

2004

**Minutes of The
One Hundred Ninth Annual Session
of the
GEORGIA UNION ASSOCIATION
held at**

**CROSSROADS FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH
Cochran, Georgia**

Saturday, October 9, 2004

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**Moderator..... Grover Jewell
Assistant Moderator..... Marion Collins
Clerk..... Donna Jewell
Assistant Clerk..... Suzan Hutchinson
Treasurer..... Gerry Dunaway
Assistant Treasurer..... Emory Howell
Member at Large..... Charles Lysaker**

DATES AND PLACES TO REMEMBER

1 st Quarterly Session	January 8, 2005	Double Branch
2 nd Quarterly Session	April 9, 2005	Dublin
3 rd Quarterly Session	July 9, 2005	Eastman
Annual Session	October 8, 2005	Little Bethel

SPEAKERS FOR EACH SESSION (subject to change)

January	Gene Ross
April	Jimmy Rozier
July	Billy Sharpston
October	Jimmy Smith

RECOMMENDED ORDER OF BUSINESS SESSIONS

Call to order by Moderator
Open meeting with prayer
Welcome visitors
Recognize deacons
Roll call of delegates
Roll call of ministers
Seat delegates
Read and adopt minutes of last meeting
Reports of committees
New Business
Old Business
Miscellaneous business
Adjourn

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GENERAL OFFICERS

Moderator (2005)	Grover Jewell 118 Quinelle Drive Perry, GA 31069	478-218-8750
Assistant Moderator (2006)	Marion "Shine" Collins 7000 Clay Circle Macon, GA 31216	478-788-8530
Clerk (2005)	Donna Jewell 118 Quinelle Drive Perry, GA 31069	478-218-8750
Assistant Clerk (2006)	Suzan Hutchinson 1211 Swift Street Perry, GA 31069	478-218-0769
Treasurer (2005)	Gerry Dunaway Rt. 3, Box 4100 Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-9880
Assistant Treasurer (2006)	Emory Howell 387 Empire/Chester Hwy Cochran, GA 31014	478-934-9646
Member at Large (2005)	Charles Lysaker 507 Mimosa Drive Dublin, GA 31021	478-274-9276

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Grover Jewell	118 Quinelle Drive, Perry, GA 31069	478-218-8750
Marion "Shine" Collins	7000 Clay Circle, Macon, GA 31216	478-788-8750
Donna Jewell	118 Quinelle Drive, Perry, GA 31069	478-218-8750
Gerry Dunaway	Rt. 3, Box 4100, Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-9880
Tom Douglas	132 Francis Drive, Macon, GA 31216	478-781-8631
Jimmy Rozier	3222 Maynard Mill Rd. Forsyth, GA 31029	478-994-9839
Paul Creech	6332 Carey Drive, Macon, GA 31216	478-781-5502
Charles Lysaker	507 Mimosa Dr., Dublin, GA 31021	478-274-9276

TRUSTEE BOARD

(05) Gerry Dunaway	Rt. 3, Box 4100, Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-9880
(06) Jimmy Rozier	3222 Maynard Mill Rd., Forsyth, GA 31088	912-994-9839
(07) Edward Moore	Rt. 6, Box 195, Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-3217
(08) Donald Self	Rt. 6, Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-4544
(09) Marion Collins	7000 Clay Circle, Macon, GA 31216	478-788-8530

ORDAINING BOARD

(05) William Todd	4289 Hwy 19S, Thomaston, GA 30286	706-646-2681
(06) Benny Lafferty	2637 Hwy 247 Connector, Byron, GA 31008	478-956-2626
(07) James Dixon	Rt. 4, Box 260, Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-5219
(08) Jimmy Rozier	3222 Maynard Mill Rd, Forsyth, GA 31029	478-994-9839
(09) Ricky Gilmore	Rt. 1, Box 236, Chester, GA 31012	478-358-4477

CAMPING BOARD

(05) Ricky Gilmore	Rt. 1, Box 236, Chester, GA 31012	478-358-4477
(06) Glen Smith	Rt. 3, Box 6120, Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-783-4898
(07) Charles Lysaker	507 Mimosa Dr., Dublin, GA 31021	478-274-9276
(08) Travis Sanders	Rt. 1, Box 269, Cochran, GA 31014	478-934-0621
(09) Paul Creech	6332 Carey Drive, Macon, GA 31216	478-781-5502

DIGEST COMMITTEE

(05) Cathy Howell	Rt. 5, Box 115, Cochran, GA 31014	478-934-7390
(06) Gene Collins	1051 N. Pine Knoll Drive, Macon, GA 31204	478-405-9939
(07) Frances Dixon	Rt. 4, Box 260, Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-5219

MISSION BOARD

(05) Emory Howell	387 Empire/Chester Hwy, Cochran, GA 31014	478-934-9646
(05) Gene Ross	Rt. 5, Box 22407, Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-783-2072
(06) Charles Lysaker	507 Mimosa Dr., Dublin, GA 31021	478-274-9276
(07) Paul Creech	6332 Carey Drive, Macon, GA 31216	478-781-5502
(07) Tim Hutchinson	1211 Swift Street, Perry, GA 31069	478-218-0769

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD

(05) Tom Douglas	132 Francis Drive, Macon, GA 31216	478-781-8631
(05) Melinda Clark	Rt. 3, Box 3500, Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-9474
(06) Harold Dunaway	Rt. 3, Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-2949
(07) Stewart Allen Clark	Rt. 3, Box 3500, Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-9474
(08) Monty McKenzie		

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Jimmy Rozier	3222 Maynard Mill Rd, Forsyth, GA 31029	478-994-9839
William Todd	4289 Hwy 19S, Thomaston, GA 30286	706-646-2681
Al Fordham	111 Sudan Road, Byron, GA 31008	478-953-4571

STATE BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

(07) Mission Board	Paul Creech	478-781-5502
(09) Camp Board	Paul Creech	478-781-5502
(00) Ordaining Board	Jimmy Rozier	478-994-9839
(05) Christian Ed. Board	Tom Douglas	478-781-8631
(05) Trustee Board	Gerry Dunaway	478-892-9880

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Bessie Bryant; Margie Collins; Gerry Dunaway

MINISTERS ON ROLL

Honor Roll (exempt from reporting)

Anthony, L.S.	530 Ellerbeetown Rd., Thomaston, GA 30286	706-647-3885
Brown, Gerald	1283 Coney Rd., Cordele, GA 31015	229-535-6391
Bryant, James E.	Rt. 2, Box 181-B, Cochran, GA 31014	478-934-0004
Faircloth, Howard	563 Lawndale Dr., Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-3017
McFadden, Richard	4662 Brookhaven Rd., Macon, GA 31206	478-474-9522
Powell, Elbert	Rt. 1, Box 114, Chester, GA 31012	478-934-4348
Williams, Larry E.	111 Oak Forest Dr., Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-3014

