

Lewis

MINUTES

of the

HOPEWELL ASSOCIATION

No. 2

of

Free Will Baptist



1951

4

PROCEEDINGS

of the

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION



Convened with

Ardmore Free Will Baptist Church

*Bro. Ward W. Fellsbaum
Box 63, Battleville, Ala.*

MINUTES

of the
TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

of the
Hopewell Association No. 2
Free Will Baptist

Held With
Ardmore Free Will Baptist Church
Beginning Thursday Night, August 27, 1954

OFFICERS

Moderator

Rev. E. S. Sunday
Box 241, Healdton, Okla.

Assistant Moderator

Rev. A. L. McAffery
1302 W. 13th Street
Sulphur, Oklahoma

Clerk

Sister Myrtle Ballew
Ringling, Okla., Box 351

Treasurer

Bro. Lamar Howell
115 E Street N.W.
Ardmore, Okla.

The twenty third annual session
will convene on Thursday night before
the fourth Sunday in August, 1955

PROCEEDINGS

Morning service was opened by singing. Rev. G. W. Hanks led in prayer, and also opened conference for business.

Letters were called for and read from the following churches: Stobtown, Sulphur, Clemscot, Healdton, Santa Fe, Duncan W. Walnut Ave., Ardmore, Lone Grove, and Duncan First church.

Motion carried that we receive the letters and seat the delegates.

Officers were elected as follows:

Moderator Rev. Edd Sunday, Healdton, Box 241

Ass't. Moderator Rev. A. L. McAffery, Sulphur,
1302 W. 13th St.

Clerk Myrtle Ballew, Ringling, Box 351

Ass't. Clerk Ocie Higgins, Sulphur, Rt. 1

Treasurer Lamar Howell, 115 E. St. N.W., Ardmore

Motion carried that the moderator appoint the committees that are necessary for this meeting. Bro. Onis Palmer, Bro. N. C. Ballew, and Sis. Nora Winters, were appointed as the committee on Divine Arrangements.

The committee reports that Rev. De Arthur Yandell will bring the morning message.

The eleven o'clock service was opened by singing "I Am Resolved", prayer by Bro. A. L. Worstell. Prayer by Rev. Gilbert Pixley.

Bro. Yandell's subject was, "The Doctrine of God", Scripture, Matt. 16. Dismissed with prayer by Bro. G. O. Palmer.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The evening service opened by singing. Scripture was read by the moderator, Col. 3:1, 17. Prayer by Bro. Burdue.

The rules of order were read by Bro. McAffery.

Committees were appointed as follows:

SUNDAY SCHOOL—Bro. Hope Foster, Bro. C. L. Powell, and Sis. Bobbie Crook.

LEAGUE—Sisters: Jewel Chaudoin, Violet Smith, and Clara Gilmore.

EDUCATION—Brothers: Gilbert Pixley, R. L. Howell, and De Arthur Yandell.

OBITUARY—Sis. Edith Adams, Bro. Ward Fellabaum, and Sis. Marjorie Carroll.

TEMPERANCE—Sis. Zelta Brewer, Bro. Ben. Brewer, and Sis. Evelyn Shull.

RESOLUTIONS—Brothers: N. C. Ballew, Othal Kyle, and Henry Christian.

Motion carried that the moderator, and assistant moderator appoint an examining committee to examine two brethren for license for the ministry.

Rev. Roy Hearon, Rev. Edd Wilson, and Rev. G. W. Hanks were appointed to act temporarily on this committee.

New business was called for.

The minutes of the last Quarterly Meeting were read, and approved as read.

Motion carried to strike out the clause stating that we have no further dealings with Mr. Creel with regard to the camp ground, and that we try to raise the money to buy the ground by the next Quarterly Meeting.

An offering of \$51.10 was taken for the camp ground.

Motion carried that each Church send \$12.00 for printing of the minutes each year; to be sent either quarterly or annually; \$10.00 annually for Evangelist; \$5.00 for state delegate; and \$5.00 quarterly for feeding expenses; making a total of \$32.00.

The examining committee finds Bro. L. A. Shull, and Bro. O. H. Foust, sound in doctrine, and recommends that they be licensed for one year to preach the Gospel.

Resolutions No's. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, were read and accepted separately by the body by motion and second. (See resolutions).

Motion carried to adjourn until 9:30 Saturday morning. Dismissed by Bro. Edd. Sunday.

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION

Service opened by singing. Prayer by Bro. C. C. Higgins.

