
MINUTES
of the
HOPEWELL ASSOCIATION
NO. 2

Church of God Denominated
FREE WILL BAPTIST

1956

PROCEEDINGS
of the
TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION

Convened at
Camp Ground

MINUTES
of the
TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL SESSION
of the
HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
Free Will Baptist

Held at the
Hopewell No. 2 Associational Camp Ground
Beginning Thursday Night, August 23, 1956

OFFICERS

Moderator

Rev. A. L. McAffrey
1303 W. 13th, Sulphur, Okla.

Assistant Moderator

Rev. Russell Allen
1401 Harris, Ardmore, Okla.

Clerk

Osie Higgins, Rt. 1, Sulphur, Okla.

Assistant Clerk

Vivian Lewis, Ardmore

Treasurer

C. C. Higgins, Rt. 1, Sulphur

The Twenty-fifth Annual Session will Convene
Thursday Night before Fourth Sunday in August, 1957

PROCEEDINGS

THURSDAY NIGHT SERVICE

The body was called to order by Rev. Ward Fel-labaum, assistant moderator of 1956.

Song service led by Bro. D. C. Beers with Sister Velma McAffrey at the piano.

Quartet number, "Hide Me Rock of Ages."

Message, "Why I'm a Free Will Baptist", by Rev. A. L. McAffrey, using Titus 1-9 for starting scrip-ture.

Dismissed in prayer.

FRIDAY MORNING SERVICE

Opened with singing led by Rev. Eual Gorman with Gayle Butler at the piano.

Prayer by Bro. L. H. Foster and Bro. Allen Moore.

Motion carried we enter into conference.

Letters were called for and read from following churches. Healdton, Sulphur, Lawton, Duncan, Stob-town, Clemscott, Santa Fe, Ardmore and Lone Grove.

Motion carried we aaccept the letters and seat delegates.

Devotional reading and prayer by Rev. L. A. Shull reading from 6th chapter of Luke.

Officers were elected as follows:

Moderator	Rev. A. L. McAffrey
Ass't. Moderator	Rev. Russell Allen
Clerk	Osie Higgins
Ass't. Clerk	Vivian Lewis
Treasurer	C. C. Higgins

Motion carried Moderator and Assistant Moder-ator appoint all committees for this session.

Those appointed as follows:

Divine Service	Violet Smith, Carrol Shorbert, John Gilmore
Resolutions	Dora Ellis, Vivian Williamson, Reba Minor

Sunday School Rev. Ward Fellabaum,
 Rev. L. A. Shull, Sister Noah Smith
 League N. C. Ballew,
 Don Slinker, Rev. Carl Shivers
 Temperance Ella Mae Stout,
 Gertrude Long, Bert Williamson
 Obituary Margie Caswell,
 Marjorie Carroll, Sarah Christian
 Education Marlin Bivins,
 Rev. Eual Gorman, Loray Spurgin

Examining committee for this session—Rev. G. W. Hanks, Rev. Ward Fellabaum, N. C. Ballew.

Rules of order were read by ass't. Moderator.

Minutes of previous meeting read, motion carried we adjourn business until afternoon session.

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Carl Shivers.

Divine Service was opened by singing led by Cleo Spurgin with Velma McAffrey at piano.

Prayer by A. L. Worstell.

Sermon by Rev. Eual Gorman using scripture from Jeremiah 4th chapter, Text Is There No Baum In Gilead and Is There No Physician There.

Dismissed in prayer by John Gilmore.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON

Service was opened by singing led by Cleo Spurgin with Velma McAffrey at piano.

Devotional reading and prayer by Rev. Carl Shivers reading from II Peter third chapter.

Prayer request was given for Rev. Noah Smith who was in the hospital other unspoken request were given a moment of silent prayer afterward prayer voiced by Rev. A. L. McAffey for same.

Motion carried we welcome the Rev. Carl Shivers and Rev. Eual Gormans into our association. Members elected to various Boards.

Executive Board Othal Kyle
 Orphanage Board C. C. Higgins
 Rev. Ward Fellabaum

Credential BoardRev. Noah Smith
Board of TrusteesRev. Carl Shivers
Committees reports(see reports)

Resolutions No. 1 and 2. Adopted (See Resolutions).

Rev. Carl Shivers was elected as associational Parliamentarian.