Ordained/Active

Barnard, Charles	3825 Jones Road, Macon, GA 31216	478-781-1846
Clark, Stewart Allen	Rt. 3, Box 3500, Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-9474
Creech, Paul	6332 Carey Drive, Macon, GA 31216	478-781-5502
Dixon, James	Rt. 4, Box 260, Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-5219
Gilmore, Ricky	Rt. 1, Box 236, Chester, GA 31012	478-358-4477
Hardeman, Charles	103 Golf Course Rd., Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-3618
Howell, Emory	387 Empire/Chester Hwy, Cochran, GA 31014	478-934-9646
Howell, Tony	Rt. 4, Box 262, Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-3356
Hutchinson, Tim	1211 Swift Street, Perry, GA 31069	478-218-0769
Jewell, Grover	1305B Morningside Dr., Perry, GA 31069	478-218-8750
Lafferty, Benny	2637 Hwy 247 Connector, Byron, GA 31008	478-956-2626
Lawson, Ronnie	561 Old Brookfield Rd., Tifton, GA 31794	912-382-8149
Lysaker, Charles	507 Mimosa Dr., Dublin, GA 31021	478-274-9276
Martin, Wayne	Mitchell Road, Rochelle, GA 31079	229-624-2066
Robinson, Robbie	Rt. 1, Box 1423, Chester, GA 31012	478-934-8033
Ross, Gene	Rt. 5, Box 22407, Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-783-2072
Rozier, Jimmy	3222 Maynard Mill Rd., Forsyth, GA 31029	912-994-9839
Sharpston, Billy	1079 Pine Knoll Dr., Macon, GA 31204	478-405-7891
Smith, Jimmy	Rt. 2, Box 2450, Cochran, GA 31014	478-934-3777
Todd, William	4289 Hwy 19S, Thomaston, GA 30286	706-646-2681

Licensed Ministers

FIRST QUARTERLY SESSION
Georgia Union Minutes
January 10, 2004
Bethlehem Free Will Baptist Church

The Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists met on January 10, 2004, at Bethlehem Church. Moderator Grover Jewell called the session to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Bro. Ricky Gilmore opened the session in prayer. The body sang "Jesus Hold My Hand". Bro. David Haynes read Acts 16:25-31. He encouraged us to praise God no matter how bad our circumstances get. The host pastor, Bro. Emory Howell, welcomed everyone and gave general information about the church. M/S/C to adopt the program with necessary changes. The Moderator recognized the 10 deacons who were present and the clerk called the roll of the delegates, ministers and licensed ministers. The moderator then seated the voting delegates.

Bro. Grover welcomed Sis. Faye Bryant back who had been caring for Brother Maurice during his sickness for several years.

The Clerk read the minutes from the October meeting. M/S/C to approve as read.

The executive board report was given. M/S/C to approve the report as read and to accept the following recommendations:

1. M/S/C to give today's offering to the Camp Board.
2. Recommend that we give the Bethlehem Church a rising vote of thanks for hosting the January 2004 session.

Charles Barnard gave the mission board report. The Cordele building has now been sold which has temporarily suspended the Hispanic ministry. Cornerstone Church has agreed to host the Hispanic Ministry and the details will be worked out within the next few weeks. Bro. Charles outlined the operating procedures which will be carried out regarding the Hispanic Ministry. Bro. Charles noted that Georgia Union is continuing its current commitment to the Hispanic Ministry, but noted that it is still in its infancy and details are still being worked out in determining the best method in which to handle this ministry. Bro. Charles encouraged all of the churches to include the Mission Board in their budget. The balance in the treasury is \$15,534.07. Bro. Charles reported that the State Mission Board is planning 3 new mission works in the next few years, and a policy manual is being formulated. M/S/C to accept report.

Tom Douglas gave the CE Board report. District competition is April 3 at White Oaks Church. He reminded everyone that \$50 is being sent to each Georgia Bible College students each semester. Welcome Days at FWBBC are March 25-27. He reported on a new outreach for youth too young to attend Truth and Peace called Springboard. Balance in treasury is \$1,604.29. M/S/C to accept report.

Paul Creech gave the Camp Board report. 175 teens attended Winter Retreat 2003. In an alter service Monday night for men only, 50+ dedicated their lives to full-time Christian service; 20

11th and 12th graders went to Macon to work in the soup kitchen and clothes closet, which deeply touched their lives; next year campers will bring blankets, food and clothing items for the homeless. Teen Camp in Lizella is May 30-June 4. Bro. Paul was saddened to report that Georgia Union lost 2 of its teens from the Crossroads Church in a car accident. Balance in treasury is \$581.21. Chuck spoke about Junior Camp which will be held at Camp Eunice in Robert on June 27-July 1. The theme is Answer the Great Commission. Chuck challenged everyone to send their youth and also asked the churches to send counselors. Golf tournament will be announced. M/S/C to accept report.

Jimmy Rozier gave the Ordaining Board Report. The Board met on December 9 at Warner Robins Church. The Board recommends Wayne Martin and William Todd for ordination. Letters of recommendation were received from their respective churches. It was noted that Bro. Todd is already an ordained minister and he will be received today for FWB ordination. The Association extended the right hand of fellowship to Bro. William and his wife, Faye. Wayne Martin will be ordained at Christian Hill Church on Sunday, February 15, at 2:30. M/S/C to accept report.

Ruth Moss gave the Digest Committee report. 15 churches reported; 35 members received, 2 lost, 2 saved, and 8 baptized. Total offerings received last quarter \$198,224.88. M/S/C to accept report.

Gerry Dunaway gave the treasurer's report. \$150.14 received in offering today. Beginning balance of \$3,908.82, association dues received today \$685 and \$60 in retirement; balance in both regular fund and retirement fund is \$6,800.93. M/S/C to accept report.

Delegates to the state meeting will be Bessie Bryant and Faye Bryant. Bro. Gene Ross will be preaching and also a Gaither style singing on Friday night.

An offering was taken and we took a break. When we reconvened, we sang "Battle Hymn of the Republic". Gene Ross led in prayer. Tim Perry sang "If That Isn't Love" and "The Lily of my Valley."

Bro. Grover brought the message and read Hebrews 11:8-10. He said by faith, Abraham knew God by listening, being obedient, trusting God; and being faithful. He challenged each one to have these traits in our own spiritual lives. He ended by challenging everyone to Take The Son. We sang "Just as I Am" and we had an alter service.

Prayer requests and announcements were given. Charles Barnard dismissed the meeting in prayer and asked the blessing on the requests, and the noon meal.

M/S/C to adjourn.

Grover Jewell, Moderator

Donna Jewell, Clerk

SECOND QUARTERLY SESSION
Georgia Union Minutes
April 10, 2004
Christian Hill Free Will Baptist Church

The Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists met on April 10, 2004, at Christian Hill. The moderator welcomed everyone and called the session to order. Charles Barnard opened the session in prayer. The body sang "His Way With Three". Wayne Martin read Psalm 19, and as host pastor, gave general information about the church. The moderator recognized the 12 deacons present and the clerk called the roll of the delegates and ministers. The moderator then seated the voting delegates.

M/S/C to adopt the program with necessary changes.

The Clerk read the minutes of the January meeting. M/S/C to approve as read.

The executive board report was given. M/S/C to approve the report as read and to accept the following recommendations:

1. M/S/C to give today's offering to the youth going to the National.
2. Recommend that we give the Christian Hill Church a rising vote of thanks for hosting the April session.

Charles Barnard gave the mission board report. Charles reported that Cool Springs Church in Norman Park has discontinued their support of the Hispanic Ministry. Georgia Union has been given the ministry \$750 monthly but has decided to terminate sending the money to Cool Springs. Rev. Bustamonte is planning to continue the work in the Hawkinsville area. However, since the Hispanic ministry is not under the direction of a member church, Georgia Union must make a decision regarding continuing financing support. The Board will meet following today's meeting and will report back to Georgia Union. Total in the Mission account is \$16,309.32. MSC to adopt this report.

Tom Douglas gave the CE Board report. The balance in the CE Board account is \$1,754.31. Sunday School Workshop will be at Double Branch Church on May 22, with Alton Loveless as the speaker. Tom gave out flyers. 11 entries will be competing from Georgia Union at the State Youth Conference May 1. 115 registered to date for the Couples Retreat. The State Scholarship for the FWBBC will be renamed The Charles Clark Scholarship Fund in memory of Charles Clark. 14 scholarships have been awarded this year. MSC to adopt this report.

