

# MINUTES

—: OF THE :—

## SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

—: OF THE :—

### Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists

HELD WITH

### PROSPECT CHURCH DOTHAN, ALABAMA

November 1st and 2nd, 1946

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#### OFFICERS

D. F. PELT, Moderator.....Altha, Florida  
J. M. RICH, Vice Moderator.....Nashville, Tennessee  
EARNEST OWENS, Treasurer.....Chipley, Florida  
D. W. POOLE, Clerk.....Malone, Florida

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#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Officers of the Association are Executive Committee.

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The next session will meet with Traveler's Rest Church located on State Road No. 73 between Marianna and Clarksville, Florida, 1½ miles north of Clarksville and 23 miles south of Marianna, on October 31st, and November 1st, 1947.

### PLANNING BOARD

D. F. PELT-----Altha, Florida  
ERNEST OWENS-----Chipley, Florida  
FLETCHER BOLIN-----Slocomb, Alabama  
G. H. JORDAN-----Cottonwood, Alabama  
RUFUS HYMAN-----Altha, Florida

### BOARD OF SUPERANNUATION

G. W. NOBLES-----Cottonwood, Alabama  
A. B. COOK-----Bonifay, Florida  
JOHN GOLDEN-----Eufaula, Alabama  
C. E. DAY-----Marianna, Florida, R. F. D.  
D. O. HOLLY-----Slocomb, Alabama

### BOARD OF MISSIONS

J. M. RICH-----Nashville, Tennessee  
E. S. JONES-----Cottonwood, Alabama  
LONG STOKES-----Abbeville, Alabama  
J. W. ROBERTS-----Altha, Florida  
HERMAN FARMER-----Noma, Florida

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

J. M. RICH-----Nashville, Tennessee  
MRS. JOE JOHNSON-----Bascomb, Florida  
MRS. FLETCHER BOLIN-----Slocomb, Alabama  
JIM NICKELS-----Altha, Florida  
J. H. OATES-----Headland, Alabama

# PROCEEDINGS

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The Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists convened with Prospect Church, in Dothan, Alabama, in its second regular annual Session on Friday and Saturday, November 1st and 2nd, 1946.

The body was called to order at ten o'clock.

After several prayers and hymns, Rev. Kenneth Turner of Monett, Missouri, conducted a devotional service.

Rev. Rufus Hyman gave the welcome address.

Response by Mr. Earnest Owens.

The following Committees were then appointed by the moderator:

FINANCE—Mrs. Elouise Commander, Mr. J. C. Howell, Mr. C. E. Day.

CREDENTIALS—Mrs. Eulas Granger, Mrs. Georgia Trawick, Rev. Rufus Hyman.

NOMINATIONS — Mr. F. W. Bolin, Mr. C. A. Arnold, Mr. Earnest Owens.

Rev. K. V. Shutes conducted devotions in song, after which the Rev. J. C. Eldridge and the Rev. S. E. Shutes led in Prayer.

Introductory sermon was delivered by the moderator, whose subject was "The Second Mile," taken from Mathew 5:38,41.

Dismissed for lunch.

Reassembled at 1:30 P. M.

Devotional by Rev. Daniel Walters.

Report of Credentials Committee received and delegates seated.

Rev. I. O. Cook was elected vice moderator Pro Tem.

Rev. J. R. Davidson, business manager of the Bible School of Nashville, Tennessee, delivered an address on education, after which an offering of \$34.00 was taken for the Bible School.

Constitution and by-laws read and explained by moderator and Rev. Rufus Hyman.

By motion business adjourned until Saturday morning.

Rev. S. T. Shutes conducted divine services Friday evening.

## SATURDAY A. M.

Body called to order at ten o'clock.

Devotions conducted by Mary Edna Brown, Isa. 1:18.

Moved and carried that planning board meet on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in December at the home of Earnest Owens near Chipley, Florida, and all members of all boards to meet on Saturday before the fifth Sunday in March, 1947, at St. Johns Church, located 1½ miles south of Bonifay, Florida, just off Bonifay and Vernon highway.