Reports of various committees were read and accepted as follows: League, Sunday School, and Temperance. Motion carried to table the temperance committee report for amendment, and bring it back for discussion.

The report on Education was read and accepted.

The obituary report was read and accepted.

Resolutions committee report was accepted. (See reports.)

Bro. Henry Christian resigned as one year member of the Executive Board. Motion carried to accept his resignation. Bro. Marlin Bivens was elected in his place.

New members were elected to the different boards as follows:

Executive Board Rev. Gilbert Pixley

Orphanage Board Rev. De Arthur Yandell

Credential Committee Bro. N. C. Ballew

The auxiliary report was read and accepted. (See reports.)

Motion carried to adjourn until 1:30.

ELEVEN O'CLOCK SERVICE

(Which is our memorial service.)

Service opened with singing, "No Tears in Heaven", and "Precious Memories". Prayer by Bro. Fellabaum. Message by Rev. G. W. Hanks, Text: I Cor. 5:13, prayer by Bro. Gilbert Pixley. Dismissed for lunch by Bro. McAffery.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Song: "The Old Time Religion". Scripture, I Thes. 5:14, 24, was read by the moderator. Prayer by Bro. C. C. Higgins.

Rev. Edd Wilson was elected by the body to serve on the State General Board next year.

Motion carried that the following be elected as delegates to the National Association: Bro. C. C. Higgins,

Bro. W. A. Dehart, Sis. Ocie Higgins, Sis. Edd Sunday, and Sis. Marjorie Carroll.

The next annual association will be at the Sulphur First Church. The introductory speaker for that meeting will be Rev. De Arthur Yandell, with Rev. Edd Sunday as alternate.

The first quarterly meeting will be at the Santa Fe Church. The introductory speaker to be Rev. Gilbert Pixley. This meeting will be Friday night before the fourth Sunday in November.

Rev. Weldon Wood, from Ada, was elected for our next associational evangelist, with Rev. McAffery as alternate.

Motion carried that this association stand 100% against the sale of the Children's Home, at the State Meeting.

Motion carried that the Orphanage Board see what we can do to help at the Home, and notify each Church.

Delegates to the State Association as follows:

Sis. Violet Smith, Duncan First Church.

Sis. M. M. Birch, Duncan Original.

Sis. L. A. Shull, Lone Grove.

Sis. Lee Guinn, Stobtown.

Sis. Majorie Carroll, Santa Fe.

Sis. Myrtle Ballew, Healdton, and

Bro. O. H. Foust, Ardmore.

The treasurer's report was read and accepted. (See reports.)

Motion carried to accept the report and give Bro. Smith a vote of thanks for his work as treasurer for the past year.

Motion carried that the moderator appoint a camp ground Committee. The Board of Trustees of the Association were appointed to act as this committee; i.e. Bro. N. C. Ballew, Bro. John Woods, and Bro. L. A. Shull.

A special song was rendered by a quartet, "I'll Meet You in the Morning".

Motion carried to adjourn. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Sunday.

Money received in letters:	
Sulphur Church	\$ 32.00
Ardmore Church	27.00
Duncan Original Church	12.00
Lone Grove Church	10.00
Healdton Church	18.00
Stobtown Church	25.00
Santa Fe Church	25.00
Duncan First Church	27.00
Clemscot Church	25.00
	\$191.00

COMMITTEE REPORTS

League Report: We recommend that each Church have a League, which should be organized according to rules given in our Free Will Baptist League Manual, with all officers being Free Will Baptist.

We urge that all Leagues be represented in the district rallies, and also give its full support to the state and national rallies.

We urge Pastors and older Church members to give more attention and cooperation to our League, and each and every one put forth an effort to help in our League Revival.

Sis. Jewel Chaudoin, Chairman

Sunday School Report: We recommend that the Sunday Schools of Hopewell Association No. 2 use only approved literature, as furnished by the Free Will Baptist denomination.

Bro. Hope Foster, Chairman

Temperance Report: We recommend that our ministers preach more sermons on temperance, and explain it more clearly, especially to our young people.

Amendment: We the committee feel that temperance means in all things, and we wish to leave the report as it is.

Sis. Zelta Brewer, Chairman

Education Report: No. 1. We recommend that our people be a little more conscious of the need of musical

education, and that each Church try to have a ten day singing school each year. No. 2. We recommend that our people be reminded of the urgent need to continue with our Vacation Bible Schools. No. 3. We recommend that our Churches study our National Treatise more carefully, in order to acquaint themselves better with the doctrine and practice of Free Will Baptists.