Chuck Lysaker gave the Camp Board Report. The golf tournament will be May 22. Need counselors and workers. June 27-July 1. \$65 for each camper. \$80 if deposit is not received by May 10. State CE Board will give \$1,500 to each association again this year. The winter teen retreat was a success, the teens were deeply touched by reaching out to the homeless. May 30-

June 4 is Teen Camp. Need counselors. Balance in Camp Board Account is \$893.85. MSC to adopt report.

There was no ordaining report today.

Ruth Moss gave the Digest Committee report. 16 churches reported with 32 members received, 7 lost, with a net gain of 27. 10 were baptized. Total offerings reported \$177,471.64. M/S/C to accept report.

An offering was taken and we took a break. When we reconvened, we sang "Kneel at the Cross". Wayne and Cathy Martin sang Angel Band.

The treasurer's report was given by the Clerk for Gerry Dunaway who had to be excused early. The balance in the treasury as of today is \$5,775.09, which includes \$2,558.30 in the minister's retirement fund. Today's offering was \$182.26. Received today \$745 fees and \$60 retirement fund. M/S/C to accept report.

Ronnie Lawson brought the message and read from Deut. 1: 6-19. He asked "Does the Lord still speak?" God has a plan for all of us and it is not to sit on the side and do nothing. God wants all of us to be soul winners. Bro. Ronnie concluded by answering, "Yes, God is still speaking today". We then had a alter service.

Everyone was invited to attend Bro. William Todd's graduation ceremony, where he will be receiving his doctorate in Theology on Sunday, April 18.

Prayer requests and announcements were given. Paul Creech dismissed the meeting in prayer and asked the blessing on the requests, and the noon meal.

M/S/C to adjourn.

Grover Jewell, Moderator

Donna Jewell, Clerk

THIRD QUARTERLY SESSION
Georgia Union Minutes
July 10, 2004
Cornerstone Free Will Baptist Church

The Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists met on July 10, 2004, at Cornerstone Church. The moderator welcomed everyone and called the session to order. Paul Creech opened the session in prayer. The body sang "When we All Get to Heaven". Charles Padgett read Colossians 1:9-14. Bro. Grover gave general information about the church.

M/S/C to adopt the program with necessary changes.

The moderator recognized the 6 deacons present and the clerk called the roll of the delegates and ministers. The moderator then seated the voting delegates.

The Clerk read the minutes from the April meeting. MSC to accept.

The Executive Board report was given. MSC to accept the following recommendations:

1. MSC to give today's offering to the youth going to the National in Kansas City.
2. MSC to give the Cornerstone Church a rising vote of thanks for their hospitality in hosting the July Session.

The moderator appointed Donald Self, Bessie Bryant and Nell Fordham to serve on the Digest Committee.

It was noted that Bro. Jimmy Amerson is sick and is not able to serve on the nominating committee at this time; therefore, the Moderator appointed William Todd to serve in Bro. Amerson's place.

Paul Creech gave the Mission Board report. There are no mission ministries at this time. The Board will try to coordinate a couple of Friday night dinners and invite speakers, such as Debbie Griffin. Total in treasury is \$14,320.23 in a CD, and \$2,331.06 in the general fund. MSC to accept.

It was then noted that Bro. Charles Barnard will be leaving White Oaks Church and Georgia Union to live in Statesboro. The Association recognized Bro. Charles and Jackie with a certificate and right hand of fellowship. William Todd was also recognized who had received his doctorate of theology in April.

Tom Douglas gave the CE Board report. He said the Sunday School Workshop was great. There were 25 people in attendance and everyone was presented with some valuable information by Alton Loveless. \$1,055.71 in the treasury. 12 entries will be going to the National Youth Conference in Kansas City. MSC to accept.

Paul Creech gave the Camp Board report. 192 attended teen camp. 30 first-time decisions and 11 rededications. Theme was Reality Check. Campers visited outreach centers and brought hundreds of pounds of food and clothing. \$2,088.81 in the treasury. Chuck Lysaker reported on youth camp which was June 27-July 1, at Camp Eunice. 48 campers were in attendance, 20 workers. 11 first-time decisions, 8 rededications, and 2 answered the call to full time Christian service. Matt Price was the speaker. Theme was Extreme Commitment. Chuck thanked everyone for their help and support. There were 11 churches represented. MSC to accept.

Jimmy Rozier gave the Ordaining Board report and said there was nothing to report for the last quarter. He regretted that Bro. Charles would be leaving. Bro. William Todd will fill his unexpired term. MSC to accept.

Donald Self gave the Digest Committee report. All 16 churches reported. Received 25 members, lost 6, with a net gain of 19. 15 saved; 15 baptized. \$185,834.95 received in offerings last quarter. MSC to accept.

An offering was taken and we took a break. When we reconvened, we sang "Power in the Blood." Charles Barnard led in prayer and Donna Jewell sang "Stand Still."

Gerry Dunaway gave the treasurer's report. \$107.31 received today. \$655 association dues received; \$60 retirement funds; total in checking \$5,939.44, including \$2,724.19 in the minister's retirement fund. MSC to accept.

Benny Lafferty brought the message and read Acts 1: 1-6. Everyone stood for the reading of God's Word and Howard Faircloth said a prayer. The setting was right before Christ ascended to Heaven. The disciples asked Jesus: "Lord will thou restore the Kingdom at this time?" Jesus said, "It is not for you to know the times or the seasons." What time is it? It is time to: 1. wait upon the Lord; 2. witness for the Lord; 3. be of one accord. We sang "Kneel at the Cross" and had an alter service.

Prayer requests and announcements were given. Everyone was encouraged to pray for the churches in need of pastors. William Todd dismissed the meeting in prayer and asked the blessing on the requests and the meal.

MSC to adjourn.
Grover Jewell, Moderator
Donna Jewell, Clerk

ANNUAL SESSION
Georgia Union Minutes
October 9, 2004
Crossroads Free Will Baptist Church

The Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists met on October 9, 2004, at Crossroads Free Will Baptist Church. Moderator Grover Jewell called the session to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Rev. Billy Sharpston opened in prayer. We started by singing "Gospel Ship". Gene Ross read Psalm 107. Charles Sumner gave a report on the Alabama Children's Home. Charles Barnard gave a report from the Christian Book Store in Augusta. The host pastor welcomed everyone and gave general information about the church. The moderator recognized the 10 deacons who were present and the clerk called the roll of the delegates, ministers and licensed ministers. The moderator then seated the voting delegates.

The minutes of the July meeting were read and approved.

The Executive Board Report was given. MSC to accept the report as read and to accept the following recommendations.

1. MSC that today's offering be divided among the honor roll ministers.
2. MSC to give Crossroads Church a rising vote of thanks for hosting the annual session.

Paul Creech gave the Mission Board report. The State Mission Board will meet in Cordele on October 18. The State Mission Board is actively searching for a missionary to go to Valdosta. There are two other works that are being considered. Property in Valdosta has been conveyed to the State. There are at least a dozen young people and middle-aged couples ready to help with the missions work. Georgia Union Missions Conference this year will be 2 suppers with Debbie Griffin as the speaker, one to be held at Double Branch Church and one at New Hope Church. Balance in treasury is \$4,280.57 in the general fund and \$14,820.23 in a CD, for a total of \$19,100.80. MSC to accept report.

Tom Douglas gave the CE Board report. The Board met August 14. Tom gave a list of the upcoming retreats. Balance in the treasury is \$1,030.71. Several awards at national youth conference in Kansas City – one first place, two second place and several 3rd and 4th place. Activities will be announced, with one to take place in March. MSC to accept report.

Paul Creech gave the Camp Board report. State Camp Board will meet October 18 in Cordele. Teen Retreat is December 27-29 at Epworth by the Sea. He asked everyone to encourage their teens to attend, and also to attend youth camp and teen camp next year. He stated that 18 Georgia churches are without pastors and we need to encourage our youth to attend camp, where many accept the call to preach. Balance in treasury is 2,516.15. MSC to accept report.

