



MINUTES

of the

HOPEWELL ASSOCIATION

NO. 2

of

Free Will Baptist

1955

PROCEEDINGS

of

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION

Convened with

Sulphur First Free Will Baptist Church



MINUTES
of the
TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL SESSION
of the
HOPEWELL ASSOCIATION
Free Will Baptist
Held with
Sulphur First Free Will Baptist Church
Beginnning Thursday Night, August 25, 1955

OFFICERS

Moderator

Rev. Gilbert Pixley
301 S. 1st Street
Duncan, Oklahoma

Assistant Moderator

Rev. Ward Fellabaum
Box 63 Ratliff City, Oklahoma

Clerk

Sister Osie Higgins
Rt. 1 Sulphur, Oklahoma

Assistant Clerk

Sister Vivian Lewis
105 E. Elm Duncan, Oklahoma

Treasurer

Bro. C. C. Higgins
Rt. 1 Sulphur, Oklahoma

PROCEEDINGS

Friday morning service opened by singing.

Prayer by Rev. O. H. Faust.

Body called into conference by Rev. A. L. McAfre, assistant moderator.

Devotional given by Rev. Don Ellis from 12th chapter Romans.

Prayer by Rev. Gilbert Pixley.

Letters were read from following churches, Sulphur, Ardmore, Clemscott, Lawton, Stobtown, Wilson, Lone Grove, Lawton, Santa Fe, Duncan First, and West Side Duncan churches.

Motion carried we receive the letters and seat delegates.

Motion carried moderator appoint a committee for Divine arrangements; Rev. J. P. Lewis, Bro. Archie Dyer and Sister Jeree McClain were appointed.

Officers were elected as follows:

Moderator.....	Rev. Gilbert Pixley
Ass't Moderator.....	Rev. Ward Fellabaum
Clerk	Osie Higgins
Ass't Clerk.....	Vivian Lewis
Treasurer.....	C. C. Higgins

Divine Arrangement Committee report.

Rev. Gilbert Pixley to bring morning message.

Motion carried we adjourn business.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Don Ellis.

The eleven o'clock service was opened by singing, prayer by Rev. G. W. Hanks.

Mixed quartet number by members of various churches.

Rev. Gilbert Pixley's message "Bringing the Lost to Christ." Starting scripture, Proverbs: 1-11.

Dismissed in prayer by Sister Vivian Lewis.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The afternoon service opened by singing.

Scripture reading from II Timothy, 4th chapter, by Rev. J. O. Hudson. Prayer by Rev. J. O. Hudson.

Motion carried that Rev. Don Ellis be accepted into association with voting privileges.

Motion carried that moderators appoint all committees for this session. Those appointed as follows:

Resolutions.....	Sister Amy Chadion, Rev. O. H. Faust, Sister Artie Fletcher
Obituary.....	Sister Emily Palmer, Bro. John Gilmore, Bro. Joe Fellabaum
Temperance.....	Bro. C. M. Burdue
Sunday School.....	Sister Altha Keefer, Sister Lee Guinn
Education.....	Bro. Archie Dyer
League.....	Rev. Dee Arthur Yandell, Sister Bertha Lowther
	Bro. N. C. Ballew, Sister Beatrice Higgins
	Bro. Marlin Bivins, Rev. G. W. Hanks, Sister Margorie Carroll

Those elected to different boards:

Executive Board.....	Bro. Marlin Bivins
	Bro. N. C. Ballew, Bro. John Woods
Credential Board.....	Bro. C. C. Higgins
Orphanage Board.....	Bro. John Woods
Board of Trustees.....	Bro. John Woods

Motion carried we retain committee on camp ground appointed at last quarterly meeting who are as follows:

Rev. Noah Smith.....	Clemson Church
Rev. A. L. McAffrey.....	Sulphur Church
Bro. Lionel Cooksey.....	Duncan First Church
Rev. Bill Ritter.....	Healdton Church
Bro. Othel Kyle.....	Stobtown Church
Rev. O. H. Faust.....	Ardmore Church
Bro. Floyd Carroll.....	Santa Fe Church
Rev. D. A. Yandell.....	Lawton Church
Bro. Lenard Moore.....	Lone Grove Church
Rev. Earl Guinn.....	Wilson Church

Bro. Robert Shuey.....West Side Duncan
Committee on Divine arrangements report, Rev.
Don Ellis, Rev. L. A. Shull are to bring message Friday
night.