Rev. De Arthur Yandell, Chmn.

Obituary Report: We are sorry to report the passing from this life the following loved ones: Bro. Ervin Beers, Sis. Alta Haney, from the Clemscot Church. Bro. Martin Leming, Bro. Williams, Sister Lula Atterbury, Bro. Balley, and Bro. Earnest Howeth, from the Sulphur Church. Though we miss them, we feel that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Sis. Edith Adams, Chairman

Resolutions Committee Report: We wish to submit the following resolutions:

No. 1. Be it resolved that Hopewell Ass'n. No. 2. petition the State Ass'n. to re-establish associational boundry lines.

No. 2. Be it resolved: That all ministers coming into this Ass'n. from another denomination, shall preach under license for one year, before full authority be granted.

No. 4. Be it resolved that any minister who teaches that Christ shall reign on this earth for one thousand years, shall be prohibited from serving as pastor of any church of Hopewell Ass'n No. 2.

No. 5. Be it resolved that since the Saturday evening service of our association and quarterly meetings have in the past been left entirely to the host church, that we discontinue this service, and close out our meetings on Saturday afternoon.

No. 6. Be it resolved that the elected officers of this Ass'n.: Moderator, Ass't. Moderator, Clerk, Ass't. Clerk, and Treasurer, serve the Association through quarterly meetings, with elections being held only at the annual sitting of the Association.

No. 7. We ecommend that the Moderator appoint a committee of three members to bring up a record of

the past minutes, as far back as feasible, of this association to be consolidated into book, and a copy presented to each Church clerk. We further recommend a time limit of six months.

No. 8. We wish to take the opportunity at this closing portion of this meeting, to thank the host Church of Ardmore for their kindness and hospitality shown this Association.

Bro. N. C. Ballew, Chairman

MINUTES OF WOMEN'S AUXILIARY

The Women's Auxiliary of Hopewell Ass'n. No. 2. met for their yearly meeting, July 9th, at the First Free Will Baptist Church, Duncan. Services opened with singing. The devotional was given by Ocie Higgins. Scripture reading, John 1:44-46, Luke 5:18-20, using for a topic, "Bringing Others to Jesus". Prayer by Bro. Edd Wilson.

Auxiliaries from Ardmore, Sulphur, and Duncan were present. Stobtown represented by letter.

The eleven o'clock message was brought by Bro. Edd Wilson, using Exodus 14:15 . . . Subject, "Going Forward for God". A wonderful message, and good instruction for our women.

Dismissed for the noon hour by W. L. Dunlap.

Afternoon session opened by singing. Prayer by Sis. Jewel Hill.

Report of year's work was given. We have 82 members on roll, with 72 active members. Average attendance for year, 52. Amount spent for all activities, \$873.08.

Officers for coming year:

PresidentSis. Ocie Higgins, Rt. 1, Sulphur
Vice President ..Sis. Hershel Lewis, 105 E. Elm, Duncan
Youth Chairman ..Sis. Violet Smith, 512 Beech, Duncan
~~Study Chairman.....Sis. Amy-Bell-Wilson, Box-1264;~~
Mrs. Lee Gunn - 219-10 Ave. N.W. Ardmore
Program PublicitySis. Inez Howell, 115 E. St. N.W.,
Ardmore
BenevolenceSis. Vivian Moore, Big Canyon, Okla.

Sec'y TreasurerSis. Emily Palmer, 1124 W. 11th St.,
Sulphur

The ladies of the Duncan Church gave several good talks along the line of auxiliary work.

The next quarterly meeting will be at the Ardmore Church on the second Friday in October. Other meetings, the second Friday in January, April, and July. Dismissed by Sis. Inez Howell.

Sis. Ocie Higgins, President
Sis. Emily Palmer, Sec'y.

CHURCH LETTERS

LONE GROVE CHURCH:

Delegates: Bros. Hop Stubblefield, L. A. Shull, and Sis. Evelyn Shull.

Statistics: State of religion, good. Members received by experience in Grace, 4. Dismissed, 2. Resident members, 23. Condition of Sunday School, good.

Finances: Paid pastor, \$137.00. Paid evangelist, \$65.00. Children's Home, \$37.25. Missions, \$11.65. Value Church property, \$4,000.00. Enclosed for associational expenses, \$10.00.

Pastor's name and address, Rev. G. W. Hanks, Lone Grove, Okla.

Deacons: Bros. Herb Welch, Ardmore, and Leonard Moore, Big Canyon, Okla.