Motion carried we accept Healdton's invitation for next quarterly meeting of the association.

Rev. Carl Shivers was elected as Introductory speaker for this meeting.

Motion carried we adjourn business until 9:30 Saturday morning.

.Dismissed in prayer by John Wood.

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

Friday night service called to order by Moderator Rev. A. L. McAffrey. Song service and a wonderful testimony service.

Message by Rev. Carl Shivers from Deut. 17-29.

Dismissed by prayer.

SATURDAY MORNING SERVICE

Saturday morning service called to order by Moderator. After song service, prayer by A. L. Worstell. Devotional reading and prayer by N. C. Ballew. Scripture reading from Hebrew 2nd chapter.

State delegates were elected for State Association, Beulah Leming, N. C. Ballew, Marjorie Carrol, Mrs. Troy Morris, Opal Pixley, Evelyn Shull, Sister Bert Williamson, Sister Herb Welsh, Sister Julian Hawkins.

Rev. A. L. McAffrey was elected as a member of the General Board of the State Association.

Treasurers report was given and accepted by motion and seconded. Motion carried we adjourn until afternoon session.

Dismissed in prayer by Sister Gorman.

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Service opened by singing. Prayer by Rev. Earl Guinn.

Special song, "I've Been Awaiting" by Bro. and Sister Eual Gorman.

Prayer by Bro. Fellabaum.

Sermon Text taken from 12th chapter of Ecclesiastes by Bro. Gorman.

Service dismissed by prayer.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE

Saturday afternoon service opened by singing.

Devotional reading and prayer by Rev. Earl Guinn reading from the 12th chapter of Hebrews.

Rev. Ward Fellabaum gave his resignation as chairman of Camp Ground committee.

Motion carried we accept his resignation.

Bro. F. E. Williamson was elected as chairman and caretaker of the Camp Ground.

Motion we accept from the floor concerning the paying of the caretaker.

He accepted a voluntary basis of members who desired to pay 50c per month each.

Motion carried our associational revival convene ten nights before the association, which will begin Thursday night before the fourth Sunday in August.

Rev. A. L. McAffrey and Rev. Carl Shivers were evangelists for the Associational Revival.

Rev. Ward Fellabaum was elected to bring the introductory message at the association. Bro. Russell Allen as alternate speaker.

Motion we sell the Ironeon the school seats to junk irone dealer, and that the money be used to fence the Camp Ground.

Motion carried we print 300 Minutes.

Dismissed in prayer by Sister Vivian Lewis.

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 Baptist.

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 Leagues. and everyone put forth an effort to help in the Youth Revival.

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

N. C. Ballew, Chairman

Sunday School Report. We wish to report an average attendance of 575.

The churches have failed to report their Sunday School membership therefore we recommend that this be included in their letters to follow.

We also recomemnd that all teachers study their lessons so that they will be prepared to teach God's Holy Word, correctly.

Chairman, Rev. Ward Fellabaum

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.

Ella Mae Stout, Chairman

Obituary. We are sorry to reports the passing from this life the following loved ones: Sister Thad Johnson and Bro. Ernie Williams of Clesmcott church. Grandpa Talley, Lone Grove church, Bro. Claud Reed, Bro. Otto Smith and Sister Fannie Warstell of Sulphur church, Bro. Jim Muriel of Duncan church.

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

Margie Caswell, Chairman

Education. We recommend that each church have and educational board and that they study any literature of the church whether or not it is orthodox and if not they notify the publishers that if such doctrine continue we will stop its use.

Marlin Bivins, Chairman

Examining Committee. We the examining committee for this session have examined Bro. Loray Spurgin and found in him orthodox in belief and faith and recommend he be ordained as his request in his own church.

Rev. Ward Fellabaum, Chairman

Resolution No. 1.

Be it resolved that the Hopewell No. 2 Association grant the district Women's Auxiliary permission to build and furnish the kitchen at the camp ground.

Resolution No. 2.

Be it resolved that the Hopewell No. 2 association grant room in the associational minutes for the annual Auxiliary report.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY REPORT

The Woman's Auxiliary of Hopewell No.2 association met for their annual meeting July 13, 1956 at the First Free Will Baptist church at Duncan.

Service opened by singing.

Devotional given by Osie Higgins using Proverbs 3:1-6.

Prayer by Bertha Lowther.

