

MINUTES
of the
SECOND ANNUAL SESSION
OF
The Golden Gate Association
OF
Free Will Baptist in California

Held With
The Turlock Church, Turlock, California
MARCH 31st — APRIL 1st, 1949

Moderator Eld. George W. McLain
Assistant Moderator Eld. Truman Huddleston
Clerk May Graham
Assistant Clerk Florence Carter
Treasurer Pete Conner

The next Annual Session of this Association will convene with the Richmond Church beginning Thursday night before the second Sunday in April, 1950.

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PROCEEDINGS

The Second Annual Session of The Golden Gate Association of Free Will Baptist, met with the Turlock Church, Turlock, Calif., March 31st through April 1st, 1949.

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Service opened by singing, led by Bro. C. E. Fergeson. After prayer, devotional service was led by Eld. Earl Jenson. Specials in song were rendered by Sargent Hutchinson, and the Turlock Quartet. After which Eld. Jack Dodson brought the introductory message, using 40 Ch. Isaiah stressing, upon Faith; followed by Eld. Wiley Gregory. Messages were inspirational. Closing prayer by Eld. H. E. Dixon.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

April 1, 1949

Opened by singing, led by Lester Mays, Prayer by Eld. C. M. Rutledge. Lesson read from 6th chapter II Cor., by Eld. Geo. W. McLain, Prayer by Eld. G. H. Constant.

Conference now declared in session, Letters were called for, to which the following churches responded: Firebaugh, Richmond and Turlock. Letters were read and delegates seated. Altar of prayer was made in behalf of Eld. W. A. Huddleston, and others who were ill.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Next item of business was the election of officers for the ensuing year: Moderator, Eld. Geo. W. McLain; Asst. Moderator, Eld. Truman Huddleston; Clerk, Mae Graham; Asst. Clerk, Florence Carter; Treasurer, Pete Conner. Executive Board Member, Eld. J. P. Pierce, 5 Years.

Petitionary Letters were called for: to which Modesto Church responded. Letter received, and delegates seated in conference.

Rules of Order was read by Moderator; visiting members welcomed.

Motion was carried that the Moderator appoint all committees:

COMMITTEES

Pulpit: W. W. Daniels, Pete Conner, Grady Henley and Ace Guinn.

Resolution: Eld. F. M. McCage, H. G. Harris, Eld. J. P. Pierce, E. L. Floyd and Lonnie Rolen.

Business: Eld. Arthur Downs, L. H. Adkins, Bill Johnston, L. V. Woods and Ted Potter.

Publication: L. Hiler, John Woods, J. A. Roberts and W. Doray.

Home Mission: Eld. J. L. Waltman, Quincy Moore, and H. G. Harris.

Sunday School: Evelyn Mays, Florence Carter, C. E. Fergeson and Jack Dodson.

Temperance: R. C. Watts, Lester Mays, John Montgomery, Clyde Rutledge and Quincy Moore.

Obituary: Lester Mays, Brady Miller, Kelly Adkins, Ace Guinn and Dorbin Dorley.

Pulpit Committee appoints Messengers for the eleven o'clock hour: Eld.'s L. V. Wood and O. H. Doss.

Motion was carried, that Time and Place be set for Quarterly Meetings:

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

First Quarterly Meeting to convene with Modesto Church on Thursday night before 2nd Sunday in July 1949. Introductory Message by Eld.'s Geo. W. McLain and T. N. Huddleston.

Second Quarterly Meeting to convene with the Firebaugh Church on Thursday night before 2nd Sunday in October, 1949. Introductory Message by Eld.'s R. L. Fullilove and C. M. Rutledge.

Third Quarterly Meeting to convene with the Turlock Church on Thursday night before the 2nd Sunday in January, 1950. Introductory Message by Eld.'s Wiley Gregory and J. E. Sweeten.

Next Annual Session of the Association to convene with the Richmond Church on Thursday night before the 2nd Sunday in April 1950. Introductory Message by Eld.'s F. M. McCage and Truman Huddleston.

A five minute recess was declared in preparation for the eleven o'clock service.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

April 1, 1949

Came together by singing, led by Lester Mays, prayer by Eld. W. Doray and Eld. L. V. Woods, who also took the stand using for subject—"Take Courage" taken from I Sam. 30:6,

followed by Eld. O. H. Doss. Messages were enjoyed by all, and one soul surrendered to the Lord. Closing prayer by Eld. Eual Gorman.

FRIDAY 1:00 P. M. SESSION

Song service led by Lester Mays. After which Eld. Truman Huddleston read for lesson the 1st Psalm, prayer by C. E. Floyd. Followed by verbal reports given by corresponding association, as follows: The Southern Ass'n by Eld. Eual Gorman; The Central Ass'n by Eld. Earl Jensen. Likewise, Reports were received from the following churches: The Winters Church, by Eld. G. H. Constant; and Salinas Church by Eld. W. M. Johnston.

