1954 MINUTES

of the

60th ANNUAL SESSION

of the

Georgia Union Association

OF THE ORIGINAL FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH

Pine Level Church

DODGE COUNTY, GEORGIA, OCTOBER 7-8, 1954

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OFFICERS

REV. EMMETT McDUFFIE, Moderator..Rochelle, Ga. REV. MANSE CASON, Vice-Mod...... Omega, Ga. SHERMAN D. JONES, Clerk and Treas.... Chester, Ga. WESLEY HOBBS, Mission Treasurer..... Cordele, Ga.

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NEXT SESSION

The next session convenes with Little Bethel Church, at Rebie, Bleckley County, Georgia on October 155,6-7 1955. Introductory sermon by Rev. W. L. Amerson.

EXECUTIVE BOARD, THEIR CHURCH AND	ADRESS
W. W. Hobbs, Pleasant Hill John F. Ross, New Ebenezer Cicero Powell, Little Bethel W. H. Nobles, Pine Level T. B. Ethridge, Double Branch	Cochran, Ga. Chester, Ga. Chester, Ga. Unadilla, Ga.
MISSION BOARD AND THEIR ADDRES	SSES
Ernest J. Barker Rev. Manse Cason, P. O. Box 132 Rev. Emmett McDuffie Rev. G. W. Nobles	Omega, Ga. Rochelle, Ga.
John F. Ross SUPERANNUATION BOARD AND THEIR AI	Cochran, Ga.
Rev. Elbert Powell W. H. Nobles Sherman D. Jones EDUCATION BOARD AND THEIR ADDRI	Chester, Ga. Chester, Ga. Chester, Ga.
Rev. W. L. Amerson L. E. Leonard, 4308 Trammell Ave, W. W. Hobbs	Macon, Ga. Vienna, Ga.
ORDAINING COUNCIL	
Rev. Emmett McDuffie	Rochelle, Ga.
Rev. Manse Cason	Seville, Ga.

ORDER OF CHURCH BUSINESS MEETINGS

- 1. Call to order by moderator
- 2. Open meeting with prayer
- 3. Invite visiting brethren to seats
- 4. Read and adopt minutes of last meeting
- 5. Call for acknowledgements, and matters of dealings
- Reports of Deacons 6.
- Reports of committees
- Unfinished Business
- 9. New Business
- 10. Miscellaneous Business
- 11. Appointment of committees
- 12. Adjournment.

ORDER OF BUSINESS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- Call to order by moderator
- 2. Call for corresponding letters from churches
- 3. Read the letters, complete the roll
- 4. Call for petitionary letters
- Introduce visiting brethren and admit them to honorary seats

- 6. Call for corresponding messengers from other bodies
- 7. Appoint D. C.
- Appoint various committees
- 9. Select place for holding next session
- Call for ministerial and all other conference reports
- Call for reports of committees
- 12. Call for ordinances and consecrations

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- 13. Call for miscellaneous business. 13. Call for miscellaneous business.

 14. Elect all officers
- 15. Adjourn.

PROCEEDINGS

The Sixtieth Annual Session of the Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists convened with Pine Level Church, in Dodge County, Georgia, Thursday, Oct. 7, 1954.

THURSDAY MORNING

Opened session by singing "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms". Prayer offered by Bro. John Ross. Devotional by Bro. T. B. Etheridge, stressing the necessity of pushing on toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Jesus Christ. Bro. J. D. Payne's sermon subject was Unity, taken from Psalm 133. Told about the unified spirit shown by Free Will Baptists in recent times as compared to times past. Stressed the need of man letting the Spirit of God lead him into paths of righteousness, for without the lead of the Holy Spirit there will be no unity, especially stressed our striving for the Holy Spirit to dwell in us.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON

After enjoying a bountiful spread, including barbecue, the body reconvened and opened by singing "Amazing Grace". Moderator read from Hebrews 2, 1-9, concerning the estate of man under the ever watchful eye of God. Showed how God made everything subject to man, but made man a little lower than the angels, then made the way for man to become a true Son of God. Showed us, in spite of our shortcomings, God is still mindful of man.