Resolution No. 1 and No. 2 accepted by regular
motion and seconded by body. (See Resolutions)

Examining Committee, Rev. D. A. Yandell, Rev.
Don Ellis, Roy Spurgin report they have examined
Rev. L. A. Shull and Rev. O. H. Faust and find them
sound in faith and doctrine and thereby recommend
them to be ordained by this body to preach the gospel.

Motion carried we adjourn until 9:30 Saturday
morning.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Troy Morris.

SATURDAY MORNING

Saturday morning service opened by singing.
Scripture reading from Psalms 1-18 by Rev. Russell
Allen. Prayer by Rev. Russell Allen.

Motion carried the associational treasurer pay
allotted amount to Evangelist from treasury, and the
clerk notify churches failing to send their money.

Delegates appointed for national association as
follows:

Sister Emma Ellis, Sister Opal Pixley, Sister
Velma McAffrey, Sister Lee Guinn, Bro. W. A.
DeHeart. Treasurer gave report.

Report was accepted by motion, seconded, com-
mittee report. Rev. Russell Allen brought morning
message.

Motion we adjourn business until afternoon.

Dismissed by Rev. Earl Guinn.

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Memorial service: Opened by singing, prayer by
Rev. Roy Hearron.

Reading of names of those deceased in our asso-
ciation in last associational year.

Altar prayer by assembly in remembrance of
those gone on.

Scripture for morning message, Matthew 4-8.
Text "Let Us See Jesus."

Special song—"Then I'll Settle Down." Song—
"When We All Get to Heaven."

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. G. W. Hanks.

SATURDAY EVENING

Service opened by singing. Prayer by Bro. L. A. Shull.

Ordination service for Rev. L. A. Shull and Rev. O. H. Faust. Charge given by Rev. Gilbert Pixley. Ordaining council: Rev. G. W. Hanks, Rev. Russell Allen and Rev. Don Ellis.

Reports of various committees were read and accepted with committees dismissed. League, Sunday School, Temperance, Obituary, Education, Resolution. (See Reports)

Motion carried we have no association revival unless camp ground is ready. If so, Rev. Gilbert Pixley was elected evangelist; Rev. Don Ellis, assistant evangelist; Bro. Othal Kyle, song evangelist; Rev. A. L. McAffrey was elected as introductory speaker for the association which is to be at camp ground or Santa Fe Church.

The first quarterly meeting will be at Stobtown Church, Rev. Don Ellis as introductory speaker.

Motion carried survey papers be placed in hands of Board of Trustees and they get a title to camp ground land.

Motion made we elect promotional secretary for home mission work. Rev. Dee Arthur Yandell was elected.

Ladies Auxiliary report read and accepted. (See Report)

Motion carried treasurer pay for hauling of seats to camp ground. Motion carried. Gave standing vote of thanks to host church for hospitality. Motion carried clerk have 300 minutes printed.

Motion we table until next quarterly meeting date

and teacher for Bible school to be held at Healdton Church. State delegates as follows:

Sister Velma McAffrey.....	Sulphur First
Sister Opal Pixley.....	Duncan First
Sister Lee Guinn.....	Wilson Church
Sister Ward Fellabaum.....	Stobtown Church
Sister Margaret Newsom.....	Ardmore Church
Sister Margorie Carrol.....	Santa Fe Church
Bro. Chester Bailly.....	Lawton Church
Bro. Marlin Bivins.....	Healdton Church

An offering of \$32 was taken for home mission.

Motion carried we adjourn.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. J. P. Lewis.

Money received in letters:

Sulphur Church	\$32.00
ClemScott Church	\$18.00
Lawton Church	\$ 7.00
Santa Fe Church	\$25.00
Lone Grove Church	\$17.00
Duncan First Church	\$53.00
Stobtown Church	\$23.00
Wilson Church	\$ 8.00
Ardmore Church	\$17.00
Healdton Church	\$25.00
West Side Duncan Church	\$21.00

REPORTS

League Report. We recommend that each church have a League, which should be organized according to rules given in Free Will Baptist League manual, with all officers being Free Will Baptists.

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

We also recommend that there be a League report in our associational letters.

Bro. Marlin Bivins, Chairman

Sunday School Report. We wish to report a total membership in Sunday School of 7.35. Average attendance 6.19. We recommend that the Sunday Schools of Hopewell No. 2 association use Free Will Baptist literature.

Rev. D. A. Yandell, Chairman

Temperance Report. We recommend that every church member cooperate with their pastors and governor to do away with the evil of intoxicating beverages and be temperate in all things.

