

1976 MINUTES
GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION
OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Fortieth Annual Session

Meeting At The
ATHENS
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
ATHENS, GEORGIA
November 18-20, 1976

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1976 MINUTES
GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION
OF
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Published By
Executive Department
GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

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STATE PAPER

Promotional Bulletin State Office
P. O. Box 1406, Dublin, Georgia 31021
912-272-7075

MINUTES OF THE FORTIETH ANNUAL SESSION GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS

The Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists convened Thursday evening, November 18, 1976, at Athens Free Will Baptist Church, Athens, Georgia for its 40th annual session. The service began at 7:00 p.m. with the congregation singing under the direction of Mr. Danny Thomas, Minister of Music and Youth at the First FWB Church, Savannah, Georgia. The opening hymn was "America." Rev. Archie Ratliff led in prayer. The congregation was then led in the pledges of American and Christian flags by Mr. Thomas.

The meeting was declared to be officially in session by the Clerk, Rev. James Roebuck. After the introduction of the general officers, the Moderator, Dr. Melvin Worthington was presented and took over his official duties as moderator. A warm welcome was extended to the association by the host pastor, Rev. Jerry Johnson. The following associations were represented; South Georgia, Union, Martin, Midway, Little River, Chattahoochee, Georgia Union, and Ogeechee. Also several visitors were recognized by the moderator.

The moderator then appointed the Committee on Committees which consisted of Rev. Damon Dodd, Rev. James Ursury, Rev. William Travis, Rev. Billy Hannah, and Rev. Bobby Clyatt.

We were led in another congregational hymn by Mr. Thomas entitled "I Am Thine O Lord." An offering was received by the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary also encouraged everyone the importance of registering in order to vote.

Just prior to the message, Rev. Vernon Waley rendered a solo entitled "The Wonder Of It All." The evening message was delivered by Rev. Ronald Wallace, Pastor of Spring Hill FWB Church, Doerun, Georgia. Scripture of the message was taken from I Peter 2:21-25. His subject was "The Christ Of Our Fathers."

Following the message, a partial report of the Credentials Committee was called for by the moderator and presented by Rev. Herbert Waid. M.S.C. to accept report as information. (See Reports Section).

Moderator then called for a partial report of the Executive Board. (See Report Section). M.S.C. to lay this report on the table until Friday morning.

Since there was a vacancy on the auditors board, Dr. Worthington appointed Rev. Kerry Steedly, Pastor of Memorial FWB Church, Surrency, Georgia to serve in this capacity to help Rev. Tom McCall on the auditors board.

Just before the benediction, announcements were made by the moderator. We were dismissed with prayer by Rev. Lamar Parrish, Pastor of Fellowship FWB Church, Putney, Georgia.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

The Friday morning session was called to order by the moderator at 9:00 a.m. and Mr. Danny Thomas led the congregation in the hymn "Joy Unspeakable." The devotional message was delivered by Rev. Norman Richmond, Pastor of Harmony FWB Church, Lake Butler, Florida. He spoke on the subject "Our Nation Founded On The Word Of God." His scripture was taken from Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 24:35.

First item of business was a partial report of the Credentials Committee presented by Rev. Herbert Waid. It was M.S.C. to receive this report as information and seat the delegates. (See Reports Section).

The moderator then recognized several visitors. Mr. Jim Williams was recognized as Layman of the Year from Texas.

We then received a report from the Committee on Committees concerning the recommendations on the various boards and committees for the session. M.S.C. to adopt this report. (See Reports Section).

The Executive Board then gave their report along with the recommendations. This report consisted of the activities during the past year prior to the State Association. M.S.C. to accept report. (See Report Section).

It was M.S.C. to remove recommendation of the Executive Board report from the table. It was M.S.C. to adopt the recommendation of the Executive Board report. Rev. C. B. Dowdney, Executive Secretary then called for a standing vote on the recommendation. (See Report Section).

Next on the agenda was the report of the Executive Secretary. It was M.S.C. to accept report. (See Report Section).

Because the meeting was running a little ahead of schedule, the moderator recognized representatives from the National Departments from Nashville, Tennessee for their reports.

Rev. Rolla Smith, General Director of Foreign Missions was recognized. He presented a summary report of the work accomplished this past year and the needs for the future. M.S.C. to receive this report as information.

Rev. Roy Thomas, Association Director of Home Missions gave a summary report of their work and needs of the Home Mission Department. M.S.C. to receive this report as information.

Dr. L. C. Johnson, President of Free Will Baptist Bible College, gave a greeting from the college. Rev. Paul Ketteman, Promotional Director of the college could not give a report because of illness. General information concerning the enrollment and the future needs of the school was presented by Dr. Johnson. M.S.C. to receive report as information.

The Board of Retirement and Insurance was presented by Rev. Herman Hersey, Director. He presented the needs and the work of the department. He also gave greetings from the Executive Secretary of the National Association on behalf of Rev. Rufus Coffey in his absence. It was M.S.C. to accept this report as information.

A report was presented to us by Dr. Max Kelton, Minister of Music and a representative of Salem Bible College in Salem, Florida with Rev. Graeme Savage as President. A report of the work, needs, and progress thus far was rendered. It was M.S.C. to receive this report as information.

At this time business was suspended and the morning service of worship was begun with the singing of hymn "Power In The Blood." Prayer was led by Rev. Roy Thomas. The congregation was led in another hymn "At The Cross"

after which the morning offering was received. Special music was rendered by Dr. Kelton entitled "He's My Friend."

Rev. Harley Brown, Pastor of First Free Will Baptist Church, Blakely, Georgia was presented as the preacher of the hour. His subject was "The Creed Of Our Fathers" with scripture taken from Psalm 33:12; Romans 8:23-30.

After announcements and the benediction, we were dismissed for lunch until the afternoon session at 1:30 p.m.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

The Friday afternoon session was begun by the congregation singing "Higher Ground." We were led in prayer by Russell Brooten.

After the singing, a report was given by Dr. Malcolm Fry from the CTS Department consisting of the work and needs of the department. M.S.C. to accept this report as information.

Special music was rendered by Dr. Fry entitled "Put That On My Account." The devotional message was delivered by Rev. J. M. Goode, Pastor of New Salem FWB Church, Colquitt, Georgia in the absence of Rev. Adam Scott who could not be present because of sickness in the family. Subject for the hour was "The High Cost Of National Sin" with scripture taken from Malachi 3:5-9; Proverbs 14:34; and Psalms 33:12.

The business continued with reports from the state ministries.

Mrs. Martha Everson gave the report from the State Woman's Auxiliary. Their theme was "Free Indeed" with scripture taken from John 8:36. Mrs. Barbara Haas, wife of missionary to Japan, Rev. Joe Haas, was the speaker for the day. It was M.S.C. to receive this report as information.

Report of the State Youth Conference and CTS Rally was presented by Rev. Vernon Whaley. Several observations were presented to the association of the past and future work of this ministry. M.S.C. to accept this report as information.

Report of the Minister's Retreat that was held at Kolomoki State Park, Blakely, Georgia this past year was presented by Rev. Ernest Barnes, Pastor of Berean FWB Church, Albany, Georgia. The report consisted of the results of the retreat and also the plans made for the future retreat of 1977. M.S.C. to accept this report as information.

Mr. Kenneth Murphy presented the report of the Board of Trustees. (See Reports Section). M.S.C. to accept this report.

The report of Retirement and Insurance was presented by Mr. William Lewis, Sr. (See Reports Section). M.S.C. to accept this report.

Rev. William Travis presented the report of the Board of Christian Education and Camping. Report consisted of progress in the past year as well the plans for the future. The report also consisted of several proposals to be voted on item by item. This portion of the report was presented by Rev. Tom McCall, Pastor of Patmos FWB Church, Leary, Georgia. (See Reports Section). M.S.C. to accept Camp Board report. M.S.C. to receive Camp Board proposals and act on them item by item. (See Report Section).

Item No. 1—amended by including "except if it is earmarked for upkeep." Adopted with amendment.

Item No. 2—Adopted

Item No. 3—Adopted

Item No. 4—Adopted

Report of the Credentials Committees partial report was presented by Rev. Herbert Waid. (See Reports Section). M.S.C. to accept this report.

The report of the Georgia State Mission Board was presented by Mr. Benny Lariscy. Report consisted of the results of past works of the different mission churches and their progress except for the desperate needs of prayer and help at the Dublin Mission. Everyone was encouraged to pray for the needs of the Mission in the future. M.S.C. to accept this report of the Mission Board. (See Reports Section).

Rev. Carlton Lambert, Superintendent of the Alabama Children's Home in Eldridge, Alabama gave the progress report of the Home. He also thanked Georgia for their good support this past year. It was M.S.C. to receive this report as information.