Vice President Osie Higgins in charge recognized churches present as follows: Santa Fe, Ardmore, Sulphur and Duncan.

Rev. Gilbert Pixley brought the morning message using Isaiah 13:17-18.

Dismissed in prayer by Sister Russell Allen.

A fellowship lunch at the noon hour.

Afternoon service opened by singing.

Prayer by Beulah Leming.

Three inspiring talks were given on, "Christ's Banner Exalted at Home and In Foreign Fields."

Reports given for the year.

Officers were elected as follows: President, Osie Higgins, Rt. 1, Sulphur; Vice President, Marjorie Carol, Rt. 3, Duncan; Youth chairman, Violet Swaffor, 101 E. Elm St., Duncan; Study Chairman, Cleo Spurgin, Rt. 8, Duncan; Program Chairman, Mrs. Russell Allen, 1401 Harris, Ardmore; Benevolence Chairman, Reba Minor, P. O. Box, Ringling; Recording Secretary, Violet Smith 511 Pine, Duncan; Corresponding Secretary, Gertie Long, 506 Pine, Duncan; Treasurer, Beulah Leming, Rt. 2, Sulphur.

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

Violet Smith, Recording Secretary

CHURCH LETTERS

Letter from Duncan First Church of God. Denominated Free Will Baptist to the Hopewell No. 2 association when convened at the Camp Ground.

We send as Delegates Sister Neona Jackson, Sister Gertie Long and Sister Violet Smith; Alternates Bro. Arch Dyer, Bro. Harold Swaffer and Sister Violet Swaffer.

Whom we pray you will receive to sit State of Religion good, members received this year, forty two. Number baptized, eighteen; number dismissed, eight; number died, one (Bro. Jim Murriel). Total membership one hundred forty-four. Condition of Prayer meeting good with average attendance of about fifty-five. Condition of Sunday School good, average number pupils one hundred and ten; number teachers, eight. Paid Pastor, \$3,195.00; Tithes Paid \$160.00; Paid Evange-

list, 214.65. Paid Camp Ground, \$92.50 for building and repair \$1,650.00. Our church is following the tithing plan adopted by the association, therefore no money is enclosed for Minutes. Our League paid \$10.00 for the Associational Revival evangelist at the League rally.

Pastors name and address, Rev. Gilbert Pixley, 301 South 1st, Duncan, Oklahoma. Ministers belonging to our church, Rev. Willis Dunlap, 307 Oak, Duncan.

Deacons—

E. W. Hickman	1114 Jefferson, Duncan
Doris Beers	413 N. 21, Duncan
Lionel Cooksey	106 Elm, Duncan
Harold Barber	Rt. 1, Commanche
Ben McClure	312 N. D St., Duncan

Vaue of church property, \$45,000.00, we recommend Opal Pixley as delegate to State Association.

Done by order of Duncan First Church assembled in conference this 22th day of August, 1956.

L. F. Cooksey, Moderator
D. C. Beers, Clerk
413 N. 21st,
Duncan, Oklahoma

Ardmore Church.

Letter from Ardmore Church of God nominated Free Will Baptist to the Hopewell No. 2 association. when convened at the Camp Ground. We send as Delegates, our beloved Don Slinkard, L. H. Foster and Sarah Christian.

State of Religion, good members received by letter, 4; by recommendation or experience in grace, 3. Dismissed 3; Number died, none; Total membership, 110. Condition of prayer meeting, good. Of Sunday School, very good. Average number of pupils, 103; Number of officers, 6; of teachers, 9. Paid Pastor \$550.91. Paid Evangelist, none. Spent for building and repair, \$1,366.96; for incidentals \$87.57. Value of church property, \$6,000.00. Miscellaneous expenses, \$32.75; Amount enclosed as tithes, \$139.66.

Pastors name and address, Rev. Russell D. Allen,
1401 Harris, Ardmore.

Ministers belonging to our church: Rev. L. A. Shull, 707 Davis, Ardmore. Deacons: Will Rich, Rt. 1, Ardmore; Mike McCumber, 909 10 Ave. N.W., Ardmore; Wayne Howell, 817 Wolberton, Ardmore; Jessie Justice, 512 Maxwell, Ardmore; Herman Green, Rt. 2, Ardmore; Buddy Anderson, Ardmore.

Done this 15th day of August, 1956 by order of church conference.

