

MINUTES

Of The Forty-third Annual Session



FIRST OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION

FREE WILL BAPIST

HELD WITH NEW BETHLEHEM CHURCH

~~HELD WITH TECUMSEH CHURCH~~

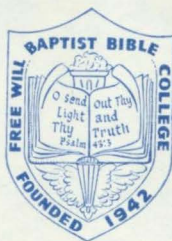
AUGUST 7 TO 10, 1940



OFFICERS

Moderator, Elder W. E. Dearmore.....	Wanette, Oklahoma
Assistant Moderator, Elder A. B. Epperson....	Tecumseh, Oklahoma
Clerk, Sister Dollie Clarida.....	Tecumseh, Oklahoma
Assistant Clerk, Mrs. Paul Purcell.....	Tecumseh, Oklahoma

The next Annual Session of this Association will be held with the Earlsboro Church, beginning on Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in September, 1941.



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. John H. West

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. Motion 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 SESSION

The First Oklahoma Association assembled themselves together by singing several songs. Elder W. E. Dearmore lead in prayer Taking charge in the absence of the Moderator, Brother Dearmore quoted the twenty third Psalm and gave a short talk.

He then turned the service to Elder Arthur Clarida who took his text from Genesis 3 and 9: "And the Lord God called unto Adam and said unto him "Where Art Thou?" It was a very inspiring message to the church, and enjoyed by all.

The services then were turned back to Elder Dearmore who appointed a temporary pulpit committee. The committee consisted of Brothers Pete Connor, Hagar, and Austin Straughan. They re-hired and decided on Elder Dearmore to deliver the message on Thursday morning.

At this time motion was made and carried to adjourn until Thursday morning. Meeting was dismissed by Elder F. M. Woods until Thursday morning at 9:00.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

The Forty-third annual session of the First Oklahoma Association assembled themselves together at nine o'clock to transact such

business that might come before the house.

Moderator A. B. Epperson took charge. Elder Dearmore led in prayer and after reading the rules, Elder Epperson called for the letters from the churches.

The letters were read and accepted and delegates seated from the following churches: Earlsboro, Spring Hill, New Bethlehem, Minneha, North View, Wolf, Tecumseh and Box. At this time the hand of fellowship was given the delegates.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

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

Elder A. B. Epperson, Assistant Moderator, Tecumseh, Oklahoma.

Sister Dollie Clarida, Clerk, Tecumseh, Oklahoma.

Sister Purcell, Assistant Clerk, Tecumseh, Oklahoma.

Sister Mamie Stevenson, of Earlsboro, was retained as custodian of the old Minister fund.

Elder, A. B. Epperson was reelected as a member on the executive board for three years.

Other members are Elder, W. E. Dearmore to serve two years and Elder Waddle to serve one year.

Elder Dearmore appointed a committee on Divine Service, Brother Vard Woods, Brother Bowlin, Brother Austin Straughan, Brother Wilson and Brother Barney Van Winkle were appointed as the committee.

By motion we adjourned until one-thirty o'clock—Dismissed by Brother Thompson.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICES

We were called together by singing "Some Glad Day". Prayer by Brother Hagar.

Services were turned to Elder Dearmore who took for a text, Second Corinthians 5: 1. He brought an encouraging message to the Free Will Baptist Church. He was followed by Elder McGee who brought a short message on what "Heaven Holds."

Elder E. E. Morris dismissed us in a word of prayer.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Met together by singing. Prayer by Elder W. A. Land

Brother Bill Thompson led devotional which was a feast to our souls. At this time a special song was given, "Looking For You," by Brother O. H. Stairs, Brother E. E. Morris, Sister Annie Lewis and Sister Jane Ellen Land.

At this time an ordination service was held in which Brother J. E. Wilson was ordained Deacon of Box Church. Elder O. H. Stairs, W. A. Land, and M. M. McKee officiated: Then with a song the hand of fellowship was given Brother Wilson.

The moderator was given authority by the body at this time to appoint the different committees.

PUBLICATION—

Elder E. E. Morris, Elder O. H. Stairs, Elder A. B. Epperson

Elder Paul Purcell, Brother H. M. Lynn, Brother Ben Littleton,
FINANCE—

Sister Myrtle Kiker, Sister Lizzie Van Winkle, Sister Vivian Ketchum, Sister Anna Lewis, Brother J. E. Wilson.

RESOLUTION—

Elder A. E. Downs, Elder A. B. Epperson, Elder W. G. Fields
Brother Pete Connor, Brother B. C. Wilson.