At this time the afternoon session of business came to a close. It was M.S.C. to adjourn and we were dismissed in prayer by Rev. Bobby Clyatt, Pastor of Macedonia FWB Church, Colquitt, Georgia.

FRIDAY EVENING MISSIONARY SERVICE

The service began with special music rendered by Mr. Ralph Sturdivant, Christian Witness Inc. Ministry. The congregation was led in the hymn "Jesus Saves." Prayer was offered by Brother Benny Lariscy.

In charge of the service was Rev. Jakie Creech who welcomed everyone to the service. The service was then turned over to Mr. Billy Hatcher who presented a program of slides of the work of our State Ministries and Missionaries in Statesboro, Dalton, Swainsboro, Dublin, and Athens.

Some of the members of the Athens FWB Church were asked to stand and represent the fruit gained as a result of the ministry of Athens.

A request was made to the congregation to remember Brother E. E. Kelly during his bereavement.

Rev. Damon Dodd read a tribute of respect of Mr. Herman Watson who served on the Mission Board as a very faithful steward in the ministry of God.

We then had another special song by Mr. Sutrdivant after which Rev. Roy Thomas delivered the message of the hour using the subject "We've A Story To Tell To The Nation" with scripture taken from Psalms 87:5, 6; Leviticus 25:10.

The closing hymn was "Is Your All On The Altar," during which time an invitation was extended to all individuals to do their best to reach every soul possible this year for Jesus.

Just prior to the benediction the missionary offering was received in the amount of \$330 which is to be divided equally between the State Mission Board and the National Home Mission Board.

A plea was presented to each association in the State of Georgia in their January meeting to raise the support that the Mission Board needed to pay off their indebtedness. Rev. J. E. Blanton, Pastor of Decatur FWB Church, Decatur, Georgia dismissed the Friday evening session in prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

The Saturday morning session was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Rev.

Vernon Whaley opened the service by leading in the hymn "To God Be The Glory."

The devotional message was delivered by Dr. Roger Reeds, General Director of Sunday School Department, Nashville, Tennessee in the absence of Rev. Damon Dodd. His scripture was taken from Titus 2:11-13 speaking on the subject of our Past, Present, and Future in relation to the subject of "Free Will Baptists In The Next Century."

After bringing the morning message, Brother Reeds then gave a report concerning our Sunday School work. He elaborated especially on the new material available. M.S.C. to receive this report as information.

Report of the Master's Men was presented by Mr. Loyd Olsan. M.S.C. to receive this report as information.

A final report of the Credentials Committee was then asked for by the moderator. Rev. Herbert Waid presented the report. M.S.C. to accept this report. (See Reports Section).

The Nominating Committee then gave their report and it was presented by Rev. Jackie Creech. M.S.C. to replace Mr. Ed Howard with Rev. J. E. Blanton on the Mission Board. It was then M.S.C. to accept the report of the Nominating Committee. Then there was a M.&S. to act on it as a whole. Motion was carried. (See Reports Section).

Mr. O. B. Everson presented the report of the Budgeting Board. M.S.C. to accept report and act on it as a whole. M.S.C. to accept report. (See Reports Section).

The final report of the Executive Board was given. M.S.C. to accept an invitation to go to Dublin for the Forty-second Georgia State Association in 1978.

Report of the Auditors Board was presented by Rev. Tom McCall. M.S.C. to accept this as a partial report on the basis that the Mission Board report was verified and the other board reports were found to be without discrepancies and in order. These board reports will be verified and presented to the Executive Board for approval. (See Reports Section). It was M.S.C. that the Executive Board be empowered to implement proper auditing procedures.

Resolutions Committee report was presented by Rev. Don Reed, Pastor of Mt. Olive FWB Church, Reynolds, Georgia. M.S.C. to adopt this report and act on it item by item. (See Reports Section). M.S.C. to receive report.

Item No. 1—Adopted

Item No. 2—Adopted

Item No. 3—Adopted along with the amendment to include "whenever possible."

Item No. 4—Adopted

Item No. 5—Adopted

M.S. for moderator to appoint delegates and alternates to the National Association in Detroit, Michigan. Motion was carried.

DELEGATES

Mr. & Mrs. Gleason Fowler
Mr. & Mrs. O. B. Everson
Mrs. Nancy Johnson

ALTERNATES

Mr. & Mrs. William Lewis, Sr.
Mrs. Brooks
Mrs. Christine Wilson
Mrs. Linda McMillan
Mrs. Fanny Mizzell

It was M.S.C. that the Executive Secretary write an article about Brother E. E. Morris and it be placed in the Promotional Bulletin and a copy be sent to Mrs. Morris.

M.S.C. that the tribute of Mr. Hermon Watson be placed in the Fortieth annual minutes of the state association and also send a copy to Mrs. Watson.

Another motion and second was made that the state bare the expenses of placing the name of Bro. E. E. Morris and information concerning him in the Who's Who.

Several announcements were made just prior to adjournment. One announcement consisted of a welcome from Rev. William Morris to meet with the Statesboro FWB Church for the Forty-first annual Georgia State Association of FWB.

M.S.C. to adjourn. We were dismissed by Dr. Melvin Worthington.

Respectfully submitted,
Dr. Melvin Worthington, Moderator
Rev. James Roebuck, Clerk
Rev. C. B. Dowdney, Executive Secretary

REPORTS SECTION

OFFICE OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS REPORT OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

This year marks the Fortieth Anniversary of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists. This body was known as the Georgia State Convention before that time. The Georgia State Convention existed until 1932, at which time, due to ever-decreasing attendance, and lack of interest and cooperation in its program of work, it voted to disband.

A group met at Alabaha Church, Blakeshear, Georgia, Tuesday, August 31, 1937 for "the purpose of promoting the work of Christ." Nine ministers and nine delegates were present from South Georgia, Midway, Ogeechee, Union and Chattahoochee Associations. Elder T. B. Mellette preached the opening sermon from the subject, "Our Greatest Need," using II Corinthians 13:5. Officers elected to head the new Georgia State Association of Original Free Will Baptists were Rev. K. V. Shutes, Moderator; Rev. W. F. Clark, Assistant Moderator; Rev. T. B. Mellette, Secretary; Rev. E. B. Joyner, Treasurer; and Rev. H. A. Drake, Field Secretary. A total of \$14.00 in contributions were given by the associational representatives at this first meeting. The association voted to endorse Zion Bible School, Blakely, Georgia as their official Minister's Training Center.

A Mission Board, consisting of Rev. T. B. Mellette, Rev. H. L. Lupkin and Mrs. Annie C. Zorn, was elected, with instructions to implement a plan by which to raise funds for Home Missions. In order to allow more time for other Churches and Associations to enroll in the State Association as charter members, a recessed session was planned for Tuesday, November 2 and Wednesday, November 3, 1938, to be held at Ebenezer Church, Glennville, Georgia.

The first report on Home Missions receipts was given during the session

held at Midway Church, Moultrie, in 1939. The treasurer revealed that \$58.35 had been given by 12 individuals and 3 churches.

The Georgia State Association has come a long way since 1937. In the first three years it raised \$58.35 for missions. This past associational year it raised \$33,572.03 for State Missions.

Three missions have become self-supporting this year—Statesboro, Athens, and Swainsboro. The Dalton Mission has outgrown the mobile chapel. This group has purchased a church building and are now holding their services in it. They have taken over part of the missionary's salary. Dublin is still supported by the State Mission Board. Camp Mt. Bethel had one of its best years. Two hundred thirty-seven campers from six associations in Georgia and one association in Alabama attended the four youth sessions. Thirty-six campers were saved in the four sessions and many rededicated their lives to Christ.

Our Free Will Baptists in Georgia have learned the joy of giving. The goal of cooperative giving in 1947 was \$400.00. According to the 48 minutes this goal was exceeded by \$14.38. The cooperative goal this year was \$35,000.00. It was exceeded by \$694.67. Designated giving for this year was \$16,170.91.

In February Rev. Curtis Alligood was employed as manager of the Christian Supply Store. Sales were \$73,704.07 for this fiscal year. Net profit was \$3,707.24. This profit is reflected in increased inventory.

For several years, Rev. Damon Dodd has been preparing the history of the Free Will Baptists in Georgia. This book is now being published under the title "Marching Through Georgia." This book will be ready for distribution before the end of the year. Part of this report was taken from the manuscript of "Marching Through Georgia."