Prayer offered by Bro. John F. Cannon.

Moderator calls session to order and reads the by-laws.

Calls for letters from various churches.

Motion carried for chair to appoint someone to read letters.

Bro. W. L. Amerson and Bro. Herman Sullivan appointed.

Read letters and completed the roll.

Delegates and churches listed as follows:

Buelah Springs, Mrs. B. J. Johnson, Mrs. James Johnson.

Antioch, none listed.

Liberty Chapel, Mrs. Shi, Miss Jackie Dick and Miss Ruby Hearn.

Mt. Ararat, Mrs. Fannie Peacock, Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Sheffield, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Pridgen, Mrs. Spurgeon Jones.

Bethlehem, Mrs. Christine Perry, Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Jones. Pleasant Hill, Mr. and Mrs. James Yawn, Mr. and Mrs. Edd Hobbs, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Hobbs and Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Hobbs.

Double Branch, Bro. R. H. Holmes, Bro. Herman Sullivan and Sis. Myrtis Stokes.

Bay Springs, Bro. H. D. Faircloth, Sis. Ernest Cook and Sis. Button Jones.

Pine Level, Bro. and Sis. A. P. Pritchett, Bro. E. L. Long, Bro. W. H. Nobles and Bro. John Dempsey.

Little Bethel, Sis. Sara Walls and Bro. Johnnie Davis.

Christian Hill, Ernest J. Barker, Sis. Leno McDuffie and Sis. Lola Barker.

New Ebenezer, Bro. and Sis. John F. Cannon and Bro. and Sis. John F. Ross.

Quarterly Conference, Bro. E. R. Roland and Bro. James Johnson.

Motion carried to accept letters and seat delegates.

Call for petitionary letters.

One petitionary letter received from Friendship Church near Twin City, Ga.

Motion carried to accept letter and seat the delegate, Bro. W. J. Brown.

Call for visitors and invite them to seat with us.

Responding were Bro. Joyner from South Ga. Association, Bro. Sellers from the Union Association and Bro. Morris from the State Association.

-Backet Call for corresponding messengers. - none received a constant

Appoint D. C. harried surveys , or in the substitution of the survey of the

Motion carried for chair to make appointments.

Bros. John Ross, R. H. Holmes and Johnnie Davis.

Appoint various committees. (see reports).

Motion carried for next session to go to Little Bethel (see cover of Minutes).

Bro. McDuffie reports on missions. The board met at Bethlehem and appointed Bro. John Ross to visit each church in behalf of the mission work.

Motion carried to suspend regular order of business and give Bro. Morris time to tell us about our Promotional Work. Bro. Morris commends the Ga. Union on its cooperative spirit in meeting our obligation to the unified program. Mention the great forward strides in the home mission field. Free Will Baptists have organized 2 churches each week for the last 24 months. Tells us of our slackness concerning our superannuation work.

Bro. Barker (assistant to Bro. Morris) tells us about the cooperation in our Association in raising our quota in the unified program (\$20,000.00).

Motion carried to re-elect Bro. T. B. Etheridge to Executive Board.

Motion carried to re-elect Bro. John F. Ross to Mission Board.

Motion carried to elect Bro. Sherman D. Jones to Superanuation Board.

Motion carried to re-elect Bro. W. W. Hobbs to Education Board.

Motion carried to re-elect Bro. Emmett McDuffie to Ordaning

Council.

Motion carried for chair to appoint delegates to State Convention, to be held on Tuesday after the 2nd Sunday in Nov. 1954, and to send \$10.00 entrance fee. Bro. W. W. Hobbs, Bro. E. L. Long.

Motion carried for chair to appoint delegates to National Association, to be held at Tulsa, Oklahoma, during the 2nd week in July, 1955.

Bro. Ernest J. Barker appointed. \$5.00 for entrance fee. Motion carried to adopt D C. report and relieve committee. (See reports.)

Motion carried for Bro. W. L. Amerson to preach introductory sermon at next session. Bro. Manse Cason alternate.

Motion carried to adjourn until 10:15 Friday,

THURSDAY NIGHT

Met at 7:00 with song service lead by Bro. Long. Prayer offered by Bro. Payne. Song "I'll Be Satisfied".