Jimmy Smith gave the Ordaining Board Report. No business to deal with today. The Board met briefly and recommended that Tim Hutchinson and Billy Sharpston be accepted into the Georgia Union Association pending receipt of letters of good standing from their respective associations. Bro. Tim and Bro. Billy were welcomed back home. MSC to accept report.

The Nominating Committee report was given by Jimmy Rozier and the recommendations were elected by acclamation.

The Digest Committee report was given by Donald Self. All 16 churches reported. Received 66 members, lost 17 with a net gain of 49. Total offerings reported for the year is \$673,540.45. MSC to accept report.

An offering was taken and we took a break. When we reconvened, Emory Howell sang "Almighty God".

The Treasurers Report was given. The balance in the treasury as of today is \$5,711.39, including the minister's retirement fund. Today's offering is \$172. Received today \$755 fees, retirement \$60, and \$1,500 national fees.

Chuck Lysaker brought the morning message from John 11:21 and 22, and I Kings 18. Standing in God's presence, we should: 1. Build an altar; 2. Repair the altar; 3. Present a sacrifice; 4. See the Lord (holy) and wholly; 5. Take care of the root of sin; and 6. Pray in faith. He concluded by saying that we need to get out of the way and let God do His business. We had an altar service and sang "Just as I Am".

Announcements and prayer requests were given.

MSC to adjourn. Tim Hutchinson dismissed the meeting in prayer and asked the blessing on the noon meal and the prayer requests.

Grover Jewell, Moderator
Donna Jewell, Clerk

**CONSTITUTION OF GEORGIA UNION ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTISTS**

(Revised 1980; 1/81; 4/82; 4/89; 1/90; 6/91; 10/92; 10/93; 10/95; 10/97;
6/98; 4/99; 1/00; 4/00; 10/00)

ARTICLE I

Section 1: This assembly shall be known as the Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists.

Section 2: This Association and its member churches adopt the Treatise of Faith and Practices of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

ARTICLE II

Section 1: Any well organized Free Will Baptist Church or Mission, conveniently located to the majority of the member churches may apply for membership in this Association. The applicant church or mission must conform to the faith and practices and adopt the doctrines established by the National Association of Free Will Baptists and any further requirements established by this Association.

Section 2: The Executive Board shall investigate and submit their recommendation to this Association before any church or mission can be accepted into this body.

Section 3: This Association may discipline member churches or missions, if labor proves unsuccessful, by exclusion or withdrawing fellowship. However, in no case can this Association reverse the church or mission's decision, nor interfere with any of their internal regulations.

Section 4: A two-thirds majority vote of this body is required for acceptance or exclusion of any church or mission.

Section 5: Ministers, deacons, officers, committee and board members in good standing shall be standing delegates to this Association and shall duly attend.

Section 6: Each church or mission shall be entitled to the following delegates with full voting privileges: 50 members or below - 3 delegates; over 50 members - 3 delegates plus 2 for each 50 members or fraction thereof.

Section 7: The Association fee for each meeting shall be:

<u>Members</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Members</u>	<u>Fee</u>
1-25	\$35	26-50	\$40	51-75	\$45
76-100	\$50	101-125	\$55	126-150	\$60

Over 150: \$70 plus \$5 for every 25 members over 150.

Section 8: The \$100 National Fee is due from each church on or before the Annual Meeting.

Section 9: This Association shall adopt a budget for the next associational year at the Annual Meeting. The Executive Board shall recommend a budget for the new associational year during the Annual Meeting.

ARTICLE III

Section 1: The officers of this Association shall be a moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, assistant clerk, treasurer and assistant treasurer. They shall serve two-year terms, with tenure beginning immediately at the close of the October session.

Section 2: The moderator shall preside over each Association meeting according to established parliamentary usage. It shall be his duty to see that all business is carried on in a way pleasing to God.

The moderator is chairman of the Executive Board and shall call this Board into session as needed. The moderator is an ex-officio member of all committees and boards as needed. He shall be the official representative of this Association.

Section 3. The clerk shall keep accurate minutes of each Association and Executive Board meeting. He shall prepare the minutes for publication and see that they are printed and available for distribution at the January session. He is responsible for the correspondence and records of this Association.

Section 4. The treasurer shall receive and disburse all funds as directed by this Association. He shall be chairman of the Finance Committee and will submit a financial report to this body during each session.

Section 5. The assistants to the above officers shall serve in the full capacity of the office when the elected officer is absent or unable to serve.

Section 6. The Executive Committee shall receive a mileage rate that reflects the current IRS specified rate.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1(A). The Executive Board shall consist of the Chairman of the Trustee Board, Mission Board, Christian Education Board, Camp Board, Ordaining Board, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer and one member elected at large. These above Boards shall meet immediately after the October session to elect a chairman and notify the clerk. The Executive Board is the official body of this Association when not in session and is empowered to act on behalf of this assembly on matters that, in the judgment of this Board, should not be delayed until the next session. The moderator shall be chairman of this Board.

(B) All churches or missions applying for membership in this body will be investigated by this Board before the vote can be taken. This Board shall have the right to investigate any church or mission belonging to this Association concerning their doctrinal views. Matters submitted to this Board should be in writing and signed.

Section 2(A). The Ordaining Board shall consist of five ministers in good standing, elected to five-year terms on a staggered basis.

(B) They shall be paid the current IRS mileage rate for work done between Sessions.

(C) They shall investigate and question candidates for licensing or ordination as they deem necessary and as outlined by other regulations adopted by this assembly. They shall have the authority to deal with and investigate discipline problems on a case basis. All requests for investigations must be submitted in writing and signed, preferably with two or more witnesses.

(D) No candidate for licensing or ordination may come to this body for a vote until the recommendation of this Board has been submitted.

Section 3. The Mission Board shall consist of five members in good standing, having a zeal for missions. They shall have the general oversight of all missions supported by this assembly as outlined in the Constitution of the Mission Board. The Board shall submit a report of activities to this body during each session.

Section 4. The Christian Education Board shall consist of five (5) members in good standing. They shall have the general responsibility of all Christian Education endeavors of this Association as outlined in the Constitution of the CE Board. The Board shall submit a report of activities to this body during each session.

Section 5. The Digest Committee shall consist of three members in good standing, elected to three-year terms on a staggered basis. They shall compile the information from the church letters and submit a report to this assembly during each session.

Section 6. The Nominating Committee shall consist of three members in good standing, elected for a term of one year from the floor. They shall submit their recommended nominees for all officers, boards

and committee members with expired terms, to the October session. They should meet as a committee and contact each nominee, if possible, for their approval prior to placing their names in nomination. Additional nominees may be submitted by any delegates, except members of the Nominating Committee, during the session.

Section 7. The Finance Committee is to consist of three members in good standing that have knowledge of financial matters. They shall function at each quarterly meeting to count all monies and report to the treasurer the results of each financial tally, using appropriately prepared forms for such reports. These members will be elected yearly.

Section 8. Temporary committees (such as a resolutions committee) may be appointed as needed during any session to carry on the business or to address any prevailing subject of the current times as may be determined by this body.

Section 9. The Chairman of the Christian Education, Missions, Camp and Trustee Boards shall normally be the state representatives on the respective state boards.

ARTICLE V

Section 1. This Association shall meet on the Saturday before the second Sunday in January, April, July and October of each year. Meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of each member church or mission to represent themselves quarterly by letter and delegates and to report their standings and statistics. All matters requiring the attention of a committee, board or ordaining board should be in writing and submitted to the clerk.

Section 3. This Association shall have the power to adopt any regulation or bylaws, not consistent with the Constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulation of this assembly.

