoma.

Elder W. E. Dearmore, Assistant Moderator, Wanette, Oklahoma.

Brother B. C. Wilson, Clerk, Lexington, Oklahoma.

Sister Vivian Ketchem, assistant clerk, Earlsboro, Oklahoma.

Brother W. L. Waddle, was elected as a new member of the Executive Board.

Sister Earl Stevenson was elected custodian for the old Minister fund.

The pulpit committee announced that Brother A. E. Downs would bring the eleven o'clock message.

At this time motion was made and seconded that the North View Church be turned back to the Free Will Baptist Church. Motion carried

Motion made and seconded that we adjourn for preaching services.

Eleven o'Clock Services

Brother A. E. Downs brought an inspiring sermon on "Be sure your sins will find you out."

Brother Robinson dismissed the congregation.

Thursday Afternoon Session

House came to order by singing several songs, Brother Arthur Clarida read the 14th chapter of St. John. Brother E. E. Morris lead in prayer.

The Moderator declared the conference in order. All visiting brethren and sisters were invited to seats in council with the association as advisory members.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED

Publication—

Brother Russell, Chairman; Brother Downs; Sister William; Sister Keeler; Sister Cockrell.

Obituary—

Sister Ben Littleton; Sister Odessa Robinson; Brother J. B. Johnson; Sister Grace Kiefer; Sister Grace Palmer.

Finance—

Brother B. C. Wilson; Brother W. L. Waddle; Sister Dolly Clarida; Brother Ode Robinson; Brother T. C. Christian

Temperance—

Brother T. H. Dixon; Brother W. A. Land; Brother R. G. Lane; Sister Minnie Anderson, Brother Ed Morris.

Resolution—

Brother Ode Robinson; Brother B. C. Munkus; Brother T. C. Christian; Brother D. J. King; Brother C. F. White.

Mission—

Brother W. L. Waddle; Brother C. M. Lusk; Brother Jay Crisp; Brother Jake Armstrong; Brother Ben Littleton.

Church Extension—

Brother J. T. Masters; Brother J. D. Anderson; Brother B. F. Maxwell; Brother Arthur Clarida; Brother J. W. Vanwinkle.

Music—

Sister Dela Christian; Sister Sarah Robinson; Sister Bel Lynn; Sister Ethel Gwin; Brother G. W. Molder.

Prayer Meeting—

Brother Joe Gwin; Sister Rhoda Palmer; Sister Minnie McMurry; Sister Minnie White; Sister Essa Braboy.

League—

Sister Namoa Snyder; Sister Pearl Taylor; Sister Gertie Davoult; Sister Margaret Hagger; Brother C. M. Lusk.

Sunday School—

Brother J. P. Fry, Sister Evelyn Harp; Sister Ruth Munkus; Sister Reba Van Winkle; Sister Olive Reger.

Credentials—

Brother A. B. Eperson; Brother W. E. Dearmore; Brother Ode Robinson.

Special song, Brother Morris, Brother Lane, Sister Cockrell and Sister Wade.

A motion was put before the house that Brother Kiker be ordained in the Wolf church as a deacon. Motion made and carried. Brother Kiker was not present.

Elder T. H. Dickson and Elder R. G. Lane from the Grand River Association and Elder E. E. Morris from the Dibble Association each gave an interesting talk.

Elder T. H. Dickson was appointed by the pulpit committee to bring the evening message.

Afternoon services was dismissed by Elder W. L. Waddle.

Thursday Night Session

House brought to order by singing. Brother B. C. Munkus lead the praise services. Brother T. H. Dickson gave an interesting

talk on his Evangelistic work. Brother R. G. Lane lead in prayer. Brother T. H. Dickson brought the evening message from 2nd Tim. 3:16.

The assistant Moderator took charge at this time, Brother B. S. Van Winkle and Brother Iville Hunt were ordained as Deacons in the Box Church.

Dismissed by Sister Alsup.

Friday Morning Session

Called together by singing several songs. Brother D. J. King read the scripture lesson from 1st Cor. Prayer by Brother Ode Robinson. The Moderator took charge. The minutes of previous session read and accepted.

The Moderator called for the reports of the committees they were read and accepted.

Brother Clyde Argo presented the Pleasant Hill Church letter, the letter was read and accepted. The Moderator extended the hand of Christian fellowship to the delegates.

The chairman of the pulpit committee reported that Brother Richard Lane would bring the eleven o'clock message.

Motion to adjourn, Dismissed by Brother J. P. Fry.

Came together by singing. Brother Clyde Argo led in prayer. Brother Lane brought a soul stirring message from Matt. 15:13.

The body was dismissed for the noon hour by Brother Jake Armstrong.

Friday Afternoon Session

Called together by singing "I'll be a friend to Jesus." Brother T. C. Christian selected Jer. 23; 1-4 for the scripture lesson. Brother B. C. Munkus led in a word of prayer.

A complaint was brought against Elder S. R. Russell for teaching unsound doctrine, but upon statement from him that he was sound in doctrine and loyal to the Free Will Baptist Church charges were dismissed.

Motion was made and seconded that Bro. W. A. Land be examined for the ministry, the examining committee extended their approval.

Brother W. A. Land was ordained as a minister of the Gospel. Brother Jake Armstrong as a deacon in the Earlsboro Church. Brother A. E. Downs gave the ordination prayer.

The Obituary report was read and the congregation reverently bowed their heads and Brother J. P. Fry lead our minds in a word of prayer in honor of our friends and loved ones who have crossed over since our last association.