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. C. B. Dowdney, Executive Secretary
Georgia State Association of FWB

**REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD
OF THE
GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS
Thursday, November 18, 1976**

The Executive Board has held seven meetings during this past year as follows:

- Saturday, November 15, 1975—Joint Board Meeting
- Saturday, February 7, 1976—Christian Supply Store, Moultrie
- Saturday, May 8, 1976—Christian Supply Store, Moultrie
- Saturday, August 7, 1976—Christian Supply Store, Moultrie
- Friday, October 1, 1976—Christian Supply Store, Moultrie
- Friday, October 15, 1976—Dublin FWB Mission, Dublin
- Thursday, November 18, 1976—Athens FWB Church, Athens

All of these meetings were exceptionally well attended. All business was transacted harmoniously and was predominated by the Spirit of Christ and brotherly love. Out of these meetings resulted the following reports and recommendations to be reported to this Body assembled at our annual session November 18-20, 1976.

(A)—In the November session of 1975, the Auditors Board found the report of the Georgia State Mission Board to be incomplete. After much hard work to complete this report, the Auditors Board submitted their conclusion to the Executive Board for final approval.

The report of the Auditors Board is as follows: "Members of the Executive Board, we wish to complete our report. To the best of our knowledge according to bank statements, cancelled checks, deposit slips, and receipts, the report in the annual report fairly presents the transaction of the Mission Board."

Therefore, it was M.S.C. by the Executive Board to adopt this report.

(B)—In the 39th Annual Session of the State Association of Free Will Baptists held at the Midway FWB Church in Moultrie, Georgia, the Executive Board presented an optional proposal to the state for action. Item C on page 14 of your 1975 minutes of the proposal is as follows:

"That the Bookstore Manager be employed by the Executive Board of this state association and that his salary and other benefits be set by said board, who shall also set forth the duties and responsibilities of the Bookstore manager."

After this matter was turned over to the hands of the Executive Board, action was immediately taken. In the Joint Board Meeting of November 15, 1975, there was a M.&S. to give the moderator power to appoint a Bookstore Committee to look into getting a manager for the Bookstore. Motion was carried. The moderator appointed three men to this committee which consisted of Mr. Ted James, chairman; Mr. O. B. Everson, and Rev. C. B. Dowdney. Stipulations to the committee was to call a meeting with the Executive Board only when they were sure they had a manager for the Bookstore.

After about three months deliberation on the part of the Bookstore Committee, they reported back at the February 7 meeting of the Executive Board with the following report:

(Recommendations): "That this Executive Board vote today to hire Rev. Curtis Alligood at a salary of \$10,000 annually plus 5% of gross sales in excess of \$75,000 with the following considerations:

No. 1—He will be presented with a complete account of inventory, accounts receivable and payable, and long term indebtedness at the outset.

No. 2—He will give to the Bookstore Committee a detailed report of operations quarterly.

No. 3—His salary situation will be reviewed from time to time by the Bookstore Committee who will recommend changes to the Executive Board based on profitability of the operations.

After some consideration of the report of the Bookstore Committee, it was M.S.C. to hire Mr. Alligood as full-time Bookstore Manager along with the stipulations as set down by the Bookstore Committee.

In a later report on May 8, 1976 of the Bookstore Committee, it was stated by the chairman, Mr. Ted James that the committee was well pleased with the good increase of sales and the fine workmanship of the Bookstore Manager.

(C)—Much deliberation has existed among the Executive Board over the matter of finding a better or more suitable Hospitalization Insurance Policy for the Minister's of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists. Although the Executive Board was still in the process of seeking a policy suitable to meet the needs of the minister's of the state. In the May 8 meeting at the Christian Supply Store, it was M.S.C. to form an insurance committee which consisted of Rev. C.

B. Dowdney, Rev. Lamar Parrish, and Rev. James Roebuck to investigate two or three proposals for a Group Hospitalization Insurance Policy and present it to the minister's of the state.

Adherent that we had contacted one other company, as of this present time nothing has been finalized. The committee is still looking into the possibility.

(D)—(recommendation): The Executive Board of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists called a meeting on October 15, 1976 at the Dublin FWB Mission in Dublin, Georgia. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. Vernon Whaley, proxy for Dr. Melvin Worthington. Present for the meeting were Rev. James Roebuck, Rev. C. B. Dowdney, Mr. Billy Hatcher, Mr. O. B. Everson, Mr. Ted James, Rev. James Osborn, Mr. Walter Hightower, and Mr. M. M. Franks. Minutes were read by the clerk and approved. Moderator asked for old business but there was none. Next in order was new business which consisted of the following:

A proposal came from the Georgia State Mission Board consisting of moving the Executive Secretary and the State Office to Dublin to assume the responsibility as missionary in the city.

After much deliberation on the subject by the Executive Board and also concerning the feasibility of this proposal, it was M.S.C. by the Executive Board to recommend to the state association that the Executive Secretary move to Dublin as missionary with the state association continuing to pay his salary. This would be with the understanding of the fact that the Executive Secretary be assured that the Mission Board assume his housing and local travel. And, that the Mission Board supplement the bond payments of the church for a period of up to five (5) years. It was further suggested that a promotional campaign be launched to underwrite the entire cost of the missions housing, travel, and bond payments of the mission endeavor with the understanding that the Mission Board assume the payments in the event designated monies are not received. It is also understood that the rent from the State Office be applied on the Executive Secretary's housing in Dublin. It is also understood under this proposal that the Executive Secretary continue his responsibilities as Executive Secretary as designated by the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists.

Also under this same proposal, we recommend that the Executive Secretary be granted the right to appoint a promotional man from each association of the state (non-salaried) to work under him in promoting the needs of the state to their associations for the benefit of helping to lighten the load of the Executive Secretary because of the added responsibilities as Missionary of Dublin.

William O. Pifer, Certified Public Accountant
201 E. Central, P. O. Box 1238
Moultrie, Georgia 31768

Gentlemen:

We have examined the statements of cash receipts and disbursements of the funds listed below for the year ended June 30, 1976, and the statement of net income for the Christian Supply Store for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1976.

General Fund
Designated Fund
Cooperative Plan of Support

Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances, except as stated in the following paragraph.

In our opinion, the accompanying statements of cash receipts and disbursements present fairly the recorded receipts and disbursements of the Office of the Executive Secretary-Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists for the year ended June 30, 1976. We were not present to observe the physical inventory taken at June 30, 1975 and June 30, 1976; nor did we confirm accounts receivable or accounts payable by direct correspondence with debtors and creditors, and we have not been able to satisfy ourselves concerning these accounts by other means. The beginning and ending inventories and accounts receivable have a significant effect on the results of operations for the period from July 1, 1975 through June 30, 1976. Therefore, we do not express an opinion on the accompanying statement of net income for the Christian Supply Store for the period from July 1, 1975 through June 30, 1976.

William O. Pifer

GENERAL FUND
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1976

CASH BALANCE, July 1, 1975		\$678.09
RECEIPTS:		
Special Fund Transfers Cash deposits (note 3)	\$3,191.50	
State Assoc. dues and offering (note 3)	486.23	
Printing	760.92	
Total Receipts		<u>4,438.65</u>
TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR DISBURSEMENT		\$5,116.74

DISBURSEMENTS:

Payment on bank loan principle and interest	\$957.09	
Office supplies	3,561.12	
Audit fee	105.00	
Typing of minutes	105.00	
Postage	329.38	
Total disbursements		5,057.59

BALANCE JUNE 30, 1976

\$59.15

**SPECIAL FUND
STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS**

Balance July 1, 1975 Special fund	\$98.87
Add back of checks outdated (note 2)	114.13
Cash receipts cooperative plan of support	35,694.67
Cash receipts designated plan of support	16,170.91
TOTAL AVAILABLE FOR DISBURSEMENT	<u>\$52,078.58</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Executive secretary salary	\$8,550.00	
Secretary help	1,800.00	
Retirement	240.00	
Social security	510.00	
Insurance	552.05	
Utilities	1,272.94	
State missions	11,029.92	
Board of trustees	3,742.78	
Camp board	1,182.11	
Board of retirement	3,599.69	
Children's Home	2,718.88	
National executive department	2,854.77	
Audit fee	390.00	
Bond	25.00	
General fund	3,191.50	
Postage and check charges	35.00	
State youth conference	572.71	
Midway youth camp	68.00	
Executive secretary and board members mileage	3,779.87	
Bible college	601.00	
Union mission	390.00	
Georgia Union mission	25.34	
National Foreign mission	2,119.01	
National Home mission	1,752.65	
Midway mission	336.09	
Americus mission	324.27	
Incorporation fee	5.00	
Little River mission board	25.00	
Total disbursements		<u>\$51,693.58</u>

BALANCE JUNE 30, 1976

\$385.00

**CHRISTIAN SUPPLY STORE
STATEMENT OF NET INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1976**

SALES

Cash sales	\$49,897.50	
Charge sales	<u>23,806.57</u>	
Total sales		\$73,704.07

COST OF GOODS SOLD

Inventory July 1, 1975	\$23,398.97	
Purchases	<u>52,593.30</u>	
Goods available for sale	<u>75,992.27</u>	
Inventory June 30, 1976	<u>25,009.98</u>	
COST OF GOODS SOLD		<u>50,982.29</u>
GROSS PROFIT		\$22,721.78

OPERATING EXPENSES

Salaries	\$7,326.25	
Postage	2,076.65	
Office expense and supplies	2,289.72	
Rent	1,800.00	
Utilities	1,638.99	
Freight	475.13	
Taxes and licenses	1,485.77	
Advertising	452.34	
Legal and accounting	600.00	
Contract labor	26.00	
Refunds	<u>30.78</u>	
Total operating expenses		<u>18,201.63</u>
NET PROFIT FROM OPERATIONS		\$4,520.15

OTHER EXPENSES

Interest	<u>812.91</u>	
NET PROFIT		\$3,707.24

**ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1976**

METHOD OF ACCOUNTING—The accompanying statements of cash receipts and disbursements for the General fund, and Special fund have been prepared on a cash basis: taking into accounts cash receipts, and cash disbursements for the year ended June 30, 1976. The statement of net income for the Christian Supply Store has been prepared on a cash basis except for the inclusion of inventory, the accrual of inventory purchases, and the inclusion of charge sales for the period from July 1, 1976 to June 30, 1976.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1.

