

MINUTES
OF THE
Fortieth Annual Session
OF THE
HOPEWELL ASSOCIATION
OF THE
CHURCH OF GOD
Denominated
FREE WILL BAPTIST

HELD WITH
Murray Hill Church, Sept. 7th to 9th, 1933.

OFFICERS

Elder E. A. O'Donnell,	Moderator
Elder P. H. Coffman,	Ass't Moderator
Bro. M. L. Bonds,	Clerk
Sister Sadie White,	Ass't Clerk

The next Annual Session of this Association will be held with the Kirsey Church, four miles west of Durant, Oklahoma, beginning on Wednesday night before the second Sunday in September, 1934.

The Introductory Sermon to be preached by Elder E. A. O'Donnell. Elder P. H. Coffman alternate.

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RULES OF ORDER

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and concluded by prayer by the Moderator or whomsoever he may request.

2. All ordained or licensed ministers and ordained deacons in good standing in Hopewell Association shall be invited to seats in council. ?

3. Those who speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.

4. No Motion shall be discussed without a second.

5. When a motion has been made and seconded, the moderator shall ask, "Any discussion or remarks?" If none, the question shall be disposed of as usual.

6. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote taken separately.

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. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote of all members present.

10. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the Moderator.

11. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the close of the Association, if necessary.

12. At all future sessions of the Association, arrangements shall be made to insure two sermons, or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto, during each day of the session, and the chair shall announce just before adjournment who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.

13. These Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after organization of the Association.

14. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association.

Form of Church Conference

1. Call Church in Conference.
2. Call for peace of Church.
3. Call visiting brethren to seats in council.
4. Reading minutes of previous meeting.
5. Unfinished Business.
6. New Business.
7. Are any sick or in distress?
8. What has been done for the support of the Ministry and other incidental expenses?
9. A call for confession.
10. Invitation for members.
11. Adjournment.

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 of delegates.
5. Election of officers.
6. Petitionary letters called for.
7. Reading Rules of Order (By-Laws).
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.

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Introductory sermon preached by Elder E. A. O'Donnell. Text, Prov. 24:10, "If thou faint in the day of adversity, thy strength is small.

The following were appointed as a committee on Divene service: Brothers Henry Griffin and Will Farley and Sister L. A. Sampson.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. M. M. Smith.

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION

House called to order by the moderator, Elder E. A. O'Donnell. After song and prayer, the devotional service was led by Bro. Bob Sampson, lesson text, Titus I.

The moderator called for the church letters and received letters from the following old churches:

Murray Hill,—Brothers Morris Luckey and Raymond Mayfield and Sister Higgins.

Motion carried to accept the statement of Bro. O'Donnell of the Denison church.

Petitionary letters called for and received the following:

Red Lake—Brothers Will Farley and Sam Scott and Sister Haggerty.

Hopewell—Bro. M. M. Smith.

Kirsey—Sister Etta Manners and Brothers Robert Manners and Grounds.

Folsom—Bro. Virgil Wallace, Sisters Lillian White and Nellie Tipton, Eld. A. A. Williams, pastor, and Sister Effie Wallace, church clerk.

Denison (old church)—Bro. William Ramsey, Sisters Sadie White and Eltra Dalton, Eld. E. A. O'Donnell, pastor, and Sister Dalton, church clerk.

Motion carried that we receive the letters of the churches and seat the delegates. The right hand of fellowship was extended to both old and new churches.

Election of Officers

Moderator,Elder E. A. O'Donnell

Ass't Moderator,Elder P. H. Coffman

Clerk,Bro. M. L. Bonds

Ass't Clerk,Sister Sadie White

Rules of Order read by the moderator.

Visiting ministers and deacons were given the right hand of fellowship by the Association.

Appointment of Committees:

Inquiry—Brothers J.W. Fulce, M.L. Bonds, E.C. Morris.

Resolutions—Brothers M. M. Smith, P. H. Coffman and E. T. Whitmire.

Committee on Divine Service reported that Elder Mike Manners would preach at the eleven o'clock service.

Ten minutes intermission between the business session and the preaching hour.