Devotional message by Bro. A. L. Sellers, scripture lesson, "and I, if I be lifted up will draw all men unto Me". St. John 12-32. This was a challenging message. After the message the congregation was led in the old hymn "Amazing Grace". Bro. E. B. Joyner took the stand and announced as his text, "Beware of the leaving of the Pharisees and of the Sadduees", St. Matthew, 16-6. A great message which all enjoyed. At the close of the preaching service Bro. McDuffie took charge and gave an oral report of the Ordaining Council, after which, Bro. W. L. Amerson and Bro. J. E. Robinson were ordained to the Gospel Ministry.

FRIDAY MORNING

After song service and prayer by Bro. Cannon, called to order by Moderator.

Motion carried to have 400 Minutes printed, Clerk to make any necessary changes, and to pay Clerk \$25.00 and Moderator \$15.00.

Note— Bro. W. H. Owens and Sis. Omie Owens delegates from Antioch.

Motion carried to carry Bro. Charlie Thompson's obituary in our Minutes, as prepared by Sis. Hearn.

Bro. Jackson requests a few words, talks concerning the slackness of our members in attending our churches. Bro. McDuffie gives the answer as carried in the "Discipline of the Church" in our treaty, Page 48, Articles 3 and 4.

Motion carried to take up regular order of business.

Chair recognizes Bro. J. C. King as corresponding messenger from the Chattahoochie Association.

Chair recognizes Bro. W. H. Horn, pastor of Antioch Church. He was visiting from the Martin Association.

Both Bros. extended a warm welcome, for visitors, to their respective bodies.

Call for reports of committees.

Responding were: Sunday School, Temperance, Finance, Woman's Auxiliary, Education and Suggestion.

Motions carried to accept the various reports and relieve the committees. (See reports).

Motion carried to appoint a committee to study our financial situation.

Moderator appoints Brc. Ernest J. Barker, Bro. E. L. Long and B. R. H. Holmes.

Bro. Lamar Parrish brought the devotion. Stressed the importance of our glorifying the Son of God and by so doing we might be edified and uplifted.

The congregation sang "Home of the Soul".

Bro. Thomas Collins brought a very thought-provoking message that was enjoyed by all. He read Rev. 3; 15-17.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Opened by singing "I Am Resolved".

Moderator read Ecclesiastes 12; 13-14. Tells us that man has no time, save that given by God. His whole existance is for the sole purpose of worshiping and glorifying God.

Call for reports. (None received).

Call for miscelleanous.

Motion carried to correspond to Sister Associations.

Motion carried to send Bro. McDuffie to South Georgia Association.

Motion carried to send Bro. Payne to Chattahoochie and to the Martin Associations.

Motion carried to correspond to Union, Midway, and Little River by Minutes.

Motion carried to accept Bro. Charlie Bartlett's resignation from the Ordaining Council.

Call for reports.

Motion carried to accept report of State of Churches and Character of Ministers Committee.

Motion carried to accept report of Ordaining Councl.

Motion carried to take up offering for Associational purposes.

Motion carried for chair to appoint committee to investigate

convalescent home at Cochran, Ga., and see the condition of the home and the facilities for handling of patients. The operator of the home has requested the backing of the Free Will Baptists in our Association in particular. Bro. John F. Ross, Bro. Henry Nobles and Bro. Cicero Powell. The second se

Motion carried for the committee to make its report to the clerk of this body.

Motion carried to extend rising vote of thanks to Pine Level Church and community for hospitality and kindness shown during this session.

Motion carried to retain all officers. (See cover of Minutes.) Motion carried to adjourn to meet with Little Bethel, at Rebie, Ga., on Thursday and Friday before the second Sunday in October,

1955.

REV. EMMETT McDUFFIE, Moderator SHERMAN D. JONES, Clerk and Treas.

