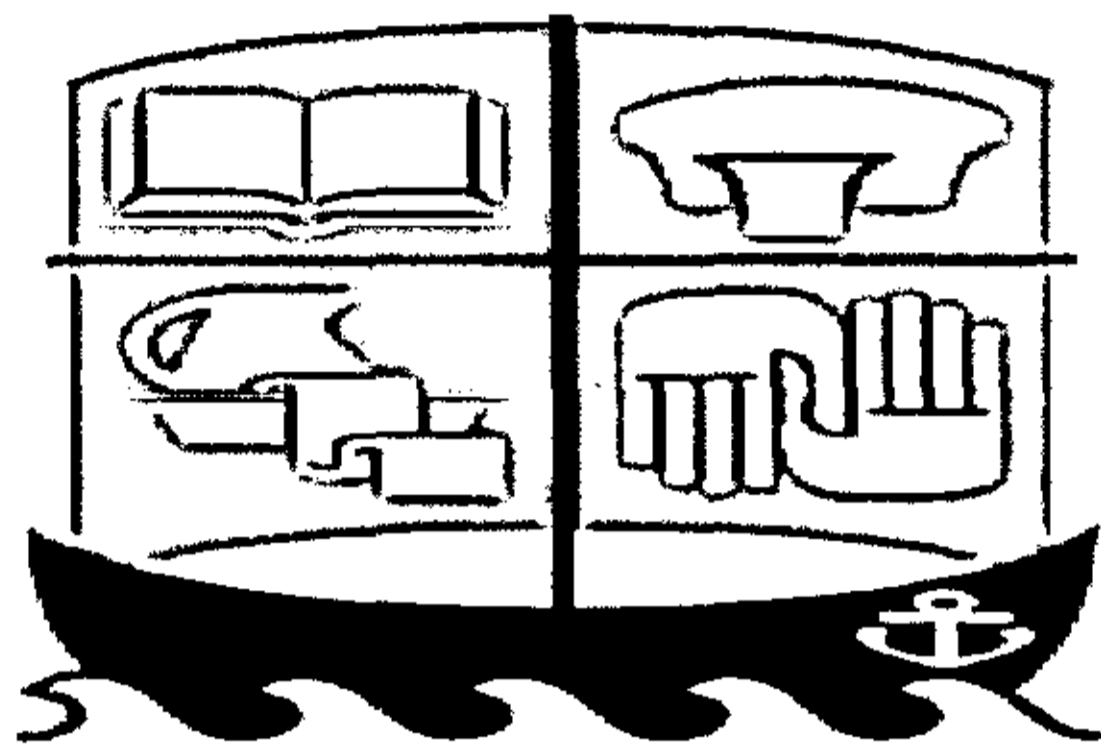


2011
Minutes of The
One Hundred Sixteenth Annual Session
of the
GEORGIA UNION ASSOCIATION



held at

Cornerstone Freewill Baptist Church
Fort Valley, Georgia

Saturday October 08, 2011

Moderator	Rev. Billy Sharpston
Assistant Moderator.....	Rev. Trent Dykes
Clerk	Lucas C. Allison
Assistant Clerk.....	Sue Lindsey
Treasurer	Donna Jewell
Assistant Treasurer.....	Marion Collins
Member at Large.....	Nita Hobbs

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DATES AND PLACES TO REMEMBER

1 ST Quarterly Session	January 07, 2012	Crossroads
2 nd Quarterly Session	April 07, 2012	Double Branch
3 rd Quarterly Session	July 07, 2012	1 st FW Dublin
Annual Session	October 13, 2012	1 st FW Eastman

SPEAKERS FOR EACH SESSION

(Subject to Change)

January	Rev. Charles Hardeman
April	Rev. Emory Howell
July	Rev. Tony Howell
October	Rev. Tim Hutchinson

RECOMMENDED ORDER OF BUSINESS

Call to Order by Moderator
Open Meeting with Prayer
Welcome Visitors
Recognize All Deacons
Roll Call of Delegates
Roll Call of Ministers
Seat Delegates
Reports of Committees
New Business
Old Business
Miscellaneous Business

OTHER IMPORANT DATES TO REMEMBER

March 15, 2012 @9am-GWAC Annual Meeting will be held
at White Oaks FWB Church in Macon, GA

March 15-16, 2012-GA STATE ASSOCIATION FWB
Annual Meeting at White Oaks FWB Church in Macon, GA

July 15-18, 2012-NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FWB
Annual Meeting to be held in Memphis, TN

GENERAL OFFICERS

Moderator(2013)	Billy Sharpston sharpston2@bellsouth.net 2394 Vineville Ave. Apt. #1107 Macon, GA 31204	478-746-3254
Assistant Moderator (2012)	Trent Dykes preacher31014@att.net 456 Bowers Cemetery Road Cochran, GA 31014	478-230-8546
Clerk(2013)	Lucas C. Allison lucas.allison@windstream.net P. O. Box 445 Rochelle, GA 31079-0445	229-424-3890
Assistant Clerk(2012)	Sue Lindsey slindsey@farmersfurniture.com 1140 East Chicken Road Chester, GA 31012	478-697-6000
Treasurer(2013)	Donna Jewell donna.jewell@JonesCork.com 118 Quinelle Drive Perry, GA 31069	478-218-8750
Assistant Treasurer(2012)	Marion "Shine" Collins shine91@cox.net 7000 Clay Circle, Macon, GA 31216	478-788-8530
Member at Large(2013)	Nita Hobbs 9465 Hwy 215, Vienna, GA 31092	229-268-6211

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Billy Sharpston	2394 Vineville Ave Apt. #1107 Macon, GA 31204	478-746-3254
Trent Dykes	456 Bowers Cemetery Road Cochran, GA 31014	478-239-8546
Lucas C. Allison	P. O. Box 445 Rochelle, GA 31079	229-424-3890
Monte Mckenzie	31 Liberty St. Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-8178
Tim Hutchinson	515 Tucker St. Dublin, GA 31201	478-296-0711
Donna Jewell	118 Quinelle Drive Perry, GA 31069	478-218-8750
Marion Collins	7000 Clay Circle Macon, GA 31216	478-788-8530
Nita Hobbs	9465 Hwy 215, Vienna, GA 31092	229-268-6211

TRUSTEE BOARD(Five-Year Terms)

(2012)Edward Moore	Rt. 6 Box 195 Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-3217
(2013)Donald Self	Rt. 6 Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-4544
(2014)Jimmy Rozier	3222 Maynard Mill Rd Forsyth, GA 31029	478-994-9839
(2015)Marion Collins	7000 Clay Circle Macon, GA 31216	478-788-8530
(2016)Wayne Martin	1325 Mitchell Road Rochelle, GA 31079	229-624-2066

ORDAINING BOARD (Five-Year Terms)

(2012)Tim Hutchinson	515 Tucker St., Dublin, GA 31201	478-296-0711
(2013)Emory Howell	387 Empire/Chester Hwy, Cochran, GA 31014	478-934-9646
(2014)Grover Jewell	118 Quinelle Dr. Perry, GA 31069	478-218-8750
(2015)Charles Thigpen	422 Southland Trail, Byron, GA 31008	478-956-4046
(2016)Trent Dykes	456 Bowers Cemetery Road Cochran, GA 31014	478-230-8546

