

MINUTES
— OF THE —
SIXTH ANNUAL SESSION
— OF THE —
Florida State Association of
Free Will Baptists
HELD WITH THE
PINEY GROVE CHURCH
NEAR CHIPLEY, FLORIDA
November 3rd and 4th, 1950

OFFICERS

REV. D. F. PELT, Moderator.....Marianna, Fla., Rt. 5
REV. RICHARD HUGHES, Vice-Moderator.....815 E. LaRua St.,
Pensacola, Fla.
ERNEST OWEN, TreasurerRt. 2, Chipley, Fla.
REV. RUFUS HYMAN, Secretary.....Rt. 1, Slocomb, Ala.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Officers of the Association are the Executive Committee.

The next session will be held with Hickory Grove Church, near Malone, Fla., on November 2nd and 3rd, 1951. Rev. Henry Chesnut to bring the introductory sermon, and Rev. C. A. Huckaby on his failure.

Officers

REV. D. F. PELT, ModeratorRoute 5, Marianna, Fla.
REV. RICHARD M. HUGHES, Vice-Modérator.....815 E. LaRua St.,
Pensacola, Fla.
BRO. ERNEST OWEN, Treasurer.....Route 2, Chipley, Fla.
REV. RUFUS HYMAN, SecretaryRoute 1, Slocomb, Ala.

PLANNING BOARD

REV. D. F. PELT, ChairmanRoute 5, Marianna, Fla.
BRO. W. E. HOLLEY.....P. O. Box 5287, Pensacola, Fla.
REV. RUFUS HYMANRoute 1, Slocomb, Ala.

BOARD OF SUPERANNUATION

BRO. WALTER ELDRIDGECottondale, Fla.
BRO. C. L. COOKRoute 2, Altha, Fla.
REV. A. B. COOKRoute 1, Bonifay, Fla.
PRO. H. A. HICKSGreenwood, Fla.
REV. HERMAN GRUBBSPerry, Fla.

BOARD OF MISSIONS

BRO. J. ERNEST WIGGINSAtmore, Ala.
BRO. J. D. HALLMalone, Fla.
BRO. EARL C. COOKRoute 1, Bonifay, Fla.
BRO. JAMES DITTYMalone, Fla.
REV. J. E. NICHOLSRoute 2, Altha, Fla.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

BRO. D. J. COOKVernon, Fla.
BRO. J. D. PARHAMMcDavid, Fla.
BRO. W. H. TOOLERoute 2, Chipley, Fla.
BRO. C. E. DAYRoute 1, Marianna, Fla.

**PROGRAM FOR THE SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION OF THE FLORIDA
STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

To Be Held With Hickory Grove Church, Near Malone, Florida

November 2nd and 3rd, 1951.

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**FRIDAY MORNING**

9:30—Devotional. Host Church.

9:45—Welcome Address, Miss Miranda Ditty.

10:00—Appointment of Credentials, Nominating and Program Committees.

10:15—Report of National Bible College, Rev. Henry Melvin.

10:45—Recess for Credential Committee Compile Report.

11:00—Sermon, Rev. Henry Chesnut; alternate, Rev. C. A. Huckaby.

12:00—Noon Hour.

**FRIDAY AFTERNOON**

1:30—Devotional, Malone Church.

1:45—Moderator's Message.

2:15—Credentials Committee Report.

2:45—Report of Promotional Secretary, Rev. D. C. Dodd.

3:15—Adjournment.

**FRIDAY NIGHT**

6:45—Missionary Service by the Rev. and Mrs. Thomas E. Willey of Cuba.

**SATURDAY MORNING**

9:30—Song Service.

9:45—Devotional, Rev. J. M. Rich.

10:00—Report of Woman's Auxiliary, Mrs. Chester Pelt.

10:20—Business Session. (Reports from Boards and Committees.)

11:00—Sermon, Rev. Ralph Lightsey.

12:00—Noon Hour.

**SATURDAY AFTERNOON**

1:30—Devotional. Rev. I. O. Cook.

1:45—Continuation of Business Session.

2:30—Appointment of Delegates and Report of Nominating and Program Committees.

3:00—Adjournment.

## PROCEEDINGS

Proceedings of the Sixth Annual Session of the Florida Free Will Baptist State Association which convened with Piney Grove Church, near Chipley, Fla., Friday morning, Nov. 3rd, 1950, at 9:30:

Services opened with singing "Praising My Saviour All the Day Long."