Russell D. Allen, Moderator
Virginia Howell, Clerk
817 Wolverton, Ardmore

Clemscott.

Letter from Clemscott Church of God denominated Free Will Baptist to Hopewell No. 2 association when convened at the Camp Ground. We send as Delegates our beloved Sister Bert Williamson, Sister Ellen Williamson and Sister Juhree McClain; Alternates, Sister Dean Harmon, Sister Frances Lewellen and Sister Marilea Harris.

Whom we pray you will receive to set with you and aid you in your Godly deliberations.

State of Religion, good; Members received this year, 2; Number died, 2; (Sister Thad Johnson and Bro. Ernie Williams).

Resident members, 88; Non-resident, 53; Total membership, 141; Condition of prayer meeting, good; Average attendance in Sunday School, 50; Officers and teachers, 6; Paid Pastor, \$2,400.00; Paid Evangelist, \$102.00; Miscellaneous expenses, \$462.05; Bible college, \$30.00; Children's home, \$27.19; Literature, \$72.37; Camp Ground, \$40.00; Cooperative fund, \$85.92; Value of church property, \$6,000.00. Ministers belonging to our church pastor; Rev J. D. Hudson, Clemscott; Rev. T. Maynard, Commanche; Rev. Noah Smith, Healdton, Box 398.

Deacons belonging to our church; John Wood, Healdton; E. L. Griffin, Fox.

Done by order of church conference this 15th day of August, 1956.

Rev. J. D. Hudson, Moderator
Mrs. John Wood, Clerk
Box 398, Healdton, Oklahoma

Sulphur.

Letter from the Church of God denominated Free Will Baptist Church at Sulphur to the Hopewell No. 2 Association when convened at the Camp Ground. We send as delegates our beloved Sisters Mabel Leming, Ella Mae Stout, Sister Emma Crowhorn. Alternates; Sisters Esda Grisham, Bertha Lowther and Stella Laughlin. Whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in all your Godly deliberations.

State of Religion, good; Members received past year, 13; Baptized, 4; Dismissed, 14; Died, 3; (Bro. Cloud Reed, Otto Smith and Sister Fannie Worstell.)

Total membership resident members, 92; Condition of prayer meeting, good; Condition of Sunday School, good; Number of officers, 4; Number teachers, 10.

Ministers belonging to our church pastor; Rev. A. L. McAffrey, 1302 W. 13th, Sulphur; Rev. J. P. Lewis (retired), 20 E. Tahlequah, Sulphur; Rev. J. H. Hill, 1319 E. 1st, Sulphur; Rev. John Bullard (retired), 1109 W. Lindsay, Sulphur.

Deacons belonging to our church; G. O. Palmer, Rt. 1, Sulphur; A. L. Worstell, Rt. 1, Sulphur; C. C. Higgins, Rt. 1, Sulphur; C. L. Leming, Rt. 2, Sulphur; A. V. Wilkins, Muskogee.

We recommend Sister Beulah Leming as delegate to State Association, Sister Velma McAffrey as alternate.

We send \$5.00 as State Association expenses.

Finance Report: Paid Pastor, \$2,860.00; Paid Evangelist, \$175.00; Church building, \$1,042.56; Maintenance and utility, \$443.30; Publication and Literature, \$140.14; Children's home, \$106.15; Association expenses, \$209.00; Home Mission, \$41.75; Insurance, \$189.26; Miscellaneous, \$111.48; Value of church pro-

perty parsonage, \$5,000.00; Church, \$30,000.00. We send \$10.00 for our associational evangelist.

Done by order of church conference this 8th day of August, 1956.

Rev. A. L. McAffrey, Moderator
Beulah Leming, Clerk
Rt. 2, Sulphur, Oklahoma

Santa Fe.

Letter from the Church of God denominated Free Will Baptist at Santa Fe to the (24) twenty-four annual session of Free Will Baptist when convened with Hopewell No. 2 Association at the Camp Ground.

We send as delegates our beloved Bro. John McIlvaine, John Gilmore, Sister Nora Winters; Alternates, Bro. Hurst, Sister Hurst, Sister McIlvaine.