CAMPING BOARD (Five-Year Terms)

(2012)Monte McKenzie	31 Liberty Street Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-8178
(2013)Chad Smith	322 Harrison Street Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-2746
(2014)Stewart-Allen Clark	1980 Double Branch Ch. Rd Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-9474
(2015)VACANT		
(2016)Wanda Knight	208 Barnard Road Cochran, GA 31034	478-934-6918

DIGEST COMMITTEE (Three-Year Terms)

(2012)Gene Collins	1051 Pine Knoll Dr. Macon, GA 31204	478-405-9939
(2014)Grover Jewell	118 Quinelle Drive Perry, GA 31069	478-218-8750

MISSION BOARD (Two-Year Terms)

(2012) Grover Jewell	118 Quinelle Dr., Perry, GA 31069	478-218-8750
(2012) Trent Dykes	456 Bowers Cemetery Road Cochran, GA 31014	478-230-8546
(2012) Roy Woods	Rt. 2 Box 112-B Alamo, GA 30411	912-568-7685
(2013) Monte McKenzie	31 Liberty Street Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-8178
(2013) Tim Hutchinson	515 Tucker St. Dublin, GA 31021	478-296-0711

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD (Three-Year Term)

(2012) Gene Collins	1051 N. Pine Knoll Drive Macon, GA 31204	478-405-9939
(2012) Tony Howell	22 Beachwood Drive Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-3356
(2012) Harold Dunaway	Rt. 3 Box 150 Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-2949
(2013) Stewart-Allen Clark	1980 Double Branch Road Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-9474
(2013) Monte McKenzie	31 Liberty Street Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-8178

STATE BOARD REPRESENTATIVES

(2015) Camp Board	Monte McKenzie	478-892-8178
(2015) Christian Ed. Bd.	Stewart-Allen Clark	478-892-9474
(2013) Mission Board	Trent Dykes	478-230-8546
(2013) Trustee Board	Marion "Shine" Collins	478-788-8530

NOMINATING COMMITTEE (Elected Each Year)

Jimmy Rozier, Grover Jewell, Wayne Martin

FINANCE COMMITTEE (Elected Each Year)

Donna Jewell, Jimmy Rozier, Marion "Shine" Collins

MINISTERS

HONOR ROLL (exempt from reporting)

Faircloth, Howard	563 Lawndale Dr., Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-301
McFadden, Richard	4662 Brookhaven Road Macon, GA 31206	478-474-9522
Powell, Elbert	Rt. 1, Box 114, Chester, GA 31012	478-934-4348
Sharpston, Billy	2394 Vineville Ave Apt.#1107 Macon, GA 31204	478-746-3254
Thigpen, Charles	422 Southland Trail Byron, GA 31008	478-956-4046

ORDAINED/ACTIVE

Clark, Stewart-Allen	1980 Double Branch Road Hawkinsville, GA 31036	478-892-9474
Dixon, James	Rt. 4 Box 260, Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-5219
Dykes, Trent	456 Bowers Cemetery Road Cochran, GA 31014	478-230-8546
Hardeman, Charles	103 Golf Course Road Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-3618
Howell, Emory	387 Empire-Chester Hwy. Cochran, GA 31014	478-934-9646
Howell, Tony	22 Beachwood Drive Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-3356
Hutchinson, Tim	515 Tucker St., Dublin, GA 31201	478-296-0711
Jewell, Grover	118 Quinelle Dr., Perry, GA 31069	478-218-8750
Lawson, Ronnie	561 Old Brookfield Road Tifton, GA 31794	229-382-8149
Martin, Wayne	1325 Mitchell Road Rochelle, GA 31079	229-624-2066
Rozier, Jimmy	3222 Maynard Mill Road Forsyth, GA 31029	478-994-9839
Williams, Daniel	4266 Abbeville Hwy., Eastman, GA 31023	478-374-3282
Woods, Roy L	Rt. 2 Box 112-B, Alamo, GA 30411	912-568-7865
Youngblood, Ronnie	150 Holcomb Road Arabi, GA 31712 Wife: Elleen	229-322-9288

GEORGIA UNION MINUTES 2011
QUARTERLY SESSION JANUARY 08, 2011
BAY SPRINGS FWB CHURCH

Moderator Trent Dykes called the session to order. Chad Smith led the congregation in singing "When We All Get To Heaven." Ronnie Lawson led in prayer. Host pastor Trent Dykes welcomed everyone and gave general information about the church.

MSC to change the printed program as needed.

Jimmy Smith and Fred Hersey were welcomed as visitors.

There were 18 deacons present.

The clerk called the roll of ordained and licensed ministers. There were 16.

The clerk called the roll of delegates. There were 32, constituting a voting body of 65 people.

The clerk gave executive board report. The Executive Board recommends that we:

1. That we give today's offering to the account of Home Missionary Ron Wallace
2. That we give a rising vote of thanks to Bay Springs Church for their warm hospitality in hosting today's meeting,

Trent introduced Bro. Fred Hersey who was here to represent the International Missions Board. Fred pointed out that the weak American dollar is what is causing the crisis in our IM financial situation. He urged us to be faithful in our giving, increasing whenever possible. He also passed out coin banks to each church represented.

Tim Hutchinson gave the ordaining board report. Willie Coleman – get info from Tim. MSC to accept report as information.

MSC to remove tabled items from previous meeting.

Motion regarding changes in amendment to ordaining board constitution reactivated to floor:

MSC to open for discussion:

Emory Howell – asked purpose for change

Tim said the reason for the change is that the amendment addressed only marital status, but did not address other qualifications listed in I Timothy 3.

Tim asked Dr. Billy Sharpston and Dr. Charles Thigpen to address the change. Dr. Sharpston expanded on the scripture as qualifications for a minister. Dr. Thigpen voiced his agreement with Dr. Sharpston's remarks.

Gerald Smith – Commented on his opinion that if a man who has put his wife away for fornication and she comes back and asks forgiveness he must forgive and take her back. If he had remarried, that would give him two living wives.

Tony Howell – Commented on his opinion that when Jesus said “except it be for fornication” that gave a man a right to put his wife away for that reason. He pointed out that other things have changed due to culture and we need to go to the Word for the right way to go.

Joel Woods – Spoke against the amendment.

Billy Sharpston – Spoke for the amendment, saying that the board needs the authority to question candidates on more than one part of the scripture. He called for the question.

36 to 23 to end discussion and vote.

Trent pointed out that a two-thirds vote is required to change the constitution. Vote was 32 yea, 29 again, 4 abstain. The motion failed.

Daniel Williams and Emory Howell received the offering.

We reconvened with Chad leading us in “Come and Dine.”

The congregation enjoyed three skits presented by the Bay Springs Youth Drama Team: The Sin Chains, How to Pray, and Never Alone.

Stewart-Allen Clark: Psalm 133

The beauty of unity in the community

It is big news in the community when there is disunity in the church. If we are going to reach people for Christ, we need to have unity. Disunity brings reproach on the church.

- The beauty of unity affects our community.
- Acts 2:17 When we are in one accord people will be amazed.
- Laser vs spotlight Laser has unity – all photons going in same direction; spotlight has just as many photons, but all going in different directions. Unity will attract people to your church
- Unity is heavenly
- Vs 1-3 – like dew, unity comes from above

- Oil – a symbol of the Holy Spirit – poured from above lavishly on top
- Acts 2:44 –
A unified church reaches people in your community He closed his message with prayer.

