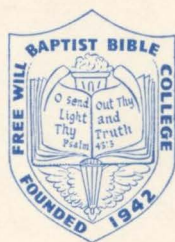


The
First Oklahoma Association
of
Free Will Baptists

1942

Proceedings of the
45th Annual Session

Convened at
Tecumseh Church
Tecumseh, Oklahoma



FREE WILL BAPTIST
BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. John H. West

MINUTES

OF THE
FORTY-FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
FIRST OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

HELD WITH
Tecumseh Church, Tecumseh, Oklahoma,
September 23-25, 1942.

OFFICERS

Moderator,	Eld. Evert Brown, Tecumseh, Okla.
Ass't. Mod.,	Eld. W. E. Dearmore, Wanette, Okla.
Clerk,	Winnie McLain, Oklahoma City, Okla.
Ass't. Clerk,	Vivian Ketchem, Earlsboro, Okla.

The next annual session of this association will be held with North View Church, two miles east of Tecumseh, Oklahoma, beginning Thursday morning before the third Sunday in August, 1943.

A ten days Camp Meeting preceding the Association will also be held at North View Church.

PROCEEDINGS

The camp meeting of the First Oklahoma Association convened with the Tecumseh Church, Tecumseh, Okla., September 13-22, 1942.

Evangelists were Eld. H. E. Staires, Drumright, Okla., and Eld. Paul Pursell, Stonewall, Oklahoma. Various ministers filled the stand at the morning services.

The Holy Spirit was manifested in each service and souls were saved.

ASSOCIATIONAL PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the forty-fifth annual session of the First Oklahoma Association of Free Will Baptists convened with Tecumseh Church, Tecumseh, Oklahoma, September 23-25, 1942.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened by singing led by Eld. John West.

Moderator, Eld. W. E. Dearmore, took charge.

Prayer by Eld. W. G. Fields.

Testimony service led by Eld. Evert Brown.

Special song was sung by Sister Naomi Pitts.

Prayer by Eld. A. B. Epperson.

The introductory message was brought by Eld. W. A. Land; text, Matt. 5:14, "Ye are the light of the world."

Prayer by Eld. J. W. Thompson.

THURSDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened by singing led by Eld. Roy Trice.

Scripture reading, Psalms 1, by Moderator.

Prayer by Eld. Cleo Pursell.

Welcome address given by Rev. Paul Osman, pastor of the Methodist Church, in behalf of the Ministerial Alliance of Tecumseh.

Response by the moderator.

Letters from North View, Wolf, Tecumseh, and Earlsboro were read and received. A song was sung and the hand of fellowship was given the delegates.

A petitionary letter from the Central Avenue Free Will Church was read and received. The hand of fellowship was extended the delegates.

Prayer was prayed in behalf of the sick.

Visiting ministers were given the hand of fellowship.
Election of officers as follows: Moderator, Eld. Evert Brown, Tecumseh, Okla.; Assistant Moderator, Elder W. E. Dearmore, Wanette, Okla.; Clerk, Winnie McLain, 315 S. E. 17th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.; Ass't. Clerk, Vivian Ketchem, Earlsboro, Okla.; Executive Board, Eld. O. H. Staires (1 year), Eld. W. L. Waddle (two years), Eld. J. H. West (three years).

Rules of Order were read by the Moderator.

Moderator was given power to appoint committees.
Pulpit Committee: Eld. Evert Brown, Ola Smithey, and Carrie Mae Alfrey.

The Pulpit Committee reported that Eld. Cleo Pursell and Eld. A. B. Epperson would preach at the eleven o'clock hour.

Adjourned until one o'clock p. m.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened by singing; prayer by Eld. W. E. Dearmore.

Eld. Cleo Pursell preached using as her text, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord and he shall sustain thee" Psalms 55:22. Eld. A. B. Epperson concluded the service. Song and handshake.

Dismissed by Sister Winnie McLain.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened by singing.

Eld. Paul Pursell read Psalms 24 for the devotional. Prayer by Eld. H. E. Staires.

Report of retiring clerk was read and received.

Moderator and Ass't. Moderator appointed the committees as follows:

Pulpit—Evert Brown, Ola Smithey, Carrie May Alfrey.

Resolution—J. H. West, C. F. White, George McLain.