Section 4. This Association shall act upon such questions as topics referred to it by its member churches and transact any other business not repugnant to this Constitution or to the practices of the Denomination.

Section 5. (A) The Executive Board shall be the Program Committee and shall be responsible for the speakers and program outline.

(B) The member churches normally rotate alphabetically in hosting this Association but may ask to be excused for cause.

Section 6. The parliamentary procedures in this meeting shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1. This Constitution and Bylaws shall not be changed or altered except by two-thirds majority of all members present at a regular session. All proposed amendments shall be in writing and shall be read in open session during the morning, then tabled until afternoon. The amendment can then be removed from the table, read again and acted upon.

Section 2. No action concerning changes of this Constitution or Bylaws can be taken until all Committees are present.

BYLAWS

(Revised 1985; 10/87; 6/91; 1/00; 10/00)

1. Any member who, in the judgment of this Association, shows anger in discussing any subject shall forfeit their seat in that session.
2. No member shall be at liberty to withdraw without leave of the moderator.
3. In the absence of the appointed speaker for devotions and messages of each session, the

moderator shall appoint said individual. Also in the absence of the moderator and assistant moderator, the clerk shall call the session to order and elect a moderator pro-tem for that session.

4. All ministers on roll shall attend at least two meetings a year or send a letter or oral message explaining their absence in order to remain in good standing with this Association. Ministers on honor roll are exempt from this requirement.
5. The minutes of this Association shall be signed by the moderator and clerk.
6. The Association shall always adjourn by vote and prayer.
7. There shall be a finance committee chosen to work with the treasurer, and report to this Association.
8. The Association shall always open and close with prayer and praise to God.
9. The Executive Board shall be in charge of disbursement of the retirement fund for retired ministers.
10. Excess funds from this Association, after all expenses have been paid at the end of each fiscal year, and a reasonable balance maintained, shall be distributed to the various boards as deemed necessary by the Executive Board.

CONSTITUTION OF THE GEORGIA UNION CAMPING BOARD
(Adopted 6/98)

ARTICLE I

Section 1. The name of this Board shall be the Camping Board of the Georgia Union Association.

Section 2. The purpose of this Board shall be to plan, promote and provide the camping programs of this Association, and to coordinate joint camping efforts with other Free Will Baptists when practical.

ARTICLE II

Section 1. This Board shall consist of five members.

Section 2. Board members shall serve five-year terms on a staggered basis, with one member rotating off each year.

Section 3. Each member of this Board shall be elected by the members of this Association in regular conference.

Section 4. Members should be nominated and elected on the basis of their proven interests in camping.

Section 5. This Board shall be responsible for the election of its own officers.

ARTICLE III

Section 1. The officers of this Board shall be a chairman and a secretary/treasurer.

Section 2. The duties of the officers shall be:

A. Chairman:

- *Preside over each meeting according to established parliamentary procedure.
- *Serve as ex-officio member of all committees of the Board.
- *Represent the Association on the State Camping Board.
- *Provide oral and written reports of this Board's activities to the Association.

B. Secretary/Treasurer:

- *Keep minutes of all Board meetings.
- *Receive and disburse all monies as directed by this Board.
- *Maintain clear and comprehensive financial records, reporting same to the quarterly Association.
- *Prepare written reports for the chairman to present to the Association.

ARTICLE IV

Section 1. This Board shall strive to meet at least once every quarter, more often as necessary.

Section 2. The chairman may call special meetings when necessary.

ARTICLE V

Section 1. Financial support of this Board shall be obtained from every possible source.

(A) Georgia Union Association funds when available, state funds, gifts, fees, etc.

Section 2. Plan, promote and provide summer camp experience for school-aged youth on a yearly basis.

- (A) Associational
- (B) Multi-associational
- (C) State-wide

BYLAWS

1. This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended in any regular session in the Georgia Union Association.
 - (A) Amendments must receive a 2/3 majority vote.
 - (B) Standard parliamentary practice and procedure must be followed.
2. Mileage reimbursement shall be at the current IRS rate.

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD**
(Revised 1/82; 4/94; 7/95; 6/98; 10/00)

ARTICLE I: NAME

Section 1. The name of this Board shall be the Christian Education Board of the Georgia Union Association.

Section 2. The purpose of this Board shall be to promote and execute all phases of Christian Education set forth in this Constitution and as may be delegated to the Board by the Georgia Union Association.

ARTICLE II: MEMBERS

Section 1. This Board shall consist of five (5) members, three of which may serve to be a quorum. One or two or more shall be laymen.

Section 2. Each Board Member will serve for three years. The first year of the cycle, the terms of two board members shall expire, the second year, the terms of two more board members shall expire, and the third year, the term of one board member shall expire. The cycle will then be repeated.

Section 3. Each member of this Board shall be elected by the Georgia Union Association.

Section 4. Each member of this Board shall show an interest in promoting Christian Education. He shall attend as many meetings as possible and as many functions sponsored by this Board as possible. Failure to do so may result in dismissal from the Board and a replacement sought immediately.

Section 5. This Board shall be responsible for election of its own officers and directors for each of its activities.

ARTICLE III: OFFICERS

Section 1. The officers of this Board shall be a chairman, vice-chairman and a secretary/treasurer, to be elected annually by the Board.

Section 2. The duties of the officers shall be (a) The chairman shall preside over each meeting according to established parliamentary procedures and shall appoint all committees. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees; (b) The vice-chairman shall serve in the full capacity of the chairman when the chairman is unable to serve; (c) The secretary/treasurer shall keep the minutes of Board meetings, notes of other activities and is responsible for receiving and disbursing all finances as directed by this Board. He shall also make the reports as outlined in Article V.

ARTICLE IV: MEETINGS

Section 1. This Board shall meet often enough to see that its work is carried out effectively.

Section 2. The Board chairman may call special meetings when necessary.

ARTICLE V: REPORTS

This Board shall present a written report at each session of the Association, outlining the Board's immediate activities and future plans.

ARTICLE VI: FINANCES

This Board shall be supported by the quota of finances allotted to it by the Georgia Union Association, gifts from churches, registration fees from workshops, etc., and personal gifts.

ARTICLE VII: ACTIVITIES

Section 1. This Board shall sponsor activities for the Association and its youth as deemed necessary throughout the year.

Section 2. These activities shall be financed with registration fees, offerings or other feasible means.

Section 3. This Board shall sponsor other activities such as retreats, workshops, seminars, teacher training courses, etc., at its discretion.

BYLAWS

1. This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended in any regular session of the Georgia Union Association and by a 2/3rds majority vote provided that the amendment was tabled in the morning session.

2. Board members shall be reimbursed for their meetings to called meetings, other mileage shall be reimbursed at the discretion of the Board.

**CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS OF THE
GEORGIA UNION MISSION BOARD**
(Adopted 1975; Revised 1979; 7/81; 10/87; 10/98; 4/01)

PREAMBLE

We, the Georgia Union Association of the Original Free Will Baptists, do ordain this Constitution and Bylaws for the purpose of promoting all missions endeavors of the Georgia Union Association

ARTICLE I

NAME: This organization shall be known as the Georgia Union Board of Missions of the Original Free Will Baptists.

ARTICLE II

MEMBERS: This Board shall be composed of five (5) members. (Members to be elected for a two (2) year period alternating by electing two (2) one year and three (3) the next year so as not to have an all new board at any time.) Each member must be a member in good standing with the church that is a member in good standing with the Georgia Union Association. If any member is employed by the Board or is called to work with or pastor a Mission or Mission Church supported by the Board, he will make this known to this Association and relinquish his position on the Mission Board. Members are elected at the discretion of the Association.

ARTICLE III

OFFICERS: Officers of this Board shall be Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer, elected annually.