Credentials Committee renewed call for delegates.

Report of committee on nominations read and adopted.

Report of Planning Board read and adopted.

Sermon on tithing delivered by Rev. T. B. Mellette.

Dismissed for lunch.

Reassemble at 1:30 P. M.

Devotions by Rev. I. O. Cook.

Treasurer's report read and adopted.

Report of Board of Missions read and adopted.

Report of Board of Education read and adopted.

Report of Finance Committee read and adopted.

By motion explanation of division and channels of finances, (as included in report of Planning Board) be included in said report.

By motion moderator and clerk be paid \$15.00 each for their services, this to be a permanent salary to continue from year to year.

Call for volunteer delegates to National Association, Brother and Sister Earnest Owens volunteered, this being an insufficient number, the following delegates were selected: Mary Edna Brown, Chester Cook, F. W. Bolin.

By motion clerk was authorized to have printed 1,000 minutes, place of printing left to discretion of clerk, but with recommendation of J. A. Fowler and Sons, if their prices were satisfactory.

By motion clerk draft letter form and have printed in minutes.

By motion a rising vote of thanks tendered Prospect Church for their hospitalities.

By motion Association adjourned to meet with Travelers' Rest Church Friday and Saturday, October 31st and November 1st, of 1947.

D. F. PELT, Moderator.

D. W. POOLE, Clerk.

### PROGRAM FOR THE THIRD SESSION (1947)

Friday Morning—Rev. I. O. Cook in charge of all announcements.

10:00—Devotions—Brother C. L. Cook.

10:15—Welcome Address—J. W. Roberts.

10:25—Response—Brother George Owens.

10:35—Appointment of Committees.

11:00—Congregational Singing.

11:20—Introductory Sermon—Rev. Daniel Watlers.

12:00—Noon.

1:30—Devotions—Brother A. C. Womack.

1:45—Report of Credentials Committees.

2:00—Special Music—Traveler's Rest Quartet.

2:15—Field Report—D. W. Poole.

2:40—Assignment of delegates.

3:00—Adjournment.

7:00 P.M.—Devotions—Brother Allen Sapp.

7:15—Sermon—Rev. John Golden.

### SATURDAY MORNING.

9:45—Congregational singing.

10:00—Devotions—Sister Ada Holley.

10:15—Report of Planning Board.

10:35—Report of Board of Education.



- 11:00—Song services.
- 11:20—Sermon—Rev. Rufus Hyman.
- 12:00—Noon.
- 1:30—Devotions—Sister F. W. Bolin.
- 1:45—Report Board of Missions.
- 2:00—Report Board of Superannuation.
- 2:15—Miscellaneous Business.
- 3:00—Adjournment.

#### REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE.

We your Credentials Committee have examined the following delegates and recommend that they be seated in our body.

#### BY ASSOCIATION.

STATE LINE:—Mrs. Ulas Granger, I. A. Tolar.

SALEM:—C. E. Day, C. L. Cook, G. B. Scott, G. I. Owens, H. N. Holly.

LIBERTY:—Mrs. A. B. Cook, A. B. Cook, F. M. Knight, Mrs. Etha Mae Owen, Claud Hicks.

UNION HILL:—Mrs. O. S. Bolin, F. W. Bolin, J. R. Bolin, Mrs. W. A. Morris, James Waters.

SOUTH EASTERN:—C. A. Arnold, J. E. Mallory.

#### BY CHURCHES—STATE LINE ASSOCIATION.

CORINTH CHURCH:—Sinthy Jackson, Minnie Jackson.

PLEASANT RIDGE CHURCH:—Alvie Hart.

PROSPECT CHURCH:—Arthur Trawick, Quincy Walters.

SPRING HILL CHURCH:—I. A. Tolar.

HOWARDS GROVE CHURCH:—E. S. Jones.