ORDAINED MINISTERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Elder Emmett McDuffie	Rochelle, Ga.
Elder G. C. Sullivan	
Elder N. R. Sullivan	·
Elder J. F. Smith, Apt. 7-B, Housing Project	
Elder J. D. Payne	Danville, Ga.
Elder Manse Cason, Box 132	Omega, Ga.
Elder G. W. Nobles	
Elder H. F. Floyd, 838 Second St.,	Macon, Ga.
Elder Charlie Bartlett	===================================
Elder Richard McFadden, 1227 Bailey Ave.,	Macon, Ga.
Elder Paul Irvin, Box 139	Newnan, Ga.
Elder J. B. Langford	Sylvester, Ga.
Elder N. H. Parrish	Waycross, Ga.
Elder W. L. Amerson	Chester, Ga.
Elder J. E. Robinson	

LICENSED MINISTERS AND THEIR ADDRESSES

Rev. Charlie Knott	Cordele, Ga.
Rev. Charles Clarke, 4503 Wyoming Ave	Nashville, Tenn.
Rev. James B. Goodroe, R. F. D. 2,	Unadilla, Ga.
Rev. Elbert Powell	Chester, Ga.
Rev. Thomas Collins	Lyons, Ga.

MINISTERS PRESENT AT THIS SESSION

Elder N. R. Sullivan	Finleyson,	Ga.
Elder G. W. Nobles		·
Elder Charne Dartiett		
Elder Emmett McDuffie	Rochelle,	Ga.
Elder J. D. Payne	Danville,	Ga.
Elder Manse Cason, Box 132	Omega,	Ga.
Elder J. E. Robinson		
Elder W. L. Amerson	Chester,	Ga.
Elder J. B. Langford Rev. Thomas Collins	Lyons,	Ga.
Elder G. C. Sullivan		

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SUNDAY SCHOOLS

We, your Committee on Sunday Schools, are very proud to report that all the various churches now have Sunday School for which we are very thankful. We believe in teaching our children how to carry on the work of the Lord, and who will support the church of tomorrow. We are thankful of the progress we have made in Sunday School for the past years, and we pray that our pasters will urge the parents and children to take a greater and higher aim for Sunday School.

SIS. LOLA BARKER, Chairman

TEMPERANCE

We, your Committee on Temperance, beg to make the following report: We ask our ministers to preach temperance more and more for we realize that, we, as Christians should be more temporate in all things. We further ask that our preachers, pastors, deacons and lay members practice temporance in our every day life and thereby let the light of Jesus Christ shine in our life.

SIS. OLA SHI, Chairman

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY

We, your Committee, feel the need of all our churches being encouraged to organize and reorganize our Auxiliary as it is a blessing to church and community. Jesus sent Mary to carry the message for Him and we are sure he can use the women of today.

SIS. JOHN F. ROSS, Chairman

CALL EDUCATION OF BUILDING THE PROPERTY OF THE

We, your Committee on Education, submit the following report: Realizing that education is one of the great phases of the many causes facing the church today, be it resolved: First, that our ministers keep themselves as well informed as possible in order to be good leaders in all phases of church life. Second, That we support every phase of our Denominational Educational Program with our prayers and means. Third, That we encourage efficient Sunday Schools, Leagues and Daily Vacation Bible Schools in all our churches. Fourth, That we place proper emphasis on stewardship and the financial responsibilities confronting us. Fifth, That we reemphasize the importance of 2nd Timothy, 2;15, "Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth".

BRO. W. W. HOBBS, Chairman

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SUGGESTION

We, your Committee on Suggestion, beg to make the following report: That each of our churches and pastors support all phases of the Unified Program in order to increase our Christian Education. Our Home and Foreign Missions and our Youth Camp. We further suggest that each church and pastor endeavor to organize Sunday School ni every church and Prayer Meeting, and further, that each Pastor familiarize his church with the by-laws and especially Article 2, which states 'that every pastor, deacon and delegate in good standing should duly attend Annual Conference.

BRO. W. J. BROWN, Chairman

ORDAINING COUNCIL

We, your Ordaining Council, beg to make the following report: We have found Bro. J. E. Robinson and Bro. W. L. Amerson sound in the faith of Free Will Baptists and found it necessary to Ordain them at this session, so they can fill their places as pastors. Further, That we have found it necessary to let Bro. Thomas Collin's case continue until some matters be settled that are out of our control at this time.