Bro. C. M. Burdue, Chairman

Obituary Report. We are sorry to report the passing from this life the following loved ones: Sister Lee Owens, Bro. J. A. Easley of Ardmore church, Sister Cybrest, Sister Bulla of Lone Grove church, Sister Woods, Clemscott church; Rev. T. J. Knight, Healdton church; Bro. Jim Crawhorn, Sulphur church.

Though we miss them, we feel our loss is Heaven's gain.

Emily Palmer, Chairman

Education. We recommend that this association hold a two week school for our ministers or whosoever may desire to attend with time, place and teacher being selected at this meeting.

N. C. Ballew, Chairman

Resolution No. 1.

Be it resolved that we your committee on Education request this association hold a two week school for our ministers or whosoever desire to attend.

Resolution No. 2.

Be it resolved by the Hopewell No. 2 association of Free Will Baptists that 85 per cent of all mission money be reserved for the establishment of new churches in said association.

Be it further resolved that the pastors of Hope-

well No. 2 association be a standing committee with two-thirds of majority present to allot said money.

Auxiliary Report.

The Woman's Auxiliary of Hopewell No. 2 association met for their annual meeting July 8th, 1955 at the First Free Will Baptist Church at Sulphur.

Service opened by singing. Devotional given by Sister Vivian Moore using Psalms, 1st chapter, for scripture. Prayer by Rev. A. L. McAffrey.

President Sister Osie Higgins recognized churches present at follows: Ardmore, Duncan First, Santa Fe and Sulphur First.

Morning message by Rev. George McClain reading scripture from 18th chapter of Luke. Subject, "Why Do You Call the Lord Good?"

Dismissed for noon hour by Sister Vivian Lewis.

Afternoon service opened by singing.

Playlet: "Let Beulah Do It" by Sulphur Auxiliary.

Report of Work for the Year Given.

Officers elected for coming year: President, Vivian Lewis, 105 E. Elm Duncan; Vice President, Vivian Moore, Big Canyon; Youth Chairman, Cleo Spurgin, Duncan Rt. 3; Study Chairman, Marjorie Carrol, Duncan Rt. 3; Program Chairman, Margaret Nusom, 603 7th N. E., Ardmore; Benevolence Chairman, Violet Smith, 512 Beech, Duncan; Secretary-Treasurer, Emily Palmer, 1024 W. 11th, Sulphur.

An installation service for new officers with Bro. A. L. McAffrey in charge.

Meetings will be second Friday in October, January, April and July.

Emily Palmer, Secretary

CHURCH LETTERS

Lone Grove Church.

Delegates: Bro. C. M. Burdue, Sister Patts; Statistics: State of Religion, good; Sunday School, good; No. Members 19; No. Members Received 1; No. Died 2;

Finances: Paid Pastor \$280.00, Paid Evangelist \$120.00, Enclosed for Minutes \$12.00, for Feeding Delegates \$5.00.

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

Deacons: Bro. Herb Welsh, Ardmore; Bro. Lenard Moore, Big Canyon.

Done in Church Conference, August 7, 1955.

Rev. G. W. Hanks, Moderator
Sister Etta Welch, Clerk

Duncan First Church.

Delegates: Bro. Archie Dyer, Sister Neoma Jackson, Sister Clara Robinson; Statistics: State of Religion, good; Condition of Prayer Meeting, good; Average Attendance 50; Condition of Sunday School, good; Average Attendance 96; No. Teachers 8; Members Received This Year 38; No. Baptised 10; No. Dismissed 1; Total Membership 110.

Finances: Paid Pastor \$720.00; Last Quarter Amount Enclosed for Minutes \$3.00; for State Delegate \$5.00; for Feeding Delegates \$5.00; for Evangelist \$10.00; for Camp Ground \$30.00; Pastor's Name and Address, Rev. Gilbert Pixley, 301 S. 1st Street, Duncan, Oklahoma.

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

Lawton Church.

Delegates: Sister Billie Baily, Sister Betty Romenallo, Bro. Robert Romenallo; Alternates: Sister Vivian Williamson, Sister Dolores Hull, Sister Lily Woodall.

Statistics: State of Religion, good; Members Received 24; Resident Members 15; Non-Resident Members 9; Total Membership 24; Baptized 5; No. Experience in Grace 18; Average Attendance in Sunday School 36.

Finances: Paid Pastor 1,065.00; Paid Evangelist \$80.00; Building and Repair \$710.67; Associational Expense \$18.00; Pastor's Name and Address, Rev.