We ask the association to license Bro. L. A. Shull to preach.

Done by order of the Church, assembled in conference this 15th day of August, 1954.

Rev. G. W. Hanks, Moderator
Sis. Estella Rains, Clerk
Box 86, Lone Grove, Okla.

DUNCAN ORIGINAL CHURCH:

Delegates: Sis. M. M. Burch, Bro. W. H. Riddles, and Sis. Donna McClendon. Alternates: Sis. Wonda Newman, Sis. Pauline Schornick, and Bro. Hope Foster.

Statistics: State of religion, good. Members receive-

ed, 20. Dismissed, 1. Total membership, 19. Condition of Sunday School, good. Average no. pupils, 40. No. officers, 4. Teachers, 5.

Finances: Paid pastor, \$400.00. For building, \$10,000.00. Education, \$59.50. Publication, \$30.00. For minutes, \$5.00.

Pastor's name and address, Rev. DeArthur Yandell, Duncan, Okla.

Done by order of the Original Free Will Baptist Church of Duncan, assembled in conference this second day of August, 1954.

Rev. DeArthur Yandell, Moderator

Sis. Gladys Shuey, Clerk
Box 127, Duncan, Oklahoma

DUNCAN FIRST CHURCH:

Delegates: Sis. Vivan Lewis, Sis. Violet Smith, and Sis. Claire Beers. Alternates: Sis. Violet Swaffer, Sis. Ruby Doyal, and Sis. Jewel Barnes.

Statistics: State of religion, good. Members received, 7. Total membership, 73. Average number in Sunday School, 75. Number of teachers, 7.

Finances: Paid pastor, \$400.00. For associational expenses, \$27.00.

Ministers belonging to Church: Rev. Willis Dunlap.

Pastor, Rev. Gilbert Pixley, 305 S. First, Duncan, Okla.

Done by order of the First Free Will Baptist Church of Duncan, assembled in conference this nineteenth day of August, 1954.

Rev. Gilbert Pixley, Moderator
Dorris C. Beers, Clerk

STOBTOWN CHURCH:

Delegates: Bro. Ben Brewer, Bro. Claud Balthrop, and Sis. Ben Brewer. Alternates: Sis. Thelma Rice, Sis. Montie Balthrop, and Bro. Ralph Mullins, Jr.

Statistics: State of religion, good. Members received, by letter, 7. Experience in grace, 8. Resident

members, 65. Young peoples meeting, good. Sunday School, good. Average number of pupils, 50. Officers and teachers, 8.

Finances: Paid pastor, \$560.61. Building and repairs, \$82.64. Value of Church property, \$2,000.00. Amount enclosed for minutes, \$10.00. Evangelist, \$10.00. For feeding, \$5.00.

Deacons: Bro. Henry Christian, Bro. James Adams, Bro. Orbie Butler, Bro. Troy Morris, and Bro. Othel Kyle.

Done by order of the Church, assembled in conference this seventh day of July, 1954.

Rev. Roy Hearon, Moderator
Sis. Ramona Kyle, Clerk

SULPHUR CHURCH:

Delegates: Bro. Onis Palmer, Bro. Charles Owens, and Sis. Beulah Lemings. Alternates: Sis. Bertha Atterberry, Sis. Mellie Tarbot, and Sis. Lenora Wilkins.

Statistics: Members received by letter, 6. Statement, 7. Experience in grace, 6. Number baptized, 8. Dismissed by letter, 11. Deceased, 5. Resident members, 143. Non resident, 105. Total membership, 248. Condition of Sunday School, good. Average attendance, 101. Officers and teachers, 17. Average league attendance, 51.

Finances: Paid pastor, \$2,375.00. Evangelist, \$335.00. Building and repair, \$1,042.56. Education, \$415.71. Maintenance, \$350.61. Publication, \$442.22. Mission, \$287.50. Miscellaneous, \$334.12. Children's Home, \$190.50. Utilities, \$376.01. Value Church property, \$35,000.00. Enclosed for associational expenses, \$32.00.

Ministers belonging to our Church: Pastor, Rev. A. L. McAffery, 1302 W. 13th, Sulphur. Rev. Lonnie Sparks, 14th and Vinita, Sulphur. Rev. J. H. Hill, 1319 E. 1st St., Sulphur. Rev. J. P. Lewis, 20 E. Tahlaquah, Sulphur. Rev. Charles Owens, Route 1, Sulphur. Rev. Wilbur Shultz, Davis, Okla.

Deacons: Bros. G. O. Palmer, D. E. Clark, A. L.