ARTICLE IV

MEETINGS: This Board shall hold four (4) regular meetings each year, to be decided by the Board and meetings when necessary to be called by the Chairman.

ARTICLE V

COMMITTEES: Committees shall be appointed by the Board or its Chairman as needs arise which would demand the work of a committee.

ARTICLE VI

REPORTS: Section 1. This Board should report annually to the Georgia Union Association, giving account of all funds received and disbursed and activities of the Board during this year and state the objectives and future plans for the following year.

Section 2. The Secretary and Treasurer serving on the Mission Board shall submit written reports to the Board members as often as the Board may deem necessary. Also, reports shall be submitted through our state publications as often as may be deemed necessary by the Board.

ARTICLE VII

FINANCE: This Board shall be supported by special offerings, Church and personal gifts.

ARTICLE VIII

Section 1. MISSIONS. (A) Missions receiving help from this Board must either be established or accepted by this Board.

(B) This Board shall have authority over said mission in all matters in regard to calling a pastor and overseeing the mission work until such mission becomes a church.

(i) The Board reserves the right, in consultation with the mission, to regulate and reconcile the financial disbursements of any and all of the mission churches under its sponsorship with a view of helping these groups to remain financially solvent.

(ii) Neither the mission church nor the missionary shall incur any major indebtedness requiring monthly payments involving the work other than ordinary accounts, such as utilities, church supplies (literature, cleaning supplies, etc.), without written consent of the Board.

(iii) Neither the mission church nor the missionary shall involve themselves in site location or land purchase until the Board has first been notified of such intentions and has inspected and approved the proposed site or land purchase.

(iv) Any real estate of whatsoever type or style available and to be purchased, rented, leased or otherwise contracted for must first be approved by the Board. Final approval must be given by the Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists in session with all titles and deeds or lease agreements being made in the name of the Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists.

(v) Land purchases authorized by the Board and made in the name of the Board will be financed in a manner approved by the Board. Any appeals for funds with which to make such purchase shall be under the auspices and in the name of the Board for and in behalf of the mission church.

(vi) Title to any real property purchased for a mission church under the sponsorship of the Board shall be retained by the Board until such time as the mission church is organized into a bona-fide Free Will Baptist Church and is operating on a self-sustaining basis. At any time title will be transferred to the church, said title shall contain a revision clause as follows: "If _____ Free Will Baptist Church, located at _____, ever ceases for any reason(s) whatsoever to operate and function as a Free Will Baptist Church or pull themselves out of the Georgia Union Association, this property, with all the appurtenances thereto affixed and belonging, shall revert to the Board of Missions of the Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists."

(vii) All missions must comply with Article VIII(1)(A) and signed by the pastor and clerk, as follows: "We agree to abide by these guidelines:

Signed:

Mission Pastor

Mission Clerk

Board Chairman

Board Clerk"

(C) Inasmuch as responsive assistance and supervision both to the mission and from the Association is essential for successful mission work, the following counties shall be designated as the home missions field for this Mission Board: Bibb, Peach, Twiggs, Wilkinson, Laurens, Bleckley, Houston, Macon, Dooly, Pulaski, Dodge, Wheeler, Telfair, Wilcox, Crisp, and any additional counties as deemed expedient by the Mission Board and accepted by this Association.

Section 2. CHURCHES. (A) Any church receiving financial aid must accept such on conditions agreed upon by the Board and the Church.

(B) Any church finding itself unable to operate as such, may request mission status, or mission church status.

ARTICLE IX

STATUS. When the congregation has reached a stage where they desire to organize into a church, it shall request said status upon completion of an examination by the Georgia Union Association Executive Board using guidelines as set forth by the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists for mission churches.

BYLAWS

DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. CHAIRMAN. The Chairman shall preside over each meeting, preserve order, govern the body accordingly to established parliamentary usage, and appoint all temporary committees. He shall have the right to call meetings when it is necessary and where.

Section 2. VICE CHAIRMAN. It shall be the duty of the Vice Chairman to serve in the full capacity of the Chairman when the Chairman is absent.

Section 3. SECRETARY AND TREASURER. The Secretary shall keep an accurate record of all transactions and Board meetings and preserve the same, keep all valuable documents and surrender same to his successor in office, send out a report of the work of the Board as often as the Board requires. All funds shall be held and disbursed by the Treasurer at the approval of the Board.

Section 4. EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS. The Chairman shall be an ex-officio member of all committees.

ARTICLE I

QUORUM: Three (3) members will compose a quorum. Voting is restricted to members or their proxies.

ARTICLE II

AMENDMENTS: This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds vote of the membership of the Georgia Union Association while in session.

**The Constitution and By-laws of The Ordaining Board
of The Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists
(Adopted July 2001)
(Revised Jan. 2002)**

Article I

The Name and Purpose

Section 1. The name of this Board shall be the Ordaining Board of the Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists.

Section 2. The purpose of the Ordaining Board shall be threefold:

1. The first purpose of the Ordaining Board shall be the furtherance of the message of salvation through Jesus Christ through the licensing, guidance, and ordaining of men who have answered

God's call to preach the Gospel to the world.

2. The second purpose is to provide watch care over all ministers in the Association, concerning both their good standing in the association and their faithful adherence to the tenets of the faith and doctrines of the Word of God, as expressed and held by Georgia Union Free Will Baptists in

The Treatise of Faith and Practices of the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

3. The third purpose of this Board is to promote a good and cooperative spirit among all the ministers in the Association.

Article II

Responsibilities of the Ordaining Board

Section 1. The first responsibility of this Board shall be to investigate, examine, and make recommendations to the Georgia Union Association, concerning applicants who desire to be licensed and/or ordained to preach the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Section 2. The second responsibility of this Board is to examine and make recommendations to the Georgia Union Association concerning the acceptance of ministers who transfer into our association, into one of our churches as a pastor or in a similar position, and who are coming from other Free Will Baptist church associations or from other denominations. Established questionnaires and guidelines shall be used in all cases.

Section 3. The third responsibility of this Board shall be to investigate and make recommendations to the association concerning the retaining of ministerial credentials and the disciplining of ministers because of immoral conduct or their holding of doctrinal beliefs contrary to the treatise of the National Association of Free Will Baptists, as held to by this Association. All requests for investigation of conduct must be submitted in writing and signed, with two or more witnesses.

The Board shall have the authority to thoroughly question a minister about doctrinal issues when such questions arise and make recommendations to the Association when their investigation is finished.

Section 4. The fourth responsibility of this Board shall be the oversight of our associational rules for good standing and the giving of recommendations to the Association regarding ministers within our association, who violate those associational rules for good standing.

Section 5. The fifth responsibility of this Board shall be the establishment of guidelines that govern doctrinal purity and proper ministerial conduct.

Article III

Members of the Ordaining Board

Section 1. Members of this Board shall consist of five ministers in good standing elected in regular session by the Georgia Union Association.

Section 2. Board members shall be elected for a five-year term with one member of the Board rotating off the Board each year.

Section 3. Board members are expected to faithfully attend Board meetings.

Section 4. Board members shall be reimbursed at the current mileage rate of the IRS for their attendance at Board meetings.

Article IV

Officers of the Ordaining Board

Section 1. Officers. The officers of this Board shall be Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Secretary.

Section 2. Election of Officers. Each officer shall be elected annually by the Board at the close of the October Annual Meeting of the Georgia Union Association.

Section 3. Duties of the Officers. The duties of the officers shall be:

1. The Chairman shall preside over each meeting, following parliamentary procedures established in *Roberts Rules of Order*, and shall be responsible for a written report to the Georgia Union Association each quarter.
2. The Vice-Chairman shall act as Chairman when the Chairman is unavailable.
3. The Secretary shall keep written minutes of all Board meetings.