Payments totaling \$2,959.20 were made during the year on the notes

payable to Citizens and Southern Bank of Colquitt County by the Christian Supply Store, and \$957.09 was paid on these notes by the general fund. The \$1,500.00 note from C. B. Downey made March 10, 1975, with interest of \$120.00, was repaid by the Christian Supply Store. Of the amount paid to Citizens and Southern Bank of Colquitt County, \$1,045.08 was paid on the \$7,500.00 installment note made February 2, 1972: \$1,488.05 on the installment loan made on January 16, 1975. The balance of \$2,404.50, after interest rebate, was refinanced along with an additional \$5,000.00 loan on February 15, 1976; \$1,383.16 was paid on this loan on June 30, 1976. The February 2, 1972 installment note had a remaining balance of \$5,922.12, and the February 15, 1976 note had a remaining balance of \$6,915.80.

NOTE 2.

Disbursements in the amount of \$114.13 were outstanding at June 30, 1974 and June 30, 1975. Since these disbursements did not clear in over two years, this amount was added back into the balance by \$114.13.

NOTE 3.

Included in the receipts and transfers from the special fund was \$71.50 of dues which does not reflect in the dues and offerings.

NOTE 4.

The statements do not include a provision for depreciation.

GEORGIA STATE MISSION BOARD REPORT

We would like to take this opportunity to thank this state association for your continued support during this past year. We appreciate each church that remembered state missions in their budget. We appreciate each individual that has given monthly to state missions. We appreciate those who have helped missions financially in any amount during the past year.

We would like to give a special thanks to the state Woman's Auxiliary who adopted state missions as their state project for the past three years. During the past three years they have contributed \$8,993.91 to state missions.

On February 28, 1976, Statesboro had the dedication service for their new building. This completed five years of work in Statesboro.

Dalton has outgrown the mobile chapel and with much prayer for guidance from God, they purchased an old church building. When they finish painting and some other repairs, their plans was to enter their building around the first of September.

Swainsboro has plan to brick their church along with some other repairs to the church. They have experienced some growth during the past year.

Athens has experienced some growth during the past year. They have a beautiful church which has been dedicated to the Lord's services.

On February 28, 1976, Brother Danny Keen resigned as pastor of the Dublin work. Rev. Edward L. Hodges, Jr. was employed to replace Rev. Keen. Brother Hodges spent several weeks on itinerate before going to work fulltime. The work has not progressed, and is having financial problems.

We have a beautiful church in Dublin with a good location. This work needs your prayers and financial help. Some of your churches have already pledged \$50.00 a month support for Dublin. We need you to get involved with this work. We again ask your church to consider supporting this work with your monthly support.

We ask you to remember state missions in your prayers.

Our plans at this time is to support Dalton and Dublin with regular monthly support. We at this time are supporting the bond program in Dublin.

Athens and Swainsboro will receive only the amount which you designate for these works. We ask you to continue your support for these works.

During the past year we held meetings on November 24 at Moultrie, February 28 at Statesboro, March 19 at Dublin, and July 23 at Dublin.

The need of Free Will Baptists Churches in Georgia continues to grow. It is the desire of this board to see a Free Will Baptist church in each city in Georgia.

This board covets the prayers of this association and the churches of this state. Pray for God's leadership and guidance in everything that comes before this board.

Respectfully submitted,
Billy Hatcher, chairman
Benny Lariscy, secretary-treasurer
Rev. J. M. Creech
Rev. L. S. Anthony
Rev. Damon C. Dodd
Rev. Ed Howard
Malcome Freeman

GEORGIA STATE MISSION BOARD REPORT SEPTEMBER 1, 1975—AUGUST 31, 1976

TREASURY REPORT

Brought forward		\$1,696.80
RECEIPTS:		
State office	\$11,289.61	
State womans auxiliary	2,917.39	
Districts Assn. and churches	14,865.03	
Loans	4,500.00	
Total Receipts		<u>\$33,572.03</u>
TOTAL TO ACCOUNT FOR		<u>\$35,268.83</u>
DISBURSEMENTS:		
Morris housing	\$1,765.22	
Johnson housing	2,135.70	
Burns salary	2,600.00	
Wood salary	8,258.93	
Keen salary and housing	2,350.00	
Hodges salary and housing and mileage	3,091.80	
Kelly (Perry mission)	103.00	
Postage	91.00	
Office expense	62.07	
Phone	59.42	
Bank note and interest	6,616.25	
Board mileage	620.04	
Mobile chapel insurance	101.02	
Sammy Wilkerson (mission service)	100.00	
Bond for treasurer	50.00	

Printing	47.60	
Promotion (Barnes notes)	193.82	
Dublin loan (pay outstanding debts)	3,138.70	
Insurance on Dublin church	279.84	
Flowers (Watson's funeral)	26.76	
TOTAL PAID OUT		<u>\$31,691.17</u>
BALANCE IN TREASURY (August 31, 1976)		<u>\$3,577.66</u>
BALANCE ON BANK NOTE		\$3,000.00
Benny Lariscy Secretary/Treasurer		

BOARD OF RETIREMENT AND INSURANCE
of Georgia Association of FWB
Annual Report: October 1, 1975—September 30, 1976

Balance brought forward, October 1, 1975 \$646.19

RECEIPTS:

Cooperative program	\$3,784.50	
Woman's auxiliary	<u>53.75</u>	
Total receipts		<u>3,838.25</u>
Total cash before disbursements		\$4,484.44

DISBURSEMENTS:

Mrs. H. S. Kelly	\$355.01	
Mrs. A. C. McKinnon	355.01	
Rev. H. L. Knighton	355.01	
Rev. C. A. Gilbert	355.01	
Rev. I. J. Blackwelder	355.01	
Mrs. W. J. Childree	355.01	
Mrs. B. W. Clenny	355.01	
Rev. L. D. Scott	355.01	
Mrs. A. B. Ard	355.01	
Mrs. Willie Sellers	128.38	
Mrs. Jack Horne	<u>324.31</u>	<u>3,647.78</u>
Balance after disbursements		\$836.66

EXPENSES:

Postage	<u>10.00</u>
Balance in account, September 30, 1976	\$826.66

**Rev. Willie Sellers died in July 1975.

**Mrs. Millie Sellers died on January 29, 1976.

**Mrs. Jack Horne died on August 25, 1976.

Respectfully submitted,
William S. Lewis, Secretary/Treasurer

GEORGIA STATE TRUSTEE BOARD REPORT
October 1, 1975—September 30, 1976

The board of trustee held 4 meetings during the past year. Item of business

discussed and action taken by the board.

1. Ted James was elected chairman and Don Perry was elected secretary-treasurer for the year.

2. Two members of board to work with the camp board to up date needs of camp.

3. Board to make a list of items to do at camp and present to the camp director.

4. Chairman ask each board member to look into the future (long range) of the camp.

5. Compiled with the state fire marshal report on rewiring of dormitory, venting of hot water heater, hood for stove, lighted exit signs for dormitory, fire extinguishers.