MUSIC—

Sister Lillian Argo, Sister Mertie Trice, Sister Ruth Munkins,
Sister Ruth Mathews.

LEAGUE—

Brother J. F. Masters, Brother Pete Conner, Brother H. E.
Bolen, Brother J. W. Thompson, Elder E. J. King:

SUNDAY SCHOOL —

Brother Alfred Owens, Sister Fay Wilson, Sister Katherine
Hagar, Sister Irene Hunt, Sister Vivian Davis.

CREDENTIAL—

Brother R. L. Hollis, Sister Earl Stevenson, Sister Ida Maxwell.

OBITUARY—

Elder Waddle, Elder Jim Fry, Brother Maxwell, Brother Bob
McKalistar, Sister Bob McKalistar.

TEMPERANCE—

Elder W. A. Land, Brother Spencer, Caskey, Brother Barney
Van Winkle, Sister Pearl Taylor, Sister Rayboy, Sister Bissie Molder

MISSION—

Sister Roy Trice, Sister Nellie Landsdown, Brother W. W.
Davis. Brother George Moulder, Sister Reba Van Winkle.

By motion the association and quarterly meeting were placed
at this time for the ensuing year.

Association Earlsboro Church

First Quarterly Meeting Box Church

Second Quarterly Meeting Tecumseh

Third Quarterly Meeting North View

At this time we had a five minute recess.

Called together by singing and turning the service to Elder E.
E. Morris. He then read 23rd chapter of Psalms, taking for a text
“My”, an inspiring message was brought that every one enjoyed
very much. Motion to adjourn until night services.

THURSDAY NIGHT SESSION

The congregation came together with singing. Elder George
Taylor led in prayer. Elder O. H. Stairs conducted the devotional
services which was inspiring to all. Services were then turned to
Elder F. M. Woods whose text was, Matthew 25:25, “And I Was
Afraid and Went and Hid Thy Talent in the Earth: Lo There
Thou Hast That is Thine.” “This was a message accompanied by
the spirit. Elder E. E. Morris concluded with a wonderful message
which ended with four souls being gloriously saved.

Committee then reported that Elder O. H. Stairs would fill the
stand Friday morning. Dismissed by Elder E. E. Morris.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Meeting was opened by singing, “I’ll Make It My Home Some
Day.”

Elder A. D. King led devotional reading, Roman 5:14.

Prayer by Elder Dearmore who invited visiting brothers and
sisters to sit with us in counsel.

Motion carried that the moderator take a collection for the
purpose of buying ink and paper for the State Press at the eleven
o’clock service.

Elder O. H. Stairs and Elder Paul Purcell were appointed to
bring the message at eleven o’clock.

By motion we adjourned for eleven o’clock service.

Dismissed by Sister Lizzie Van Winkle.

Come together by singing, “Just Over in The Gloryland,” Broth-
er Straughan led in prayer. During a song, a collection of \$4.00

was taken and given to Elder E. E. Morris for home paper. Five dollars for state minutes money was also taken.

Brother and Sister Stairs sang a special song "Camping In Canaan's Land."

Elder Paul Purcell took the service and read for his text from Daniel 6:20. Brother Paul brought an encouraging message. Services were turned to the moderator and services were dismissed by Brother Waddle.

Meeting came together by singing, "It Wont Be Very Long." Prayer led by Brother Waddle. Brother Dearmore read the ninety third Psalm.

The following committee reports were read and accepted: Publication, finance, resolutions, music; league; Sunday; School; credentials, obituary, Temperance, mission.

By motion we elected the minister to bring the introductory message at our forty-fourth association. Elder Mrs. Paul Purcell was elected Elder W. A. Land was appointed alternate.

By a motion the meeting date of the association was changed from August to the Thursday morning before the second Sunday of September 1941.

Elder Paul Purcell was selected to bring the introductory sermon at the first quarterly meeting.

Resolutions number one, two, three, four; five and six were read and accepted.

Reports from three ministers were read and accepted. A vote of thanks was extended to the moderator and assistant, also the clerk and assistant.

By motion the moderator appointed three delegates to represent us at the State Convention which convenes with the Tulsa church. Sister O. H. Stairs, Sister Irene Hunt and Sister Jane Ellen Land were appointed. The committee on Divine service reported that Rev. O. H. Stairs would preach at the evening service:

Motion to adjourn until the Forty-fourth session which will convene in September 1941.

Minutes of the association were read and adopted. Dismissed by Elder Dearmore.