Rev. A. H. Retherford conducted a devotional, using for a scripture lesson the first Psalm and for a topic: "God's Blessed Man."

At this time, the assistant moderator, Bro. Hughes, presided, until Bro. Pelt, the moderator, arrived a few minutes late.

The following committees were appointed:

Program and Nominations—Bros. Ed Holley, Ernest Owen and H. A. Hicks.

Credentials Committee—Rev. Herman Grubbs, Robert Williams and W. W. Eiland.

Finance Committee—Bro. B. M. Broom, Revs. A. B. Cook and W. S. Thomley.

At this time, Rev. Henry Melvin, who was to speak for the Bible College, was absent, and Rev. K. V. Shutes, a member of the Bible College Board, spoke in interest of the college. He told how our college is overcrowded and the need for a larger building that is to be built right away. Our people were asked to respond with their offerings to the college.

Rev. K. V. Shutes was asked by the moderator to present Rev. E. C. Morris, State Promotional Secretary of the Georgia State Association. Bro. Morris brought a wonderful report on how the Georgia people are supporting every phase of the national and state work.

At 11 o'clock intermission was given for preaching services. After a few minutes of intermission we had song services led by Bro. Ernest Owen, and prayer by Rev. Henry Chesnut.

Rev. A. H. Retherford presented Rev. A. H. Grubbs to bring the introductory message. Subject: "Growth in Christ." Scripture lesson: II Peter 3: 14.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON — 1:30 O'CLOCK

Afternoon services were opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Q. L. Duncan, after which Rev. E. C. Morris gave another inspiring talk relative to Missions and Mission Pictures.

Rev. I. O. Cook had charge of devotions and read the 13th Chapter of Romans on "The Things We Owe to God."

Moved and seconded the moderator appoint three members at this session to work with the State Mission Board and they are the following: Mrs. Jewel Kight, Nathaniel Holley and Early Peel.

At this time Rev. K. V. Shutes gave report of Alabama Free Will



Baptist Children's Home. The report was prepared by Rev. W. H. Ryland, superintendent of the home at Eldridge, Ala.

Motion and second, we accept the report of the Alabama Children's Home and that we receive an offering.

Moderator called for reports. (See reports).

The Credentials Committee gave a partial report. Motion and second, report be accepted and that report be completed later.

At this time we were led in the singing of "Amazing Grace," after which the moderator brought his message. He spoke on "Our State Unified Budget Program."

By motion and second, we have a chart printed in the minutes of our State Association and also a chart be printed and sent to each church so it can be placed in our churches.

At this time the Piney Grove Church Entertainment Committee read assignments of homes for ministers, delegates and visitors.

Rev. Thomas Welley gave a very good talk. A motion was made to adjourn the business session until Saturday, 9:30 a. m. Song, "Stand Up For Jesus." We were dismissed until the night session.

Evening meal was a fish fry at church.

#### FRIDAY NIGHT — 6:00 O'CLOCK

This was Mission Night. Rev. Thomas Willey brought a gospel message after which he showed pictures of our Cuban Mission work. A nice offering was received. This was a great inspirational service.

#### SATURDAY MORNING — 9:45 O'CLOCK

Song service was led by Rev. S. T. Shutes and a devotional was conducted by Rev. W. S. Thomley. Scripture lesson, I John 3: 1, "Behold, What manner of the love the father hath bestowed upon us."

Moderator called for delegates that had not registered to meet in the "Educational Building." Moderator at this point recognized visiting ministers. (See list of ministers.)

Motion and second that all visitors be seated as honorary delegates.

By motion and second, that all board members and ministers register, giving their complete address. At this time Mrs. Chester Pelt called for all women who came as delegates to meet with her for registration of Woman's Work.

The moderator again made call for reports. (See reports.)

The Educational Board made their report and it was accepted. Bro. Harvey, who has charge of the Georgia Camp, spoke by request of the moderator. He stated that Georgia Camp, Mt. Bethel, had an enrollment of 72 persons. He insisted that our people push our camp program forward.

Credentials Committee made report of churches and associations that did not register on the first day but were present to meet with delegation and their fees. Report accepted.

Motion and second, we adjourn business until 1:30 p. m. for preaching services.

At 11:25 we were led in a good song service by Bro. George Owens. Prayer by Rev. S. T. Shutes. At this time, Rev. J. M. Rich presented Rev. J. B. Lovering, who brought an inspiring message from Jer. 8: 18-22; Isa. 52: 1.

### SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION — 1:30

Song services by Rev. S. T. Shutes and the devotions by Rev. C. A. Huckaby, host pastor.

Moderator renewed call for reports of various board. Mrs. Chester Pelt gave report of Ladies' Auxiliary Convention being organized. The report and discussion very interesting. Motion and second we accept report. (See report.)

Finance Committee made their report. Motion and second report be accepted. (See reports.)

By motion, the clerk have 1,000 copies of minutes printed at competitive basis.

At this time, Rev. Henry Melvin, business manager of the Free Will Baptist Bible College, made a good report. Our churches are requested to send offerings for new administration building to Rev. Henry Melvin, 3609 Richland Ave., Nashville 5, Tenn. May every church respond.

Mission Board made their report and it was accepted. (See reports.)

Superannuation Board made report and it was accepted. (See reports.)

Committee on Nominations and Program made their report, and report accepted. (See reports.)

Bro. Ernest Owen, treasurer of the State Association, made report and it was accepted.

Appointment of delegates to the National Free Will Baptist Association for 1951 are the following: From Liberty, Bros. Ernest Owen; West Florida, W. E. Halley; Salem, H. A. Hicks; South Florida, Mrs. Jewel Kight. By motion, we pay the regular fee of \$5.00 each of the above district associations, and \$10.00 for the State Association.

Motion and second, Planning Board double the fees to take care of increased expenses. (See report of Planning Board.)

By motion, we express our thanks to Piney Grove Church and community for kindness shown us while in their midst.

Motion that we adjourn to meet in 1951 with Hickory Grove Church, Jackson County, near Malone, Fla., on Nov. 2nd and 3rd.

REV. D. F. PELT, Moderator.

Route 5, Marianna, Fla.

REV. RUFUS HYMAN, Clerk,

Route 1, Slocumb, Ala.

## REPORTS

A digest of churches and associational reports as gathered by your clerk. If this report does not give all your activities be sure to report in full for 1951 in letter blanks printed elsewhere in this minute. All clerks report in full, please!

### SALEM ASSOCIATION

|                                                     |         |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Number of Churches .....                            | 19      |
| Number of new churches .....                        | 1       |
| Total number of churches .....                      | 20      |
| Total membership .....                              |         |
| Number of Ordained Ministers .....                  | 10      |
| Number of Free Will Baptist Leagues .....           | 3       |
| Number of Sunday Schools .....                      |         |
| Number of Woman's Auxiliaries .....                 |         |
| Paid to Foreign Missions .....                      | \$40.00 |
| Paid to Home Missions .....                         | \$30.00 |
| MODERATOR—Rev. Chester Pelt, Marianna, Fla., Rt. 5. |         |
| CLERK—Chester Cook, Altha, Fla., Route 2.           |         |

### NORTH FLORIDA ASSOCIATION

|                                                                  |            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Number of churches .....                                         | 6          |
| Number of churches dismissed to form South Fla. Association..... | 4          |
| Total membership .....                                           | 280        |
| Number Sunday Schools .....                                      | 5          |
| Number Free Will Baptist Leagues .....                           | 2          |
| Number Woman's Missionary Societies .....                        | 3          |
| Paid to Pastors .....                                            | \$2,809.64 |
| Paid for Revivals .....                                          | \$225.50   |
| Total .....                                                      | \$3,035.51 |
| MODERATOR—Rev. J. B. Stewart, Live Oak, Fla., Route 5.           |            |
| CLERK—Hansey Young, Live Oak, Fla., Route 5.                     |            |

### WEST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION

|                                    |     |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of Churches .....           | 8   |
| Number of New Churches .....       | 2   |
| Total Number of Churches .....     | 10  |
| Total Membership .....             | 436 |
| Number of Ordained Ministers ..... | 8   |
| Number of Licensed Ministers ..... | 2   |

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|                                              |            |
|----------------------------------------------|------------|
| Number of Woman's Missionary Societies ..... | 2          |
| Number of Sunday Schools .....               | 9          |
| Number of Free Will Baptist Leagues .....    | 7          |
| Paid to Home Missions .....                  | \$2,601.33 |
| Paid to Pastors .....                        | \$6,800.00 |
| Paid for Revivals .....                      | \$42.00    |

MODERATOR—Rev. W. S. Thomley, Robertsdale, Ala.

CLERK—Mrs. Daisy Williams, 144 Aragon Court, Pensacola, Fla.

