

MINUTES

OF THE

HOPEWELL ASSOCIATION

NO. 2

CHURCH OF GOD, DENOMINATED

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

1948

Proceedings
of the
16th Annual Session

Convened at
HEALDTON
Free Will Baptist Church

MINUTES
Of The
SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION
Of The
HOPEWELL ASSOCIATION NO. 2
CHURCH OF GOD, DENOMINATED
FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Held With The
Healdton Free Will Baptist Church
On Thursday night before the 1st Sunday
In Sept., 1948

OFFICERS

Moderator Eld. J. O. Hudson, Clemscot, Okla.
Ass't. Moderator, Eld. Rex Weatherman, Ringling, Okla.
Clerk Sis. Myrtle Ballew, Headton, Okla.
Ass't. Clerk Sis. Eileen Melton, Atoka, Okla.

The seventeenth annual session will convene on Thursday night before the first Sunday in September, 1949.

PROCEEDINGS

Thursday Evening Service

Meeting called to order by Moderator. Song service conducted by Bro. Elmer Chaudoin.

Prayer by Eld. Rex Weatherman.

The Moderator welcomed Rev. Reford Wilson into the association, and introduced him as the speaker of the evening. His subject was "Progressing." Scripture text, II Cor. 6:11-18.

Dismissed by Eld. J. O. Hudson.

Friday Morning

Opening song, "There's an Eye Watching You," led by Sis. Christian; Sis. Lawana Hill at the piano.

Devotional by Eld. G. W. Hanks; Psalms 5.

Prayer by Eld. T. Maynard.

BUSINESS AS FOLLOWS:

Letters were called for and read.

Motion carried that we accept the letters and seat the delegates from the various churches. (Letters on another page).

The right hand of Christian fellowship was given the delegates.

Bro. and Sis. W. A. Hearron were corresponding delegates from the Center Association, and were recognized as such and welcomed in our midst.

Motion carried that the Moderator appoint a Committee on Divine Arrangements.

The following were appointed: Bro. N. C. Ballew, Sis. J. R. Woods, and Bro. Las Dunn.

Motion carried that we retain our present officers.

Moderator Eld. J. O. Hudson, Clemscot, Okla.

Ass't. Mod. Eld. Rex Weatherman, Ringling, Okla.

Clerk Sis. Myrtle Ballew, Healdton, Okla., B. 69

Ass't. Clerk Sis. Eileen Melton, Atoka, Okla.

Treasurer Bro. Lamar Howell, 115 E. N. W.,

Ardmore, Okla.

Motion carried that the body adjourn for Divine Service.

Eleven O'clock Service

Service opened by singing, "When We All Get To Heaven."

Prayer by Bro. N. C. Ballew.

Eld. W. A. Hearron brought an inspiring message. His

subject: "Take heed unto yourself, and unto the doctrin."
Text: I Tim. 4:16.

Dismissed by Eld. J. O. Hudson.

Friday Afternoon

Called to order by Moderator.

Opening song, Oh, How I Love Jesus.

Devotional read by Eld. A. A. Williams, 23rd Psalm.

Prayer by Eld. Rex Weatherman.

The first item of business for the afternoon was the reading of the rules of order by the Moderator.

Motion carried that the Moderator and Assistant Moderator appoint all committees.

Appointments as follows:

Resolution Committee: Eld. A. A. Williams, Sis. Bertha Williamson, and Sis. Marjorie Weatherman.

Sunday School Committee: Sis. Ruby Brown, Sis. Lawana Hill, Sis. Troy Morris, and Bro. Burdue.

Temperance Committee: Eld. Reford Wilson, Bro. Les Dunn, Bro. McClanahan, and Sis. Adams.

Obituary Committee: Sis. Versie Ledbittee, Sis. John Woods, and Sis. Christian.

League Committee: Sis. Lawana Hill, Sis. Edna DeHart, and Bro. Christian.

