

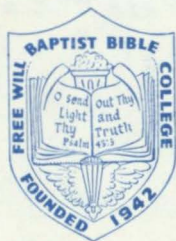
MINUTES
OF THE
HOPEWELL ASSOCIATION
No. 2

Church of God, Denominated
Free Will Baptists

1950

PROCEEDINGS
of the
EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

Convened with
Stobtown Free Will Baptist Church



FREE WILL BAPTIST BIBLE COLLEGE

Presented by

Rev. John H. West

Minutes

of the

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

of the

HOPEWELL ASSOCIATION No. 2

FREE WILL BAPTISTS

Held with the

STOBTOWN FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCH

Beginning Thursday Night, August 31, 1950

OFFICERS

Moderator

Rev. A. A. Williams, Lone Grove, Okla.

Assistant Moderator

Rev. Rex Weatherman, Box 275, Ringling, Okla.

Clerk

Sister Grace Brandon, Box 275, Wirt, Okla.

Assistant Clerk

Sister Myrtle Ballew, Box 612, Wirt, Okla.

The nineteenth annual session will convene on Thursday night before the first Sunday in September, 1951

Proceedings

Thursday Night Service

The body was called to order by Moderator, Rev. Rex Weatherman. We sang "Standing on the Promises," "When We All Get to Heaven," and "Glory Land Away." Prayer by Bro. Balthrop.

A Testimonial Service was led by Bro. Lamar Howell, after which he called for an altar of prayer led by Bro. John Woods.

Rev. Rex Weatherman brought the introductory message. He used as his subject, "Behold a Greater than Solomon is here." Scripture I Kings 10:1-10.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Lamar Howell.

Friday Morning

Meeting opened by singing, "Revive Us Again," and "What a Friend We Have in Jesus." Prayer by Rev. A. A. Williams. Scripture reading, Eph. 5:1-13, by Bro. N. C. Ballew.

The Moderator, Rev. Rex Weatherman, took charge. Called the house to order and declared Conference in session.

Church letters were called for and read from the following churches: Clemscot, Stobtown, Enterprise, and Healdton.

Motion carried that we accept the letters and seat the delegates. Moderator gave the right hand of Christian fellowship to the delegates.

Officers were elected as follows:

Moderator, Rev. A. A. Williams; Assistant Moderator, Rev. Rex Weatherman; Clerk, Sister Grace Brandon; Assistant Clerk, Sister Myrtle Balley.

Motion carried that the Moderator appoint a committee on divine arrangements. Committee: Sister Howell, Bro. Ballew and Sister Melton.

Sunday School Committee—Bro. Christian, Bro. Derring, Sister Talley.

Temperance Committee—Bro. Ballew, Sister Lois McClanahan, Bro. Burdue.

The pulpit committee reported that Rev. A. A. Williams would bring the morning message at 11:00.

Resolutions Committee—Rev. Weatherman, Sister Williams, Sister Higgins.

Obituary Committee—Sister Pool, Sister Christian, Sister Howell.

Education Committee—Bro. Ballew, Rev. Rex Weatherman, Sister McClanahan.

League Committee—Sister Weatherman, Sister Janett Roberts, Sister Lois McClanahan.

The rules of order were read by the Moderator.

Motion carried that we retain Bro. Lamar Howell as Associational Treasurer.

Motion carried that we adjourn the business session until 1:00 P. M.

Eleven o'Clock Service

Opened by singing a number of songs. Prayer by Bro. N. C. Ballew.

Rev. A. A. Williams brought the message. Scripture text, 23rd chapter of Psalms. He used as his subject, "Excuses," which was a very good message and enjoyed by everyone. A song was given and an old-fashioned hand-shake of Christian fellowship.

Dismissed by Bro. Christian, for lunch.

Friday Afternoon

Moderator called house to order.

Devotional, 1st Psalms, by Bro. Christian. Prayer by Bro. Burdue.

Unfinished business called for. None reported.

New business called for.

The various committee reports were read.

Motion carried that we accept the report of the committee on League (see reports).

Motion carried that we accept the report of the committee on Sunday Schools (see report).

Motion carried that we accept the report of the committee on Obituary (see report).