#### SALEM ASSOCIATION.

DAMASCUS CHURCH:—Floyd Padgett, John R. Porter.

OAK GROVE CHURCH:—W. M. Hewett.

CHRISTIAN HOME CHURCH:—H. N. Holley.

GAP POND CHURCH:—Arthur Finch, Johnnie Johnson.

LOVE WOOD CHURCH:—Allen Sapp.

MARVIN CHAPPEL CHURCH:—C. E. Day.

TRAVELER'S REST CHURCH:—W. M. Shiver, C. T. Suggs.

CYPRESS CREEK CHURCH:—P. E. Vickery.

#### LIBERTY ASSOCIATION.

LIBERTY CHURCH:—Arthur Cook.

ST. JOHN CHURCH:—Earl Cook, J. D. Strickland.

#### UNION HILL ASSOCIATION.

UNION HILL CHURCH:—Mrs. F. W. Bolin, W. A. Morris.

#### SOUTH EASTERN ASSOCIATION.

UNION CHURCH:—Mrs. Linnie Stokes.

EVER GREEN CHURCH:—Mrs. Mattie Paulk.

HOLMES CHURCH:—Mrs. Eloise Commander.

FRIENDSHIP CHURCH:—Mrs. J. E. Mallory.

MRS. EULAS GRANGER,  
MRS. GEORGIE TRAWICK  
RUFUS HYMAN.

## REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

We your committee on finance beg leave to make the following report:

We find five associations represented in this body and 23 churches from these associations from which we have received the following dues:

Union Hill Association.....	\$ 10.00
State Line Association.....	5.00
South Eastern Association.....	10.00
Liberty Association .....	10.00
Salem Association .....	10.00
Union Hill Church .....	4.00
Hickory Grove Church.....	4.00
Corinth Church .....	4.00
Pleasant Ridge Church.....	2.00
Spring Hill Church.....	2.00
Howard's Grove Church.....	2.00
New Harmony Church.....	2.00
Union Church .....	2.00
Ever Green Church.....	2.00
Holme's Church .....	2.00
Friendship Church .....	2.00
St. John's Church.....	4.00
Piney Grove Church .....	4.00
Liberty Church .....	3.75
Abigail Church .....	2.00
Traveler's Rest Church.....	4.00
Marvin Chapel Church.....	2.00
Damascus Church .....	4.00
Christian Home Church.....	2.00
Oak Grove Church.....	2.00
Gap Pond Church.....	4.00
Lovewood Church .....	2.00
Cypress Creek Church .....	2.00

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\$103.75

Misc..... 4.00

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\$107.75

MRS. ELOISE COMMANDER,  
C. E. DAY  
J. C. HOWELL.

## REPORT OF NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE.

We submit the following report:

We find more than one association asking for the session of this association, but we nominate Traveler's Rest Church as host and Rev. Daniel

Walters to preach introductory sermon, with the Rev. K. V. Shutes as his alternate.

MR. F. W. BOLIN.  
MR. C. A. ARNOLD.  
MR. EARNEST OWEN.

### REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

1. The needs of our youth being so great and urgent, cause us to be most interested in meeting as quickly as possible the most urgent of these needs.

The youth of our church should be made to feel that the church does not wish to push them aside as spectators while the older members boss, guide, and run the ship of church. We should make them feel that they are (in fact, very vital part) of the church.

Since a training camp will aid the youth in finding and filling their place in our church program, we purpose to give priority to establishment of such a center. We will accept the responsibility involved with faith, hope and a determination on our part.

2. The funds allotted to this board which come through the general budget, shall be budgeted as follows:

1. 50% for up-keep and expense of training camp.
2. 50% as a loan fund to assist young christian workers in their efforts to acquire an education.

### BOARD OF EDUCATION.

### REPORT OF PLANNING BOARD.

1. Since the church of tomorrow must be composed of the young people of today, and since the spiritual strength and efficiency of the church is dependent upon the training, knowledge and sound doctrinal faith of its members, we recommend the building of a camp, for the youth of our church, at the earliest possible date.

