

Minutes
of the
FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
**FLORIDA STATE ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**
held with
PINEY GROVE CHURCH
Chipley, Florida
November 5th and 6th, 1948

OFFICERS

<i>D. F. PELT, Moderator</i>	<i>Altha, Fla.</i>
<i>J. M. RICH, Vice-Moderator</i>	<i>Pensacola, Fla.</i>
<i>ERNEST OWEN</i>	<i>Chipley, Fla.</i>
<i>D. W. POOLE</i>	<i>Dothan, Ala.</i>

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Officers of This Association Shall Serve As Executive Committee.

The next session will convene with Marvin Chappel Church, located six miles southeast of Marianna, Florida, on Marianna and Blountstown Highway, on November 4th and 5th, 1949.

PLANNING BOARD

D. F. PELT	Altha, Fla.
ERNEST OWEN	Chipley, Fla.
I. O. COOK	Altha, Fla.
W. E. HOLLY	Pensacola, Fla.
RUFUS HYMAN	Slocomb, Ala.

BOARD OF SUPERANNUATION

A. B. NELSON	Bonifay, Fla.
A. B. COOK	Bonifay, Fla.
A. V. MITCHELL	Miami, Fla.
C. L. COOK	Altha, Fla.
H. A. HICKS	Bascom, Fla.

BOARD OF MISSIONS

J. M. RICH	Pensacola, Fla.
D. J. COOK	Vernon, Fla.
J. E. NICHOLS	Altha, Fla.
J. W. ROBERTS	Altha, Fla.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

J. M. RICH	Pensacola, Fla.
B. E. CROOMS	Cottondale, Fla.
J. D. PARHAM	McDavid, Fla.
J. E. NICHOLS	Altha, Fla.
C. E. DAY	Marianna, Fla.

PROCEEDINGS

The Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists met in its fourth annual session with Piney Grove Church, near Chipley, Fla., on Friday and Saturday, November 5th and 6th, 1948.

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

After a session of prayer and congregational singing the body was organized and following committees appointed by the Chair:

Credentials and Finance—Rev. D. W. Poole, Brothers C. E. Day, D. J. Cook, and Rev. J. C. Watson.

Temporary Program Committee—Brothers Ernest Owen, G. W. Owens, and Rev. J. W. Roberts.

The congregation stood and sang "Telephone To Glory," after which the Moderator read a portion of Scripture from the 7th chapter of Matthew and offered the invocation.

At eleven o'clock Rev. K. V. Shutes introduced the Rev. A. J. Lambert who brought a most timely and inspiring message, using as a text, Gal. 6:10.

Dismissed at 12 o'clock for lunch.

Reassembled at 1:15, when Rev. Jack Buck delivered a stirring message from Heb. 1:4.

2:00 P. M. Rev. Henry Melvin presented the program of the Free Will Baptist College, Nashville, Tenn.

2:30 Report of Credentials Committee read and Delegates seated.

By motion financial report be tabled until Saturday afternoon.

2:45 Rev. W. H. Ryland, Supt. of the Children's Home located at Eldridge, Ala., very impressively presented the program of the Home after which a Free Will Offering of twenty-seven dollars was taken for the Home.

3:30 A report of the Program Committee was read and adopted, selecting Rev. W. S. Thomley to conduct devotional, and Rev. A. V. Mitchell to preach at the evening worship service.

3:40 Body adjourned until Saturday morning.

SATURDAY MORNING

9:30 Body called to order by Moderator.

After a session of prayer and praise Rev. I. O. Cook conducted devotions, basing his message on Ecc. 12:1.

10:15 A Nominating Committee was appointed by the Moderator as follows: Brothers C. L. Cook, and Ernest Owen, and Rev. Rufus Hyman, whose duties were to fill the vacancies that have occurred in the various committees.

10:20 By motion the Moderator and Clerk of this body shall be the permanent Program Committee.

By Motion an amendment to the above motion was adopted adding the Clerk of church entertaining the Association from year to year to the Program Committee.

10:30 By motion Constitution and By-Laws of this body were read and discussed for the benefit of the new Associations affiliating with the body at this session.

10:40 By motion that portion of the report of the Planning Board submitted and adopted in 1946, dealing with, and pertaining to the budget system for this body be reprinted in this minute with the amendment that Article 3 shall read as follows: "All funds coming into the treasury of this body shall be divided according to the budget, unless earmarked for a specific purpose, in which case it shall be used for the specified purpose and no other."