REV. EMMETT McDUFFIE, Chairman

FUNDS COMMITTEE (Associational Purposes)

We, your Committee, appointed for the purpose of studying and recommending a plan whereby all churches would be governed accordingly, relative to Associational Funds, recommend that

funds to be raised for Associational purposes by churches of this Association to be as follows:

State of Churches and Character of Ministers

We, your Committee on State of Churches and Character of Ministers, as far as we have determined, all churches and ministers are in good standing, Annual Ministerial Certificates were not received by Committee from following, Rev. Spurgeon Jones, Rev. Neal H. Parrish, Rev. V. L. Pritchett and Rev. Joe Frank Smith. Annual Ministerial Certificates presented to this committee were received and found to be complete for all items, except in very rare instances.

This Committee requests all ministers to bring or mail to the Annual session a Ministerial Report annually.

All churches Must refrain from using the Standard Revised Version of the Bible, also Require their pastors to do the same.

Respectfully submitted,

ERNEST J. BARKER, Chairman JOHN. F. ROSS EMMETT W. LONG

DEVOTIONAL COMMITTEE

We, your Devotional Committee, beg to make the following report: Devotional, 7:30 p. m., Bro. A. L. Sellers; Sermon, 8:15 p. m., Bro. E. B. Joyner. Friday— Devotional, 10:30 a. m., Bro. Lamar Parrish; Sermon, 11:00 a. m., Bro. Thomas Collins.

BRO. JOHN F. CANNON, Chairman

FINANCE

We, your Committee on Finance, make the following re	eport:
Received this session\$	99.25
Received by offerings	44.13

TOTAL \$145.93

BRO. JOHN F. CANNON, Chairman BRO. T. B. ETHERIDGE BRO. WESLEY HOBBS

INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE

We, your Committee, appointed to investigate the facilities of the Ebenezer Convalescence Home in Cochran, beg to make the following report: Ebenezer Convalescence Home was constituted by Sis. Louise Horne and began operation on Oct. 5, 1954. It opened with the charge of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars per week per person. We hope by the help of all Christian organizations, prayers and finances, to be able to cut this price down. We find that the home is in need of single beds, blankets, sheets and pillows. Any donations will be highly, appreciated. At any time in which this Home fails to operate, all grants of bedding and clothing will be returned on request. A sign with the name of the Home is needed. We ask that the Association give an offering for this purpose. The County Nurse will give free lessons (in nursing) at this Home for any one desiring to help in this work.

JOHN F. ROSS, Chairman CICERO POWELL HENRY NOBLES

In Memory of Sis. Leona Lukes

Born October 13, 1892

Died October 22, 1953

She was a member of New Ebenezer Church for only a few years before she died, but she loved her church and was a faithful member. We all miss her but feel that our loss is her gain. So all we can say is goodby till we meet again.

She is gone but not forgotten,
She has gone to her reward.
Far beyond the starry skies
And she beckons us to meet her
Where there will be no more goodbyes.
SIS. JOHN F. ROSS

In Memory of Our Dear Beloved Bro. Tom Smith of Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church

He passed away August 11, 1954. He has gone to meet his reward at the age of 67. We know his soul is at rest with God. We have always known him to be a good, loyal man, a friend to his fellowman, always a friend to those in need. He has gone but not forgotten.

Never will his memory fade,

Sweetest thoughts will ever linger

Around the grave where he is laid.

SIS. GERTRUDE JONES

In Memory of Our Dear Beloved Sister Louise Moore of Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church

She is gone but not forgotten. Never will her memory fade. Sweetest thoughts will ever linger around the grave where she is laid. God called her from this world of trouble to a home He has prepared up in heaven, where the streets are paved with gold, her troubles are all over, all is peace, joy and love.

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In Memory of Our Dear Beloved Bro. Jeff Smith

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Bro. Smith passed away March 3, 1953 in Tavares, Fla., at the age of 70. His passing brought grief and sorrow to our hearts but we know that our loss is heaven's gain. He was loved very much by every one who knew him. He is survived by his wife, the former Annie Belle Davis, four daughters and 2 sons and 11 grandchildren. Mrs. Ann Marie Bailes, Orlando, Fla.; Mrs. Pauline Floyd, Macon, Ga.; Mrs. Mildred Wilson, Macon, Ga.; Mrs. Louise Dykes, Tavares, Fla.; J. K. Smith, Orlando, Fla.; J. W. Smith, Clermont, Fla.