Worstell, M. L. Bonds, C. C. Higgins, R. D. Norwood, A. L. Wilkins, and E. C. Owens.

We recommend Sis. Velma McAffery as State Delegate. We ask for the next yearly association.

Done by order of the Sulphur Free Will Baptist Church, when assembled in conference August 4, 1954.

Rev. A. L. McAffery, Moderator
Leonard A. Nelson, Treasurer
M. L. Hunt, Clerk

HEALDTON CHURCH:

Delegates: Sisters Bobbie Crook, Edith Adams, and J. D. Reinhardt. Alternates: Sisters Dorthy Kennedy, Sue Crisp, and Jackie Ritter.

Statistics: Members received, 14. Baptized, 9. Dismissed, 4. Resident members, 76. Non resident, 36. Total membership, 112. Average attendance in Sunday School, 60. League, 46.

Finances: Pastor's Salary, \$2,819.50. Missions, \$60.00. Bible College, \$60.00. Evangelist, \$200.00. Utilities, \$283.97. Literature, \$134.63. Building and repair, \$967.95. Children's Home, \$153.88. Associational expenses, \$18.00. Total expenses, \$5,094.27.

Ordained minister: Rev. Bill Ritter, Ringling, Okla.

Licensed minister: Bro. Clyde Cain, Ringling, Okla.

Deacons: Brothers Jay Crisp, Marlin Bivens, N. C. Ballew, W. A. Dehart, and J. E. Slate.

Recommended delegate to state ass'n., Sis. Myrtle Ballew.

We ask for the next yearly association.

Done by order of the Healdton Free Will Baptist Church, assembled in conference this fifth day of August, 1954.

Rev. Edd Sunday, Moderator
Myrtle Ballew, Clerk
Ringling, Oklahoma, Box 351

ARDMORE CHURCH:

Delegates: Bros. Robert Tollisul, Karl Keeton, and

Allen Moore. Alternates: Sis. Evelyn Everts, Sis. Laura Roberts, and Bro. Jessie Justice.

Statistics: State of religion, good. Members received, 23. Baptized, 11. Dismissed, 6. Total membership, 79. Condition of Sunday School and Prayer meeting, good. Average number pupils, 88. Teachers, 9. Officers, 5.

Finances: Paid pastor, \$1,462.50. Evangelist, \$164.43. Home and foreign missions, \$118.62. Building and repair, \$1,371.70. Education, \$106.85. Publication, \$425.00. Minutes, \$12.00. Associational evangelist, \$10.00. To host Church for feeding delegates, \$5.00.

Deacons: Bros. J. H. Easley, Herman Green, W. S. Rich, and Lamar Howell.

Pastor's name, Rev. E. J. Wilson, 329 H, N.W., Ardmore, Box 1264.

Done by order of the Ardmore Free Will Baptist Church, assembled in conference this second day of August, 1954.

Rev. E. J. Wilson, Moderator
Sis. Inez Howell, Clerk
115 E, N.W., Ardmore, Okla.

SANTA FE CHURCH:

Delegates: Sisters Clora Gilmore, Nora Winters, and Jewel Chaudoin. Alternates: Sis. Dona Cox, Sis. Sue Holder, and Bro. Joe Fellabaum.

Statistics: State of religion, good. Members received by letter, 2. Experience in Grace, 4. Dismissed, 3. Resident membership, 30. Non resident members, 11. Total membership, 41. Condition of Prayer Meeting, good. Condition of Sunday School, good. Average number of pupils, 30. Officers and teachers, 6.

Finances: Paid pastor, \$1,110.00. Evangelistic work, \$107.00. Children's Home, \$12.00. Building and repair, \$960.96. Publication and literature, \$35.32. Value of Church property, \$5,500.00. Miscellaneous expenses, \$231.32. Amount enclosed for associational expenses, \$25.00.

Pastor: Rev. Ward Fellabaum, Ratliff City.

Deacons: Bros. Roy Spurgin, Floyd Carroll, Charley Cooksy, Less Dunn, Vess Rozzell.

We ask for the first Quarterly Meeting.

Done by order of the Church, assembled in conference this fourteenth day of July, 1954.

Rev. Ward Fellabaum, Moderator

Sis. Garrett Hurst, Clerk

CLEMSCOT CHURCH:

Delegates: Bro. Charlie Powell, Bro. Noah Smith, and Sis. Jim Dodd. Alternates: Cisters Noah Smith, Pearl Brown, and Juhree McClain.