Education Committee: Eld. G. W. Hanks, Eld. Reford Wilson, and Sis. Jean Wilson.

The committees were dismissed to make their reports.

Motion carried to accept Resolution No. 1. (See Resolutions).

Motion carried that we accept the report of the Sunday School Committee with the addition that the teachers be Free Will Baptists.

Motion carried that we accept the report of the Temperance Committee.

Motion carried that we accept the report of the Committee on Education.

Motion carried that we accept the report of the League Committee.

Motion carried that we accept the report of the Obituary Committee.

NOTE: Reports on another page.

The Committee on Divine Arrangements reported that Rev. Rex Weatherman would bring the evening message.

Resolution No. 2 was read and accepted.

Resolution No. 3 was read and accepted.

A committee of five was elected to select the site, and oversee the building of a camp ground in this association.
Committee:

Bro. Lamar Howell, Chairman, 115 E. St. N. W., Ardmore, Okla.

Bro. W. A. Dehart, Sec'y. and Treas., Box 71, Healdton, Okla.

Bro. N. C. Ballew, Eld. Reford Wilson, and Eld. G. W. Hanks, members.

Motion carried that the body adjourn until Saturday morning, 9:30 a.m.

Dismissed by prayer by Eld. A. A. Williams.

Friday Night

Opening song, I'll Fly Away.

Prayer by Eld. A. A. Williams.

The speaker of the evening was Eld. Rex Weatherman.

Scripture text: Job 13:4.

Dismissed by Bro. J. R. Woods.

Saturday Morning

The Assistant Moderator, Eld. Weatherman, opened the conference in the absence of the Moderator, Eld. Hudson.

Opening song, Some Glad Day When Jesus Comes.

Bro. Lamar Howell read the devotional scripture from Isaiah 46.

Prayer by Eld. G. W. Hanks.

Motion carried to defer the matter of uniting Hopewell Associations No. 1 and No. 2 until the next quarterly conference.

The Committee on Divine Arrangements reported that Eld. A. A. Williams would bring the message at eleven o'clock.

Motion carried to adjourn to meet back at one o'clock.

Eleven O'clock Service

The worship service was opened by singing, The Way of the Cross Leads Home.

Prayer led by Sis. Amy Chaudoin.

The speaker of the hour was Eld. A. A. Williams.

His scripture text was Matt. 28:18-20.

Dismissed by Eld. W. A. Hearron.

Saturday Afternoon

Opening song, Home of the Soul.

Devotional read by Bro. Noah Smith; Psalms 141.

Prayer by Bro. Hearron.

Assistant Moderator took charge.

Motion carried to accept Resolution No. 4.

Motion carried to accept Resolution No. 6.

Motion carried to accept Resolution No. 7.

(See Resolutions).

Eld. Reford Wilson gave an interesting report of the National Meeting held at Pochahontas, Ark. He also gave a plea in behalf of our state paper, "The Small Voice."

Delegates were elected to represent our association at the State Meeting when held at Ada.

Those elected were: Sis. Marjorie Weatherman, Sis. Lawana Hill, Sis. Jean Wilson, Sis. Ruby Brown, and Bro. J. C. Christian.

Alternates: Sisters Grace Brandon, Addie Ard, Charlie Truit, and Amy Chaudoin

Bro. Lamar Howell was elected as the new member on the Executive Board.

Motion carried that we retain Bro. Howell as our statistician.

Motion carried that the Executive Board select the place for our next association.

The next Quarterly Conference will be held at the Wilson Church the fifth Saturday in October.

Eld. Pettijohn will preach the Introductory message, with Eld. Reford Wilson his alternate.

Motion carried that we recommend Bro. Lamar Howell as delegate to the National Association.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

Motion carried to dismiss all committees except the one selected for the Camp Ground.

The Memorial Service was opened by singing, How Beautiful Heaven Must Be.

Prayer by Eld. Reford Wilson.

Eld. G. W. Hanks delivered the message in memory of the deceased of our association.