Benediction prayer by Bro. Griffin.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Congregation came together by singing, after which Bro. Manners brought us a good message from 1 Cor. 2:13, 14. Special arrangement of song, "Just as the Sun Went Down," as sung by Sister Sadie White, Bro O'Donnell, Bro. E. C. Morris and Bro. M. L. Bonds.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Whitmire.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Session called to order by the moderator.

Devotional service led by Bro. Burr, lesson text, Psalm 1. Prayer by Bro. Cole.

Appointment of Committees

Sunday School—Sister C. P. Coffman and Brothers J. V. Wallace and V. L. Powers.

Obituary—Brothers Vernon Baugh and J. C. Grounds and Sister Susan Horner.

Finance—Brothers Wess Fulce and R. S. Sampson and Sister Luckey.

Temperance—Brothers J. E. Oxendine and A. A. Williams and Sister Griffin.

Credential—Brothers M. L. Bonds, Henry Griffin and Will Farley.

Divine Service—Brothers Henry Griffin and Will Farley and Sister L. A. Sampson.

Five minutes intermission was allowed these committees to make up reports.

Congregation came together by singing, "Jesus Lover of My Soul." Pastors' hour was in session.

Question No. 1—Is the filling of the Holy Ghost and the baptism of the Holy Ghost the same? Discussed by Elder E. A. O'Donnell.

Question No. 2—Does water baptism come before the baptism of the Holy Ghost, or after? Discussed by Elders E. C. Morris, J. W. Fulce, E. A. O'Donnell and J. H. Burr.

Question No. 3—When does a member come in full fellowship with the church? Discussed by Bro. O'Donnell.

Question No. 4—Do we have Scripture for voting people into the church? Discussed by Elders E. A. O'Donnell and E. C. Morris.

Divine Service Committee reported that Elder A. A. Williams would bring the message at the night service.

Motion carried to adjourn until Saturday morning.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Cole.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

After singing and prayer the devotional service was led by Bro. Hilton.

Special song, "He's Coming Back Again," arranged by Bro. M. L. Bonds.

Sermon by Elder A. A. Williams. Text, Psalm 132:4-5.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Snow.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

House called to order by the moderator.

Singing by the choir.

Devotional service led by Bro. J. W. Fulce, lesson text, 1st chapter of St. John.

Called for the various reports; received the following:

Reports from the following committees: Sabbath School, Temperance, Resolutions, Inquiry, and Finance. (See Committee Reports).

Motion carried to adjourn to meet again at 2:00 o'clock.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

Ten minutes intermission, after which preaching service was conducted by Elder E. C. Morris. Text, Acts 8:4.

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. M. L. Bonds.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

House called to order by the moderator.

Singing by the choir.

Prayer by Bro. Fulce.

Report of Obituaries Committee received.

Song, "Where We'll Never Grow Old," was sung in memory of the deceased.

Motion carried to elect Bro. M. L. Bonds a member of the Executive Board for a term of three years.

Motion carried to retain Credential Committee for one year.

The report of the evangelist, Elder J. W. Fulce, was read and motion carried to accept the report.

Delegates to the State Association elected as follows: Eld. E. A. O'Donnell, Eld. Mike Manners, Bro. M.L. Bonds.

Motion carried to elect, by acclamation, Eld. J. W. Fulce as our evangelist.

Motion carried to endorse Elder E. A. O'Donnell as our general evangelist.

Motion carried to discharge all committees except the Credentials Committee.

The Fifth Sunday Meetings were set as follows:

1st. Red Lake, 2nd. Folsom, 3rd. Kirsey.

Call for reports of ministers and the following reported:

Elders Mike Manners, E. A. O'Donnell, J. W. Fulce.

Motion carried to thank the people of Murray Hill for their hospitality and kindness shown us during our stay with them.

Motion carried to begin next session of this Association on Wednesday night before the second Sunday in September, 1934.

Motion carried to send the next Association to Kirsey church, four miles west of Durant, Oklahoma.

Bro. M. M. Smith was ordained as deacon. Ordaining Council were Elders P. H. Coffman, J. W. Fulce and Bro. M. L. Bonds.

Motion carried to adjourn.