Article V

The Meetings of the Ordaining Board

Section 1. This Board shall meet at least once each quarter.

Section 2. The time and place of the first Board meeting of the next quarter shall be announced at each Associational meeting and included in the Board's report.

Section 3. The attendance of three members shall constitute a quorum.

Article VI

Reports of the Ordaining Board

Section 1. Written reports of the Ordaining Board shall be given at each Georgia Union Associational Quarterly meeting, preferably by the Chairman.

Section 2. The quarterly report shall contain the following items:

1. Recommendations from the Board to the Georgia Union Association.
2. A brief summary of the Board's activities during the preceding quarter.

Section 3. A minority report shall be submitted on all recommendations that are not unanimous.

Article VII

Associational Bylaws of the Ordaining Board

Section 1. Rules for the Licensing of Ministers.

1. Applicant must be a member of the church recommending him, and if applicant is coming from another denomination or association, he shall be a member of the church recommending him for not less than three (3) months from the date of receiving the letter

stating that he is in good standing with the church, denomination and association that he is leaving.

2. Applicant shall complete "*The Georgia Union Association Application For Licensing of Ministers*" and return it to the chairman of the Ordaining Board prior to the Ordaining Board meeting. The Ordaining Board shall study all applications for licensing before their meeting and then examine the candidate at their meeting. The Ordaining Board shall make a recommendation to the Georgia Union Association concerning each candidate for licensing. If approved by the Association, the candidate's local church shall issue him a license valid for one year. The candidate's license shall be renewed each year, providing his local church has recommended renewal of his license, the Ordaining Board examines the licensee and recommends renewal, and the Association votes approval.

3. Approved license shall carry the names of the pastor, clerk, and church issuing the license.

4. Applicant shall meet the qualifications as laid down in the Scripture of the Old and New Testaments, measure up to the standards of *The Treatise of the National Association of Free Will Baptists* and our Church Covenant, which have been adopted by this body.

5. No applicant for license to the ministry will be eligible for license if he or his wife has more than one living husband or wife. Paul's statement in 1 Timothy 3:2, and Titus 1:6, namely, "the husband of one wife", is to be looked upon as making ineligible as ministers... anyone who has been divorced and remarried, regardless of the cause of the divorce or the guilt or the innocence of either partner... that said persons, whose marital state disqualifies them to be ministers... not be discouraged in their Christian lives or Christian service but that they be encouraged to live faithfully for Christ and serve Him.

6. Upon receipt of a minister's license, which is renewable annually, it is required that each licensee complete the following items which are to be considered a part of the examining criteria as indicated in paragraph 2:

a. Read "*A Free Will Baptist Handbook*" by Matthew Pinson, "*Faith for Today*" by Dr. J.D. O'Donnell, and "*What the Bible Says About Tongues*", by Robert E. Picirilli, which will be provided by the Association.

b. Read "*A Treatise of Faith and Practices of the Original Free Will Baptists*" with current revisions.

c. Be prepared to discuss personal habits and concern for:

(i) Church and personal visitation;

(ii) Soul winning efforts and results;

(iii) Personal Bible study; and

(iii) Sermon preparation.

Section 2. Rules for Calling Pastors.

1. Each church should familiarize themselves with the rules for licensing of ministers and ask the candidate the same questions even though he may or may not be coming for license. If a member of another association, the pastor should indicate that he is in good standing. The degree of investigation of the candidate is left to the church's discretion. Each church should be mindful of the standards of this Association for the good of the body.

2. No pastor of a church or mission in this Association can hold license or ordination papers from another denomination and be in good standing with this body. Any candidate coming to this Association from another denomination shall be placed under

the watch care of this denomination and the church he is pastoring for twelve (12) months. All other license or ordination papers must be turned over to this Association and the clerk may destroy them or return them to the denomination from which they were issued.

3. All ministers desiring to transfer or join this Association shall:

- a. Be recommended to this Association in writing by one of our member churches or missions. All ministers from any Free Will Baptist Association coming into this Association shall complete the questionnaire of the Georgia Union Ordaining Board and return the completed questionnaire to the Chairman of the Ordaining Board, two weeks in advance of its meeting date. All licensees and those desiring to be ordained must submit their completed State Ordaining Questionnaire to the Chairman of the Ordaining Board, two weeks before the meeting of the Ordaining Board. The date and place of the Ordaining Board meeting is to be announced at each quarterly Georgia Union Association meeting. Questionnaires may be obtained from the Chairman of the Ordaining Board or from the Clerk of the Georgia Union Association.”
- b. The candidate shall meet with the Ordaining Board. No candidate for membership in this Association may come to this body for a vote until the recommendation of the Ordaining Board is submitted.
- c. If there are any questions concerning the candidate’s doctrine or character, the Association may open the examination to the majority present at the Association. The church recommending the candidate, or any member person, should make known any questions that should be considered.
- d. Transferring ministers shall be under the watch care of this body until a letter of good standing is received from his previous association. The Association Clerk must request in writing a letter of good standing from the association that said minister is transferring from.
- e. It is the responsibility of the church or mission calling a pastor to inform him of the requirements of this Association.

Section 3. Rules for The Ordination of Ministers.

1. Applicant shall bear license for not less than one year and shall be recommended to the quarterly Association by the church of which he is a member.
2. Be called to one 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 Board, who having been duly elected by this Association to which they hold membership. Examination shall be held at the discretion of the Ordaining Board.
4. Applicant shall meet the qualifications as laid down in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments and measure up to the standards of Free Will Baptists and our Church Covenant, which have been adopted by this body. The pastor and his family are strongly admonished to uphold the standards of the Word of God by being faithful in attendance on the Lord’s Day.
5. No applicant for ordination into the ministry will be eligible for ordination if he or his wife has more than one living husband or wife. Paul’s statement in 1 Timothy 3:2 and Titus 1:6, namely, “the husband of one wife”, is to be looked upon as making ineligible as ministers...anyone who has been divorced and remarried, regardless of the cause of the divorce or the guilt or the innocence of either partner...that said persons, whose

marital status disqualifies them to be ministers...not be discouraged in their Christian lives or Christian service but that they be encouraged to live faithfully for Christ and serve Him.

6. The credentials of any minister who joins in membership with a church of another denomination shall be considered null and void. The minister shall voluntarily return his credentials to the Georgia Union Association Clerk. If he does not, the Association Clerk shall send a letter, certified mail, return receipt requested, notifying such minister that his credentials are null and void, and request him to return his credentials to the Association Clerk. The Clerk shall notify the State Office of the status of such minister's credentials and ask the State Office to place notification in the State Promotional Bulletin of the minister's status.

Section 4. Rules for Ministers.

1. All ministers on roll, licensed or ordained, must be a member of one of the churches or missions in the Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists.

2. All ministers on roll, licensed or ordained, shall attend at least two associational meetings each year or send a written or oral message to the Associational Clerk, explaining their absence in order to remain in good standing with this Association. Ministers on honor roll are exempt from this requirement.

3. Good standing is hereby defined as:

a. Having the privilege to pastor or hold a ministerial position in a church or mission in this Association.

b. Being a standing delegate in this association.

These privileges are revoked when the minister is no longer in good standing, and can only be reinstated with the recommendation of the Ordaining Board and the vote of this Association.

4. A minister, who is no longer in good standing in this association, shall be required to be re-examined by the Ordaining Board of this Association, who shall recommend to the association, whether or not the minister is to be placed back on the roll of ministers in good standing. The Association shall vote to accept or reject the recommendation of the Ordaining Board.

5. All ministers shall be expected to abide by the beliefs and practices of Free Will Baptists, as defined in the *Treatise of the Faith and Practices of Free Will Baptists*, and shall be expected to turn in their credentials of ordination, when they no longer hold to Free Will Baptist doctrines and beliefs.