6. Schedule work day for camp.

7. Paint inside of state office.

8. Insure content of state office.

BOARD OF TRUSTEE ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT

October 1, 1975—September 30, 1976

Balance in treasury—October 1, 1975	\$3,080.54
Received from state office	3,772.96

SENT DIRECT TO TREASURER

Georgia youth for Christ	\$68.20
Sale of lumber	33.50
Georgia State Woman's Aux.	404.00
Refund on exit lights	17.75
Bethlehem Church, Berlin, Ga.	90.00
Lake Butler Church, Lake Butler, Fla.	<u>100.00</u>
Total received	\$7,566.95

DISBURSEMENTS:

Moultrie house payment (12 months)	\$611.06
Repair on ice machine	72.69
Board members mileage	36.00
Phone call & labor, M. M. Franks	14.09
Well pump repair	23.75
Printing new checks	2.38
Hershell Johnson, labor at camp	165.00
Insurance for camp	590.00
Labor & paint for house in Moultrie	302.06
Exit lights for dorm	276.25
Fill sand & gravel	83.07
Material for vent pipe on hot water heater	27.16
Food for work day	28.17
Recharging fire extinguishers	7.16
Pipe, drain for pond	106.80
Mitchell-Steward Hardware Co. camp repairs	698.81
Bridges heating & air cond., repair on ice machine	27.20

Insurance on content of state office	129.00
Lawn mower for camp	189.50
Postage	6.50
TOTAL	3,397.10

Total Receipts	\$7,566.95
Total Disbursements	<u>3,397.10</u>

Balance in treasury, September 30, 1976	\$4,169.85
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Respectfully submitted:
 Ted James, chairman
 Don Perry, treasurer
 Board of trustees

ANNUAL CAMP BOARD REPORT October 1, 1975—September 30, 1976

BALANCE ON HAND October 1, 1975	\$265.92
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RECEIPTS:

Designated from state office	55.00
Rent and singing convention	170.60
Co-op state office	1,295.03
Thanksgiving Retreat	455.85
Thomaston, First	68.00
Little River Youth Rally	28.00
New Bethal	100.00
Donations	60.00
New Prospect	30.00
Travelers rest	135.00
Satilla	15.00
Chattahoochee Assoc.	206.55
Bethlehem	70.00
4—camp sessions	5,780.06
Total to account for	\$8,735.01

DISBURSEMENTS:

Irwin Co. E.M.C.	\$956.27
Sycamore Gas Co.	\$573.26
Heritage Insurance Co.	274.30
Thomaston Telephone Co.	46.80
Postmaster—postage	15.00
State office (printing & mailing)	253.17
Arnolds Sausage Co.	52.84
Powers wholesale Co.	554.33
Morrison's Groceries	1,116.58
Colonial Baking Co.	155.69
Wells Dairy	146.11
C.C.I. fees & books	49.00
State Farm Ins. (bond)	13.00
Herschel Johnson (salary)	1,400.00

Herschel Johnson (CCI convention)	47.00
Pridgen Brothers Wholesale	594.84
Christian Supply Store	14.86
Hand crafts	44.31
Kitchen help	25.00
First aid supplies (Freeway Drugs)	21.18
Awards	5.00
Cedarmore Baptist Assembly (CCI convention)	60.00
Mileage for board members:	
William Travis, 1,368 miles	\$164.16
Talmage Worsley, 180 miles	21.60
A. C. Truluck, 180 miles	21.60
James Puckett, 332 miles	39.84
Amos McMilliam, 264 miles	31.68
Walter Hightower, 336 miles	40.36
Total 2,660 miles	\$319.20
Total paid out	\$7,045.97
Balance in bank September 30, 1976	<u>1,689.04</u>
Total to account for	\$8,735.01

William Travis
Treasurer of camp board

1976 STATE CTS COMPETITION

Balance from February conference	\$552.88
110 pre-registered @ \$1.00	110.00
Received from state office	212.84
46 registered @ \$1.25	57.50
118 meals @ \$1.50	177.00
Sub Total	\$1,110.22
FEES PAID:	
3 Bible Bowls @ \$10.00	30.00
5 Bible Tic Tac Toe @ \$10.00	50.00
6 Sword Drill @ \$5.00	30.00
Bible Memorization @ \$5.00	
2-First grade	10.00
5-Second grade	25.00
4-Third grade	20.00
Vocal Solo @ \$2.50	
1-Adventurer	2.50
1-Herald	2.50
1 Vocal Ensemble @ \$5.00	5.00
1 Instrument solo @ \$2.50 Adventurer	2.50
Keyboard @ \$2.50	
1-Adventurer	2.50
2-Herald	5.00
Donation	1.00
Offering	47.02
Sub Total	233.02

DISBURSEMENTS:

Food:		Postage	Other:
Harvey's	\$2,84	Piano rental	\$32.50
Beth Whaley	23.31	Judges: Lutrell	25.75
Moore's Packing Co.	45.18	Beck	27.24
George Johnson	11.75		25.00
LaCha Farms	10.50		
Midway Assoc.	16.80	U-Haul trailer	21.65
Mrs. Johnson	45.00	Seely Office equipment	28.94
	<u>\$155.38</u>	CTS	114.81
Expense to National:		FWB Bookstore	53.80
Bailey	\$100.00	National CTS Reg.	65.00
FWB Albany	252.79	CTS participation reg.	66.50
Kimbrell	66.00		<u>\$471.19</u>
Puckett	53.93	Sub Total from above	\$1,343.24
Griffin	100.00	Receipts from state office	183.22
Harting	18.51	Minus total disbursements	<u>1,244.36</u>
Lassister	18.51	Balance in treasury as of 9/20	\$282.10
	<u>\$609.74</u>		

1976 STATE YOUTH CONFERENCE

Date	Received	Paid Out	Balance
1975	From 1975 treasurer, 754.04		754.04
2-27-76	registration, 195.00		949.04
2-27-76	offering, 71.50		1,020.54
2-28-76	offering, 34.72		1,055.26
2-28	Southwest Ga. printing cards, program materials	54.50	1,000.76
2-28	Doyal Wholesale Co. badges	14.42	986.34
2-28	Mrs. Jackie Beck-pianist	30.00	956.34
2-28	Mrs. Linda Griffin-organist	10.00	946.34
2-28	Mrs. Yvonne Thigpen Workshop Instructor	15.00	931.34
2-28	Rev. Jonathan Thigpen Speaker, Workshop Inst.	135.00	796.34
2-29	Rev. Kerry Steedly, speaker	135.00	661.34
2-28	Herefords Barn, food for lunches	22.35	638.99
2-28	Mailing SYC materials	86.11	552.88
Total expense of conference			502.08
Total received at conference			<u>301.22</u>
Expense above what was received at conference			\$200.86
Edith D. Shiver			

We, the Committee on Committees, submit the following report:

RESOLUTION

Don Reed
Luther Burns
W. C. Combs
Ronald Wallace
Harley Brown

NOMINATING

Jakie Creech
J. M. Goode
James Puckett
Dick Jones
Ernest Barnes
Respectfully submitted,
Damon Dodd, chairman
James Ursury
William Travis
Bobby Clyatt
Billy Hannah

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

We, the Resolutions Committee, do hereby submit to this body the following resolutions:

(I). Whereas in the past our printed minutes have contained errors and printed mistakes which are embarrassing to this body:

Be it resolved that all future minutes be proofread and examined very carefully for any errors or mistakes and rejected if they are not printed satisfactorily, to be accepted only when they meet the standards of quality printing.

(II). Furthermore, be it resolved that the facilities of the Sunday School Department be explored and utilized if feasible as the printing agency for the future printing of our state minutes.

(III). Whereas due to the importance of some items of business and in some cases a lack of prior knowledge and understanding of major decisions that come before the body in the business session:

Be it resolved that proposals of such magnitude, such as would render a constitutional change or a change in the policy of the state ministry or personnel be presented in brief, yet in such a way as to introduce the proposal to our people, in the Promotional Bulletin prior to the state association.

(IV). Whereas there may be men serving on various boards who are neither ministers or deacons:

Be it resolved that all persons serving on all boards be made standing delegates of this body.

(V). Whereas the Free Will Baptist Church of Athens, Georgia has been such a gracious host for the 40th annual meeting of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists:

Be it resolved therefore that we express to them our appreciation by a rising vote of thanks.

Respectfully submitted,
Don Reed, chairman
Ronald Wallace
Luther Burns
Harley Brown
W. C. Combs

BUDGETING BOARD

We, your Budgeting Board, wish to make the following report for your consideration:

(1). That a budget of \$40,000 be set for Cooperative Giving for the next associational year.

(2). That we follow the same ratio of giving this next associational year as we did last year, that being to tithe from the cooperative receipts to our national work.