De Arthur Yandell, 216 Park Ave., Lawton, Oklahoma;
Deacons: Bro. Chester Baily, 1608 E. Ave., Lawton;
Bro. Robert Romanello, 1405 A. Ave., Lawton; Bro.
Cordell White, Germany; Bro. Allen Hunt, Oklahoma
City, Oklahoma.

Rev. De Arthur Yandell, Moderator
Sister Grace Lee, Clerk
612 E. Ave., Lawton, Oklahoma

West Side Church, Duncan.

Delegates: Sister Altha Keefer, Sister Jean Shuey,
Sister Myra Sessions.

Statistics: State of Religion, good; No. Received
by Letter 8; By Recommendation or Experience in
Grace 2; Dismissed 2; Total Membership 26; Condi-
tion of Prayer Meeting, good; of Sunday School, good;
Average No. Pupils 40; No. Officers 4; Teachers 5.

Finances: Paid Pastor 1,065.00; Paid Evangelist
\$57.52; Value of Church Property \$8,000; for Im-
provements \$956.31; Publication \$131.76; Association-
al Expense \$21.00; Pastor's Name and Address, Rev.
George McClain, Duncan, Oklahoma; Deacons: Bro.
Fred Keefer, Bro. Robert Shuey, Bro. J. H. Riddle.

Bro. Robert Shuey, Moderator
Sister Ruth Riddle, Clerk

Sulphur First Church.

Delegates: Sister Emily Palmer, Sister Bertha
Lowther, Sister Dora Higgins. Alternates: Sister Anita
Wilkins, Sister Stella Laughlin, Sister Mable Leming.

Statistics: State of Religion, good; of Sunday
School, good; of Prayer Meeting, good; of League,
good; Average in Sunday School 103; in League 51;
No. Officers 4; of Teachers 11; Members Received
Past Year 9; Baptized 1; Dismissed 53; Resident Mem-
bers 103; Non-Resident 95; Total Membership 215.

Finance: Paid Pastor \$2,600.00; Evangelist
\$75.00; Building and Repair \$1,183.42; Maintenance
and Utility \$499.23; Publication and Literature
\$192.36; Childrens Home \$45.00; Missions \$20.00; Mis-
cellaneous \$299.79; Education \$118.00; Sponsored 10

Night Singing School; Value of Church Property \$35,000.00; Inclosed for Associational Expenses \$32.00.

Pastor's Name and Address, Rev. A. L. McAffrey, 1302 W. 13th, Sulphur.

Ordained ministers belonging to our church: Rev. J. P. Lewis, 20 E. Tahlequah, Sulphur; Rev. J. H. Hill, 1319 E. 1st, Sulphur; Rev. John Bullard, 1011 Lindsey St., Sulphur.

Deacons belonging to our church: G. O. Palmer, Rt. 1, Sulphur; A. L. Worstell, Rt. 1, Sulphur; C. C. Higgins, Rt. 1, Sulphur; A. V. Wilkins, Rt. 1, Sulphur.

We recommend Sister Velma McAffrey as delegate to State Association.

G. O. Palmer, Moderator
Jewel Hill, Clerk

Stobtown.

Delegates: Bro. Ben Brewer, Sister Ben Brewer and Bro. Joe Fellabaum. Alternates: Sister Joyce Denny, Sister Verna Gale Nichols, Bro. Ralph Mullins Jr.

Statistics: State of Religion, good; Members Received by Letter 3; by Experience in Grace 1; Dismissed 4; Total Membership 66; Condition of League, good; of Sunday School, good; Average Attendance 70; No. Officers and Teachers 8.

Finances: Paid Pastor \$666.36; Evangelist \$90.00; for Building and Repairs \$127.35; Value of Church Property \$3,000.00; Association Expenses \$23.00.

Pastor's Name and Address, Rev. Ward Fellabaum, Box 63, Ratliff City.

Deacons: James Adams, Orbie Butler, Othel Kyle, Troy Morris, Guy Denny.

Bro. Ward Fellabaum, Moderator
Bertha McGee, Clerk
Rt. 2, Box 44
Ardmore, Oklahoma

Clemscott Church.

Delegates: Sister Artie Fletcher, Sister Juree

McClain, Bro. Charlie Powell. Alternates: Sister Ellen Williamson, Sister Edna Slieler, Sister Beatrice Higgins.