Resolution No. 1 received and adopted. (See Resolution)

Next item was the electing of the following as delegates to the State Ass'n: Kelly Adkins, Fred Daniels, Bro. and Sis. Cox, W. D. Barnes, Dorothy Hamilton, R. B. Elim, Richard Watts, Lester Mays, Betty Rogers, Bertha Spurlock, Wiley Gregory, Betty Gregory and Evelyn Mays.

The Pulpit Committee appoints for messengers in the evening service Eld.'s J. P. Pierce and F. A. McCage.

Next item was the receiving of reports from the various departments, as follows: Clerk read the minutes of the previous Quarterly Meeting, the same was received. (See Report) Turlock Home Mission gave report, Motion was carried same be received, and workers be congratulated for the interest of work. (See Report)

Turlock Junior League report read and received. (See Report)

Obituary Committee report received, and prayer of thanks given, that God in His infinite mercy has spared our lives through this another year. (See Report)

Finance Committee report read and received. (See Report)

Committee on Sunday Schools, report read and received. (See Report)

Committee on Publication, report read and received. (See Report)

Statistician report read and received. (See Report)

Report from the Executive Board was read and received. (See Report)

Resolution No. 2 was received and adopted. (See Resolution)

Motion was carried to print 400 Minutes.

Motion was carried that the Church Covenant, as also the Articles of Faith be placed in our minutes. Likewise, brief reports be given by the Churches, Clerks and Treasurers.

Motion was carried that each Minister give report of the year's activities.

At this interval a four minutes time was given each of the following Ministers: Eld.'s C. M. Rutledge, W. Doray and R. L. Fullilove. Talks were enjoyed by all present.

The Moderator extended a vote of thanks to the entertaining church for the wonderful entertainment and hospitality shown us while in their midst.

After recess for refreshments, a motion was carried to adjourn until time, and place for the setting of the next annual session to convene with the Richmond Church, Richmond, Calif., on Thursday before the 2nd Sunday, April, 1950. Closing prayer by Grady Henley.

Eld. Geo. W. McLain, Moderator.
Mae Graham, Clerk.

OFFICERS

- ✓ Moderator, Eld. Geo. W. McLain,
440 S. 24th St., 1B, Richmond, Calif.
Asst. Moderator, Eld. Truman Huddleston,
Box 1123, Merced, Calif.
Clerk, May Graham, Rte. 3, Box 0, Turlock, Calif.
Asst. Clerk, Florence Carter, 701 Vermont, Turlock, Calif.
Treasurer, Pete Conner,
Waterman Park, Apt. B24, Fairfield, Calif.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

- Eld. J. P. Pierce (5 Years) Rte. 2, Firebaugh, Calif.
Eld. Truman Huddleston (4 Years)
Box 1123, Merced, Calif.
L. H. Adkins (3 Years) Box 114, Ceres, Calif.
Pete Conner (2 Years)
Waterman Park, Apt. B24, Fairfield, Calif.
Quincy Moore (1 Year) 2050 Mariposa Rd., Stockton, Calif.

STATISTICIAN

- Pete Conner..... Waterman Park, Apt. B24, Fairfield, Calif.

ORDAINED MINISTERS REGISTER

- Eld. Geo. W. McLain, 440 S. 24th St. 1B, Richmond, Calif.
Eld. W. Doray, 5343 Cypress, Richmond, Calif.
Eld. F. A. McCabe, Box 113, Ceres, Calif.
Eld. A. E. Downs, Box 841, Turlock, Calif.
Eld. J. L. Waltman, Box 804, Turlock, Calif.
Eld. J. H. Montgomery, Box 816, Turlock, Calif.
Eld. C. M. Rutledge, 681A Spruce St., San Francisco, Calif.
Eld. O. H. Doss, Gen. Delivery, Kerman, Calif.
Eld. J. P. Pierce, Rte. 2, Firebaugh, Calif.
Eld. W. M. Johnston, 719 Terrace, Salinas, Calif.
Eld. H. E. Dixon, 843 Grove St., Arvin, Calif.
Eld. R. L. Fullilove, 125 Sercuse, Turlock, Calif.
Eld. Eual Gorman, Rt. 1, Bx. 207, Huntington Beach, Calif.
Eld. Earl Jenson, Gen. Delivery, Selma, Calif.
Eld. Truman Huddleston, Box 1123, Merced, Calif.
Eld. R. G. Groves, 2039 Frazer Ave., Modesto, Calif.
Eld. L. V. Woods, 2101 R. D. 20, San Pablo, Calif.
Eld. G. H. Constant, Winters, Calif.

LICENSED MINISTERS

- ✓ Eld. Jack Dodson, 2125 Maine, Apt. 2E, Richmond, Calif.