Motion carried that we accept the report of the committee on Temperance (see report).

There were a number of good talks on the resolutions that were put before the house.

Motion carried that we accept the report of the committee on Resolution No. 1 (see resolutions).

Motion carried that we accept the report of the committee on Resolution No. 2 (see resolutions).

Motion carried that we accept the report of the committee on Education (see report).

Rev. W. A. Hearron, a visiting minister from Center Association, gave an interesting report of progress in their Association.

We enjoyed having Rev. and Sister Hearron meet with us.

Bro. Christian was elected as the Fifth-year member on Executive Board.

Motion carried we accept the report of the Orphanage Committee, and retain the Committee (see reports).

Motion carried we accept the report of the Credential Committee, and retain the Committee.

Motion carried that next association and Camp Meeting go to Lone Grove Church on Thursday night before the first Sunday in September, 1951.

Motion carried we elect Rev. Carter and Rev. McCage to preach at Camp Meeting preceeding the Association next year.

Committee in charge of Youth Camp — Sister Weatherman, Sister Howell, Sister Myrtle Ballew and Sister Smith.

Motion carried that we have next Fifth Sunday meeting at Clemscot, beginning Thursday night before Fifth Sunday in September.

Rev. J. O. Hudson was elected to bring introductory message at next Quarterly Meeting.

Rev. G. W. Hanks was elected to preach introductory message next Association.

Delegates to represent us at the State Association were elected as follows: Sister Howell, Sister Noah Smith, Sister Weatherman and Sister DeHart. Alternates: Sister Ledbetter, Sister Lois McClanahan, Sister Williams, Mary Alice Weatherman and Mary Ellen Williams.

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

Motion carried we dismiss all temporary committees, and adjourn for this session.

Dismissed by Bro. Ballew.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sunday School Committee

We, your committee on Sunday Schools, wish to report the following: That each Church have a Sunday School, and use Free Will Baptist Literature.

We suggest that all teachers and officers be Free Will Baptist.

We urge that parents go with their children to Sunday School.

Bro. H. L. Christian, Chairman

Credential Committee

We, the Credential Committee, examined Bro. N. R. Smith for ordination and the Committee found him orthodox. The Association ordained him on the Thursday night of our Camp Meeting.

Credential Committee

Temperance Committee

We, your committee on Temperance, recommend that our ministers preach more against the sale and use of all intoxicants, and that our young people be instructed in regards to the effect it has upon their minds, souls and bodies.

Temperance Committee

Resolutions Committee

We, your committee on Resolutions, report the fol-

lowing: No. 1, Be It Resolved, that our preachers should preach more against worldly amusements. No. 2, Be it Resolved, that our pastors preach at least one Doctrinal sermon a month.

Sister Lessie Williams, Chairman

League Committee

We, your committee on Leagues, report the following: We recommend that each Free Will Baptist 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 Rallies, and also give its full support to the state work. We ask the older church members to give more attention and co-operation to our Leagues, and ever bear in mind that the Leagues of today will be the Churches of tomorrow. The League Rally of Hopewell Association No. 2 is petitioning the Association to approve of them holding a Youth Encampment the first five days of the Yearly Association. We recommend that this body elect a committee of three to take full charge and the responsibility of the Camp, since the League believes they can be a blessing to you, and we are sure you can be a blessing to us.

Committee

Education Committee

We, the Committee on 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.

Committee

Obituary Committee

We, your committee on Obituary, are glad to report that there has been no death in our churches, that we know of.

Sister Pool, Chairman

CHURCH LETTERS

Clemscot Church

Letter from the Clemscot Church of God, Denominated Free Will Baptist, to Hopewell Association No. 2, when convened with the Stobtown Church:

We send as delegates our beloved Sisters: Davey Powell, LeVada Derring, and Bro. Derring. As alternates we send Sister Jeanette Roberts, Sister Higgins and Sister Melton, whom we pray you will receive to aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received, 1; condition of Sunday School, good; number of officers, 2; teachers, 4; condition of prayer meeting and Leagues, good. Paid evangelist \$120.00. Miscellaneous expenses, \$507.45. Paid pastor \$1,800.00. Amount enclosed for Minutes, \$10.00.