2. In order to make the camp a possibility financially, we recommend the appointment of Brother D. W. Poole as a field worker for the following associations: Salem, Union Hill, State Line and Liberty. His compensation will be 25% of his collections. We would like for each church to be canvassed as early as possible.

The training camp is a part of our educational program. Therefore it shall be the duty of the Board of Education to locate and purchase a site for the camp and act as a building committee.

All funds collected by our field worker must be sent to our State Associational treasurer. These funds are to be used for training camp purposes only.

3. We recommend that this organization support the Alabama Orphanage.

4. We recommend the following plan and budget for our local churches:

1. Each local church should have only one general treasurer and all funds should be in this treasury.

2. The funds of this treasury should be allotted or budgeted in the following manner:

a. Pastor	-----	60%
b. Local Church Expense	-----	10%
c. Education	-----	10%
d. Missions	-----	10%
e. Building Fund	-----	10%

3. The funds budgeted to education and missions should be mailed quarterly to the treasurer of this body who, in turn, will allocate them to the budget in operation in this body.

4. The budget for this body should be:

- a. All fees from churches and associations shall be used to pay the current expense of this body.
- b. 50% of the education funds will be sent to the Bible School in Nashville, Tennessee, and 50% of said funds shall remain in the treasure of this body to be used at the discretion of the Board of Education.
- c. 50% of mission funds received shall be sent to the National Board of Missions and 50% shall remain in the treasure of this body to be used as follows:

Superannuation	-----	10%
Orphanage	-----	15%
Church Extension	-----	25%

We further offer explanation of division and channel of finances as follows:

The adopted financial plan as found in the various reports of this minute.

1. The funds for education and mission in the local churches should be sent to the State Treasurer, Ernest Owen, Chipley, Florida, quarterly.

2. Brother Owen should divide these funds as follows:

- a. 50% of the educational funds should be sent to the treasurer of the F. W. B. College, Nashville, Tennessee, quarterly. 25% should be retained in the State Treasury for the upkeep and general expenses of the training camp. The remaining 25% should be retained in the State Treasury to be used as a loan fund for young students preparing for Christian service.
- b. 50% of the missions funds should be sent to the Treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board quarterly. 25% should remain in the State Treasurer for church extensions. 15% should be sent to the F. W. B. Orphanage, Eldridge, Alabama, quarterly. 10% should be kept in the State Treasury for superannuation.

3. All camp funds collected by the field worker can only be used for the promotion of the camp.

THE PLANNING BOARD.



## REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

We the members of the Mission Board are aware of the fact that our hands are tied until some money is accumulated, but we would like to make some concrete suggestions.

1. We recommend that each local association elect some one to sponsor the organization of Leagues, and Sunday Schools in churches that do not have these auxiliaries.

2. For the sake of unity and strength we recommend that local associations confine their Home Missionary efforts to the sponsoring of church auxiliaries, and leave the task of church Extension to the State Association.

## BOARD OF MISSIONS.

## CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

We, the Free Will Baptists of South Alabama and West Florida, for the sake of power that comes of unity and oneness of purpose; for the advancement of the cause of Christ; for the glory of God and the good of mankind do ordain and establish this constitution and by-laws:

### ARTICLE 1. NAME OF ASSEMBLY.

Section 1. This assembly shall be known as "The Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists.

### ARTICLE 2. OFFICERS, DELEGATES AND FEES.

Section 1. The officers of this Association shall be a moderator, an assistant moderator, a clerk, a treasurer, an executive board, a planning board, and any other officers that the association, while in session, may decide to add because of changes of necessity.

Section 2. This association shall be composed of delegates elected from the local associations, belonging to this body, delegates elected from the local churches embraced by the various local associations and all ministers belonging to these local associations and churches.