Grover Jewell gave the digest committee report:

15 churches reported; 11 members added; 7 lost; Gain of 4; 5 baptized; quarterly offerings \$196,767.98. MSC to receive

Shine Collins gave the treasurers report: Beginning balance, general fund, \$9728.58; deposits, 942.29; expenditures, 1252.77; new balance, 9,418.06. Beginning balance, ministers' retirement fund, 3231.17; deposits, 162.95; expenditures 300.00; new balance, 3,094.12. Total in both funds 12,512.18. Today's offering, 222.29.

MSC to receive

Tom Douglas gave dates for Youth Competition: April 2 at Double Branch – April

Delegates for state meeting

Irene Bringman

Bruce Allison

MSC to elect. Moderator or clerk can appoint at the meeting.

General announcements were made.

MSC to adjourn

Fred Hersey closed in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trent Dykes, Moderator

Henrietta Brown, Clerk

QUARTERLY SESSION APRIL 09, 2011 BETHLEHEM FWB CHURCH

The Second Quarterly Session of the Georgia Union Association met at Bethlehem FWB Church, Cordele. The meeting was called to order by the moderator, Trent Dykes. Dr. Charles Thigpen led in prayer.

Stevie Perry led the congregation in singing "In the Sweet By and By." He welcomed everyone and gave information about the church.

Tommy Baker gave a brief devotional from several verses in Jude. He talked about the necessity to be sure of our salvation and to live like Christians in this world.

The moderator recognized 7 deacons present. The clerk called the roll of delegates and ministers.

The delegates were seated. The voting body was made up of 37 delegates.

Board reports:

Executive Board:

1. That today's offering go to the World Mission Offering.
2. That we give a rising vote of thanks to Bethlehem Church for their warm hospitality in hosting today's meeting in their beautifully remodeled building.

Mission Board report: Paul Creech

Valdosta – self-supporting and doing well. Work in Harris County – coming along. Cartersville – Church planter has resigned, leaving end of June. MSC to receive.

CE Board – given by Trent Dykes –

1. Ga. Union Youth Competition was held Apr. 2 at Double Branch. We have 23 entries and they all will be going to State competition on May 7th. This competition will also be held at Double Branch Free Will Baptist Church.
Please come out and support a GA. Union youth.
2. The CE board has not conducted any business this quarter.
3. Current balance in treasury is \$1922.85.

Respectfully

Thomas J. Douglas

MSC to receive

Camp Board – Bro. Trent has applications available for Junior Camp. June 5-10 is teen camp. Junior camp is June 12-16.

Ordaining Board - given by Charles Thigpen in the absence of Tim Hutchinson. Before giving the report, he commended Bethlehem Church on their new facility and exhorted pastors to use their yearbook to pray for other churches and pastors in Georgia.

The Ordaining Board met on February 8, 2011 at White Oaks Free Will Baptist Church.

Our next scheduled meeting date is May 10, 2011 at White Oaks Free Will Baptist Church.

In case you should forget the months we meet, our regular scheduled quarterly meeting will be on the second Tuesday of the month following our Georgia Union Association meeting.

The Ordaining Board makes the following recommendations:

- 1) The Ordaining Board wholeheartedly recommends the Ordination of Rev. Daniel Williams. Our board met with and thoroughly questioned Rev. Daniel Williams and was greatly encouraged and pleased with his demeanor and answering of our questions.
- 2) The Ordaining Board asks the Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists to revoke the credentials of Rev. Myron Parkerson because he has started a non-denominational church. Once approved the Ordaining Board asks the Clerk to send the appropriate letter to Rev. Parkerson and the Georgia State Association of Free Will Baptists.
- 3) In reference to a letter received from the Eastern Conference of Free Will Baptists in South Carolina requesting a letter of good standing on Rev. Gerald McGaha, the Ordaining Board recommends with reservation that we send a letter of good standing which includes the following sentences:

“The Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists grants with reservation a letter of good standing for Rev. Gerald McGaha to the Eastern Conference of Free Will Baptists of South Carolina. This letter of good standing is granted because Rev. Gerald McGaha technically meets the constitutional requirements of our constitution to grant such a letter. However, this letter of good standing is granted with reservation because our Ordaining Board feels Rev. Gerald McGaha’s departure left certain questions unresolved.”

I move that this report be accepted as information.

Submitted by: Rev. Tim Hutchinson, Chairman

Dr. Charles Thigpen, Vice-Chairman

Rev. Bill Brown, Secretary

Dr. Billy Sharpston, member

Rev. Grover Jewell, member

MSC to receive report.

Daniel Williams ordination – MSC.

Myron Parkerson revoking credentials – MSC

Moderator yielded the podium to assistant moderator Bill Brown. Bro. Bill read the motion concerning Gerald McGaha. MS. Call for discussion. Bro. Bill recognized Bro. Trent, who spoke against the motion, saying that we should either grant a letter of good standing or not grant a letter of good standing. “With reservations” should not be in the letter. Dr. Billy Sharpston spoke for the motion, saying that the ordaining board went as far as the constitution allows. He said that Bro. Gerald is young and used poor judgment. Jerry Bringham spoke for the motion, stating that if there were reservations, it should be said. Stu Floyd, a deacon Pine Level, was recognized and commented that the ordaining board had not met with the church concerning this matter and he believes the board should have asked

the church what happened. Dr. Thigpen spoke for the motion, echoing Dr. Sharpston's remarks. The vote was taken and the motion failed.

Bro. Bill yielded the podium back to Bro. Trent.

Wayne Martin motioned to table action on Gerald McGaha pending the ordaining board's meeting with Pine Level Church. MSC

Digest committee - Grover Jewell gave the report: 15 churches reporting; 13 members added; 83 members lost (67 moved to inactive); 70 net loss, 4 baptized. Total offerings for the quarter \$209,858.00.

Other business – Paul Creech spoke about the ordaining board, saying that there are more than 170 years of experience on the board. He spoke of his disappointment that the body had previously voted not to change the constitution to line up with Scripture. He made a motion to abolish ordaining board and its constitution and dismiss all members and deal with ordaining matters as a body. Motion died for lack of a second.

Donna Jewell – spoke on behalf of wives of ordaining board members, pointing out how difficult their service can be.

Offertory – Daniel Williams prayed the offertory prayer. Offertory hymn, "What A Day That Will Be."

Break

After the break, we reconvened with the singing of "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder."

Special music: Wynell Adkins sang "God on the Mountain."

Rev. Paul Creech preached the morning message, starting out by reminding us of the Christmas story from Luke 2. He pointed out that Jesus did not look like anything more than an ordinary baby. He was, however, the Son of God who had laid aside His glory to come to earth. His arrival was ordinary. Like a wrapped gift often is, the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes was a lot better than the wrapping. He said that through that six-letter word, cancer, although not a pretty wrapping, he has been able to minister to so many people. Cancer looks ugly from the outside and while there is nothing pretty about it, it brings people together so that you can share with them about the love of Jesus with them. Mark 15 talks about the crucifixion. Joseph of Aramethia wrapped the body of Jesus in fine linen. Mary wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger; now Joseph wraps his body in fine line and laid him in a tomb. To this point Jesus' life was ordinary. He was born, he lived, he died. Paul then read from Revelation regarding the second coming of Christ. Jesus was wrapped in human flesh, in swaddling clothes, in fine linen. One day we will see him face to face and be able to touch him. He will be glorified. He will be the beauty of heaven.