Deacons: Bro. John Woods, Box 398, Healdton, Oklahoma.

Minister: Rev. T. Maynard. Pastor: Rev. J. O. Hudson, Clemscot, Oklahoma.

Done by order of Church assembled in Conference, August 7, 1950.

Rev. J. O. Hudson, Moderator
Sister Pearl White, Clerk

Enterprise Church

Letter from the Church of God, Denominated Free Will Baptist, of Enterprise, to the Hopewell No. 2 Association, which convenes with the Stobtown Church.

We send as delegates, Sister Bessie Talley and Bro. C. M. Burdue, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; no members received. The Church meets the third Sunday in each month. It is still trying to raise enough money for the new building to be erected at Lone Grove.

Pastor, G. W. Hanks,
Clerk, Connie Morris

Stobtown Church

Letter from Stobtown Church to the Annual Association, when convened with the Stobtown Church.

We send as delegates our beloved Brethren and Sisters: Bro. Albert Ferguson, Sister Mary Ellen Williams, Sister Albert Ferguson. Alternates: Sister Lois Jean McClanahan, Sister B. L. McClanahan and Sister Ben Brewer, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received by letter, none; members received by experience in grace, 5; dismissed, 5; condition of prayer meetings, fair; Sunday School, fair; average number of pupils, 40; number of officers, 4; number of teachers, 8. Paid evangelists \$141.50. Amount enclosed for Minutes, \$6.00.

Pastor's name and address. Rev. A. A. Williams, Lone Grove, Oklahoma.

Deacons: Bro. Henry Christian, Lone Grove, Star Route; Bro. James Adams, Lone Grove; Bro. C. Balthrop, Ardmore, Rt. 2; Bro. Herman Green, Ardmore, Rt. 2.

We have had a wonderful revival and Camp Meeting and thank each church of the Association for their co-operation.

Done by order of the Church, assembled in Conference, this 16th day of August, 1950.

Rev. A. A. Williams, Moderator
Bro. Ralph Mullins, Clerk

Healdton Church

Letter from Healdton Church to the Hopewell No. 2 Association, when convened with the Stobtown Free Will Baptist Church.

We send as delegates our beloved Sisters: Sister Grace Brandon, Sister Pool, Sister Sue Crips. Alternates, Sister Mary Alice Weatherman, Sister Claudine Crowe and Bro. Wayne Walker, whom we pray you will receive to sit with you, and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of religion, good; members received this year,

22; number baptized, none; number dismissed by letter, none; number excluded, none; number deceased, none; number resident members, 52; non-resident members, 23; total membership, 75; condition of prayer meeting, good; condition of Sunday School, good; average number of pupils, 37; number of officers, 7; condition of League, good; League membership, 10; value of Church property, \$7,874.00; amount paid pastor, \$1,230.00; amount for evangelistic work, \$208.00; amount for building and repairs, \$689.00; amount for incidentals, \$380.56; missions, \$135.00; publications and literature, \$68.90; amount paid to Orphanage, \$365.63; amount enclosed for Minutes, \$10.00. Name of pastor for coming year, Rev. F. A. McCage, Healdton, Oklahoma.

Names and addresses of Ministers and Deacons: Rev. T. J. Knight, Healdton, Oklahoma; Rev. R. G. Lane, Healdton, Oklahoma; Rev. Rex Weatherman, Ringling, Oklahoma. Deacons: Bros. Jay Crisp, N. C. Ballew, M. M. Bivens, all of Wirt; Bros. R. E. Chaudoin, W. A. DeHart, of Healdton; and Bro. Herb Welch, of Ardmore.

Done by order of Healdton Free Will Baptist Church, assembled in Conference this 14th day of August, 1950.

Moderator, Bro. N. C. Ballew
Clerk, Charlie Truitt

Orphanage Board

Bro. Lamar Howell, 115 E St., N. W., Ardmore, Okla.
Bro. N. C. Ballew, Wirt, Okla.
Bro. Ralph Mullins, Route 1, Ardmore, Okla.