(3). That the breakdowns of cooperative receipts be as follows:

State missions—45%

Board of Retirement and Insurance—22%

Board of trustees—15%

Board of Christian education and camping—10%

State youth conference and CTS rally—5%

Alabama Children's Home—3%

Respectfully submitted,
O. B. Everson, chairman
Ross Bennett
L. S. Parrish, proxy
James Ursury

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

We submit this final and complete report of the Credential and Registration Committee:

- (1) Union Association—\$30.00 and 3 delegates
Bay—\$5.00 and 1 delegate
Bethlehem—\$10.00 and 1 delegate
Midway—\$6.00 and 1 delegate
Spring Hill—\$6.30 and 1 delegate
Poulan—\$5.00 and 1 delegate
- (2) Georgia Union Association—\$40.00 and 0 delegates
Crossroads—\$5.00 and 1 delegate
White Oak—\$5.00 and 1 delegate
Wilson Chapel—\$5.00 and 1 delegate
Pine Level—\$5.00 and 1 delegate
- (3) Chattahoochee Association—\$20.00 and 2 delegates
First Thomaston—\$10.00 and 2 delegates
Mt. Olive—\$5.00 and 2 delegates
- (4) Martin Association—\$50.00 and 3 delegates
New Salem—\$5.00 and 1 delegate
- (5) Midway Association—\$60.00 and 5 delegates
Blakely—\$5.00 and 1 delegate
Cedar Springs—\$5.00 and 2 delegates
Patmos—\$5.00 and 1 delegate
Macedonia—\$5.00 and 1 delegate
- (6) Ogeechee Association—no dues and no delegates
Deep Creek—\$5.00 and 1 delegate
- (7) Little River Association—\$40.00 and 3 delegates
- (8) South Georgia Association—\$50.00 and 2 delegates
Harmony—\$5.00 and 1 delegate

Final registration report:	
Ministers52
Deacons12
Association delegates22
Church delegates16
Total delegates102
Visiting ministers7
General visitors48
Total visitors55
Grand total157

Respectfully submitted,
 Mrs. C. B. Dowdney
 Mrs. Bill Lewis, Jr.
 Rev. Herbert Waid

REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE

MISSION BOARD:

- Replacing J. M. Creeh—William L. Morris—1979
- Replacing David Matthews—Malcolm Freeman—1979
- Replacing Herman Watson—J. E. Blanton—1977

BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

- Replacing Ted James—Brad Patrick—1979
- Replacing William Barksdale—John Cannon—1977

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND CAMPING:

- Replacing James Puckett—Tom McCall—1977
- Replacing A. C. Truluck—Tom Parrish—1977

BUDGETING BOARD:

- Replacing James Ursury—Curtis Alligood—1979
- Replacing James Rathel—W. C. Combs—1977

AUDITORS BOARD:

- Ernest Barnes
- Norman Richmond

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE:

- Mrs. Billy Lewis, Jr.
- Rev. Herbert Waid
- Mrs. C. B. Dowdney

STATE YOUTH CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:

- Replacing Larry Gunnoe—Ronald Wallace

Respectfully submitted,
 J. M. Creech, chairman
 James Puckett
 J. M. Goode
 Dick Jones
 Ernest Barker

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND CAMPING

The Board of Christian Education and Camping submit the following proposals:

(1). That money designated Camp Mount Bethel go to the treasurer of Christian Education and Camping, except if it is marked for upkeep.

(2). In order to properly administer the program of camping and education with the present facilities, we ask the association to direct the trustee board to provide a farm-type tractor with mower for ground maintenance, to correct broken sewage, and to do needed repairs and upgrade property as money is available for these needs.

(3). We request the authority to prepare a study of the future development of Camp Mount Bethel in order to provide for the educational needs of the state association of Georgia to attract future state and local retreats using the facilities on a year round basis. This study shall be presented to the next meeting of the Georgia State Association.

(4). We request the authority to contact each association and quarterly meeting along with interested churches and individuals for the purpose of raising funds for projects approved by the state association.

Respectfully submitted,
J. W. Hightower, chairman
Tom McCall

A TRIBUTE TO BROTHER HERMAN WATSON

"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

These words of Jesus recorded in Matthew 17:24, set forth the qualifications of true discipleship. These are not "one-time only" requirements but a continuing pattern. Luke 9:23, adds the word "daily" to the cross-taking ministry of the disciple.

Denial of oneself suggests an ongoing effort to lay aside all personal gain and self-aggrandizement in order that Christ may occupy first place in life, love, service and sacrifice.

Taking up, or bearing the cross, is the means of identifying with Christ and expressing willingness to suffer for Him. The cross was once a badge of shame marking the defeat of a criminal. But Christ both sanctified and glorified the cross and his present-day disciples count it an honor to pledge their lives on its symbolism-death to self, life in Christ, and a lifelong service for Christ. I Peter 4:16 says, "If any man suffer as a Christian let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify Christ on this behalf."

Following Christ simply means emulating His life of dedication, perseverance and service to and for Christ and His church. It means worldwide interests, beginning at home and reaching into every place where there are men, women, boys and girls who need help, encouragement and salvation.

Although these requirements are stringent and demanding, there are disciples today who measure up to them in every respect. And others who were of the same persuasion have already run the race, fought the good fight, kept the faith, and finished the course.

One of these latter was our brother Herman Watson.

Brother Watson was a friend to all because he knew Christ intimately and personally. A giant of the faith and a loyal and productive Free Will Baptist, he sought and found many ways of serving Christ and His church during his lifetime. One of his outstanding contributions in service was to the cause of missions.

Elected to the mission board of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists in 1965, he served zealously and efficiently for ten years as a member of that board.

Brother Watson could always be counted on to attend the meetings of the board. His judgment and keen insight into the workings of the board made him a valuable man in this position. His fairmindedness and loving disposition, together with a consuming interest in the cause of missions made him a friend of the missionaries who served under the board. His faith in God made him a daring and trusting man who was always unafraid to launch a new work even in the face of staggering odds. His love for his fellowman gave him a pleasing personality and an even well-controlled temper that made it easy for other people to love him and enjoy his presence. His fellow board members were always glad when he was with them in board meetings.

Brother Watson was an unselfish man who not only gave of his time and shared his wisdom; he also gave his money to advance the cause of missions. And because it blessed him to give, he was not embarrassed to ask others to give to support the Gospel of Christ.

Such a man will be missed. The members of the board in a recent meeting remarked on his absence and expressed deep regrets that he was no longer with them and how very much he would be missed.

This is the real sentiment of the board of missions of the Georgia state Association of Free Will Baptists. We therefore present this tribute of respect in honor of Brother Herman Watson and respectfully request that the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists, in session at Athens, Georgia, November 18-20, 1976, adopt the same and include it in the official minutes of this session, and that we stand and observe a time of silent prayer in his memory here tonight.

PRAYERFULLY SUBMITTED,
The Board of Missions

MINUTES OF GEORGIA STATE WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION NOVEMBER 18, 1976

The Georgia State Woman's Auxiliary Convention held its regular annual meeting November 18, 1976 at the Athens Free Will Baptist Church, Athens, Georgia. The theme was "Free Indeed" from John 8:36. The meeting was opened by the congregation singing "Faith Of Our Fathers" followed by prayer by Jean Blanton. We then sang "There Is Power In The Blood." The chorister was Eleanor Sheffield and pianist was Shirley Kimbrell. Eleanor Sheffield sang the verses to "Laborers Together Keep Praying," with the congregation joining in on the chorus.

Ellie Hooper, President of the Athens Woman's Auxiliary presented the welcome. The morning devotion was given by Joy McKinley, Spring Grove Auxiliary, South Georgia district. Shirley Kimbrell presented a message in song which she had written.

The business meeting was opened with Barbara Roberts, presiding. The committees were appointed:

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE: Caroline Hightower, Jowana Strickland, Ruby Wells

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE: Mrs. Mary Griffin, Mrs. Doris Grant

FINANCE COMMITTEE: Ida Tabb, Linda Blount, Vera Wheeler, Janice Wallace, Fleta Snow

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE: Eloise Wainwright, Jean Blanton, Minnie Faircloth, Evera Moye, Janice Ursrey

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Pam Gay, Wynelle Clower, Jeanne Davis, Ellie Hooper, Latrelle Barksdale, Linda McMullin, Eva Middleton

The visitors, pastors and laymen were recognized.

Correspondence from the Fred Hersey's, missionaries to Japan, from Cleo Pursell, WNAC Executive Secretary was read. The secretary gave a report on her writing our U. S. Congressmen as requested in our resolutions from the last year's convention concerning the Civil Rights Act. Only three of the representatives even replied.

Linda McMillen, Ozias Free Will Baptist Auxiliary, Little River District, gave a report on WNAC. Followed by prayer by Mrs. Nancy Johnson.

Martha Everson, Field Secretary gave a report on display and literature table. She recognized new auxiliaries, Little River—Ozias, Martin—Corinth, Iron City; Midway—Calvary, Blakely; Berean, Albany, White Plains, Swainsboro; and Georgia Union—Wilson Chapel.

The congregation sang "Blessed Be The Name Of Jesus." An offering of \$99.60 was received. Mrs. Roberts told the congregation that Mrs. Geraldine Kelly, wife of the missionary to Perry, who had been very ill since August, had died and requested prayer for her family. Brother James Ursrey led us in this prayer.