Paul Creech gave the treasurer's report: General fund, beginning balance, \$9,418.06; deposits \$665.00, expenditures \$1,132.96; ending balance,

\$7,620.10. Ministers Retirement fund, beginning balance, \$3,094.12; deposits, \$600.00, expenditures, \$300.00; ending balance, \$3,394.12. Balance both funds, \$11,014.22. Today's offering \$413.00 designated for World Mission Offering.

Bro. Paul encouraged all to participate in the WMO.
Announcements were given.
MSC to adjourn.

We adjourned with prayer. A delicious dinner was provided by the host church and enjoyed by all.

Respectfully Submitted,
William E. Brown, Assistant Moderator
Henrietta Brown, Clerk

QUARTERLY SESSION JULY 09, 2011 CHRISTIAN HILL FWB CHURCH

The Third Quarterly Session of the Georgia Union Association met at Christian Hill FWB Church, Rochelle. The meeting was called to order by the moderator, William Sharpston. Daniel Williams opened the session in prayer.

Joel Wood led the congregation in singing "Wonderful Words of Life." Bro. Wayne Martin welcomed everyone and gave information about the church. He then gave a brief devotional.

The moderator recognized 13 deacons present. The clerk called the roll of delegates and ministers.

The delegates were seated. The voting body was made up of 21 delegates.

Board reports:

Executive Board Report given by Assistant Clerk-Donna Jewell: Executive Board recommends:

3. That today's offering go to the Ga. Union Youth attending the NYC.-M/S/C
4. That we give a rising vote of thanks to Christian Hill Church for their warm hospitality for hosting today's meeting in their beautifully remodeled building. M/S/C
5. Suggest that Lucas Allison be asked to fill in as clerk until new officers are elected at our Annual meeting in October. M/S/C.
6. Suggested we ask Dr. Billy Sharpston, to serve as moderator in absence of Bro. Trent.
M/S/C

7. Suggest that we wait until October to fill the assistant moderator position left vacant by the resignation of William Brown. M/S/C
6. The Executive Board recommended sending a Letter of Good Standing to the SC Assoc. in regards to Rev. Gerald McGaha, the vote was 4 to 3. M/S/C during discussion of #6 Rev.

Tim Hutcheson then made a motion to use the ordaining board's recommendation instead, which includes a clause in that states our reservations, using the language recommended by the ordaining board at the April 2011 meeting, which was a Letter in Good Standing with Reservations. After much discussion two votes were taken. First vote was on Rev. Hutchinson's motion w/reservations –the motion failed 13 ya's 21 nays, the motion of the Executive Board passed 21ya's 13 nays. M/S/C. Clerk will send Letter of Good Standing to Eastern Conference of South Carolina Association of Freewill Baptists for Rev. Gerald McGaha.

Recognition death of Rev. Jimmy Smith, after a moment of silence, Bro. Billy Sharpston led in prayer.

We took offering and then a break. Offering prayer by Dr. Thigpen

After the break, we reconvened with the singing of "Footsteps of Jesus."

Special music: Joel Wood sang "Shepherd of my Valley" and Lucas Allison sang "Calvary is the reason why"

Rev. James Dixon preached the morning message, starting out by stating a long time since being at CHFVB, memories of first preaching in Dec/82 licensed he was ordained at CHFVB. Spoke of being referred to as a young minister by Bro. Faircloth. Lots of changes since the 80's here at Christian Hill, they look great also spiritually growing Jesus makes us look good. Started out with Hebrews Chapter 10, very glad to be able to come here to CHFVB and preach. Some preachers have it all laid out before they preach then some are like me and let GOD lead. The Lord never calls without making provision. We feel our inadequacies like Moses, we read in Exodus how he tried to get out not doing what the Lord wants them to do. He teaches us to lean on him and he will guide you, my first attempt at preaching was about Christmas, I got up and could not do anything, I walked back sat down the Pastor was now preaching. We begin with Hebrews 10:19-25, let us pray asking for GOD to bless and anoint him. Verse 23- Do not forsake, the gathering together and assembly, we are to exhort one another- means lift up, pray for we all need help, but some are so independent they don't need anybody, some even don't want help from God, we need spiritual leadership from GOD, you got your knowledge of Jesus Christ from GOD, he wanted us to acknowledge and accept him. We want to exhort each other, lift each other up, we are in perilous times now and need to be lifted up by one another, help carry your brother's burdens.

Spoke of seeing prophecy fulfilled as each day passes by. Talked about we are living in exciting times, now they should not be discouraging to Christians, we know we will win, we are the winners, as long as we stay on GOD's side, we are on his side not him on our side. We need one another, we need a kind word every now and then. He let them know he was the bread of life.. Every time you see a drunk you need to say Lord bless him, ever notice how most drunks know more scripture than Christians, and if Satan didn't have them bound they probably would be preaching. Somebody gave me hope, talked of the rock, JESUS is the rock make no mistake about it. We need to fall on the Rock called Jesus and REPENT of our sins otherwise, the stone will fall on you. It's Jesus and nothing else, GOD made one way of Salvation—JESUS. All are saved by this one Jesus. One drop of his blood can and did save the world, all those who will accept him as Savior and Repent. You know what I just about done it. Let us pray. Rev. Dixon prayed for help and blessings.

Digest Committee Report submitted by Gene Collins- 12 churches reporting; 24 members added

06 members lost for a net gain of 18 members; 03 were baptized; Total Offerings for the quarter were \$180,712.98. M/S/C to receive report as information.

Shine Collins gave the treasurer's report: General fund, beginning balance, \$7620.10; Today's offering \$192.00 designated for Georgia Youth State Competition. Dues received today \$545.00 total received today is \$767.00. Also noted Treasurer got out of hospital yesterday and do not have complete report there is approximately \$11,000.00.

Announcements were given. Pastor Wayne Martin announced VBS next week at CHFVB

MSC to adjourn. Closing Prayer and blessing of food by Pastor Wayne Martin

A delicious dinner was provided by the host church and enjoyed by all.

Following meeting at Christian Hill GA Union Clerk received reports from Crossroads, Mt Arrat, and New Hope they reported offerings of \$26,039.00 with a total of 5 members added 1 lost and 2 baptisms. Which would change Digest Report to 15 churches reporting 29 members added 7 members lost for a net gain of 22 members and 5 baptisms. Total offerings would now be \$206, 760.98. These notes added 8/10/2011.

Respectfully Submitted:

Billy Sharpston, Moderator
Lucas C. Allison, Clerk

**ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
GEORGIA UNION ASSOCIATION
OCTOBER 08, 2011
CORNERSTONE FWB CHURCH**

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GEORGIA UNION ASSOCIATION

Call to Order by Moderator, Trent Dykes

Prayer by Rev. Emory Howell

Song led by Shine Collins, "Come Unto Me" Grover Jewell, Charles Padgett, Sr., & Papa Padgett on guitar

Welcome by Host Pastor Rev. Grover Jewell

MSC to adopt program with necessary changes.