Statistics: State of religion, good. Members received this year, 7. Dismissed, 5. Deceased, 1. Resident members, 85. Non resident, 46. Total membership, 131. Condition of Prayer meeting, good. Average in Sunday School, 50. Number officers and teachers, 6.

Finances: Paid pastor, \$2,175.00. Evangelist, \$150.00. Children's Home, \$88.95. Bible college, \$65.00. Miscellaneous expenses, \$317.56. Publication and literature, \$95.41. Value of Church property, \$6,000.00. Amt. for camp ground, \$50.00. Church repair, \$817.66. Amt. enclosed for associational expenses, \$25.00. Total for year, \$3,774.58.

Ministers: Rev. T. Maynard, Comanche, Okla. Pastor; Rev. J. O. Hudson, Clemscot, Okla.

Deacons: Bro. John Woods, Healdton, Okla., Box 398, and Bro. E. L. Griffin, Fox, Okla.

Done by order of the Clemscot Free Will Baptist Church, assembled in conference this second day of August, 1954.

Bro. John Woods, Moderator
Sis. John Woods, Clerk

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Bro. Marlin Bivens	1
Bro. Troy Morris	2
Rev. Roy Hearon	3
Bro. R. L. Howell	4
Rev. Gilbert Pixley	5

ORPHANAGE BOARD

Bro. John Woods	1
Bro. C. C. Higgins	2
Rev. DeArthur Yandell	3

CREDENTIAL BOARD

Bro. John Woods	1
Bro. Noah Smith	2
Bro. N. C. Ballew	3

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bro. John Woods	1
Bro. N. C. Ballew	2
Bro. L. A. Shull	3

ROLL ORDAINED MINISTERS

Rev. G. W. Hanks, Lone Grove, Oklahoma
 Rev. T. Maynard, Comanche, Oklahoma
 Rev. J. O. Hudson, Clemscot, Oklahoma
 Rev. Ward Fellabaum, Fox, Oklahoma, Box 123
 Rev. E. J. Wilson, 329 H, N.W., Box 1264, Ardmore, Oklahoma
 Rev. Bill Ritter, Ringling, Oklahoma
 Rev. E. S. Sunday, Headton, Oklahoma, Box 241
 Rev. A. L. McAffery, 1302 W. 13th St., Sulphur, Oklahoma
 Rev. Lonnie Sparks, 14th and Vinita, Sulphur, Oklahoma
 Rev. J. H. Hill, 1319 E. 1st, Sulphur, Oklahoma
 Rev. Roy Hearon, Ardmore, Oklahoma
 Rev. Earl Guinn, 219 10th Ave. N.W., Ardmore, Oklahoma
 Rev. Gilbert Pixley, 305 S. 1st St., Duncan, Oklahoma
 Rev. DeArthur Yandell, Duncan, Oklahoma, General Delivery
 Rev. Willis Dunlap, Duncan, Oklahoma
 Rev. Jimmie McClendon, Duncan, Oklahoma

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance in treasury, August 28, 1953	\$182.78
Received at Association	81.50

Received at Quartely Meeting, Nov. 21, 1953	12.00
Received at Quarterly Meeting, eb. 26, 1954	18.00
Received at Quarterly Meeting, May 22, 1954	15.00

TOTAL	\$309.28
Paid out for minutes	85.83

Balance in general fund, August 19, 1954	\$223.45
Amount received for Camp Ground	\$166.00
Amount paid out for Camp Ground	125.00

Balance in Camp Ground fund, August, 1954	\$ 41.00
TOTAL amount in treasury, August, 1954	\$264.45

STATISTICS OF HOPEWELL ASSOCIATION NO. 2 FOR 1953-54

Churches	9
Members	795
Ministers	16
Deacons	27
Paid pastors	\$11,438.61
Paid evangelists	\$ 1,021.43
Children's Home	\$ 589.58
Building and repairs	\$ 6,575.89
Education	\$ 707.06
Missions, Home and Foreign	\$ 477.77
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,463.73
TOTAL expenses	\$22,274.07

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. 5:8, 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 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; Act 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 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, an 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 the 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 receive 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 pastors, \$.....; paid evangelist, \$.....; amount for building and repair, \$.....; for incidentals, \$.....; value of church property, \$.....; miscellaneous expense, \$.....; amount enclosed for minutes, \$......

Pastor's name and address:

 Name and address 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.

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 license ministers, the number of members receive upon profession of faith, by letter or recommendation, by restoration of 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 she 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 for one another's happi-

ness 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.