Sunday School—Alice Clark, Effie Wood, Bessie West.

League—Roy Trice, Pearl Taylor, and Vivian Davis.

Music—Earleen Paris, Lester Lemons, Mamie Stevenson.

Prayer Meeting—Ben Littleton and Floyd Northam.

Publication—Evert Brown, Winnie McLain, and E. C. Ketchem.

Temperance—Alice Scott, Mrs. Brayboy, Jake Smith.

Finance—J. H. West, Evert Brown, W. E. Dearmore.

Credential—E. C. Ketchem, B. F. Maxwell, and Earl Stevenson.

Obituary—Pearl Williams, Gladys Shinn, G. W. Fields.

Mission—Effie Wood, Lillie Wade, and Bessie West.

Motion carried to accept committees as appointed.
Eld. W. E. Dearmore gave a report of the National Association.

Minutes of quarterly meetings were read and approved.

Report of committee on investigation of Minneha school was read and accepted.

Report of committee on central location for the Association read and accepted.

Elders J. H. West and George McLain were elected evangelists for the camp meeting.

Resolutions numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 were read and accepted.

Pulpit Committee reported that Elders J. H. West and H. E. Staires would preach at the night service.

Report of League Committee was read and accepted.

Motion carried that Bro. Floyd Northam be examined for ordination for a deacon.

Motion carried that Eld. J. H. West appoint two for examining counsel as the other members of the examining counsel were not present. Eld. W. E. Dearmore and Bro. B. F. White were appointed on the board.

Report of examining counsel was read and accepted.

Adjourned until nine a. m. Friday.

Dismissed by Sister Pearl Taylor.

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Opened by singing.

Prayer by Eld. B. C. Munkus.

Two special songs were sung.

Eld. Arthur Downs led the devotional service.

Eld. J. H. West preached using as his text, Romans 1:14-16. His subject was, "The Three I Ams of Paul."

Eld. H. E. Staires concluded the service.

Dismissed by Eld. George McLain.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

Opened by singing.

Prayer by Elder George McLain.

Psalms 1 and 2 were read by Eld. George McLain for the scripture lesson.

Prayer by Eld. B. C. Munkus.

Reports of committees on prayer meeting, temperance, and obituary were read and approved.

The body stood in a moment of silent prayer in reverence to the deceased.

The pulpit committee reported that Bro. Roy Trice and Eld. B. C. Munkus would preach at the eleven o'clock hour.

Report of Eld. W. E. Dearmore's years work was read and accepted.

Report of Committee on Home Mission was read and accepted.

Power was given moderator to appoint a committee to select the Woman's Auxiliary officers. The committee appointed was Sisters Bessie West, Winnie McLain and Anderson.

Report of committees on finance and Sunday school were read and accepted.

Report of Elders George McLain, J. H. West and Everet Brown's years work was read and accepted.

The quarterly meetings and association were placed as follows:

First Quarterly Meeting—Central Avenue Church, 1815 S. Central, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Second Quarterly Meeting—Earlsboro, Oklahoma.

Third Quarterly Meeting—Tecumseh, Oklahoma.

Association—North View.

The quarterly meetings convene on Thursday morning before the third Sunday in November, February and May.

The Association convenes Thursday morning before the third Sunday in August.

Eld. Evert Brown was elected to preach the introductory message at the association and Eld. O. H. Doss the alternate.

Adjourned until one o'clock.

Dismissed by Bro. J. W. Thompson.

FRIDAY ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Opened with singing.

Prayer by Eld. George McLain.

Bro. Roy Trice brought the message using as his text, Jeremiah 31:6. Eld. B. C. Munkus concluded the service

Dismissed by Sister Winnie McLain.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Opened with singing.

Eld. A. B. Epperson read Psalms 137 for the devotional; prayer by Sister Alice Scott.

Letter from the Pleasant Hill Church was read and accepted.

Resolutions Numbers 5, 6, and 7 were read and accepted.

Report of ordaining counsel was read and accepted.

Report of committee on appointment of officers for Ladies' Auxiliary was read and accepted.

Reports of committees on music, publication, and credentials were read and accepted.

Motion carried that clerk buy ministerial certificate cards for all ministers.

A standing vote of thanks was given the Tecumseh church for their hospitality.