No visitors present.

There were 14 deacons present.

The Clerk, called the roll of ministers and delegates, There were 9 ministers and 28 delegates present.

The delegates were seated. Total voting body of 51.

Ministers absent 3 excused and 3 not excused.

Executive Board Report given by clerk as follows:

1. That we give Cornerstone Church a rising vote of thanks for their warm and generous hospitality in hosting today's meeting. MSC to adopt
2. That today's offering go to Alabama Children's Home. MSC to adopt
3. Executive Board makes a motion to grant newly elected Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, and Association Clerk, the authority to execute all documents necessary to facilitate the changes in authorization of users of all financial accounts, to include opening, closing and transfer of accounts affected by our recent change over (elections) and loss of our beloved Treasurer Rev. Paul Creech.

Moderator explained need for the motion, MSC to adopt.

Moderator changed order of program to take Nominating Committee Report and Elections immediately following executive Board report to allow newly elected boards to meet during break today. Jimmy Rozier presented Nominating Committee report with the following duly elected to serve:

Moderator replacing Rev. Trent Dykes is Rev. Billy Sharpston. MSC

Assistant Moderator filling unexpired term of William Brown is Rev. Trent Dykes. MSC

Clerk replacing Lucas C. Allison is Lucas C. Allison. MSC

Assistant Clerk filling unexpired Term(2012)replacing Donna Jewell is Mrs. Sue Lindsey. MSC

Treasurer replacing vacated by death of Rev. Paul Creech is Mrs. Donna Jewell. MSC

Trustee Board replacing Rev. Wayne Martin is Rev. Wayne Martin. MSC

Member at Large replacing Anita Hobbs is Anita Hobbs. MSC

Ordaining Board replacing Rev. Billy Sharpston is Rev. Trent Dykes. MSC

Ordaining Board filling unexpired term (2013) Rev. William Brown is Rev. Emory Howell. MSC

Camping Board replacing Wanda Knight is Wanda Knight. MSC

Camping Board fill unexpired term (2013) of Chris Sargent is Chad Smith. MSC

Camping Board fill unexpired term (2014) of Paul Creech is Stewart-Allen Clark. MSC

Camping Board fill vacant position term expires (2015) was not filled.

Digest Committee replacing Grover Jewell is Grover Jewell. MSC

Mission Board replacing Paul Creech is Monte McKenzie. MSC

Mission Board replacing Tim Hutchinson is Tim Hutchinson. MSC

Mission Board replacing Chris Sargent is Roy Woods. MSC

Mission Board replacing William Brown is Trent Dykes. MSC

Christian Education Board replacing Monte McKenzie is Monte McKenzie. MSC

Christian Education Board replacing Tom Douglas is Gene Collins. MSC

State Board Rep(Mission Bd)Fill unexpired term (2014) of Paul Creech is Trent Dykes. MSC

Nominating Committee replacing Jimmy Rozier, Grover Jewell & William Brown will be

Jimmy Rozier, Grover Jewell and Wayne Martin. MSC

Finance Committee replacing Paul Creech, Jimmy Rozier, and Marion (Shine)Collins will be Donna Jewell, Jimmy Rozier, and Marion (Shine) Collins. MSC.

Move to Cease all nominations. MSC

Announcement that newly elected Mission Board would meet during break, and Ordaining Board would meet at conclusion of session.

Mrs. Donna Jewell spoke briefly and highly of Rev. Paul Creech, and how awesome he was and what he meant to her and the GA Union Assoc..

Moderator then asked for moment of silence and prayer for Mrs. Rhoda Creech and the family. Prayer was given by Rev. Wayne Martin.

Mission Board Report by Rev. Tim Hutchinson, stated board had not met due to circumstances beyond it's control. He stated there is approximately \$131,000.00 in account in Nashville. MSC to receive as info.

Ordaining Board Report by Rev. Tim Hutchinson, board had not met, no report. Next meeting is scheduled for November 08, 2011 at 7pm at White Oaks Church in Macon. Board regular meeting schedule is the 2nd Tuesday of the month following the Association meetings. Stated the Board had received notice from Bethlehem Church that they had voted to elect Rev. Ronnie Youngblood of Cordele, Ga. as their Pastor for the 2011-2012 year. He would be joining church and requesting to come into the GA Union Assoc. and would like the board to meet with him. Report received as info. MSC

Christian Education Board Report by Shine Collins, asked that Tom Douglas be remembered he has Cellulites with 103 temp. Read report from Bro. Tom Douglas stating this would be his last report as he is stepping down and thanked the association for their prayers and support. Report stated balance on hand is \$1637.85. Report received as info. MSC

Camp Board Report by Shine Collins, stated no report, balance in account is \$4743.47. Report is received as info. MSC

Trustee Board no report.

Offering and Break

During Break the Mission Board met and elected Trent Dykes as Chairman and Grover Jewell as Treasurer. Also Ordaining Board met and elected Tim Hutchinson as Chairman and Charles Thigpen as Vice Chairman. Received as information. MSC

Reconvened with congregation singing Mansion on a Hilltop led by Shine Collins, Grover Jewell and Charles Padgett, Papa on guitar and Charles Padgett Sr., on Harmonica. Congregation sang 2nd song

I'll Fly Away. Prayer by Rev. Wayne Martin

Moderator Trent Dykes spoke of changing of the guards, just from our nomination of officers a few minutes ago, we saw how valuable a man Bro. Paul Creech was to our Association, however his mission was completed, he was promoted to the highest ranks the Lord felt it was time for Bro. Paul to come home. He is where we desire to be at the feet of Jesus.

Bro. Gene Collins then came to podium to speak of Bro. Paul Creech and his fondest memories of him. He told heartwarming stories and memories of Bro. Paul, spoke of how sometimes we would rather be somewhere else instead at a meeting like this on Saturday, but Bro. Paul truly enjoyed these meetings as when his name was called off he replied "GLAD TO BE HERE". Spoke of Bro. Paul's ability to tell a story, no one could tell a story like Paul. He loved camp he said it was his yearly heart check up.

He and Joseph were partners and would ride all the rides at Six Flags, and if he survived he knew his heart was good for another year. Spoke of Paul's

love of music and music workshop he and Paul attended together. Spoke of how leading music with Bro. Paul behind you was an adventure as he would make up his own words to the songs, and when he sang you heard Bro. Paul. He spoke of Bro. Paul, Sis Rhoda, his wife and himself going to a David Phelps concert in Warner Robins and hearing the song "The end of the Beginning as he saw tears streaming down the face of Bro. Paul. He gave a quote about Heaven if loved ones are with God, and he is with us, then your loved ones are always with you. He went from being Ronald's son to Heaven exclaiming God's son has come home.

Special Music: Donna & Grover Jewell with Charles Padgett, Sr. and Charles Padgett. (papa). Song dedicated to memory of Paul Creech, Donna spoke of how he read scriptures to her mother for three hours as her mother went home, it was the sweetest thing. Song "He's the Master of the Sea" also sang "I Can't even Walk", also singing was Virginia Bowles.