Bro. Smith was a faithful member of Little Bethel Church. He was loyal to his family and community. He organized Buelah Springs Church in 1924 and was pastor for several years. He helped to organize Pine Level Church, Oct. 1925. He helped to organize Bay Springs Church and pastored there for several years.

We say, Goodbye Bro. Smith till we meet again,
Your heart was the truest in all the world,
Your love the best to recall
For no one on earth can take your place,
You are still the dearest to us all.
If we had the world to give
We would give it, yet and more,
To hear again, your voice and see your smiles
And greet you at the door.

In Memory of "Uncle" Charlie Thompson

Uncle Charlie died at his home, 758 Piedmont Ave., July 24, 1954. His stay on earth was 75 years, 5 months and 24 days. He was a member of 2nd St. Methodist Church, but he was faithful to the Free Will Baptist Church. We could look forward to seeing Uncle Charlie at Liberty Chapel Church. He was always there, rain or shine and his memory will always be with his friends at Liberty Chapel Church.

Uncle Charlie was born in Eastman, Ga. in Dodge County, but lived in Macon for a number of years. He is survived by

two sons and 1 daughter, and many friends and his neighbors.

He was buried at Yonker, Ga. He is gone from this world but not forgotten. God had a better place for Uncle Charlie. Let us all strive to be ready to meet him in that great promised land.

Written by Friends,

MRS. BYRON ARNOLD

Miss Ruby Hearn

ARTICLES OF FAITH From Francisco States

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- 1. THE BIBLE—The scriptures of the old and New Testaments were by inspiration of God, and are our infallable rules of Faith and Practice.
- 2. GOD—There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator of the universe; and in the Scriptures, as Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, obey.
- 3. CHRIST—Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in his human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified. He is now risen and glorified, and is our present Savior and Lord.
- 4. THE HOLY SPIRIT—The scriptures assign to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of men.
- 5. THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD—God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of man requires.
- 6. THE SINFULNESS OF MAN—Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity therefore, inherit a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin, and become guilty before God.
 - 7. THE TERMS ETAOIN SHRDLU CMFWYP VBGKQJVBGK
- 7. THE WORK OF CHRIST—The Son of God by His incarnation, life, sufferings, death and resurrection, effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation by faith.
- 3. THE TERMS OF SALVATION—The conditions of salvation are: 1. Repentance of sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it. 2. Faith or the unswerved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior and Lord with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith with the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit freed from domination of sin and become a child of God. 3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

- 9. ELECTION—God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ, men became His elect.
- 10. FREEDOM OF WILL—The human will is free and self-controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the spirit, or to resist them and perish.
- 11. SALVATION FREE—God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.
- 12. PERSEVERANCE—All believers in Christ, who through grace preserve in holiness to the end of life, have promise of eternal salvation.
- 13. GOSPEL ORDINANCES—Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel; Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.
- 14. TITHINGS--God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorses it in the Gospel (Matt. 23:23) and the Apostle Paul said "upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God hath prospered him" (I Cor. 16:2).
- 15. THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH—The devine law requires that one day in seven be set apart for secular employments and amusements, for rest, worship, Holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.
- 16. RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT AND FINAL RETRIBUTION—The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men of the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

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 and to avoid all appearance of evil, to sustain from all sinfull 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 obligations in reference to the study of the Scripture, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith and good works, endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ."

We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences; public worship and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church, of its poor and all its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian adomination and reproof with meekness: and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to "keep the unity of the Spirit" in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principles 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 evanlelistic 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.