Scripture text, Isaiah 25:8,9.

At the close of the message, the congregation sang, Heaven Holds All to Me, during which we had an old fashioned handshaking.

A wonderful spirit was felt throughout the service.

Dismissed by Bro. N. C. Ballew.

Motion carried that we adjourn until the next yearly meeting beginning Thursday night before the first Sunday in September, 1949.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Resolutions Committee:

We, your committee on resolutions, report the following:

No. 1. Be it resolved that our quarterly meeting minutes be compiled with our association minutes.

No. 2. Be it resolved that we abide by the decision of our quarterly meeting in May, 1947 at Wirt in regard to two preachers from our own association preaching our camp meetings.

No. 3. We ask that pledges be taken, and a committee be elected for the purpose of selecting a site to centralize our association, and for the provision of a youth camp; the pledges to be paid within 90 days.

No. 4. Be it resolved that each church pay one dollar per month into our associational treasury.

No. 6. Be it resolved that this association petition the State Association for a functioning Home Mission Board that we may receive help in restoring churches that are in need, and organizing new ones.

No. 7. Be it resolved that we extend our heart-felt thanks to the host church for their gracious hospitality, and for every effort they have put forth throughout the camp meeting and the association.

Signed, Eld. A. A. Williams, Chairman

Sunday School Committee:

We your committee on Sunday School, wish to report as follows:

That each pastor have a Sunday School in his church, and that the teachers be Christians and that Free Will Baptist literature be used. We urge that each parent take their children to Sunday School instead of sending them, and that we pray more for our Sunday Schools, and take more interest in this phase of the work.

Signed, Sis. Ruby Brown, Chairman

Temperance Committee:

We, your committee on temperance, report as follows: We recommend that each pastor preach at least two sermons on temperance each year urging that our people pledge themselves not to patronize any place that sells intoxicating drinks. We as laymen should use our influence against liquor at every opportunity.

Signed, Bro. Reford Wilson, Chairman

Obituary Committee:

We wish to report the death of Carolyn Fay Christian, daughter of Bro. and Sis. J. C. Christian of the Stobtown Church. We express our sincere sympathy.

Signed, Sis. Versie Ledbetter, Chairman

League Committee:

We, the League Committee, report as follows: We recommend that every F. W. B. Church have a League, which shall be organized according to the rules given in our League Manual, with all officers Christians. We further urge that each League be represented in the district rally and also give its full support to the State Work. We ask that the older church members give more attention and cooperation to our Leagues, and ever bear in mind that the Leaguers of today will be the Church of tomorrow.

Signed, Sis. Lawana Hill, Chairman

Education Committee:

We, the committee on Christian education recommend that each church have a daily vacation Bible School for the purpose of instructing our children in the Bible. We also urge that each church systematically support our F. W. B. Bible College at Nashville, Tennessee.

Signed, Eld. G. W. Hanks, Chairman

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bro. Guy Denny	Elected 1944
Eld. J. O. Hudson	Elected 1945
Bro. John Woods	Elected 1946
Bro. N. C. Ballew	Elected 1947
Bro. Lamar Howell	Elected 1948

ORPHANAGE BOARD

Bro. Lamar Howell	115 E. St. N. W., Ardmore Okla.
Bro. N. C. Ballew	Box 69, Healdton, Okla.
Bro. Ralph Mullins	Rt. 1, Ardmore, Okla.

CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE

Bro. H. L. Christian
Bro. N. C. Ballew
Bro. J. R. Woods

ROLL OF ORDAINED MINISTERS

Eld. J. O. Hudson	Clemseott, Okla.
Eld. T. Maynard	Clemseott, Okla.
Eld. Don Pettyjohn	Ardmore, Okla.
Eld. T. J. Knight	Healdton, Okla.
Eld. G. W. Hanks	Wilson, Okla.

Eld. Reford Wilson Healdton, Okla.
 Eld. A. A. Williams Lone Grove, Okla.
 Eld. Rex Weatherman Ringling, Okla.