Message, Rev. Trent Dykes

Spoke of preaching to preachers. Scripture Text is Ezra 3:11-13. Spoke of passing of Bro. Paul, but that the mission goes on, we are a dying breed. Churches that want to praise and preach the word of God are a dying breed. Stand for reading of word, Trent then prayed for God's anointing. People make excuses not to worship. If the saved would get right, the sinner would get saved, the foundation has been laid. Jesus died and resurrected, he is our foundation. Freewill Baptists are not 2nd rate Christians. We have something to shout about, if we start soul winning we will fix the problems in the church. We build the church by serving souls, let's clean up GA Union. Spoke of Bro. Faircloth stating we don't have a right to quit. Spoke of Chris Rumsfelt, introducing himself at state meeting as "soul winner". FOUR EXCUSES people give for not shouting. 1. Fear of being criticized by others. 2. They are just not Sincere in their worship. Remember the last thing Jesus said "you will receive power to be witnesses. 3. I'm just not that Emotional. I don't get excited, quit lying to God and yourself, everybody gets excited. I've seen senior citizens in tater sack races, you do get excited. And last but not least 4. Shouting is an Old Testament principle. He spoke of the spirit of the Lord in Camp. Isaiah shouted in heaven. The Rapture, he's gonna shout with a loud voice, the trump will sound. Heaven will not be a quiet place, we will be shouting and praising and worshiping God forever. Paul Creech did not go in quietly, he went in shouting. Our church is not the only place it is inappropriate. We beg folks to come to Sunday School, we cancel Wednesday night services, the state executive board was considering canceling the Friday night service at state session as folks not attending. I remember the foundation from where we come. Our forefathers knew how to fight, stand, and build a church. God will not bless us if saved are satisfied and the sinners aren't getting saved. We need to prepare for the storm, is your church prepared for the storm?

Trent closed the message with prayer.

Treasurer's Report by Shine Collins, noting that with the death of Paul Creech these are figures we have determined by our records available. As of September 30, 2011, the beginning balance in General Fund is \$5511.29, beginning balance in Ministers' Retirement Fund \$3199.67, beginning balance Total is \$8710.96. Georgia Union dues received today \$725.00, National dues (\$150.00 each church) \$2300.00, Offering today (Alabama Children's Home) \$1016.00, Sub total including beginning balance \$12,751.96. disbursements : National Dues (check not issued yet) - \$2300.00, Moderator Fee -\$20.00, Clerk Fee -\$50.00 Alabama Children's Home-\$1016.00, Christian Ed Board(3rd & 4th qtr)-\$500.00,

Reimburse Clerk supplies -\$54.25. Balance in both funds \$8811.71. Balance in Gen. Fund \$5612.04., balance in Minister Retirement Fund \$3199.67. Report be received as information. MSC

Digest Committee Report by Gene Collins, Quarterly Report: 15 Churches reporting, 15 members added, 21 members lost =Net Loss of 6. Baptisms were 7. Offerings=\$209,421.07

Annual Report: 15 Churches reporting, 59 members added, 45 members lost =Net Gain of 14 members. 20 Baptisms. Offerings =\$763,661.55. Report Received as information. MSC

Announcements: New Hope will have Revival October 24th-28th ,7:30pm nightly w/Randy Hooper

Christian Hill Homecoming/Revival Oct.9th-11TH w/William Smith, the Rogers Band, Tommy Land and Keith Lloyd.

Moderator Trent Dykes, stated it had been a pleasure to serve as Moderator in the good times and the bad. Thanked all for their support, and that he looked forward to working with Rev. Billy Sharpston as he takes over as Moderator and he Assistant Moderator. The body then gave Bro. Trent a standing ovation for his service.

Motion to adjourn, MSC

A wonderful meal was enjoyed by all which was provided by the host church, we adjourned with prayer.

Respectfully submitted
Rev. Trent Dykes, Moderator
Lucas C. Allison, 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:

Members	Fee	Members	Fee	Members	Fee
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 \$150 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.

© 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 Association shall always adjourn by vote and prayer.
6. There shall be a finance committee chosen to work with the treasurer, and report to this Association.
7. The Association shall always open and close with prayer and praise to God.
8. The Executive Board shall be in charge of disbursement of the retirement fund for retired ministers.
9. 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

© 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”

© 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:

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.

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.

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:

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 pastor of 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.

Constitution of The Trustee Board of The Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists

(Adopted April 8, 2006)
(Revised April 7, 2007)

Article I

The Name

The name of this Board shall be the Trustee Board of the Georgia Union Association of Free Will Baptists.

Article II

The Purpose

The Board of Trustees shall have general charge of all real and personal property (the Property”) belonging to, or in the name of, the Georgia Union Association, and shall assume full responsibility of said Property, including, but not limited to, holding deeds; maintenance; upkeep; and/or disposition of said Property, and shall make sure such Property is adequately insured. (The Georgia Union treasurer has possession of the Association’s insurance policy.) All decisions regarding the purchase and/or sale of any Property must be presented to and approved by a majority vote of the Georgia Union Association while in session.

Article III

Members of the Trustee Board

Section 1. This Board shall be composed of five (5) 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 shall be elected by the members of this association in regular session.

Section 4. This Board shall be responsible for electing its own officers.

Section 5. Board members shall be reimbursed at the current mileage rate of the IRS for their attendance at Board meetings.

Article IV

Quorum

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

Article V

Amendments

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

GEORGIA UNION CHURCHES

Church	Organized	Pastor and Address	Clerk
Bay Springs Bay Spring Church Rd. Eastman, GA 31023 478-374-1220	1884	Emory Howell 387 Empire/Chester Hwy. Cochran, GA 31014 478-934-9646 Wife: Wanda	Kevin Rogers 5223 Palm Drive Eastman, GA 31023 478-231-9521
Bethlehem 142 Old Coney Road Cordele, GA 31015	1917	Ronnie E. Youngblood 150 Holcomb Road Arabi, GA 31712 229-322-9288 Wife: Elleen	Shirley Calhoun 216 Perry Road Cordele, GA 31015 229-273-3947
Christian Hill Christian Hill Road P: 3037 Christian Hill Rd. M: P. O. Box 482 Rochelle, GA 31079	1887	Wayne Martin 1325 Mitchell Road Rochelle, GA 31079 229-624-2066 Wife: Paula	Lucas C. Allison P. O. Box 482 Rochelle, GA 31079-0482 229-424-3890
Cornerstone Mail: P.O. Box 130 Perry, GA 31069 Physical: 10157 Highway 341 Ft. Valley, GA 31030 gsjewell@windstream.net	2000	Grover Jewell 118 Quinelle Drive Perry, GA 31069 478-218-8750 Wife: Donna	Angela McLemore 102 Chimney Rock Rd. Perry, GA 31069 478-218-0614
Crossroads 110 Jones Road Cochran, GA 31014 478-934-4566	1910	VACANT	Susan Crooms 244 Bass-Mullis-Smith Rd. Cochran, GA 31014 478-934-9933
Double Branch 2760 Williams Road Unadilla, GA 31091 double@cstel.net	1896	Stewart-Allen Clark 1980 Double Branch Church Rd. Hawkinsville, GA 31036 478-892-9474 Wife: Melinda	Mary Holden Dunaway 339 Tom Taylor Rd. Hawkinsville, GA 31036 478-892-2949
Dublin Physical: 1824 Claxton Dairy Rd. Mail: P.O. Box 1882 Dublin, GA 31040 478-275-3676	1966	Tim Hutchinson 515 Tucker St. Dublin, GA 31021 478-296-0711 Wife: Suzan	Joann Lysaker 257 Northwood Trail Dudley, GA 31022 478-676-4326
First Eastman 5830 Sixth Avenue Eastman, GA 31023		Trent Dykes 456 Bowers Cemetery Rd. Cochran, GA 31014 478-230-8546	Lori Jones 1882 Cochran Hwy Eastman, GA 31023 478-374-6390