11:15 Final report of Temporary Program Committee adopted as follows: Rev. Chaster Pelt to preach at eleven-thirty, and Rev. J. E. Nichols to conduct afternoon devotionals.

11:20 Dismissed for ten minute recess.

11:30 Rev. Chester Pelt delivered a most impressive and enlightening sermon, using as a text Ex. 19:1-6.

12:15 Dismissed for lunch.

1:30 Reassembled with the Rev. J. E. Nichols conducting devotions, reading Romans 13:8 as text for his remarks.

2:00 Order of business resumed, and Treasurer's report read and adopted.

2:05 Report of Finance Committee read and adopted.

2:10 By motion that portion of the 1946 report of the Board of Education pertaining to the Training Camp be reprinted in this minute.

2:15 By motion Board of Education was authorized to investigate the various offers of donations of land for the Campsite as soon as practicable.

2:20 By motion Bro. Poole was retained as Field Worker in charge of raising funds for the Training Camp, also that this body endorse the action of the State Line League Convention in its appointment of Bro. M. B. Woodlief to promote and raise funds for the Training Camp in his field of League work.

2:30 The Florida State Sunday School Convention was discussed and by motion was endorsed by this body.

The Convention will meet with Oak Hill Church, eight miles south of Live Oak, Florida, on Friday and Saturday before the third Sunday in August, 1949. Each Sunday School within the State is entitled to send one delegate. The fees to the Convention shall be 10% of the annual collections of the School representing, and by motion of this body appeals to each Sunday School within its bounds to represent in, and support the State Convention.

2:40 Report of Nominating Committee Read and adopted.

2:50 Called for volunteer-delegates for the National Association, the following Brethren responded: C. E. Day, L. J. Langford, Tommie Burch, and Ernest Owen, with Bro. Charlie Mears as alternate for Bro. Owen.

3:00 By motion Minutes, Constitution and by-laws of State Line League Convention be printed in this minute.

3:05 By motion Clerk was authorized to have 500 minutes of this session printed, also that proceedings of this session along with program for the next session of this Association be mailed to The Free Will Baptist paper for publication.

3:10 By motion Rev. Chester Pelt was appointed as Clearing Agent for news dispatches, etc., for publication in the Church paper at Ayden, N. C. Those wishing to communicate with him, or having items for publication can address him at Marianna, Fla., care of Chipola Junior College.

3:20 By motion the Treasurer was authorized to transfer one hundred dollars from the General fund of this body to the Training Camp fund.

3:25 By motion this body gave a rising vote of thanks to Piney Grove Church and community for their generous hospitalities during this session.

3:30 By motion this session of Florida State Association adjourned to convene with Marvin Chappel Church on Friday and Saturday, Nov. 4 and 5, 1949.

D. F. PELT, Moderator. D. W. POOLE, Clerk.

Portion of 1946 report of Planning Board to be reprinted in this minute.

"The Budget for this body shall be:

a. All fees from churches and associations shall be used to pay the expenses of this body.

b. 50% of the educational funds will be sent to the Bible College in Nashville, Tennessee, and 50% of said funds shall remain in the Treasury of this body to be used at the discretion of the Board of Education.

c. 50% of Mission funds shall be sent to the National Board of Missions and 50% shall remain in the treasury of the body to be used as follows:

Superannuation ----- 10% (of portion remaining in treasury of this body)

Orphanage ----- 15%

Church Extension ----- 25%

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

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

2. The Treasurer should divide these funds as follows:

a. 50% of educational funds should be sent to the treasurer of the Free Will Baptist College, Nashville, Tenn., quarterly. 25% should be retained in this treasury for the upkeep and general expenses of the Training Camp. The remaining 25% should be retained in this treasury to be used as a loan fund for young students preparing for Christian service.

b. 50% of mission funds should be sent to the Treasurer of the Foreign Mission Board quarterly. 25% should remain in this treasury for Church extension, 15% should be sent to the Free Will Baptist Orphanage at Eldridge, Ala., quarterly and 10% should remain in this treasury for Superannuation.

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

(Amendment) All funds coming into the treasury of this body shall be divided according to the budget, unless earmarked for a specific purpose, in which case it shall be used for the specified purpose and no other.

PORTION OF 1946 REPORT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

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

The funds allotted to this Board which come through the general budget shall be budgeted as follows:

50% for upkeep and expenses of training camp and 50% as a loan fund to assist young Christian workers in their efforts to acquire an education."