ROLL OF ORDAINED DEACONS

Bro. Lamar Howell Ardmore, Okla.
 Bro. H. L. Christian Ardmore, Okla.
 Bro. J. Q. Adams Lone Grove, Okla.
 Bro. Joe Balthrop Ardmore, Okla.
 Bro. Jay Crisp Wirt, Okla.
 Bro. Alvas Gardner California
 Bro. Herb Welch Wilson, Okla.
 Bro. R. E. Chaudoin Healdton, Okla.
 Bro. J. R. Woods Clemscott, Okla.
 Bro. Waldo Hickey Healdton, Okla.
 Bro. N. C. Ballew Healdton, Okla.
 Bro. John Jennings Alma, Okla.
 Bro. C. V. Rozzell Alma, Okla.
 Bro. Les Dunn Loco, Okla.
 Bro. W. A. Dehart Healdton, Okla.
 Bro. Marlin Bevins Healdton, Okla.

CHURCH LETTERS

Healdton Church:

Letter from the Healdton Free Will Baptist Church to the yearly association when convened with the Healdton Church. We send as delegates: Sis. Ruby Brown, and Sis. Oleta Morrow. As Alternates: Sis. Grace Brandon, and Bro. Johnie Gibson; whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, 22; total membership, 53; condition of prayer meeting, league, and Sunday School, good; average number pupils, 27; number of officers, 3; teachers, 4; paid pastor, \$224.00; amount for building and repairs, \$964.27; incidentals, \$142.37; value of church property, \$5,000.00; amount enclosed for printing of minutes, \$5.00.

Pastor's name and address, Eld. Reford J. Wilson, Healdton, Okla.

Names of ministers and deacons: Eld. T. J. Knight, Bro. Jay Crisp, Bro. R. E. Chaudoin, Bro. Herb Welch, Bro. N. C. Ballew, Bro. W. A. Dehart, and Bro. Marlin Bevins

Done by order of the church when assembled in con-

ference this 4th day of August, 1948.

Eld. Reford Wilson, Moderator

Sis. Charlie Truit, Clerk

Clemscott Church:

Letter from the Free Will Baptist Church of Clemscott to the association when convened with the church at Healdton. We send as delegates: Bro. Phillip Williamson, Sis. Bertha Williamson, Sis. Addie Ard, Sis. Noah Smith, Bro. A. A. Melton whom we pray you will receive to aid you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, 11; dismissed, 3; condition of Sunday School, good; number of officers, 2; teachers, 4; condition of prayer meeting and league, good; paid evangelist, \$75.00; paid pastor, \$1500.00; amount for building and repairs, \$123.74; miscellaneous expenses, \$264.91; amount for incidentals, \$62.50; for Children's Home, \$176.65; value of church property, \$4,000.00; amount enclosed for minutes, \$5.00.

Deacons: Bro. John Woods, Bro. Edd Gilliam, Bro. John Jennings, Bro. Waldo Hickey.

Ministers: Eld. T. Maynard.

Pastor's name and address, Eld. J. O. Hudson, Clemscott, Okla.

We ask for the next annual association to be at our church.

Done by order of the church assembled in conference August, ., 1948.

Eld. J. O. Hudson, Moderator

Sis. John Woods, Clerk

Wirt Church:

To the annual meeting of the Hopewell No. 2 Association of Free Will Baptists, when convened with the church at Healdton, Oklahoma, Sept. 2, 1948. We send as delegates our beloved: Sis. May Gardner, Sis. Mary Weatherman, and Bro. Claud Crow. As Alternates: Sis. Bobby Lois Gardner, Sis. Acree, and Sis. Barbour; whom we pray you to receive to sit with you in your godly deliberations.

Members received, 2; members dismissed, 3; paid pastor, \$350.00; paid Children's Home, \$86.65.

Done by order of the church when assembled in conference this 1st day of Sept., 1948.