Little Bethel 1275 Rebie Road Chester, GA 31012	1915	James Dixon 72 Popular Spring Rd. Eastman, GA 31012 478-374-5219 Wife: Frances	Tommy Parker 117 Lonnie Bryant Rd. Cochran, GA 31014 478-934-6048
Mt. Ararat 2100 Chauncy-Rhine Hwy Eastman, GA 31023	1885	Roy L. Woods, Sr. 979 West Hope Church Rd. Alamo, GA 30411 912-568-7685	Elaine Jones 163 Milan-Eastman Rd. Eastman, GA 31023 478-374-9449
New Hope 139 Free Will Church Rd. Cochran, GA 31014	1885	Tony Howell 22 Beechwood Dr. Eastman, GA 31023 478-374-3356	Angela Cranford 22 Church St. Cochran, GA 31014 478-230-3997
Pine Level 61 Pine Level Church Rd. Chester, GA 31012	1924	VACANT	Sue Lindsey 1140 East Chicken Rd. Chester, GA 31012 478-697-6000
Pleasant Hill 9465 Hwy 215 Vienna, GA 31092 229-268-6211	1898	Billy Sharpston (Interim) 2394 Vineville Ave Apt. 1107 Macon, GA 31204 478-746-3254	Nita Hobbs 9465 Hwy 215 Vienna, GA 31092 229-268-6211
Warner Robins 214 Brady Drive Warner Robins, GA 31088 jimmyR0_@msn.com 478-922-0544	1964	Jimmy Rozier, Sr. 3222 Maynard Mill Rd. Forsyth, GA 31029 478-960-9840 Wife: Linda	Nell Fordham 111 Sudan Road Byron, GA 31008 478-953-4571
White Oaks 7035 Houston Rd. Macon, GA 31216 478-785-9170	1953	VACANT	Gloria Johnson 5725 Swymer Dr. Macon, GA 31216 478-788-2197

ANNUAL CHURCH STATISTICS

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>#BAPTISMS</u>	<u>MEMBERS RECEIVED</u>	<u>MEMBERS LOST</u>	<u>TOTAL MEMBERS</u>	<u>SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>	<u>INCOME</u>
BAY SPRINGS	02	10	08	99	56	\$ 59,312.61
BETHLEHEM	02	01	05	74	20	62,556.31
CHRISTIAN HILL	00	09	02	53	25	46,887.97
CORNERSTONE	02	07	01	40	20	28,200.00
CROSSROADS	00	00	00	36		25,902.06
DOUBLE BRANCH	06	08	06	296	98	195,478.13
FIRST FW-DUBLIN	06	02	01	47	20	16,923.57
FIRST FW-EASTMAN	02	07	19	49		38,469.98
LITTLE BETHEL	00	00	00	37	18	36,050.87
MT. ARARAT	00	00	02	77	16	27,667.95
NEW HOPE	02	05	03	80	45	32,240.00
PINE LEVEL	00	07	68(67 to inactive)	33	19	20,946.82
PLEASANT HILL	00	02	02	64	25	34,883.53
WARNER ROBINS	00	04	02	89	22	25,359.62
WHITE OAKS	00	02	04	87	45	137,258.43

Total Georgia Union Membership: 1161

Total Annual Income: \$788,133.55

Annual Statistics taken from October 2011 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.

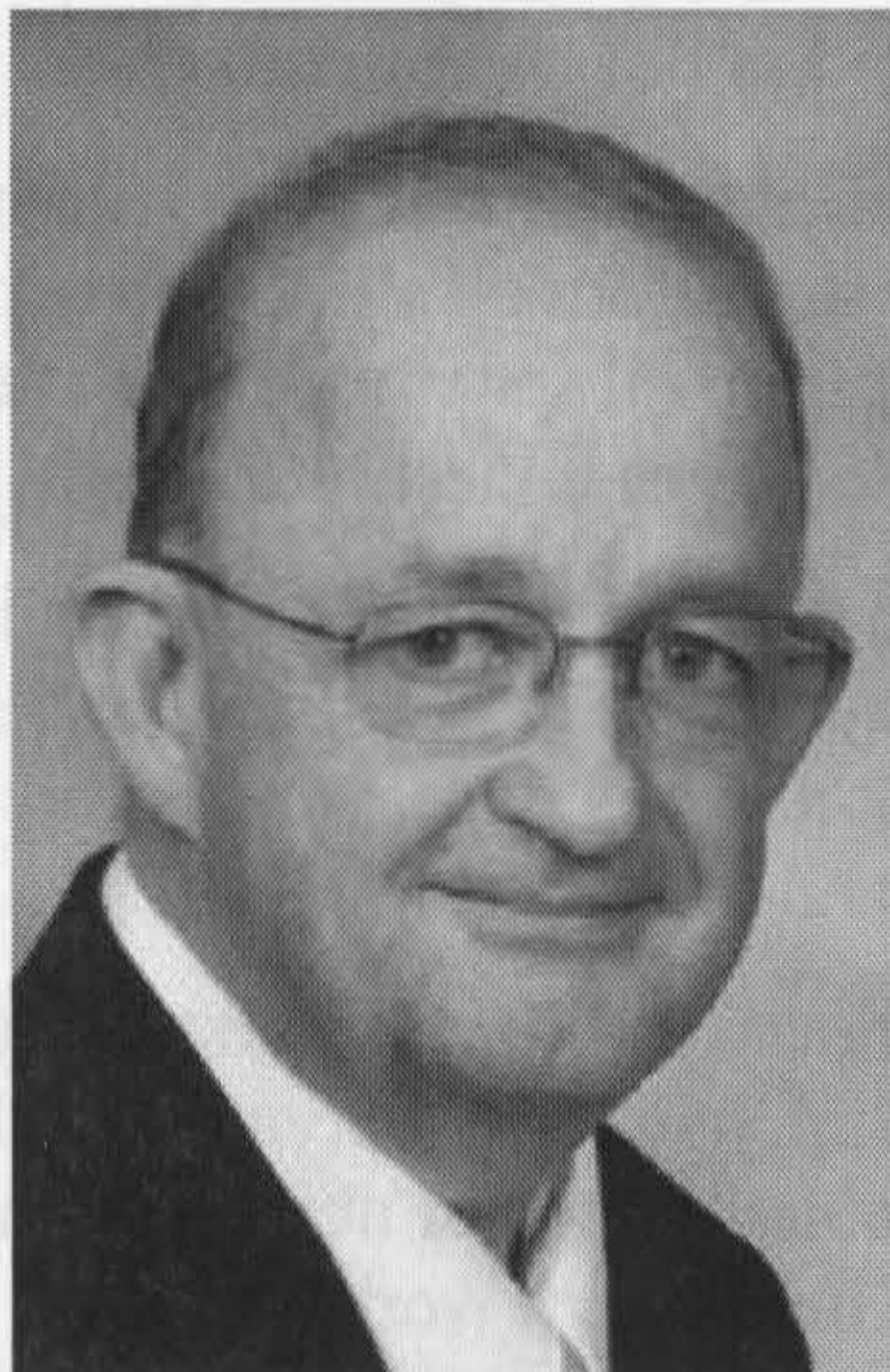
We agree to accept Christian admonition and reproof with meekness, and to watch over one another in love, endeavoring to “keep the unity of the Spirit” in the bonds of peace, to be careful of one another’s happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the 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.