6. All ministers are expected to submit to the decision of the association and relinquish their credentials of ordination if they are called for by this association of churches.

Section 5. Discipline Procedures Of Ministers For Lack Of Attendance At Association Meetings.

The following procedures shall be followed when a minister reaches the point of being in danger of losing his good standing in the Association, because of lack of attendance:

1. The associational clerk shall notify the minister, the clerk of his church, and the Chairman of the Ordaining Board, in writing of the minister's failure to keep the associational attendance requirement, and that his good standing is in danger of being suspended in the Association.

2. The Chairman of the Ordaining Board shall notify the minister in writing, of the date and time of the next Ordaining Board meeting, where his attendance will be required. The Ordaining Board will determine at that meeting, what if any, further action, is required.
3. If the Ordaining Board, after examining the minister, is satisfied with his answers, and the minister agrees to comply with the attendance requirements, no further action will be necessary. If not, the Ordaining Board will make a recommendation to the Association that the minister is considered to be out of good standing.
4. If the minister continues out of good standing in the Association, for two more quarters, refusing to abide by the attendance requirement, the Ordaining Board shall make a recommendation to the Association, that the minister's credentials be revoked.
5. Any minister, whose credentials have been revoked, must be reexamined by the Ordaining Board, as if he had never been considered by this Association.

Article VIII

Constitutional Changes

Amendments: This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds vote of the membership of the Georgia Union Association while in session.

GEORGIA UNION CHURCHES

<u>Church</u>	<u>Organized</u>	<u>Pastor and Address</u>	<u>Clerk</u>
Bay Springs Bay Spring Church Rd. Eastman, GA 31023 478-374-1220	1884	Howard Faircloth 563 Lawndale Drive Eastman, GA 31023 478-374-3017 Wife: Odelle	Chad Smith 222 Roddy Hwy Eastman, GA 31023 478-374-2746
Bethlehem 142 Old Coney Road Cordele, GA 31015	1917	Emory Howell 387 Empire/Chester Hwy Cochran, GA 31014 478-934-9646 Wife: Wanda	Shirley Calhoun 216 Perry Rd Cordele, GA 31015 229-273-3947
Christian Hill Christian Hill Road 1727 Gordon Road Rochelle, GA 31079	1887	Wayne Martin Mitchell Road Rochelle, GA 31079 229-624-2066 Wife: Paula	Nancy Sheffield 478 Ashley St Rochelle, GA 31079 229-365-0088
Cornerstone 1964 Marshallville Road Perry, GA 31069 gsjewell@aol.com	2000	Grover Jewell 118 Quinelle Drive Perry, GA 31069 478-218-8750 Wife: Donna	Robert Bell, Jr. 2644 Hwy 41 S Perry, GA 31069 478-361-7444
Crossroads Rt. 3, Box 830 Cochran, GA 31014 dmbutch@cstel.net	1910	Gene Ross Rt. 5, Box 22407 Hawkinsville, GA 31036 478-783-2072 Wife: Anne	Susan Crooms Rt. 3, Box 2512 Cochran, GA 31014 478-934-9933
Double Branch 3011 Williams Road Unadilla, GA 31091 double@cstel.net	1896	Stewart Allen Clark Rt. 3, Box 3500 Hawkinsville, GA 31036 478-892-9474 Wife: Melinda	Mary Holden Dunaway Rt. 3, Box 3150 Hawkinsville, GA 31036 478-892-2949
Dublin 1824 Claxton Dairy Rd Dublin, GA 31040 tim35@ix.netcom.com 478-275-3676	1966	Charles Lysaker 507 Mimosa Drive Dublin, GA 31021 478-274-9276	Jack T. Lysaker 102 Prince Street Dublin, GA 31021 478-272-5663
First Eastman 816 Sixth Avenue Eastman, GA 31023	1961	Jimmy Smith Rt. 2, Box 2450 Cochran, GA 31014 478-934-3777 Wife: Joan	Lori Jones 1882 Cochran Hwy Eastman, GA 31023 478-374-6390

Little Bethel 1915 Rt. 1, Rebie Road Chester, GA 31012	James Dixon Rt. 4, Box 260 Eastman, GA 31023 478-374-5219 Wife: Frances	Tommy Parker Rt. 6, Box 350 Cochran, GA 31014 478-934-6048
Mt. Ararat 1885 2100 Chauncy-Rhine Hwy Eastman, GA 31023		Ida Mae Johnson 2100 Chauncy-Rhine Rd Eastman, GA 31023 478-374-3031
New Hope 1885 Rt. 5, Box 115 Cochran, GA 31014	Tony Howell 22 Beechwood Dr Eastman, GA 31023 478-374-3356 Wife: Jewell	Angela Cranford P.O. Box 6 Cochran, GA 31014 478-934-4421
Pine Level 1924 61 Pine Level Church Rd. Chester, GA 31012	Ricky Gilmore 5025 Chester Hwy Eastman, GA 31023 478-358-4477	Moniece Moore 3539 Chester Hwy Eastman, GA 31023 478-374-3217
Pleasant Hill 1896 9465 Hwy 215 Vienna, GA 31092 229-268-6211		Nita Hobbs 9465 Hwy 215 Vienna, GA 31092 229-268-6211
Warner Robins 1964 214 Brady Drive Warner Robins, GA 31088 jimmyR0 @msn.com 478-922-0544	Jimmy Rozier, Sr. 3222 Maynard Mill Rd. Forsyth, GA 31029 912-994-9839 Wife: Linda	Nell Fordham 111 Sudan Road Byron, GA 31008 478-953-4571
White Oaks 1953 7035 Houston Rd. Macon, GA 31216	Paul Creech 6332 Carey Drive Macon, GA 31216 478-781-5502 Wife: Rhoda	Gloria Johnson 5725 Swymer Dr. Macon, GA 31216 478-788-2197
Wilson Chapel 1960 506 Cobbtown Rd. Thomaston, GA 30286 706-648-6866	William Todd 4289 Hwy 19S Thomaston, GA 30286 706-646-2681 Wife: Faye	Ramona Ellington 209 Church Circle Thomaston, GA 30286 706-648-6270

ANNUAL CHURCH STATISTICS

<u>Church</u>	<u>Members Received</u>	<u>#Saved</u>	<u>Members Lost</u>	<u>Total Members</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Assoc. Dues</u>
Bay Springs	4	2	3	71	32	\$ 30,604.79	\$45
Bethlehem	26	11	5	79	27	61,483.00	45
Christian Hill	7	3	0	37	16	12,739.73	40
Cornerstone	6	2	0	40	40	38,721.00	40
Crossroads	0	0	1	33	33	22,410.31	40
Double Branch	8	4	1	214	80	220,156.23	70
Dublin	0	3	0	35	20	19,757.73	40
Eastman	4	0	0	47	30	29,347.69	45
Little Bethel	0	0	0	35	28	13,133.92	40
Mt. Ararat	2	0	1	73	18	28,902.16	45
New Hope	0	0	4	74	45	11,255.00	45
Pine Level	3	0	1	97	55	58,068.73	50
Pleasant Hill	3	2	3	58	21	31,862.75	45
Warner Robins	4	2	3	58	21	29,351.60	45
White Oaks	1	0	0	86	49	88,309.59	50
Wilson Chapel	4	2	1	71	30	27,719.57	40

Total Georgia Union Membership: 1,108
Total Annual Income: \$723,823.80

Annual statistics taken from October 2004 Annual Reporting Form

CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God, by faith in Jesus 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 obligations in reference to 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 in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conference, 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 of its benevolent work.

We agree to accept Christian admonition 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, to 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 School, 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 the Lord Jesus Christ.