Statistics: State of Religion, good; Members Received This Year 3; Died ; Resident Members 85; Non-Resident 46; Total Membership 131; Condition of Prayer Meeting, good; Average Attendance in Sunday School 60; Officers and Teachers 6; League Attendance, good.

Finances: Paid Pastor \$2,423.00; Evangelist \$200.00; Childrens Home \$79.05; Bible College \$65; Miscellaneous Expenses \$273.99; Inclosed for Associational Expense \$18.00.

Ministers belonging to our church: Pastor, Rev. J. O. Hudson, Clemscott, Oklahoma; Rev. T. Maynard, Comanche; Rev. Noah Smith, Healdton.

Deacons: E. L. Griffin, John Wood.

Rev. J. O. Hudson, Moderator
Sister John Woods, Clerk
Box 398, Healdton, Oklahoma

Santa Fe Church.

Delegates: Bro. John Gilmore, Sister Nora Winters, Sister Alice Spurgin. Alternates: Sister Shirley Chadoin, Bro. Raymond Hurst, Sister Cleo Spurgin.

Statistics: State of Religion, good; Members Received This Year 8; No. Baptized 2; No. Dismissed 5; Total Membership 44; Condition of Prayer Meeting, good; Condition of Sunday School, good; Average Attendance 35; No. Officers 3; Teachers 4.

Finance: Paid Pastor \$900.00; Evangelist \$317.36; Childrens Home \$120.00; Camp Ground \$120.00; for Education and Publication \$88.77; Miscellaneous \$275.13; Building and Repair \$1,128.66; Inclosed for Associational Expenses \$25.00.

Pastor's Name, Rev. Jerry Rhodes, Lindsey, Okla.

Deacons: Roy Spurgin, Floyd Carrol, Vess Rozell, Charlie Cooksey, Less Dunn.

Rev. Jerry Rhodes, Moderator
Sister Garret Hurst, Clerk

Healdton.

Sister Carrol Shobert, Sister Bobbie Crook, Sister Grace Brandon. Alternates: Sister Charlie Truitt, Sister M. L. Poole, Sister Micky Sue Irvin.

Statistics: State of Religion, good; Members Received This Year 12; No. Baptized 5; No. Dismissed 6; No. Died 1; Total Members 110; Condition of Prayer Meeting, average; Condition of Sunday School, fair; Average No. Pupils 57; No. Officers; No. Teachers 7; Condition of League, fair; Average No. Pupils 37; No. of Officers 2; No. of Teachers 6; Ladies Auxiliary Members 10.

Deacons: Bros. Jay Crisp, Marlin Bivins, N. C. Ballew, W. A. DeHeart, J. E. Slate.

Finance: Paid Pastor \$2,893.33; Paid Evangelist \$142.00; Missions \$55; Building and Repair \$780.91; for Education \$61.78; Publication \$61.00; Childrens Home \$115.15; Miscellaneous \$583.73; League Paid for Song Books and Class Chairs \$145.00; Amount Inclosed for Associational Expenses \$25.00.

Ministers belonging to our church: Pastor, Rev. Don Ellis, 219 6th St., Healdton; Rev. Bill Ritter, Ringling; Rev. James Minor, Children's Home, Ringling.

Rev. Don Ellis, Pastor
Dorothy Kennedy, Clerk

Ardmore Church.

Delegates: Bro. O. H. Faust, Sister Thelma Anderson, Bro. Hope Foster. Alternates: Bro. Buddy Anderson, Bro. Jessie Justice, Sister Pearl Kuton.

Statistics: State of Religion, good; Members Received 11; Dismissed 7; No. Died 1; Resident Members 116; Non-Resident Members 13; Total Membership 129.

Finance: Paid Pastor \$668.47; Missions \$86.91; Building and Repair \$312.90; Education \$131.25; Enclosed Associational Expenses \$17.00.

Ministers belonging to our church: Pastor, Rev.

Russell Allen, 1005 12th Ave. NW; Rev. O. H. Faust,
Rev. Allen Moore, Rev. Wayne Coldflesh.

Rev. Russell Allen, Moderator
Virginia Howell, Clerk
419 Carter, S.E., Ardmore

Wilson Church.

Delegates: Sister Ledbetter, Sister Mayten and
Bro. Cupp.

Statistics: State of Religion, good; Members Received This Year 29; No. Baptized 9; No. Dismissed 3; Total Membership 26; Condition of Prayer Meeting, good; Condition of Sunday School, good; Average No. of Pupils 20; No. of Officers and Teachers 5.