Delegates to the State Association were elected as follows: Sisters Gladys Shinn, Mamie Stevenson, Lillie Wade, Bessie West and Vivian Davis. Alternates, Sisters Myrtle Trice, Vivian Ketchem, Arleen Paris, Pearl Williams and Roy Trice.

Motion carried that a committee be elected to find a place for centralizing association. The committee elected was J. H. West, Lester Lemons, George McLain, Evert Brown, and E. C. Ketchem.

Minutes were read and approved.

Adjourned until next session.

Dismissed by Eld. A. B. Epperson.

Winnie McLain, Clerk.

Evert Brown, Moderator.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

RESOLUTIONS—

No. 1—Be it Resolved, That our associational year end July 31 and begin August 1, and that our ministers accepting new churches make the changes on that date.

No. 2—Be it Resolved, That this association pay ten dollars (\$10.00) per month into the National Unified Budget program.

No. 3—Be it Resolved, That this association convene Thursday morning before the third Sunday in August.

No. 4—Be it Resolved, That the introductory message be brought at 11:00 a. m. Thursday.

No. 5—Be it Resolved, That deacons serve one year before ordination.

No. 6—Be it Resolved, That each church take a special offering and send to the associational clerk each month for the National Unified Budget Program.

No. 7 — Be it Resolved, That the clerk of this association be paid five dollars (\$5.00) and the assistant clerk two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50).

SUNDAY SCHOOL — We find that we have Sunday Schools using Free Will Baptist literature in all our churches. We urge that we put forth an effort to encourage a higher goal of regular attendance for all ages in our churches and that we build interest by faithful teaching of the scripture.

FINANCE — We, your Committee on Finance, report the following paid in:

\$35.00 for minutes and expense money; \$36.00 for evangelists; \$5.70 for old ministers' fund.

PUBLICATION — We, your committee, recommend that the clerk use her own judgment in numbers of minutes to be printed and that they be printed by a Free Will Baptist Press.

MUSIC — We, your Committee on Music, recommend that each of our churches participate in community singings. We find that special numbers aid spiritually is the cause for Christ. we recommend that teaching of singing schools and especially for the children of our denomination. We believe that in the training of our younger folk now, we will have made advancement that we will be proud of in later years.

OBITUARY — We, your Committee on Obituary, find seven deaths in our association:

Bro. Hoarce Graham, Sister Mollie Hulsey, and an infant of Bro. and Sister Parker Mangham of Oklahoma City Church.

Sister Minnie White of Wolf Church.

Bro. Sterling Pitts of Tecumseh Church.

Bro. G. S. Swift of Earlsboro Church.

Sister Della Matlock of Pleasant Hill Church.

CREDENTIAL — We, your Committee on Credential, find all our preachers and deacons in good standing and working for the glory of God.

PRAYER MEETING — We your Committee on Prayer Meeting find that most of the churches have mid-week prayer meeting and we recommend that each church maintain at least one prayer meeting a week. We also recommend cottage prayer meeting in neighborhoods where there are no churches.

LEAGUE—We, your committee on League work, find that the leagues are a strong support to the church and do recommend that each church in the association that does not have a league organize one. Our league is a training school for our young people that they may be able to carry on God's work more effectively than we.

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. We urge our people of the several churches to be temperate in all things. We also urge that they use all the ability they have to prohibit the sale and use of intoxicating liquors.

HOME MISSION—We, your Committee on Home Mission, recommend that our churches adopt the National work of the Wcman's Auxiliary and that we elect our associational officers at this session.

Officers elected were: President, Gladys Shinn, 227 S. E. 19th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.; Second Vice President, Earleen Paris, 515 S. E. 19th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.; Third Vice President, Pearl Taylor, Snomac, Okla.; Fourth Vice President, Mamie Stevenson, Earlsboro, Okla.; Secretary, Dovie Brown, Tecumseh, Okla.; Corresponding Sec'y, Vivian Davis, Tecumseh, Okla.; Field Worker, Lillie Wade, Tecumseh, Okla.; Treasurer, Lillian Argo, Pleasant Hill.

CENTRAL LOCATION—We, the Committee on Central Location for the association, report as follows:

We are unable to find a suitable location for the Central Location of the Association; but we recommend that we grant the request of the North View Church that we meet there for the year 1943.