DEACONS

H. G. Harris, Box 891, Turlock, Calif.

Grady Henley, Rte. 2, Box 132, Ceres, Calif.

C. E. Fergeson, Rte. 2, Box 91, Ceres, Calif.

Lee Hiler (no address given)

Quincy Moore, 2050 Mariposa Rd., Stockton, Calif.

J. A. Roberts, Box 123, Ceres, Calif.

W. A. Graham, Rte. 3, Box 0, Turlock, Calif.

M. D. Pircifield, 311 Santa Rita, Modesto, Calif.

John Wood, Gen. Delivery, Ceres, Calif.

E. L. Floyd, Rte. 7, Box 529R, Modesto, Calif.

Floyd Smith, 405 Thrasher, Ceres, Calif.

Pete Conner (Statistician)

24B Waterman Park, Fairfield, Calif.

RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION NO. 1 — Be it resolved that the Ministers and Deacons' Wives, and Church Clerks be standing delegates to this Association.

RESOLUTION NO. 2 — Be it resolved that this Association elect a Treasurer, whose tenure of office shall be for one year. The same to be supplied annually thereafter.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINANCE. We, your committee on Finance wish to make the following report: We find the total expenses of our Association this year in the amount of \$125.00, making an average of \$31.25 for each church representing.

We recommend that each church hereafter send \$25.00 to each annual session. We also recommend that the host church be paid \$5.00 for each church representing.

Furthermore, we recommend that each church send \$5.00 to the host church entertaining the setting of each Quarterly Meeting.

Finally, the amount of \$125.00 received at this setting, added to the amount of \$28.00 in the treasury, making a total of \$153.00.

(Signed) H. G. Harris, Chairman.

STATISTICIAN REPORT. As Statistician of The Golden Gate Ass'n I wish to make the following report: I find we have four churches, with a total membership of 385. And that we have three church buildings at a total value of \$49,500.00. That we have collected, this year \$19,965.00. That we have twelve Ordained Ministers, Five Licensed Ministers, and Twenty-Four Deacons.

(Signed) Pete Conner, Statistician.

EXECUTIVE BOARD. We recommend Eld. R. L. Fullilove, be given Ordination papers.

We also recommend J. E. Sweeten be licensed for the Ministry and T. V. Carter's Ordination as a Deacon.

(Signed) Eld. J. P. Pierce, Chairman.

PUBLICATION. We, your committee on publication wish to recommend as follows: That we should support our publishing houses, by using their papers and other supplies, and that we do our best to obtain a publishing house as soon as possible.

(Signed) W. Doray, Chairman.

OBITUARY. We, your committee on obituary, wish to report that, God, in His infinite wisdom and mercy has seen fit to spare the lives of our church members thus far. We pray that each one may continue to do His will until such time that He should call us home.

(Signed) Lester Mays, Chairman.

TURLOCK MISSION REPORT. We have 18 members, started our work for the Mission Feb. 15th, 1949. Have quilted three quilts, paid \$74.50 on church drapes; \$9.98 for kitchen rug. Visited sick homes, took clothing to needy family of six. Also gave nice linen shower to one member in hospital.

(Signed) Florence Carter, President.

Sister Potee, Secretary.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. We, your committee on Sunday Schools wish to make the following report: We find, all four of our churches have active Sunday Schools which are in good condition.

We recommend that, caution be used in selecting our Teachers, and that Free Will Baptist literature be used in all Sunday Schools.

We also recommend that each class of all churches be given an opportunity to present a short program to its home church. This also implies the Adult class as well.

(Signed) C. E. Fergeson, Chairman.

CHURCH REPORTS

RICHMOND. State of religion good. Members received this year 44, total membership 83. Condition of prayer meetings and Sunday School good, also League work is excellent. Average Sunday School attendance 91. League members 34.

Amount paid pastor \$1,595.00. Paid Evangelist \$235.00. Building and repair \$9,036.14. Incidentals \$1,551.03. Publication \$449.13. Paid to Orphanage \$28.00. Value of church property \$25,000.00.

Eld. Geo. W. McLain, Pastor.

Goldie Priest, Clerk.

FIREBAUGH. State of religion good. Condition of Sunday School and Prayer meetings good.

Members received this year 5, total membership 74. Average attendance in Sunday School 31. Paid Pastor \$434.20. Paid Evangelist \$103.50. Building and repair \$715.00. Incidentals \$12.00. Home Mission \$100.50. Publication \$29.47. Minutes \$7.50. Value of church property \$4,500.00.

Eld. J. L. Waltman, Pastor.

Nola Eppler, Clerk.

TURLOCK. State of religion good. Members received this year 37, total membership 140. Condition of Sunday School, Prayer meetings and League work good.