Finance: Paid Pastor \$152.51; Paid Evangelist \$44.18; Missions \$54.51; Building Repair \$387.60; Publication \$54.97; Amount Inclosed for Association Expenses \$8.00.

Ministers belonging to our church: Pastor, Rev. E. J. Guinn, 219 10th Ave. N.E., Ardmore.

Rev. E. J. Guinn, Moderator
Sister Clifford Cupp, Clerk

Executive Board

Bro. Troy Morris	1 year
Bro. John Wood	2 years
Bro. N. C. Ballew	3 years
Bro. Gilbert Pixley	4 years
Bro. Marlin Bivins	5 years

Orphanage Board

Bro. C. C. Higgins	1 year
Rev. D. A. Yandell	2 years
Bro. John Wood	3 years

Credential Board

Rev. Noah Smith	1 year
Bro. N. C. Ballew	2 years
Bro. C. C. Higgins	3 years

Board of Trustees

Bro. N. C. Ballew	1 year
Bro. L. A. Shull	2 years
Bro. John Wood	3 years

Roll of Ordained Ministers

Rev. G. W. Hanks.....	Lone Grove, Okla.
Rev. T. Maynard.....	Comanche, Okla.
Rev. J. O. Hudson.....	ClemScott, Okla.
Rev. Ward Fellabaum.....	Box 63, Ratliff City
Rev. Don Ellis.....	219 6th St., Healdton
Rev. Bill Ritter.....	Ringling, Okla.
Rev. James Minor.....	Childrens Home, Ringling
Rev. A. L. McAffrey.....	1302 W. 13th St., Sulphur
Rev. J. H. Hill.....	1319 E. 1st Street, Sulphur
Rev. John Bullard.....	1011 Lindsey Ave., Sulphur
Rev. J. P. Lewis.....	20 E. Tahlequah, Sulphur
Rev. Russell Allen.....	1005 12th N.W., Ardmore
Rev. Allen Moore.....	Seminole, Okla.
Rev. O. H. Faust.....	108 S. Mill, Ardmore
Rev. Wayne Coldflesh.....	U.S.A.F., Ardmore
Rev. Earl Guinn.....	219 10th Ave. N.E., Ardmore
Rev. Gilbert Pixley.....	301 S. 1st St., Duncan
Rev. Willis Dunlap.....	Duncan, Okla.
Rev. DeArthur Yandell.....	216 Park Ave., Lawton
Rev. Jerry Rhodes.....	Lindsey, Okla.
Rev. George McClain.....	Duncan, Okla.

Treasurer's Report

In General Fund, August, '54	\$ 223.45
Received at Assoc., August, '54	167.00
Received Ardmore Church (State Del.)	5.00
Received Lone Grove Church (State Del.)	5.00
Received Wilson Church (State Del.)	5.00
Received for Minutes, 11-28-'54	12.00
Received for Minutes, 2-26-'55	21.00
Received for Minutes, 5-21-'55	21.00

Total taken in during year\$ 459.45

Paid Out of General Fund

Rev. Wilson, Evangelist	\$ 70.00
For State Delegates	35.00
For Minutes	76.00
For Association Seal	7.50
Transfer to Camp Ground Fund	114.48

Total spent in year\$ 302.98

Balance in General Fund (Aug., '55)	\$ 156.47
In Camp Ground Fund, Aug., '54	\$ 41.00
Received at Association, '54	51.10
Duncan Church	21.73
John Wood	25.00
Noah Smith	10.00
Santa Fe Church	101.07
ClemScott Church	10.00
Sulphur Church	100.00
Ardmore Church	50.00
Transferred from General Fund	114.48
Stobtown Church	20.00
C. C. Higgins	10.00
Received at Quarterly Meeting, 2-26-'55	32.53
Received at Quarterly Meeting, 5-21-'55	58.15
Total in Camp Ground Fund (Aug.)	645.06
In General Fund	156.47

Total in Treasury (Aug., '55)\$ 801.53

Statistics, Hopewell Association No. 2—1954-'55

Churches	11
Members	900
Ministers	21
Deacons	32
Paid Pastors	\$13,243.67
Paid Evangelist	1,130.06
Childrens Home	359.20
Building and Repair	6,275.08
Publication and Education	752.13
Missions	142.82
Miscellaneous	2,132.87

Total Expenses\$24,035.83

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; 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 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 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, arrangements 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.

3. 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 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 licensed ministers, the number of members received 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 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 for 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.