BY-LAWS Involved the Control of the

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- Article 1. Annual conferences shall be annually held.
- Article 2. Every Elder, Minister, Preacher and Deacon in good standing and delegates shall duly attend.
- Article 3. If any member in the judgment of the conference shall show anger in his discussion on any subject, shall forfeit his seat in the conference.
- Article 4. No member of the annual conference shall be at liberty to withdraw without leave of the moderator.
- Article 5. The conference shall always adjourn by vote.
- Article 6. There shall annually be a committee of finance chosen to settle with the treasurer and report to the conference.
- Article 7. The officers and standing committees shall be entitled to seats in the annual conference.
- Article 8. No Elder, Minister, Preacher, Deacon or Delegate shall during the sitting of the annual conference, be at liberty to fill any place, as to preaching or hearing at the stage, only as liberty shall be granted by the conference.

- Article 9. Conference shall always open and adjourn by prayer and praise of God.
- Article 10. The minutes of the conference shall be signed by the moderator and clerk.
- Article 11. By-laws shall be read by moderator at opening of business session annually.
- Article 12. All church clerks shall furnish moderator a list of delegates 15 days prior to convening of each annual session.

CONSTITUTION

Article 1. This yearly meeting or association shall be called the Georgia Union Association and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well disciplined Free Will Baptist Churches and Quarterly meetings, conveniently located as may embody themselves under this constitution.

Article 2. The conference of this yearly meeting or association shall consist of ministers and deacons in good standing and delegates from the several churches and quarterly meetings of which it is composed. Every quarterly meeting being entitled to one delegate, every quarterly meeting containing five hundred members to two delegates and one additional delegate for every five hundred members. Every church being entitled to two delegates and churches with fifty or more members or fraction thereof up to one hundred and then one additional delegate for every fifty members or fraction thereof.

Article 3. The officers of this yearly meeting or association shall be a clerk and treasurer, a moderator, a vice-moderator and a mission treasurer, who shall be chosen at the close of every session of the yearly meeting or association, and whose term of office shall begin immediately following adjournment of each annual session.

Article 4. Any well organized and well regulated Free Will Baptist Church or quarterly meeting as conform to the practices and adopt the doctrines of the Free Will Baptist denomination, as published in the Treaties of their faith, and in the minutes of the National Association, and one in favor of all the benevolent enterprises of the denomination may at any time, on application, by two-thirds vote of this body, become a member thereof.

Article 5. This yearly meeting or association shall have power to discipline the churches of which it is composed and to exclude them, for disorderly work, if labor proves unsuccessful, but in no case to reverse their decisions nor to interfere with any of their internal regulations.

Article 6. The sessions of this yearly meeting or association

shall be held on Thursday and Friday before the second Sunday in October, at which time it shall be the duty of the churches and quarterly meetings of which this yearly meeting or associaton is composed, to represent themselves by letter and delegates and report their standings, prospects and statistics; at which time the association shall act upon such questions and topics as may be referred to it by its respective churches and quarterly meetings and transact such other business not repugnant to this constitution, not to the practices of the denomination, as in its judgment may promote the cause of Christ and the interests of the churches and quarterly meetings within the limits of this yearly meeting or association.

Article 7. This yearly meeting or association shall have power to adopt any regulations or by-laws, not inconsistent with this constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulation of its session.

Article 8. This constitution may be attended or amended by a two-thirds vote of the yearly meeting or association at any regular session, notice of such intended alteration have been given in writing and recorded at the next previous session.

RULES FOR ORDINATION OF MINISTERS

- (1). Applicants shall bear license for not less than one (1) year.
- (2). Be called to one (1) or more churches, except that evidence be shown whereas the applicant can be useful in evangelistic work.
- (3). Applicant shall be examined by the Ordaining Council, who having been duly elected by the Association to which they hold membership
- (4). Applicant shall meet the qualifications as laid down in the scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, measure up to the standards of Treatise of National Association of Free Will Baptist, of which have been adopted by this body.
- (5). These rules may be changed and re-written only by a two-thirds majority of those voting for a change by the Georgia Union Association, the same shall be carried in the minutes of the Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptist.

RULES FOR LICENSING MINISTERS

A person having felt the calling of the ministry must be recommended by the church of which he is a member, to the Quarterly Conference or the Association while in session, there examined by the ordaining council and upon their approval be granted license of which shall carry the name of each council member and the seal of Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptist.

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