### **SOUTH FLORIDA ASSOCIATION**

South Florida Association has 3 churches. This is a new association organized in the fall of 1950. They have 3 churches and a membership of 71.

The moderator is Rev. Jack Buck, 2467 N. W. 90th Street, Miami, Fla. Rev. Leroy McBryde, Clerk, whose address is Route 1, Box 1992, Miami, Fla.

### **SPECIAL REPORT OF EXECUTIVE AND PLANNING BOARDS HELD SINCE CONVENING OF STATE ASSOCIATION**

We, the members of the Planning Board of the Florida Free Will Baptist State Association in session January 7, 1951, Bonifay, Fla., agreed that deacons and ministers of said association pay an entrance fee of \$1.00 each per annum instead of doubling the regular association and church fees. This decision is in reply to motion which asked for fees to be increased.

By the Planning Board.

We, the Executive Board, hereby ask that Bro. W. W. Eiland be appointed on the Educational Board in the place of Rev. Mike Pelt. This done while in session this the 7th day of January, 1951, at Bonifay, Fla.

By the Executive Board.

We, your Committee on Finance, report the following: From Churches and District Associations, the amount of \$109.44 at this session.

A. B. COOK, Chairman.

### **MISSION BOARD REPORT**

We, your Mission Board, make the following recommendations:

1. That the 3rd section of 1949 be retained in the minutes.
2. We recommend that we give the Ladies' Auxiliary \$15.00 to help in the beginning of their new work.
3. We recommend that this association acknowledge the appointment of Rev. John M. Rich as State Director of Missions by the National Association and give your full cooperation with him.

That we organize in the State Association of Florida a Church Finance



Association, similar to the one successfully operating in North Carolina, so that we may constantly promote church extension in our state.

Amendment: The Mission Board be responsible for the operation of the Church Finance Association.

Respectfully, Your Board,

MRS. JEWEL KIGHT  
EARLY PEEL  
D. J. COOK

### REPORT OF SUPERANNUATION BOARD

We, your Superannuation Board, recommend that report of 1949 be re-printed:

First, that we officially unite with the superannuation program of the National Association in all of its endeavors.

Second, that we encourage all ministers under age 55 to apply for the insurance offered by the National Association.

Third, that all churches in the state promote the program locally by sending regular contributions and the names of persons eligible to benefits to our State Board.

Note: Eligible persons are ministers and full-time Christian workers:

1. For insurance under 55 years of age.
2. For retirement benefits, 70 years or over.
3. For disabled benefits at any age if active at the time of beginning disability.

Allocation of State Board: Per \$1.00—75 cents to local state needs; 25 cents to National Board.

We further recommend that the State Treasurer pay Rev. A. W. Cook \$10.00 per month from the superannuation funds effective through this associational year.

We also recommend that H. A. Hicks secure information on national insurance plan for retirement and mail same to each minister eligible for insurance.

By H. A. HICKS, Chairman.

### REPORT OF STATE TREASURER

(Ernest Owen, Chipley, Fla., Route 2)

#### EDUCATIONAL FUND

|                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Brought forward from 1949 ..... | \$398.25 |
| Received 1950 .....             | 287.70   |
|                                 | <hr/>    |
|                                 | \$685.95 |
| Paid to Rev. Henry Melvin ..... | \$143.10 |
|                                 | <hr/>    |
| Balance .....                   | \$542.85 |

**MISSION FUND**

|                                         |          |
|-----------------------------------------|----------|
| Brought forward from 1949 .....         | \$332.48 |
| Received 1950 .....                     | 444.00   |
|                                         | <hr/>    |
|                                         | \$776.48 |
| Paid to Foreign Mission Treasurer ..... | 222.00   |
|                                         | <hr/>    |
|                                         | \$554.48 |
| Paid Alabama Children's Home .....      | 66.60    |
|                                         | <hr/>    |
| Balance .....                           | \$487.88 |

**GENERAL FUND**

|                                 |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| Brought forward from 1949 ..... | \$ .44   |
| Received 1950 Session .....     | \$109.00 |
|                                 | <hr/>    |
|                                 | \$109.44 |
| Paid Moderator and Clerk .....  | 30.00    |
|                                 | <hr/>    |
| Balance .....                   | \$ 79.44 |

**CAMP FUND**

|                                    |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Brought forward from 1949 .....    | \$ 317.98 |
| Received 1950 .....                | 1055.23   |
| Paid out from borrowed funds ..... | 317.98    |
|                                    | <hr/>     |
| Balance .....                      | \$ 737.25 |

**REPORT OF CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE**

We, your committee, report the following Associations and Churches to be seated in our body as follows with their fees:

**BY ASSOCIATIONS**

|                                 |         |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| North Florida Conference .....  | \$10.00 |
| West Florida Association .....  | 10.00   |
| Liberty Association .....       | 10.00   |
| South Florida Association ..... | 15.00   |
| Salem Association .....         | 10.00   |
|                                 | <hr/>   |

Total Fees from Associations .....