Brother Herbert Waid introduced the speaker, Barbara Haas, missionary to France. Barbara gave us interesting inspirational experiences of her and her family. She told us that freedom is obedience to the Lord Jesus, to His word, and obedience to our husbands, followed by singing "Free Indeed." Jean Davis dismissed us in prayer.

We reconvened after lunch by singing "At Calvary." Prayer by Mrs. Luther Burns. Mrs. Patricia Johnson, Athens Free Will Baptist Church gave our afternoon devotion. Freedom means responsibility.

1. Responsibility to grow—II Peter 3:18
2. Responsibility to tell others—Matthew 28:18
3. Responsibility as Christian women—I Timothy 4:12
4. Responsibility to be submissive to husbands—Colossians 3:18

The Mt. Olive Trio presented a message in music. Historical glimpses of all our presidents and the work and projects of the auxiliaries under the leadership of each from 1937 to 1976 was presented by Edith Shiver and several of our members.

MSC to accept Registration Committee's report. MSC to accept Credentials Committee report. MSC to accept Finance Committee's report. The Resolutions Committee report was adopted with the exception of Number 3 which was defeated.

The following delegates were appointed to attend the National in Detroit: Edith Shiver, Christine Wilson, Helen Brown, Opal Hatcher, Doris Grant, Mathel Barnes, Nancy Johnson, Eloise Wainwright, Mrs. Goode, Martha Morris, Norma

Godwin, Eleanor Sheffield, Helen Lewis, Elva Laws, and Jeane Davis.

Doris Grant will serve in Mrs. Roberts' place at the National as coordinator.

Ida Tabb presented each of our Home Missionary wives to give a report on our State Home Missions. Athens, Patricia Johnson; Atlanta, Fleta Snow; Dublin, Eddie Hodges; Statesboro, Martha Morris; Swainsboro, Mrs. Luther Burns.

Barbara Roberts urged us all to attend the spring retreat and dismissed us in prayer.

Respectively submitted,
Caroline Hightower

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the Registration Committee, submit the following report: Total registered—142, 8—State officers, 33—ministers, 1—missionary, 33—visitors, 19—locals, Athens, Thomaston, Decatur, Deep Creed, Arlington, Macedonia, Harmony, Spring Hill, Bellview, New Salem, Ozias, Blakely, Midway, Wilson Chapel, Brunswick, Statesboro, Cedar Springs Patmos, and Corinth.

49—delegates from 6 districts: South Georgia—12, Midway—11, Martin—3, Little River—12, Union—9, Georgia Union—9. Registration fee \$19.00.

Respectively submitted,
Doris Grant, Mary Griffin

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE REPORT:

We, the Credentials Committee, submit the following report: 6—districts, Georgia Union, Martin, Midway, Little River, South Georgia and Union. 3—locals without districts: Athens, Decatur, and First Thomaston. Beginning Enrollment—441, present enrollment—553, attendance—77. Visitors—5. All dues have been paid.

Respectfully submitted,
Caroline Hightower, Ruby Wells
Jowann Strickland

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Balance in treasury—\$16.24, received for state W.A. Convention speaker—\$130.00, annual membership fees—\$691.25, W.A. Registration fees—\$19.00, offering—99.60 total receipts—\$954.09

Disbursements: WNAC dues—\$553.00, love offering for Barbara Haas—\$150.00, plane fare for speaker—\$75.00, printing programs—7.50, balance—\$168.59

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE

We, your Resolutions Committee, offer the following resolutions and recommendations:

1. That the creative writing contest be supported using the same categories: programs, plays, skits, and articles with the deadline being March 1, 1977.

2. That each state and/or district, send the WNAC office biographies and pictures (black and white preferably) of women who are, or have been prominent in the work of the Woman's Auxiliary. These women will be honored, as space permits, on the pages of Co-Laborer magazine.

3. That Article 1 of the By-laws, duties of officers, Section 5, be changed to read: that the field worker shall promote the WNAC program of work through personal contact and the distribution of literature. She shall assist state officers in organizing state and/or district auxiliary conventions. She shall serve under the direction of the executive secretary.

4. Theme for state project "Pennies for Crowson's Toyota." 2½ cents per day for each 553 members, which equals \$5,046.12 or 9.05 per member. The total cost is \$10,000 in Ivory Coast. LaRue is from Pleasant Hill at Vienna.

5. That as soon as Mrs. Shiver gets the history completed we have it printed and sell copies.

6. That we extend a rising vote of thanks to the Athens Church and their local auxiliaries for their employees for their wonderful hospitality.

Respectively submitted,
Eloise Wainwright, Jean Blanton
Minnie Faircloth, Evera Moye,
Janice Ursrey

GEORGIA STATE FWB WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION TREASURER ANNUAL REPORT, Ida Tabb, Treasurer November 1, 1975—October 31, 1976

Balance in treasury, November 13, 1975	\$16.24
State prayer retreat funds earmarked from 1975	126.72
Prayer retreat funds and registration fees 1976	779.00
Designated funds received and disbursed	8,130.29
Total Receipts	<u>\$9,052.25</u>

DISBURSEMENTS:

State prayer retreat expenses	255.72
Prayer retreat speaker J. Wilkerson	50.00
Wilkerson's missionary account	400.00
Camp Mt. Bethel electrical wiring	200.00
	<u>\$905.72</u>
Co-Laborer fund	435.98
Westfield India missions	251.00
S. Wilkinson fund	648.75
WNAC emphasis month and general fund	399.05
Larry Powell fund	419.50

Operation Partnership	25.00	
Jerry Banks fund	125.25	
Thanksgiving, National Home Missions	343.44	
Missionary provision closet	77.30	
Larry Incsoe	20.00	
Mexico missions	20.00	
Easter-Foreign Missions	506.05	
Tom Willey, Jr. fund	40.00	
Allen & LaRue Crowson fund	70.00	
Tim Pinkerton fund	20.00	
Carlisle Hanna fund	10.00	
State W.A. Project		
Burns—Swainsboro	489.74	
Morris—Statesboro	516.75	
Johnson—Athens	456.25	
Keens—Hodges—Dublin	456.25	
Wood—Dalton	589.06	\$2,508.05
FWB Bible college library books	60.00	
E. Barns Albany, Ga, mission	349.42	
Ga. retired ministers	23.00	
Dot Harvey loan fund FWBBC	1,358.00	
DHLF loan payment	100.00	
WNAC student loan fund	47.00	
FWB Children's Home	97.50	
Camp Mt. Bethel improvement	166.00	
Rec. Carr-Alaska missions, plane	10.00	
Total designated funds	\$8,130.29	
Total receipts		9,052.25
Total disbursed		<u>9,036.01</u>
Balance in treasury november 1, 1976		\$16.24

Respectfully submitted,
Ida Tabb, treasurer

GEORGIA STATE FWB WOMAN'S AUXILIARY CONVENTION Annual Compiled Report November 1975—October 1976

Districts reporting & membership	
Little River	43
Georgia Union	49
South Georgia	159
Martin	41
Union	46
Midway	187
LOCALS	
Athens	6
Thomaston	15
Decatur	7
Number active members on roll	553
Membership fees received	\$691.25
	33

OTHER DISBURSEMENTS:

HOME MISSIONS

Pre-Thanksgiving offering	1,296.13
State missions offering	1,931.26
Special projects	1,339.29

FOREIGN MISSIONS

Pre-Easter offerings	690.84
Special projects	1,480.74

BIBLE COLLEGE

General fund	189.00
Special projects	246.90
Student Loan funds	536.00

WNAC General fund emphasis month	641.53
Co-Laborer offerings	347.89
Children's Home	273.69
Georgia retired ministers	285.00
Youth camps & projects	632.03
Auxiliary literature & supplies	1,366.43
Local church activities	2,550.77
Other special offerings	1,255.11
Total disbursements	\$15,062.61
Cash gifts sent directly to	410.89
Non cash gifts (evaluate)	889.18
GRAND TOTAL DISBURSED	\$16,372.68

This is the report the state W.A. sent to the WNAC office as report of the year along with our membership fees of \$1.00 per member.

DOT HARVEY STUDENT LOAN FUND

November 1, 1975—October 31, 1976

Explanation	Debits	Credits	Balance
November 1, 1975			\$5,300.17
Student loans		\$4,330.00	
Student payments	\$937.21		
Dot Harvey loan gifts	\$1,388.00		
October 31, 1976 balance			\$3,295.38

The following students received loans.