REPORT OF CREDENTIALS AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

CREDENTIALS, WEST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION

Delegates: Brothers L. J. Langford, T. D. Long, and J. D. Parham; Sisters L. J. Langford and Daisey M. Williams.

NORTH FLORIDA ASSOCIATION

Delegates: Brothers A. V. Mitchell, Jack Buck and Herman Grubbs; Sister A. V. Mitchell, honorary.

SALEM ASSOCIATION

Delegates: Brothers W. M. Shiver, Joe Tharpe, C. E. Day, and C. L. Cook.

LIBERTY ASSOCIATION

Delegates: Brothers C. E. Mears, A. J. Pitts, and J. W. Martin.

—By Churches—

HAPPY HILL CHURCH

Delegates: Brothers J. Walter Martin and Jack Dykes.

ABAGAIL CHURCH

Delegates: Bro. and Sister David J. Cook.

TRAVELER'S REST CHURCH

Delegates: Sisters Ruth Nichols and Florence Cook.

PLEASANT HILL CHURCH

Delegates: Brother C. E. Mears.

POPLAR HEAD CHURCH

Delegates: Brother and Sister A. J. Pitts.

LIBERTY CHURCH

Delegates: Sister R. C. Dunn.

PINEY GROVE CHURCH

Delegates: Brothers G. W. Owens and J. F. Sowell.

BEULAH CHURCH

Delegates: Brother B. H. Champion.

SALEM CHURCH

Delegates: Brother Broward Crooms.

MARVIN CHAPPEL CHURCH

Delegates: None.

FINANCE

North Florida Association	\$10.00
West Florida Association	\$10.00
Salem Association	\$10.00
Liberty Association	\$10.00
Happy Hill Church	\$ 2.00
Abagail Church	\$ 2.00
Traveler's Rest Church	\$ 4.00
Pleasant Hill Church	\$ 2.00
Poplar Head Church	\$ 2.00
Liberty Church	\$ 2.00
Piney Grove Church	\$ 4.00
Beulah Church	\$ 2.00
Salem Church	\$ 2.00
Marvin Chappel Church	\$ 2.00
TOTAL	\$64.00

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

See Boards listed inside front cover, and location of next session of association on front cover.

MINUTES OF THE STATE LINE LEAGUE CONVENTION

The State Line League convention convened with Magnolia Church, Saturday, September 25, 1948. The meeting was called to order by the president, Mr. M. B. Woodlief. We opened by singing, "Onward Christian Leaguers," followed with prayer by Mr. M. B. Woodlief. We then sang, "Jesus Hold My Hand." The welcome address was then given by Mr. Parramore, of Magnolia League, then the response was given by the president of the convention, Mr. Woodlief.

The minutes of the last convention were then read by the secretary and approved. The leagues present: Prospect, Marvin's Chapel, Springfield, and Magnolia were recognized and seated by reports and convention dues of \$2.00, which were read by secretary and accepted.

There was a move and second that Rev. John Golden be seated as an honorary delegate. There was a move and second that the time of meeting be changed to the 4th Sunday in September. After discussion, this move was amended and second, also passed, for the time to be the 3rd Sunday in September. There was a move and second that the minutes of this convention also the constitution, be sent to the State Line and Florida State Associations, to be published in their minutes, if permissible.

There was a move and second that the convention president, Mr. Woodlief, visit each league in this convention at least one time during the next year; it was also passed that he serve as a field worker, for the organization of leagues.

It was decided that the convention program committee meet at the same place and same time as they did last year, which was the 1st Sunday in June at Prospect Church. Prospect gave an invitation for the convention to convene with them another year, which was accepted. With no further business, we were dismissed for the noon hour.

After a very enjoyable noon hour we returned into session. After a song Prospect League rendered a short program. The Rev. John Golden then gave a short talk on League work. Magnolia League then gave a program. A rising vote of thanks for the hospitality shown, was given Magnolia Church and community. We were then dismissed for the day by the league benediction.

President, Mr. M. B. Woodlief.

Secretary, Mary Edna B. Cock.

DELEGATES

Marvin's Chapel: Mrs. Audrey Day Eiland and Miss June Day.

Springfield: Mrs. Doris Bell, Mrs. Ethel Roney, Frankie Lamb, Eugene Roney

Prospect: Mrs. Mary Edna Cook, Dorothy Ruth Scott, Geraldine Ingram,
Maralyn Cook.