\$55.00

**BY CHURCHES**

|                                  |         |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| Christian Home—2 Delegates ..... | \$ 4.00 |
| Hickory Grove—3 Delegates .....  | 6.00    |
| Marvin Chapel—1 Delegate .....   | 2.00    |
| Cedar Grove—1 Delegate .....     | 2.00    |

|                                                               |          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Poplar Head—1 Delegate .....                                  | 2.00     |
| St. John—2 Delegates .....                                    | 4.00     |
| Holley Grove—1 Delegate .....                                 | 2.00     |
| Piney Grove—3 Delegates .....                                 | 6.00     |
| First Free Will Baptist Church, Pensacola—1 Delegate.....     | 2.00     |
| East Side Free Will Baptist Church—Pensacola—4 Delegates..... | 8.00     |
| Shilo—1 Delegate .....                                        | 2.00     |
| Lovewood—2 Delegates .....                                    | 4.00     |
| New Home—1 Delegate .....                                     | 2.00     |
| Abigail—1 Delegate .....                                      | 2.00     |
| Damascus—1 Delegate .....                                     | 2.00     |
| Pleasant Ridge—2 Delegates .....                              | 4.00     |
| <hr/>                                                         |          |
| Total Fees from Churches .....                                | \$54.00  |
| Total Association Fees .....                                  | \$ 55.00 |
| Total Church's Fees .....                                     | 54.00    |
| <hr/>                                                         |          |
| Total Church and Association Fees .....                       | \$109.00 |

### REPORT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

To the Sixth Annual Session of the Florida State Association of Free Will Baptists:

Our duty is concerned with all phases of our educational program. We are interested in every part of this essential work, but due to lack of funds and the infancy of our Association, we have not been able to accomplish much. Most of our thoughts and efforts have been directed toward a training camp for the youth of our church. We have done this because of the deep conviction of its importance. Youth neglected is manhood and womanhood lost. When we consider the numbers, talents and means lost by the Free Will Baptist Church because of neglect, we are goaded on to greater effort. We hope our camp will be a means for the promotion of Sunday School and League work. The church of tomorrow is marching by on small feet today. Any church without a Sunday School and a League has no claim on, nor any hope of their future loyalty. May God help us, as a church, to get our eyes open to the importance of a definite constructive educational program.

Another phase of church training that we are most interested in is the education of our ministry. We will be able to aid our young ministers quite liberally when all our churches begin on a sound budget system. Our state budget was made with an eye towards this important task. We sincerely pray that our people will recognize the fact that God does not smile on ignorance. The idea that the "disciples" were poor, unlearned men is false. They sat at the feet of Jesus, the greatest teacher of all ages, for three years. They had the best educational opportunity ever offered.

Paul was one of the best trained men of all times and he gave this advice to others, "Study to show thyself approved unto God a workman that needeth not be ashamed rightly dividing the word of truth."—II Tim. 2:15.

We wish to make the following suggestions:

1. It has been suggested to us by the Planning Board that we, the members of the Board of Education, act as a committee on securing workers for the Training Camp and that no other project be started until the Training Camp is completed.

2. Our present need is money to complete the Training Camp. We will accept any sensible suggestions for raising this money. We are asking each church to contribute one dollar per member to the camp fund annually.

3. We suggest that we have a public working at the Training Camp to assist in finishing the present building. If this suggestion is adopted by the Association, the time of said working to be stated by the Board of Education and advertised by same board.