Bro. Ode Roberson, Moderator

Sis. Odessa Roberson, Clerk

We desire your prayers that we may soon have a pastor.

Enterprise Church:

Letter from the Church of God, denominated Free Will Baptist, at Enterprise, to the association, when convened with the Healdton Church. We send as delegates: Sis. J. L. Stubblefield, and Bro. Burdue. As Alternates: Sis. M. Tally whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your godly deliberations. Our members are few and scattered. We have church one Sunday each month, no Sunday School. We need your prayers to help us get our church built up again.

Eld. G. W. Hanks, Pastor

Sis. Connie Morris, Clerk

Wilson Church:

Letter from Wilson Free Will Baptist Church to the yearly association when held at Healdton Church. We send as delegates: Sis. Dellie Lee, Bro. Grady Lee. As Alternates: Sis. N. R. Mayton whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, 2; total membership, 40; condition of Sunday School, good; paid pastor, \$23.00.

Pastor's name and address, Eld. Don Pettyjohn, Ardmore, Okla. Deacon, Bro. T. F. Jackson.

We ask for the next quarterly conference.

Done by the order of the church assembled in conference this 15th day of August, 1948.

Eld. Don Pettyjohn, Moderator

Sis. Versie Ledbetter, Clerk

Stobtown Church:

Letter from the Stobtown Church to the annual association of Free Will Baptists when convened with the Healdton Church. We send as delegates: Bro. Ben Brewer, Sis. Alvis Christian, and Bro. J. C. Christian, as Alternates: Sis. Noga Green, Bro. B. L. McClanahan, and Sis. B. L. McClanahan, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, none; dismissed, 2; members died, 1; total membership, 104; condition of Sunday School, good, average number pupils, 42; number of officers, 3; teachers, 4; paid pastor, \$319.88; paid evangelist, \$32.25; value of church property, \$800.00; amount enclosed for minutes, \$5.00.

Pastor, Eld. A. A. Williams, Lone Grove, Okla.

Deacons: Bro. Joe Balthrop, Rt. 2, Ardmore, Okla.,
Bro. Henry Christian, Ardmore, Okla., Bro. Herman
Green, Ardmore, Okla.

Done by order of the church when assembled in conference this 25th day of July, 1948.

Eld. A. A. Williams, Moderator

Bro. Ralph Mullins, Clerk

RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were passed in our quarterly meetings the past associational year.

No. 1. Be it resolved that we help finance Bro. Wade Jernigan in coming to Wilson to help to build the church back.

No. 2. Be it resolved that we go back to the old way of having our fifth Sunday meetings and have the Lord's Supper and Feet Washing on Saturday night, and services continuing through Sunday afternoon.

No. 3. Be it resolved that we stand our delegates in front of the church when we give the hand of fellowship to seat the delegates.

No. 4. Be it resolved that the clerk of each church, when writing a letter of membership from one church to another, address it to the church instead of the church clerk.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe in one true and living God, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, and these three are equal in Divine essence, power and glory—Romans 1:20; I John 1:7; John 17:21.

We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the written Word of God and the only infallible rule of faith and practice—Matt. 5:18; II Tim. 3:16.

3. We believe that God created man good and gave him holy commandments whereby he should live holy, but man voluntarily disobeyed the commandments of God, transgressed the law and fell under the just condemnation of the same whereby all mankind are sinners; not by constraint, but by choice; being partakers of the sinful nature attained by the fall, and that man is unable to save himself with his own power, but we see Jesus for the suffering of death crowned with glory, that He

by the Grace of God, should taste death for every man—Gen. 3:7-17; Heb. 2:9.

4. We believe that Christ, by His death, burial, and resurrection, purchased our pardon and offered it freely to all mankind upon the principles of repentance toward God and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. He now commands all men everywhere to repent, therefore He saith: "Look unto me and be saved all ye ends of the earth, for I am God, and there is none else"—Matt. 4:17; Isaiah 45:22; Acts 20:2-21; Acts 17:30.