Magnolia: Frances Hammock, Bruneze Blakely, Bruneze Whitehead, Joan Dykes.

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE STATE LINE LEAGUE CONVENTION

ARTICLE 1—(NAME)

This organization shall be known as the State Line League Convention of Free Will Baptists.

ARTICLE 2—(PURPOSE)

The object and purpose of this convention shall be to encourage and promote God's kingdom among the youth of the F. W. B. Church.

ARTICLE 3—(COMPOSITION)

This League convention shall be composed of every league within the bounds of this convention.

ARTICLE 4—(REPRESENTATION)

Representation to this convention shall be represented by two delegates from each church or league.

ARTICLE 5—(FINANCE)

Each league or delegation shall represent with two dollars, for convention dues. This convention shall cooperate with the State and National Associations.

ARTICLE 6—(OFFICERS)

The officers of this convention shall be a president, a vice-president, and recording secretary, who shall keep all minutes and records and do all official correspondence. There shall be a treasurer who shall receive and keep all funds. There shall be a program committee, to plan the convention programs.

ARTICLE 7—(Election)

Election of officers shall be every two years. Officers shall be elected by ballot or acclamation, whichever this convention shall desire to use.

ARTICLE 8—(TIME OF MEETING)

This convention shall meet annually on Saturday before the second Sunday in November.

ARTICLE 9—(ADOPTION)

This constitution shall be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote of this convention and must be ratified by two-thirds of the Leagues in this convention.

ARTICLE 10—(AMENDMENTS)

This constitution can be amended any time by a two-thirds majority vote of this convention.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE LINE LEAGUE CONVENTION

AMENDMENT 1—

In regard to Article 4 of this constitution, which shall be amended to read: Representation to this convention shall consist of two delegates from each department of league in the church, with no church delegates, only league; and that visiting ministers be seated as honorary delegates.

AMENDMENT 2—

In regard to Article 8 of this constitution, about the time of meeting, shall be amended to read: The time of this convention shall be Saturday before the 4th Sunday in September.

AMENDMENT 3—

In regard to Amendment 2 of this constitution, referring to the time of meeting, which shall be amended to read: The time of this league convention shall be the third Sunday in September.

PROGRAM FOR FLORIDA STATE ASSOCIATION

(The Pastor of Host Church will be in charge of all announcements).

(Bro. Chester Cook will be in charge of all Singing).

THURSDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 3, 1949

- 7:00 Song Service
- 7:20 Devotional Service—Bro. M. B. Woodlief
- 7:30 Sermon—Rev. Henry Melvin, Nashville, Tenn.

FRIDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 4, 1949

- 9:30 Congregation Singing
- 9:50 Devotional Service—Rev. I. O. Cook, Altha, Fla.
- 10:00 Appointment of Committees
- 10:15 Report on Freewill Baptist Bible School—Rev. Henry Melvin
- 10:45 Recess for credential committee to compile report.
- 11:10 Introductory Sermon—Rev. Chester Pelt
- 12:00 Lunch Hour
- 1:15 Devotional—Rev. Jimmy Roberts
- 1:30 Report of Credential Committee
- 1:45 Moderator's Message—Rev. Daniel Pelt
- 2:15 Report of Board of Education (This report should include a financial report)
- 2:30 Report of Freewill Baptist Orphanage at Eldridge—Rev. K. V. Shutes

FRIDAY NIGHT, NOVEMBER 4, 1949

- 7:00 Song Service
- 7:15 Devotional—Rev. Herman Grubbs
- 7:30 Sermon—Rev. Jack Buck

SATURDAY MORNING, NOVEMBER 5, 1949

- 9:30 Song Service
- 9:45 Devotional Service—Rev. John M. Rich
- 10:00 Report of Ladies' Aid Auxiliary—Mrs. Chester Pelt
- 10:20 Business Session—(Reports from Committees and Boards)
- 11:00 Sermon—Rev. Joe Fort
- 12:00 Lunch Hour
- 1:15 Devotional—Rev. Cooper Fort
- 1:30 Continue Business Session
- 2:30 Appointment of Delegates and Report of Nominating Committee
- 3:00 Adjournment

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 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 terms 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 th proxy may be appointed by the body to fill any absentee's place who does not attend the session.

Secion 11. Election yeas 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 4. The Vice-moderator shall be ex-officio member of all boards and committees.

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 _____

Name 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 _____