VISITING MINISTERS

Elder Vard Woods	Stratford, Oklahoma
Elder Pitts	Ft. Cobb, Oklahoma
Elder M. M. McKee	Soper, Oklahoma
Elder F. M. Woods	Ada, Oklahoma
Elder Ernest Brown	Drumright, Oklahoma
Elder E. E. Morris	Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

COMMITTEE REPORTS—RESOLUTION

Resolution No. 1—Be it resolved that we change the time of our association back to Wednesday night before the fourth Sunday in September which was our original time, and that we have our introductory message at eleven o'clock Thursday morning—signed by the committee.

Resolution No. 2—Be it resolved that we meet quarterly instead of fifth Sundays.—Signed by the Committee.

Resolution No. 3—Be it resolved that we preach two men at the preaching hours.—Signed by the committee.

Resolution No. 4—Be it resolved that each church send five dollars with their delegates to the association for minutes and for expenses.—Signed by the Committee.

Resolution No. 5—Be it resolved that this body appoint the pastor and clerk of each church to act as a committee in their church

to promote league work and that we have a league rally each fifth Sunday—Signed by the Committee.

Resolution No. 6 Be it resolved that this body give the New Bethlehem church a vote of thanks for the courtesy shown us during this association—Signed by the Committee.

HOME MISSION

We the committee on home mission advise each church in our association to have a home mission society and each individual to comply with the scripture recorded in Matt. 5:16, by so doing we will teach by precept as by word. We know by so doing that both young an old will be encouraged to work for the cause of Christ. We know that many hearts will be reached through our efforts of the home mission workers—Signed by the Committee.

MINISTERS

We as a committee on the ministers investigation we find in church all active ministers are in good standing—Signed by the Committee.

TEMPERANCE

We the committee on Temperance accept and approve this report as adopted by the association and wish to add this amendment that we as a christian body, wish to impress that every child of God should personally practice temperance before the world. Signed by the Committee.

FINANCE

We, your committee beg to report the following: we find our churches have paid \$1,646.07 for the support of the different churches in this association; ministers money received \$15.00.

Balance from last year \$1.60. All of the churches have sent in their minute money.—Signed by the Committee.

OBITUARY

We, your committee find only one death reported that of Brother G. W. Lawson of Council Creek Church.—Signed by the Committee.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We the committee recommend that the association adopt a rule that all Free Will Baptist Churches should use F. W. B. Literature. We also recommend that teachers and officers should belong to that particular church.—Signed by the Committee.

MUSIC

We the committee on music think that sacred music is very necessary and helpful to the church. We urge that every church have a ten days singing school every year and as much singing as possible in every service. We think special numbers are very helpful.—Signed by the Committee.

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE

We the committee on publication recommend that the First Oklahoma Association send five dollars for state minutes. Also that we receive the amount of minutes we pay for.

We also recommend that we the First Oklahoma Association

We are also glad to report that the state now owns a press which is located at Wewoka. Elder B. F. Rogers is editor of the same and it is controlled by the state executives board. The State plans to publish a paper before the state meeting.—Signed by the Committee.

We the committee on League find that the League is a strong support to the church and do recommend that each church in the association that doesn't have one to organize one. We feel that there is a great work accomplished in God's service. It is also a fine training school for our young people that they may be able to carry on God's work more effective than we.— Signed by the Committee.

CHURCHES PASTOR	ADDRESS	CLERKS	ADDRESS
Rev. Clay Richie	Blanchard, Okla.	George Molder	Lexington
Spring Hill			
Rev. O. H. Stairs,	Earlsboro, Okla.	E. C. Ketchem,	Earlsboro
Earlsboro			
Rev. Paul Purcell,	Tecumseh.	Della E. Cluck,	Tecumseh
Tecumseh			
Rev. Arthur Clarida,	Tecumseh.	Billie Lansdowne,	Tecums-h
North View			
Rev. Arthur Clarida,	Tecumseh	Sister Coffman,	Wolf.
Wolf			
Rev. W. A. Land,	Dale, Okla.	Sister Modena,	Ashey, Wanette
Box			
Rev. S. R. Russill		Sister Christina	Baldwin
Minneha			
Rev. Vard Woods		Bertha Hughes,	Asher
New Bethlehem			

CHURCHES	MEMBERS	PAID PASTORS	PAID EVANGELIST
Spring Hill	105	\$ 80.00	\$43.72
Tecumseh	60	\$261.77	\$42.00
Wolf			
North View	26	\$ 28.12	\$15.00
Box	73	\$117.87	\$15.00
New Bethlehem	68	\$ 58.90	
Earlsboro	107	\$660.00	\$65.00

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 our selves 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 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 intend 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.

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 School, 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.

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