ORDAINING COUNCIL—We, the Ordaining Council recommend that Bro. Roy Trice be given license to preach the gospel for one year. We also recommend that Bro. Floyd Northam's ordination as a deacon be deferred for at least six months.

INVESTIGATION OF MINNEHA SCHOOL—We, your committee on investigation of Minneha school property, report as follows:

We find that the property was given by the school board

to the community for a church and gathering place and they were not interested in giving the property to any one organization.

CLERK'S REPORT

I wish to report as follows:

\$18.00 was paid out for printing of minutes; clerk, \$5.00; State Association, \$5.00; postage etc., \$1.83; balance on hand, \$10.17; Paid out for Camp Meeting expenses, for bills \$2.75, for evangelists \$37.43.

MINISTERS' REPORTS

J. H. WEST, Earlsboro, Okla. — I beg to report as follows: I have preached 178 sermons, pastored one church, held 4 revivals, witnessed 67 professions, baptized 4, preached 11 funerals, traveled 8,020 miles, received \$512.35, and married one couple.

GEORGE McLAIN, 315 S. E. 17th St., Oklahoma City, Okla. —
— I beg to report as follows: I have preached 170 sermons, pastored one church, held 4 revivals, witnessed 107 professions, preached 7 funerals, traveled 7,000 miles, received \$2,070.00, and married 6 couples.

EVERT BROWN, tecumseh, Okla. — I beg to report as follows: I have preached 65 sermons, held 3 revivals, witnessed 32 professions, received \$94.60, and married one couple.

W. E. DEARMORE, Wanette, Okla. — I beg to report as follows: I have preached 12 funerals, married 8 couples, attended the National Association at Cloumbus, Mississippi, been moderator of First Oklahoma Association during the last year, and have also been chairman of the ministerial alliance at Wanette.

ENROLLMENT OF MINISTERS

Eld. W. G. Fields	Tecumseh, Oklahoma
Eld. George McLain ..	315 S. E. 17th St., Oklahoma City, Okla.
Eld. B. C. Munkus	Route 3, Box 78, Norman, Okla.
Eld. W. E. Dearmore	Box 283, Wanette, Okla.
Eld. A. B. Epperson	Tecumseh, Okla.
Eld. J. W. Thompson	Earlsboro, Okla.
Eld. Mattie Epperson	Tecumseh, Okla.
Eld. Evert Brown	Box 542, Tecumseh, Okla.
Eld. G. W. Herd	Box 345, Tecumseh, Okla.
Eld. Harry Staires	Drumright, Okla.
Eld. Paul Pursell	Stonewall, Okla.
Eld. Cleo Pursell	Stonewall, Okla.
Eld. E. J. King	McCloud, Okla.

CHURCH REPORTS

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK	Paid Evangelists	Paid Pastors	Value of Church Property ..	Home Mission Enrollment ..	League Enrollment	Average Attending S. S. ..	Number Deacons	Number Ministers	Number deceased	Number Dismissed	Number Received	Number Members
Earlshoro	J. H. West	Mrs. J. R. Bourland	\$ 54.15	\$ 550.00	\$ 4,000	12	35	12	4	3	1	2	7	216
Tecumseh	Evert Brown	Vivian Davis	28.60	456	.....	.....	45	.....	5	2	1	2	6	61
Spring Hill	O. A. Doss	George Molder	51.00	90	.....	.....	60	.....	5	4	4	4	2	101
Wolf	Bro. Reed	Mrs. T. E. Coffman	53.32	30	.....	.....	48	.....	4	1	1	1	6	24
North View	Roy Trice	Thelma Trice .....	.....	.....	.....	6	18	.....	1	1	.....	.....	.....	27
Pleasant Hill	W. A. Land	Lillian Argo	71.50	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	3	63
Central Avenue ..	George McLain ..	Earleen Pharis	120.25	1,635.00	5,800	25	130	40	7	2	.....	2	.....	215
New Bethlehen ..	Yard Wood	Vida Fry	37.00	51.00	.....	.....	30	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	1	55

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 and deacons 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 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 vote of all members present.

10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the Moderator.

11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected if necessary 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

13. These Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after organization of the Association.

14. Alternations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid 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 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.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

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 souls, and the 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.