5. We believe that adult persons must be regenerated and born of the spirit of God if they inherit eternal life—John 3:3.

6. We believe that infants and idiots are saved by the merits of the Son of God—John 4:11; Deut. 1:39; Mk. 10:14; Luke. 18:16.

7. We believe that all Christians should persevere in grace and be faithful to the end if they inherit eternal life; for blessed are they that do His commandments that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates of the city—Matt. 24:13; Rev. 22:14.

8. We believe that Baptism by immersion is the Apostolic mode, even the burial of the believer in water; and that Christ, who is our life, showed this humble example to His children, and bids us walk therein—John 3:22; Matt. 3:16; 28:19-20; Romans 6:2-5.

9. We believe that God in His goodness displays His power of grace in a great degree in calling and qualifying His servants by the teaching of the Holy Ghost, and by the instructions of His blessed Word, to go forth and proclaim life and salvation He bids us freely to come, and nothing prevents the salvation of any but their own stubborn rebellion and sinful refusal to come—I Cor. 12:13; Eph. 3:7; Rev. 22:17; Isa. 55:1.

10. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper and Washing of the Saint's feet are Divine ordinances and should be observed by all His children—Mk. 14:22; John 13:4-14; Matt. 28:19,20; I Tim. 5:10.

11. We believe that none have a right to Baptism only those who have obtained a living hope in the Lord Jesus Christ, and none have the right to administer the same only those who are called of God, have come under the hands of the Presbytery of Elders; and each church ought to have a pastor, deacons, and clerk, chosen by the

church and continuing in office during the good pleasure of the same; and in dealing with disorderly members, reference should be had to the 18th chapter of Matthew and other Scriptures relative to dealing with disorderly members. In all cases a majority shall rule, except in receiving members, which shall be unanimous—Tit. 1:5; Acts 14:23; II Cor. 6:6.

12. We believe it to be the duty of each church to assemble themselves together once a month and that it is the duty of the pastor of the church when setting forth the Lord's Supper to "let a man examine himself, and so let him eat"—I Cor. 11:28; John 13:14; Heb. 10:25.

13. We believe that Sanctification and Holiness is a Bible doctrine, that immortality is God dwelling in the light so when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written: "Death is swallowed up in victory." 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 and glory of God—Gal. 6:10; I John 2:9.

14. We believe in the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation; then the wicked will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

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. Ministers and deacons present are invited to seats, allowed to take part in debates on all subjects, and to vote.

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, and a member opposes its discussion, the Moderator shall put the question, "Shall it be discussed?" If negative, the question shall be dismissed.

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 ensure 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. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after organization.

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

GOVERNMENT OF THE CHURCHES

The local church is an independent body so far as relates to its own government, the transaction of its own business, the choice of its officers, and the discipline of its members.

Persons who give evidence of piety are received to membership by a vote of the church; and if not baptized, on condition of being baptized. If objections are made, they should be stated to the church; and if objections are judged valid, the candidate should not be received into fellowship. The right hand of fellowship is given all persons received by the church.

Persons expelled from sister churches for any cause or for immorality, should not be received until first giving satisfaction.

Letters of dismissal and commendation are granted to members in good standing, by a vote of the church, on their removal from its limits. Ministers are received and dismissed by letter, as other members are, except when they come or go to other denominations, in which case a council of ministers should be called respecting the action.

It is the duty of the church to unite with some associa-

tion and represent itself regularly by delegates and letter.

No person shall be a delegate from a church, unless he or she is a member and appointed by the church he or she claims to represent.

CHURCH LETTER

Letter from Church to the

.....
(Please state whether Quarterly or Yearly Meeting or
Ass'n.) when convened with
Church at

We send as delegates, our beloved:

.....
.....
.....
.....

whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid
you in your godly deliberation.