Executive Board

Bro. John Woods	1946
Bro. N. C. Ballew	1947
Bro. Lamar Howell	1948
Bro. Marlin Bivens	1949
Bro. Henry Christian	1950

Credential Committee

Bro. H. L. Christian	Bro. N. C. Ballew
Bro. John Woods	

Roll of Ordained Ministers

Rev. J. O. Hudson	Clemscot, Oklahoma
Rev. T. Maynard	Clemscot, Oklahoma
Rev. Don Pettijohn	Ardmore, Oklahoma
Rev. T. J. Knight	Healdton, Oklahoma
Rev. G. W. Hanks	Wilson, Oklahoma
Rev. A. A. Williams	Lone Grove, Oklahoma
Rev. Rex Weatherman	Ringling, Oklahoma
Rev. R. G. Lane	Healdton, Oklahoma
Rev. N. R. Smith	Clemscot, Oklahoma
Rev. F. A. McCage	Healdton, Oklahoma

Church Clerks

Healdton—Sister Myrtle Ballew, Box 612, Wirt, Okla.
 Clemscot—Sister Pearl White, Clemscot
 Wilson—Sister Versie Ledbetter, Wilson
 Stobtown—Bro. Ralph Mullins, Rt. 1, Ardmore, Okla.
 Enterprise—Sister Connie Morris, Lone Grove, Okla.

Statistical Report of Hopewell Association No. 2

Churches, 4; members, 375; Ministers, 10; Deacons,
 14. Paid Pastors, \$3,450.00; paid Evangelists, \$460.00;
 paid to Childrens' Home, \$599.63. Value of Church
 property, \$15,000.00; building repairs, \$790.45.

The Annual Report of League Rally

Services opened by singing, "He Keeps Me Singing."
 Prayer, by Sister Brandon; devotion, by Mary Alice
 Weatherman, read from Matthew's gospel; prayer by
 Sister Edna DeHart. Welcome was given by Bro. Wil-
 liams. The response was given by Lissie Chaudoin.

Letters from the Leagues were read and accepted.

Previous minutes were read and approved.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted.

A report was given on the concert held at Ringling.
 The money taken in was \$41.

New business was as follows: The election of of-
 ficers:

President Mary Alice Weatherman
Vice-President Lissie Chaudoin
Treasurer Dorothy DeHart
Recording Secretary Connie White
Corresponding Secretary Gary Holt
Sponsor Richard Hill

Dismissed with prayer by Bro. Lane.

Morning Worship Service

Opening song, "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart."
Prayer by Sister Lawana Hill. Rev. Charles Sapp brought the message, "Redemption Through the Blood of Christ."

Dismissed for lunch, by Bro. Waddle.

Afternoon song service was led by Connie White, after which programs were presented by the Childrens' Home and the Healdton League.

Sister Hattie Newman was elected to preach at the next League Rally, which will be held at Healdton.

It was voted that the sponsors of the Leagues be the Program Committee.

A song was rendered and an offering of \$11.00 was given.

Dismissed for the day with prayer by Bro. John Woods.

Financial Report

F. W. B. Childrens' Home	\$ 12.00
F. W. B. College	12.00
Foreign Missions	12.00
Revival	75.00
To ministers for Rally	50.00
Bills for revival and postage	11.00

Total paid out\$172.00

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.

2. We believe that the Scripture 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 is 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; Mark 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 the 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 — Mark 14:22; John 3:4-14; 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 and 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 closed with 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, arrangement shall be made to assure 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 Association 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 of Association), when convened with _____
Church at _____

We send as delegates our beloved:

State of religion, _____; members received by letter, _____; by recommendation or by experience in grace, _____; dismissed, _____; number died, _____; total membership, _____; condition of prayer meeting, _____; of Sunday School, _____; average number of pupils, _____; number of officers, _____; of teachers, _____; paid pastor, \$ _____; paid evangelist, \$ _____; amount for building and repair, \$ _____; for incidentals, \$ _____; value of church property, \$ _____; miscellaneous expense, \$ _____; amount enclosed 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

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.
- whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.
-

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. Unfinished business.
7. New business.
8. Reports of delegates to Association or Quarterly Meeting.
9. Are there 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 composed 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 represented 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 first been 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 to 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 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.