C. E. DAY

W. H. TOOLE



### REGISTER OF MINISTERS AND VISITORS

- Rev. Rufus Hyman, Slocomb, Ala.
- Rev. E. C. Morris, Moultrie, Ga.
- Rev. Thomas E. Willey, Cuba.
- Rev. K. V. Shutes, Camilla, Ga.
- Rev. and Mrs. C. J. Harvey, Camilla, Ga.
- Rev. S. T. Shutes, Colquitt, Ga.
- Rev. J. B. Lovering, Colquitt, Ga.
- Rev. I. O. Cook, Altha, Fla., Route 2.
- Rev. C. A. Huckaby, Route 2, Chipley, Fla.
- Rev. J. M. Rich, Route 2, Chipley, Fla.
- Rev. D. W. Poole, 208 E. Adams St., Dothan, Ala.
- Rev. J. H. Chesnut, Bonifay, Fla., Route 1.
- Rev. Richard M. Hughes, 815 E. LaRue, Pensacola, Fla.
- Rev. C. H. Pelt, Route 5, Marianna, Fla.
- Rev. D. F. Pelt, Route 5, Marianna, Fla.



**MINUTES OF FLORIDA STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION**

Nine delegates and 25 visitors from four districts of Florida Free Will Baptist met at Piney Grove Church, at Chipley, Florida, to perfect a state Woman's Auxiliary Convention. We were glad to welcome suggestions from Mrs. C. J. Harvey of Midway Association in Georgia.

The following business was transacted:

Suggested constitution for State Woman's Auxiliary Convention from Manual of Methods was read, discussed and adopted. Officers elected were as follows:

President—Mrs. Chester Pelt, Tallahassee, Fla.

First Vice-President—Mrs. Ernest Owen, Chipley, Fla.

Second Vice-President—Mrs. Robert Williams, Pensacola, Fla.

Third Vice-President—Mrs. J. T. Sullivan, Marianna, Fla.

Fourth Vice-President—Mrs. Herman Grubbs, Perry, Fla.

Fifth Vice-President—Mrs. Millie Donaldson, Pensacola, Fla.

Recording Secretary-Treasurer—Miss Ada Holley, Blountstown, Fla.

Field Secretary—Mrs. A. D. Cook, Bonifay, Fla., Route 1.

Motion carried to ask Florida State Convention of Churches for \$15.00 to be given to field worker.

Motion carried to ask State Association of Churches to publish our minutes with those of the State Convention.

Motion carried that our annual meeting convene Saturday before 4th Sunday in October each year. St. John's Church at Bonifay will entertain us in 1951.

Total monies collected \$22.00.

A delegate and amount of dues to be sent to National Woman's Auxiliary Convention will be decided by the executive committee.

MISS ADA HOLLEY, Secretary.

MRS. CHESTER PELT, President.

LETTER TO THE FLORIDA FREE WILL BAPTIST  
STATE ASSOCIATION

To Convene With the Church at

....., Date ....., 195.....

Name of Association .....

We send as delegates to represent us the following: ... ..

We send Associational Fee of \$10.00.

STATISTICAL REPORT

No. of Churches.....No. of New Churches..... No. of Churches

Dismissed..... Total No. of Churches..... Total Membership.....

No. of Ordained Ministers..... No. of Licensed Ministers .....

No. of Sunday Schools..... No. of Free Will Baptist Leagues.....

No. of Woman's Missionary Societies.....

Paid to Foreign Missions \$..... Paid to Home Missions \$.....

Paid to Pastors \$..... Paid to Bible College \$.....

Paid to Superannuation \$..... Paid for Revivals \$.....

Paid to State Budget Program \$..... TOTAL \$.....

Moderator: .....

Address: .....

Clerk: .....

Address: .....

LETTER FROM CHURCH

Date....., 195.....

Name of Church: .....

We send to represent us the following: .....



We send as Associational Fee .....\$.....  
 We have membership of..... No. of Members by Baptism.....  
 No. of Members by Letter..... No. of Members Dismissed.....  
 Paid Pastor .....\$.....  
 Paid for Revivals .....\$.....  
 Paid to Foreign Missions .....\$.....  
 Paid to Home Missions .....\$.....  
 Paid to Alabama Children's Home .....\$.....  
 Paid to Superannuation .....\$.....  
 Paid to Bible College .....\$.....  
 Paid to Bible College .....\$.....  
 Paid to State Treas. for State Unified Budget Program.....\$.....  
 Do you operate on the State Budget System? .....  
 Pastor: .....  
     Address .....  
 Clerk: .....  
     Address .....

### ~~~~~

### CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

We, the Free Will Baptists of 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 I. 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 association 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, and one delegate 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. Fees are \$10.00 for an association, and for churches \$2.00 per delegate. All deacons are standing delegates.

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 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 records 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 4. 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 Baptists 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 the delegates present. All amendments must be ratified by three 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.