The next session of the First Oklahoma Association was

placed at the Tecumseh Church, Tecumseh, Oklahoma, beginning on Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in September, 1939. Brother B. C. Munkus was elected to preach the introductory sermon.

Placing Quarterly Meetings

The first was placed at Wolf Church. The second at New Bethelham Church. Third at Spring Hill.

Bro. Lane was elected to preach the introductory sermon at the first quarterly meeting.

Motion made and seconded that the moderator appoint delegates for the state association which will convene with the Dibble Church, Dibble, Oklahoma.

The Delegates were:

Brother Joe Gwin

Sister Dolly Clairda

Brother R. B. Hughes

Sister Olive Reger

Brother Jake Armstrong

Brother Emil Fox

Sister Lillie Keeler

Sister Earl Stevenson

Sister Wade

Sister Ruth Munkus

Bro. W. E. Dearmore will bring the message for the night.

Minutes of this session read and approved. Motion to adjourn until the next annual session.

Dismissed by Bro. W. E. Dearmore.

Committee Reports

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 1—We your committee on resolutions recommend that each minister who preaches the Baptism of the Holy Ghost with the speaking in tongues as evidence separate from regeneration be dealt with by the Association.

Resolution No. 2—We your committee on resolution recommend that a committee be appointed to deal with any one teaching anything contrary to the Free Will doctrine.

Resolution No. 3—We recommend that all preachers, deacons and delegates be urged to be on hand at the beginning of every quarterly meeting and association.

Resolution No. 4—We the resolution committee recommend this body vote a resolution of thanks to the Box Church for the wonderful hospitality they have shown us.

Signed by the Committee

HOME MISSION

We the committee on Home Mission advise each church in our association to have a home mission society. By so doing both

young and old will be encouraged to work for the cause of Christ; many hearts may be reached through the effort of the home mission workers.

Signed by the Committee

EXTENSION

We the committee of extension of the Church encourage all ministers and churches to reach out to build up and repair our churches and build new ones where the Lord leads us to go. And too, we asked each Church to get behind their pastor with all the power and grace the Lord will give us, to pray for our brothers and sisters as we should.

MUSIC

We the committee on music think that sacred music is very necessary and helpful to the Church.

Signed by the Committee

PRAYER MEETING

We the committee on prayer meeting recommend that each Church should have prayer meeting at least once a week. That it might supply food for the soul. Most of the churches report a mid-week prayer meeting and we urge that the others will have in the near future.

Signed by the Committee

LEAGUE

We urge that each church start a league if they don't already have one and encourage our young people to attend to advance the cause of Christ.

Signed by the Committee

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We, the Sunday school committee report that each church represented in our association has a Sunday school. We recommend that all teachers urge the pupils to remain for church services. We also recommend that officers and teachers of our Sunday Schools be members of Free Will Baptist Church. We also think it very necessary that our Sunday schools use Free Will Baptist literature. That all people be invited to study the Divine Word with us.

Signed by the Committee

PUBLICATION

We the Publication Committee urge that the Free Will Baptist Churches all use Free Will Baptist Literature. We further urge that we have all printing done by Free Will Baptist Press if possible.

Signed by the Committee

OBITUARY

We find that God has called from our midst the following:
Thelma Gwin, Spring Hill; Carline Reger, and Jorine Dee Abbott, Tecumseh; Ola Mae Ingle, Box; Brother W. M. Gartman, Wolf; Hazel Mattlock, Earlene Houck, Pleasant Hill; Grandma

Sangster, two children of Sister Newman, Son of Brother and Sister Bowland and Uncle Jimmie Fry, Earlsboro; Brother E. W. Whitall, North View.

Signed by the Committee

FINANCE

We your committee beg to report the following. We find our churches have paid \$1,885.00 for the support of the different churches in this association.

Minute money -----	\$24.72
Old Minister Fund -----	\$48.95
Paid out -----	\$35.00
Leaving Balance -----	\$13.95

Signed by the Committee

TEMPERANCE

We your committee on temperance submit the following: Temperance covers a broad field, and should be an individual subject and appeal to all true followers of Christ. It is one of the fundamental principles in forming and shaping a true Christian Character. It is the key to a successful life, both in church and state. It is right in the sight of God to be temperate in all things. Intemperance or the use of strong drink is wrecking the lives and homes of millions of innocent women and children, and we as Christians should never lose an opportunity of stressing the necessity of living temperate lives, and by precept and example set a high Christian standard, that will command the respect of the intemperate or non-believer. Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging; and whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise.

We as Christians should demonstrate to the world the worth and merit of the Church of the living God in lifting humanity upon a higher plane of living, and all times condemn the legalizing by law the sale of intoxicating liquors.

Churches	Members	Valuation	Paid Pastors	Paid Evangelist
Spring Hill	85		\$115.00	\$25.00
Box	35		\$ 95.00	
Menniha				
North View	15			
Pleasant Hill	65	\$500.00	\$ 80.29	
Wolf		\$700.00	\$ 50.00	\$45.00
Earlsboro	45		\$650.00	\$60.00
New Bethelham	76		\$ 84.15	
Tecumseh	45		\$112.93	\$25.00
Snomac	23		\$ 7.30	\$14.70

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 avoid the 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 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 bond 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 the Gospel. We will everywhere hold Christian principles 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.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scripture, secret prayer, family devotions, social worship; and by self denial, good works endeavor to grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conference, public worship and the observance of the ordinance and support of the church, of its poor, and all its benevolent work. To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of the educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls, and conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.