The Association was dismissed with prayer by Bro. Miller

Elder E. A. O'Donnell, Moderator

Bro. M. L. Bonds, Clerk.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sunday School—We, your Committee on Sunday School beg leave to report as follows:

We recommend that each church organize a Sunday school and use Free Will Baptist literature as far as possible, and that all superintendents and teachers be consecrated men and women.

We further believe that parents should take their children to Sunday school, and instruct them as much as possible in their homes.

We believe that Sunday school will be a great factor in aiding the child to choose its life work.

Laura Coffman, Chairman.

Temperance—We, your Committee on Temperance, beg leave to report as follows:

We insist that our pastors preach one sermon a year, or more, on Temperance.

Be it Resolved, That we will withdraw fellowship from any member in our Association if found indulging in intoxicating liquors. We adhere to Temperance in the true Bible sense.

Be it Resolved, That we discourage all card parties, church swimming pools, Sunday ball games, and that we abstain from all habits that disqualify us for the service of the Lord.

Bro. A. A. Williams, Chairman.

Resolutions—We, your Committee on Resolutions, beg leave to report as follows: We adopt all old Resolutions and submit the following new resolutions:

No. 1—Resolved, That the Hopewell Association of Free Will Baptist require preachers coming from other denominations to carry license for one year.

No. 2—Be it Resolved, That each church bring five dollars each year for minute money and incidental expenses of the Association.

No. 3—Be it Resolved, That we request each minister in this Association to give a written report once a year of his work.

Elder P. H. Coffman, Chairman.

Inquiry—We, your Committee on Inquiry, beg leave to report as follows: We have examined Bro. Sampson and Bro. Smith and find them sound on the Free Will Baptist doctrine, and of good report; and recommend them for ordination.—Elder J. W. Fulce, Chairman.

Finance—We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to report as follows: Received from churches as follows:

Folsom,	\$1.50
Red Lake,	1.00
Denison, pledged,	5.00
Murray Hill,	5.00
Kirsey,	2.00
Hopewell,	2.50
Red Lake,	4.00

Total amount received, \$21.00

Bro. Wess Fulce, Chairman.

Obituary—We, your Committee on Obituaries, beg to report as follows:

We sorrow because of the loss of our brother and sister in Christ: Brother Buford Horner and Sister Mary Ann Coffman of the Denison church. But we sorrow not as for those having no hope. We are thankful to report no deaths found in any other church.

Bro. V. A. Baugh, Chairman.

MINISTERS' REPORTS

Elder Mike Manners—I have preached 30 sermons, helped in three revivals, organized one church, baptized 9, married one couple, traveled 100 miles, received \$9.50.

Elder E. A. O'Donnell—I have pastored one full-time church, preached 168 sermons, held 6 revivals, witnessed 89 conversions, baptized 11, married two couples, ordained two preachers, traveled 12,000 miles, received \$400.00. 405 W. Hull Street, Denison, Texas.

Elder J. W. Fulce—I have preached 71 sermons, witnessed 66 conversions, baptized 10, pastored four churches, organized three churches, ordained one minister, ordained one deacon, sick calls 22, married eight couples, traveled 650 miles, received \$24.50.

OUR MINISTERS

Elder P. H. Coffman,	Denison, Texas
Elder E. A. O'Donnell,	Denison, Texas
Elder J. W. Fulce,	Calera, Okla.
Elder T. L. Pyles,	Denison, Texas
Elder Bob Sampson,	Denison, Texas
Elder Mike Manners,	Durant, Okla.

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 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.

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.

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.

Form of Church Letter

Post Office

Date

We, the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptist), worshipping at met in conference and elected the following delegates to represent us in Hopewell Association when convened with Church, whom we pray you to seat to aid you in all your deliberations, to-wit:

Statistics:

State of Religion

Sunday School

Prayer Meeting

Meeting Days

We paid our pastor, Eld.

Called Eld. as our pastor ensuing year.

Ordained Deacons

Resident Members

Non-Resident Members

Total Membership

Received into the Church; by

Confession of Faith

Deaths

We ask for the next session.....Fifth

Sunday meeting. We ask for the next session of the

..... Association.

We send \$.....minute money

Elder Moderator.

..... Church Clerk.