Remembering my friend Paul Creech



By Gene Collins

My friend, Paul, was known by many names –Dad, Brother, Brother Paul, Uncle Paul, Patron, Pastor, Fathie (Deborah's name for him), and one of his favorites – Ronald's boy. This variety of names just exemplified the unique personality of his man. When Paul and his family moved to Macon, it did not take long to become friends with him. Although, that probably was not anything new to anyone who was around him for very long. One had to really try hard not to become his friend. To coin a Star Trek reference – "Resistance was futile ."To say that Paul had a unique way of looking at every-day events is somewhat of an understatement. I have never been around anyone who could witness the same event as I, and have a totally different view of it. It was as if we had actually seen two different things. No one could tell a story like Paul. I would love to hear the "camel riding" story again. It is truly one of the funniest things I have ever heard. Then he could turn around and tell the story of the African tribe offering a child to the hippos so that they can cross the river. He had everyone on the edge of their seat. Actually, he had us right at the edge of that river watching the whole thing take place. Paul's ability to personalize a funeral message was unreal. I remember his starting a message and

thinking to myself, "How is he going to connect that" and then shaking my head when he was finished, thinking, "How did he see that." Paul loved every part of being a pastor, from preaching to baby dedications (especially baby dedications). I remember the last one he did. Baby Hayden Williamson was quite fussy while Paul was reading scripture. Before he prayed, Missie handed him to Paul. Paul put Hayden on his shoulder and began to whisper to him in a voice only he could hear. Hayden hushed his fussing and just laid his head on Paul's shoulder, perfectly at peace. He even loved going to association meetings. If you've ever been to an association meeting with Paul, you saw him at his best. There are many people at these meetings who would rather be anywhere else, but not Paul. You could tell by the way he answered the roll call that there was no other place he would rather be. "Here or present" is the normal answer. Not Paul. "Paul Creech, glad to be here" was his answer every time. He absolutely loved it. He also loved Teen Camp. William Smith gave him the titles of salad bar supervisor. He looked forward to camp every year, especially the trip to Six Flags. He said it was his annual heart check-up because he and Joseph would ride roller coasters all day. He said he could do that and still survive, his heart was fine. Until I heard the sisters' recollections of Paul at his funeral service Saturday evening, I did not know that we had this in common. Elizabeth remembered the time that his sisters curled Paul's hair and, I believe, put him in a dress. I think they even painted his nails. They also said that his father reacted very strongly to this state of events. Believe it or not, my mother and neighbor did the same thing to me, except for the nail painting. They went a step further and took pictures, which was their undoing. My father had an equally strong reaction and hopefully took care of all those pictures. Another of the things we had in common was a love for music. I remember Bro. Charles sending me to a worship seminar with Paul. I think the leader's last name was Webber, but the conference was not terribly memorable. However, spending a whole day with Paul singing and talking is something I will not forget. I remember our laughing at some of the terminology used in the workshop. Neither of us had heard of the word "modernity", especially in reference to worship. We both thought he was saying "maternity" and laughed every time he said it. I guess you had to be there. Other than spending the day with Paul, the best thing to come out of that seminar was a song book we received for attending. I remember Amanda and I went over to the Creech's and sat around the piano and sang with Paul while Rhoda

played. We must have sung over half the songs in that book. Another memory! Leading the worship at our church will never be the same. Firstly, Paul had one the purest singing voices I have ever heard, even though he never really believed it. Secondly, Paul had his own way of singing the hymns. At first, he would not use a hymnal because he said he already knew the words. And for the most part, he did. After a while, he realized that our new hymnals weren't quite the same as the ones he learned from. Occasionally when he did not know the words and wasn't using a hymnal, he would just make up his own words. And he would sing them with such conviction that I would have to check the book to make sure I was on the right verse. But sometimes he would sing his own version of the song. I'll never be able to sing "He Keeps Me Singing" or "Are You Washed in the Blood" without thinking of him. Read the words to "Are You Washed in the Blood" and you will see that the first three verses are full of questions. He would always answer the questions when he sang that hymn – like "I have been to Jesus for the cleansing power. I've been washed in the blood of the Lamb." Try leading while he's belting that out behind you. One of my fondest "music memories" of Paul was at a David Phelps concert in Warner Robins. We sat with Paul and Rhoda that night. After a couple of songs, I glanced down the row to see their reaction so far. Imagine my surprise to see that Rhoda was wearing sunglasses. I had never seen anyone wear sunglasses to an indoor concert before. She had to wear them because the lights messed with her vision. But anyway, David Phelps had two songs that he would use as an encore, "No More Night" or "The End of the Beginning" If he chose "No More Night," everyone, especially my wife, would be moved to tears because of the sheer emotion evoked by his performance as well as the message of this powerful s o n g . H o w e v e r , "The End of the Beginning" was no less powerful but is a very different type of song. It has a bit of a driving beat and is much more up-tempo than the other song. It is a story of two men on an airplane – one Christian and one unbeliever. The Christian was reading a book, The Bible, when the other man asked him what he was reading. The Christian told him it was a best seller, a history and mystery rolled up into one. When the other man saw it was the Bible, he immediately dismissed it as not being worth his time. But the Christian would start to tell him the story of Jesus. He told him of Jesus' birth and life, and then he said that was the end of the beginning. When he got to Jesus death, the man said, "See, I told you that he's dead. That's the end of the story." Then the Christian went on to tell him that Jesus is not

dead because three days later He rose from the grave and that he did all of that for him. He said that that wasn't the end; it was the end of the beginning, the beginning of new life, eternal life in Christ because of the resurrection. That is a great story and a great song. But I have never seen a reaction like Paul's. As I sat, I mean stood (no one was sitting by the end of this song) next to Paul, tears were just streaming down his face. I have been to several concerts where this song was performed, and I have never seen anyone else with that reaction. As usual, he was receiving something from the song that no one else "got." I will always remember that night and his reaction every time I hear that song. When Paul's earthly life ended, my physical heart was broken, but my spiritual heart knew that this ending was just the end of the beginning – the beginning of his eternal life in Heaven. Thursday morning, as Paul liked to say, my friend was graduated to Heaven. I heard this quote about heaven yesterday and thought Paul would like it. "It is written that when our loved ones die, they are with the Lord. The Lord has promised that He will always be with us. If they are with Him and He is with us, then they can't be too far away." One of my favorite things I have heard about a Ch r i s t i a n going to be with the Lord, is this "We will be with him a lot longer than we will be without him." I look forward to the day that I am reunited with my friend. Getting back to those names, as much as he loved being known as Ronald's son, I believe Thursday morning, he was prouder when it was announced throughout Heaven that "God's son" is finally home.