State of religion,; members received by
letter,; by recommendation or by experience in
grace,; dismissed,; number died,
.....; total membership,; condition of pray-
er meeting,; of Sunday School,; aver-
age number of pupils,; number of officers,
.....; of teachers,; paid pastor, \$.....;
paid evangelist, \$.....; amount for building & repair,
\$.....; for incidentals, \$.....; value of church
property, \$.....; misc. exp., \$.....; amount en-
closed for minutes, \$.....

Pastor's name and address,

Names and addresses of ministers and deacons:

Ministers:

.....
.....

Deacons:

.....
.....

Done by order of the church assembled in conference
this day of, 19.....

....., Moderator
....., Clerk

B B

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
5. 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

ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR CHURCH CONFERENCE

1. Called to order by the Moderator
2. Called into conference, or vote to go into conference.
3. Call for peace of the church. (All who are at peace with God and each other, hold up your right hand).
4. Visiting brethren invited to seat in council. (Visiting members from other Free Will Baptist churches allowed).
5. Reading of minutes of last church conference.
6. Reading of minutes of last church conference.
7. New business
8. Report of delegates to Association or Quarterly Meeting.
9. Are any sick or in distress?
10. Support of ministry and other expenses
11. Call for confession
12. Invitation for members
13. Adjournment

CONSTITUTION

From long experience, we, the members of the Church of God (denominated Free Will Baptists), being regularly baptized upon a profession of our faith in our Lord Jesus Christ, and being convinced of the necessity of a combination of churches to perpetuate a union among us, and to preserve and maintain correspondence with each other, do therefore ordain this Constitution for our better church government.

Art. 1. MEMBERSHIP. This Association shall be com-

posed of members chosen by the different churches of our union, not exceeding three messengers from each church, and upon producing letters, they shall be entitled to seats. All ordained ministers and deacons of said union shall be regular members when present, by virtue of their office.

Art. 2. NAME. The Members thus chosen and assembled with the ministers and deacons to be denominated the Hopewell Association of Free Will Baptists, being composed of the several churches of our union, the Association having no power to lord it over God's heritage, nor having any ecclesiastical power over the churches, reserving the right of withdrawing from any church becoming disorderly.

Art. 3. LETTERS. Letters from the different churches representing are to express their number in fellowship, including the names and addresses of ordained and licensed ministers, the number of members received upon profession of faith, by letter or recommendation, by restoration or denominational choice; the number dismissed by letter, excluded, and those having died since last Association. Churches, in sending their letters, may send obituaries of any who died during the year that we may keep up the memorial of our dead.

Art. 4. OFFICERS. The Association to have a Moderator, a Clerk, and a Treasurer, who are to be chosen by the suffrage of the members present.

Art. 5. NEW CHURCHES. Newly constituted churches may be admitted to the Association, which are to petition by letter and delegates, and if upon examination, they are found to be orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the Association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

Art. 6. QUESTIONS. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has been first considered in its own church.

Art. 7. MOTIONS. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except it be withdrawn by the member who made it.

Art. 8. MINUTES. The Association is to endeavor to furnish the churches with minutes of the Association in the proportion to the amount paid by each church, the distribution to be at the discretion of the Association.

Art. 9. CLERK. It shall be the duty of the Clerk to keep

a regular file of the minutes of the Association in a book to be kept by the Association for that purpose.

Art. 10. SIGNATURES. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if needed, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the close of the Association.

Art. 11. AMENDMENTS. Amendments to this Constitution may be made, when necessary, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular session.

AMENDMENT No. 1. Each ordained minister shall be a member of a church in the bounds of the Association, and if he should hold his letter for a period of three months when opportunity affords him, he shall surrender his credentials to the quarterly meeting.

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 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 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 in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ".

We will not forget 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 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 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 every-

where hold Christian principles sacred and Christian obligations and enterprises supreme, counting it our chief business in life to extend the influence of Christ in society, constantly praying and toiling that the Kingdom of God may come, and His will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

To this end we agree to labor for the promotion of educational and denominational enterprises, the support of missions and 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.