The delegates shall be elected as follows: One delegate from each local church composed of one hundred members or fraction thereof, and one delegate for each additional hundred members, or fraction, thereof; five delegates from each local association composed of fifteen churches, or a fraction thereof, and one additional delegate for each additional four churches or fraction thereof. The additional delegates cannot be used unless the churches are active and are represented in the session in which they are appointed.

Section 3. Ministers cannot be appointed as delegates from the local associations or churches. All visitors and ministers who do not belong to or pastor for this body can only be seated as honorary members.

Section 4. All churches and associations representing in this body shall pay an entrance fee annually. The amount of this fee shall be determined by the body while in session and may be changed by a two-thirds vote in any session.

Section 5. All funds coming into this body shall be spent under a budget plan. This budget must be approved by the body while in session and no funds may be used in any way except as budgeted.

Section 6. It shall be the duty and power of the delegates of this body to make all laws which shall be necessary for the carrying on of the work of this association, and all these laws must be in keeping with this constitution and must be kept on record so conflicting regulations may be avoided.

Section 7. Fifty (50) per cent of the delegates elect shall constitute a quorum.

Section 8. All officers except board members shall be elected to serve a term of two years.

Section 9. Any officer may be re-elected as the body shall see fit, but the officers, or nominees, must give his consent to serve willingly.

Section 10. When vacancies occur either by death or removal from office, or by resignation the body shall fill vacancy either by proxy or by election of officer to the vacancy at any regular session of the body and the proxy may be appointed by the body to fill any absentee's place who does not attend the session.

Section 11. Election years shall be odd years. Thus the regular elections shall take place on odd years of the calendar.

Section 12. All standing boards shall be composed of one (1) member from each association and their term of office shall be four (4) years. Two being elected at each election year. The first two named shall be elected for only a term of two years. Thereafter all shall be elected as specified herein.

Section 13. This body shall have and does reserve the right to deal with any officer or board member who does not conduct his or her office in a christian and business like manner according to rules of christian conduct laid down in the teachings of the New Testament. Thus the right to discipline in this body is confined to this body, but a charge against a member of this body and the members of local churches shall constitute a charge against said member in this body and the body shall abide accordingly thereby.

### ARTICLE 3. DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND BOARDS.

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the moderator to preside over all the deliberations of this body while in session.

Section 2. The moderator shall have power to rule measures out of order providing this ruling is sustained by one-third of the delegates present.

Section 3. The Vice-moderator shall assume the duties, rights and privileges of the moderator in his absence.

Section . The Vice-moderator shall be ex-officio member of all boards and committees.

Section 5. It shall be the duty of the clerk to make and keep records of all the business proceedings and activities of this body.

Section 6. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive and keep all funds, pay all bills and keep records of receipts and disbursements.

Section 7. All officers and board members must be Free Will Baptist who are in good standing in their respective churches and associations, must belong to this body and must, when elected, live within the bounds of the association. The treasurer must give bond.

Section 8. It shall be the duty of the planning board to provide general plans for this association, make the budget and regulate fees.

Section 9. The moderator, vice-moderator, clerk and treasurer shall act as the executive board. This board shall act for the association when the body is not in session. All action of the executive board becomes void when the association meets unless sustained by two-thirds of the delegates present.

### ARTICLE 4. AMENDMENTS.

Section 1. Amendments to this constitution must be put before the body while in session one day before voted on, and must be read at least twice and passed by two-thirds of delegates present. All amendments must be ratified by 3 of the associations now belonging to the body and by a majority of the associations belonging to same, should other associations join us in the future.

### ARTICLE 5. RATIFICATION.

Section 1. Before this constitution becomes effective it must be ratified by 4 of the 5 associations belonging to this body and by at least 50 of the 82 local churches embraced by the same.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_ 194 \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Church  
Association \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Delegates \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Fees Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

If this report is for a church, do you operate on the budget  
system? \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Moderator \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Clerk \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_