Average attendance in Sunday School 80. League members 36. Paid Pastor \$3,015.00. Paid Evangelist \$228.23. Home Mission \$7.50. Foreign Mission \$40.78. Education \$11.77. Publication \$145.13. Budget money \$45.00. Minutes \$10.00. Building and repair \$1,111.75. Incidentals \$250.97. Value of church property \$20,000.00.

Eld. Truman Huddleston, Pastor.

Nevia Parker, Clerk.

MODESTO. Organized Feb. 3, 1949 was 34 charter members. Since then have received into fellowship 54, making a total membership of 88.

Condition of Sunday School and Prayer meetings good. Average attendance in Sunday School 92. League membership 25. Paid Pastor \$290.00. Literature \$18.31. Incidentals \$492.00. Expense money to Association \$12.50.

Eld. F. A. McCage, Pastor.

Evelyn Adkins, Clerk.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the infallible word of God, and the only safe rule of faith and practice.—2 Tim. 3:16, 17; 2 Peter 1:20, 21.

2. That there is but one true and living God, and in the God-Head or Divine Essence, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.—Gen. 17:1; 1 John 5:7.

3. That we are fallen and depraved creatures, and cannot extricate ourselves from our fallen situation by any ability we possess by nature.—Eph. 5:1, 19.

4. That Salvation, Regeneration, Sanctification, Justification and Redemption are by the Life, Death, Resurrection, Ascension and Intercession of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.—Acts 4:12; Titus 3:5.

5. That he that shall endure to the end, the same shall be saved.—Matt. 24:13; 2:10.

6. That the joys of the righteous, and the punishment of the wicked shall be eternal.—Matt. 25:46.

7. That Baptism, and the Lord's Supper, and the washing of the saints' feet are the Ordinances of Jesus Christ, appointed in the church, and none but true believers are proper subjects, and the only proper mode of Baptism is Immersion.—Mark 1:4, 9, 10; Luke 23:30; John 13:14.

8. We believe in the sanctity of the first day of the week, or the Lord's day, and that it ought to be observed and spent in the public or private worship of God, and that on it we should abstain from our worldly concerns except in case of necessity or mercy.—Ex. 31:15. Deut. 5:12; Matt. 12:12.

9. We believe in the resurrection of the body, both of the just and the unjust, but every one in his own order; those who have done evil to the resurrection of damnation, and that God has appointed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ.—1 Cor. 15:34; John 5:28; 1 Thes. 4:16.

10. That it is our duty to be tender and affectionate to one another, and to study the happiness of the people of God in general, and to be singly engaged to promote the honor of God.—John 13:35; Gal. 6:10.

11. We believe that Jesus Christ by the grace of God tasted death for every man; yet none can partake of His divine benefit only by his repentance towards God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, infants and idiots excepted.—Acts 20:21; 1 Tim. 2:5, 6; John 3:14-16; 1 Cor. 15:20, 22; Romans 5:15.

12. We believe that the Lord Jesus Christ is the door into the church, that baptism is a duty in answer to a good conscience.—John 10:7; 1 Peter 3:21.

13. We believe that the Lord's people are one in Him, and therefore should be one at His table.—1 Cor. 1:1, 11, 27, 28; John 17:11.

FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT

Having given ourselves to God by faith in Christ, and adopted the Word of God as our rule of faith and practice, we now give ourselves to one another by the will of God in this solemn covenant. We promise by His grace to love and obey Him in all things, to avoid the 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 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, 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.

We agree faithfully to discharge our obligations in reference to the study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship; and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to "grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." We will not forget the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, public worship, and the observance of the ordinances of the Gospel, nor fail to pay according to our ability for the support of the church of its poor, and all its benevolent work.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions, the success of Sunday schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of souls, and the conversion of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. House called to order by the Moderator.
3. Letters called for, read and received.
4. Right hand of fellowship and seating delegates.
5. Election of Officers.
6. Petitionary letters called for.
7. Reading Rules of Order.
8. Invite visiting brethren to seats in council.
9. Appointment of Committees.
10. Unfinished Business.
11. New Business.
12. Reports of Committees.
13. Miscellaneous Business.

RULES OF ORDER

1. The Moderator or Assistant Moderator or in their absence the oldest minister present shall call the Association into conference.
2. Each session shall be opened and closed by prayer.
3. Five members from two or more churches shall constitute a quorum. A less number may adjourn until such quorum is present.
4. Visiting brethren are invited to seats as advisory members.
5. Those who speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Personal reflection shall be avoided in all debates.
6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member and a vote taken.
7. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
8. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.
9. The Moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in a Christian spirit.
10. The ruling of the Moderator may be overruled by a two-thirds majority membership voting.
11. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has first been discussed in its own church.
12. At each Association arrangements shall be made to insure two or more sermons or their equivalent devotional exercises each day.