Thomas Jackson Barnard
509 Morris
Glennville, Ga. 30427

Elizabeth Hearn
Rt. 4, Box 73
Cochran, Ga. 31014

Teddy G. Waters
Rt. 2
Alma, Ga. 31510

Sylvia Jenice Coxwell
505 Cleveland Ave.
Rome, Ga. 30161

G. Phil Ogletree
1005 Pine View Ave.
Tifton, Ga. 31794

Eva Dorita Williams
P. O. Box 398
Colquitt, Ga. 31737

Cynthia Hearn
Rt. 3, Box 73
Cochran, Ga. 31014

Teresa E. Ursrey
Rt. 4
Moultrie, Ga. 31768

Irvin Joseph Wilson
Rt. 1, Box 237
Midville, Ga. 30441

**CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
GEORGIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF
FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

PREAMBLE

We, the Original Free Will Baptists of the State of Georgia, do ordain this Constitution for the purpose of advocating, promoting, and increasing all phases of the Cause of Christ.

ARTICLE I

This assembly shall be known as the Georgia State Association of the Original Free Will Baptists.

ARTICLE II

SECTION 1. The officers of this association shall be a Moderator, an Assistant Moderator, a Clerk, an Assistant Clerk, and an Executive Secretary-Treasurer.

SECTION 2. All regular officers and the chairman of each of the standing boards shall compose the Executive Board.

SECTION 3. This association shall be composed of all active Ministers, Deacons, and Missionaries who are members of affiliated bodies: one (1) delegate for every three hundred (300) members or fraction thereof from each District Association: one (1) delegate for every one hundred (100) members or fraction thereof from each local affiliated church.

SECTION 4. All delegates from District Associations and local churches shall be elected from the laity of the body sending them.

SECTION 5. Funds to meet current needs of this body shall be paid on a voluntary basis to the treasurer of this association. However, it is suggested that each District Association give a minimum of ten dollars (\$10.00) per delegate authorized, and each local church give five cents (\$.05) per capita for their respective memberships.

ARTICLE III

SECTION 1. It shall be the privilege of each affiliated District Association to recommend a member for each standing board. Terms of office on these boards shall be on a rotating basis which will necessitate the election by the State Association of four (4) members every two (2) years, thus giving each member a four (4) year term of office. The exception to this provision shall be the Board of Auditors, which shall consist of two (2) members to be chosen at the time of the election of the general office.

SECTION 2. There shall be a Board of Missions composed of members who are noted for their missionary zeal. This board shall have supervision of all missions interests sponsored by this body.

SECTION 3. There shall be a Board of Christian Education and Camping

whose duties shall be:

A. To schedule and arrange all camp sessions to be held at Camp Mt. Bethel, and to appoint the camp director each year. It is understood and agreed in this connection that the camp director shall be in authority in matters of faculty, curriculum, administration, food service, and recreation during camp sessions.

B. To assist in promoting all educational services sponsored by this State Association in cooperation with the agency scheduling the activity.

SECTION 4. There shall be a Board of Retirement and Insurance whose duty it shall be to adopt plans and rules which are amendable with the National Association's Board of Retirement and Insurance. They shall also formulate plans for financing this ministry.

SECTION 5. There shall be a Board of Trustees whose duties shall be to hold titles to all real property belonging to this body; the maintenance and upkeep of all such properties; the planning and supervision of all future developments; and expansion of these properties as directed by this association.

It is agreed in this connection that the Board of Trustees shall at no time sell or encumber these properties by mortgage, lien, or otherwise without the express consent of this body given in regular or called session of this Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists.

The Board of Trustees is hereby authorized to receive, in behalf of and for the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists, gifts, grants, monies, real estate, or other valuable assets.

The Board of Trustees shall act for and in behalf of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists in any and all transactions involving any of its properties but shall do so strictly in accordance with instructions given by said State Association in regular or called session.

SECTION 6. There shall be a Board of Auditors whose duty it shall be to audit the accounts of all boards of this association annually.

SECTION 7. There shall be a Budgeting Board whose duty it shall be to formulate the budget for the State Association annually and to recommend to the body in session the allocations to be observed in the Cooperative Plan of Giving. This board shall, in addition to the above stated duties, also recommend a mileage rate for travel by the members of all of the standing boards of said association.

SECTION 8. There shall be a member of the Board of Trustees of the Free Will Baptists Children's Home, Eldridge, Alabama elected during the 1971 session for a term of four (4) years. Election thereafter shall be for a four (4) year term.

SECTION 9. The treasurer of each board shall be bonded in an amount stipulated by the board of which he is treasurer. The bonding fee shall be paid from the treasury of said boards.

ARTICLE IV

SECTION 1. All officers except board members and the Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected to serve a term of two (2) years. The Executive Secretary-Treasurer shall be employed by the Executive Board of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists, subject to the ratification of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists at its next regular session, for an

indefinite period, with an agreement of a sixty (60) days notice of termination by both the employee and the Executive Board as the employer.

SECTION 2. Standing boards of this Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists have no power or final authority to hire fulltime employees until the matter has been presented to and acted on by this association in regular session. This does not apply to fulltime missionaries sent out under the Mission Board.

SECTION 3. Vacancies in the list of general officers on any of the boards, which occur between regular sessions of this State Association, may be filled by the Executive Board until the convening of the annual session of said association.

SECTION 4. Election of all general officers shall take place on the odd years of the calendar.

SECTION 5. If a member of any board fails in the function of his or her duty without good and sufficient reasons, the board of which the delinquent is a member may declare that particular office vacant. Further, 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, business-like manner according to the rules of Christian conduct as set forth in the New Testament.

In the event that any standing board of this State Association of appointing proxies to serve in lieu of the absent members.

At the pleasure of the boards, and subsequent to the meeting from which the regular member absented himself, the boards have the right to deal with the delinquent member in the manner stated in the previous paragraph.

SECTION 6. Boards may be called into session by the Chairman or Vice-chairman of said board, or by the Moderator or Assistant Moderator of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists, upon the request of the majority of the members of said boards.

AMENDMENTS

This constitution may be changed, altered, or amended by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all delegates present and voting at any regular session of the State Association. Prior to a final vote on any amendment, change or alteration, said amendment, change or alteration shall be submitted in writing to the clerk of this association and shall lie on the table from one business session to the next during which time it shall be read at least two (2) times in open session. Officers, standing boards, and/or standing committees may be added or deleted as the need arises.

BY-LAWS

SECTION 1.

A. The Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists shall meet for its regular session annually on Thursday following the second Sunday in November and shall adjourn on the Saturday immediately following.

B. The Executive Board shall meet quarterly on Saturday before the second Sunday of the following months: February, May, August. The November meeting of said board shall be held just prior to regular meeting of the State Association.

The Executive Board of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists shall act for and in behalf of said association on matters which by their nature require immediate attention. All such actions by the Executive Board shall be subject to the final action by the State Association.

SECTION 2.

A. The moderator shall preside at the annual sessions of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists and the meetings of the Executive Board. The moderator shall be the President of the Corporation known as the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists.

B. The assistant moderator shall preside in the absence of the moderator and/or when appointed by the moderator as the need arises.

C. The clerk shall keep records of the proceedings of the annual associational meetings and of the Executive Board meetings. It shall also be his responsibility to have the minutes of these sessions printed and distributed. The clerk shall be the Vice-President of the Corporation known as the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists.

D. The assistant clerk, in the absence of the clerk, shall fulfill the functions and duties of the clerk as stated in paragraph C of this document.

SECTION 3.

A. The Executive Secretary shall be responsible and accountable to the Executive Board in the fulfillment of the duties of his office as determined by said board.

B. The Executive Secretary shall be allowed four (4) weeks vacation per year with pay.

C. Funds received by the Executive Secretary for revivals, special speaking engagements and promotional meetings, shall go into the Cooperative Fund. The exception to this regulation relates to any remuneration received by the Executive Secretary during his four-weeks vacation, which funds shall be his personally and need not be accounted for before said association.

D. Salary, mileage, and operational expenses of the Executive Secretary shall be determined by the Executive Board.

E. The Executive Secretary shall be Secretary-Treasurer of the Corporation known as the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists.

SECTION 4.

A. The Executive Board shall serve as the Placement Committee for the State Association. In this capacity the board shall investigate places suitable for this meeting and make recommendations to said State Association. In as much as possible, this association shall meet on a rotating basis within the District Associations. Meeting places shall be determined two (2) years in advance.

B. The Executive Board shall plan the program for the annual meetings of the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists and the annual meetings shall

follow the programs as closely as possible. Business sessions shall be conducted according to the commonly accepted rules of parliamentary procedure.

SECTION 5.

Necessary committees shall be appointed by the moderator unless otherwise provided for by the body.

SECTION 6.

These By-Laws may be altered, changed, or amended at any regular session of this association by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of delegates present and voting.

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 all 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 faithfully to discharge our obligation to reverence 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 Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake 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.

We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep 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.

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 the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.