State of Religion, good; Members received by letter, 2; by recommendation or experience in grace, none; Dismissed, 2; Died, none; Total membership, 44; Condition of prayer meeting, good. Of Sunday School, good; Average number pupils, 40; Number of Officers, 3; of teachers, 4; Paid Pastor, \$1,200.00; Paid Evangelist, \$297.80; Amount for building and repair, \$956.00 for incidentals \$76.22; Value of church property, \$8,500.00; Paid Children's home, \$123.00 until we joined the Corporation Plan paid Camp Ground \$80.00 up until we joined Corporation Plan. Paid Corp. Plan, \$114.44.

We are sending Bro. Loray Spurgin and Bro. Forest Cox to be examined for Deacons. Request they go before the board at this session.

Pastors name and address: Rev. Carl Shivers, Rt. 3, Duncan, Oklahoma.

Deacons belonging to our church: Charley Cooksey,, Velma; Roy Spurgin, Star Route, Commanche. Floyd Carroll, Rt. 3, Duncan; Vess Rozell, Temple. Less Dunn, Ringling.

Done by order of church conference this 15th day of August, 1956.

Rev. Carl Shivers, Moderator
Cora Gilmore, Clerk

Lawton.

Letter from the Church of God denominated Free Will Baptist at Lawton to the Hopewell No. 2 Association when convened at the Camp Ground.

We send as delegates our beloved as follows: Vivian Williamson, Billie Bailey, Grace Lee and Oneta Mitchell.

Of whom we pray you will seat and allow to aid in your Godly deliberations: Number of members, 29; 16 residential; 13 non-residential; Number received, 6; No. dismissed, none; State of Religion, good; Condition of prayer meeting, good; Condition of Sunday School, good; Average number pupils, 40; Number officers, 2; Number teachers, 4; Paid Pastor, \$1,163.00; Paid Evangelist, \$85.00 for rent on church building and other incidental \$501.95; Paid on lot which we purchased for a church building \$660.00. Pray for us that our church will grow and prosper in spirit and in number.

Rev. Julian Hawkins, Pastor
Grace Lee, Clerk

Lone Grove.

We the Church of God denominated Free Will Baptist worshipping at Lone Grove to the Hopewell No. 2 Association when convened at the Camp Ground.

We send as delegates Sister Margie Caswell and Jean Welsh whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and aid you in all your Godly deliberations.

State of Religion, good; Members received, 2; Sunday School, good; died, 1; Total membership, 25; Paid Evangelist, \$42.00; Amount enclosed for Minutes, \$10.00.

Deacons belonging to our church: Herb Welch, 500 S.E. 12, Ardmore; Leonard Moore, Big Canyon.

Pastors name and address: Rev. G. W. Hanks, Lone Grove, Oklahoma.

Value of church property \$3,000.00. Done in church conference, August 12, 1956.

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

Healdton.

Letter from the Church of God denominated Free Will Baptist at Healdton to the annual meeting of Hopewell No. 2 Association when convened at the Camp Ground.

We send us delegates Sisters Grace Brandon, Bobby Cook; Alternates, Sisters Carol Shorbert, Sue Crisp, L. C. Pool.

State of Religion, good; Members received this year, 8; Dismissed, 5; Resident members, 71; Non-resident, 46; Total membership, 117; Condition of Prayer meeting, good; Of Sunday School, fair; Average attendance, 63; Number officers and teachers, 9. Condition of League, fair; Average attendance, 40; enrolled in Woman's Auxiliary, 12.

Finances: Paid Pastor \$2,960.00; Paid Evangelist, \$131.00; Building and repair, \$1,020.62; Education, \$75.05; Children's home \$160.28; Miscellaneous, \$1,024.81; Corporation Plan \$278.58.

Ministers belonging to our church pastor: Rev. Eual Gorman, Healdton; Rev. Bill Ritter, Ringling; Rev. James Minor, Ringling; Rev. Dan Ellis Henderson, Texas.

Deacons: Joy Crisp, Wirt; Marlin Bivins, Wirt; WaDe Hart, Healdton; N. C. Ballew, Ringling; J. E. Slate, Healdton.

Healdton.

We recommend N. C. Ballew as delegate to State Association.

We ask for next quarterly meeting.

Done by order of church conference this 15th day of August, 1956.

Rev. Eual Gorman, Moderator
Charlie Truitt, Clerk
Box 457, Healdton

Stobtown.

Letter from the Stobtown Church of God denominated Free Will Baptist when convened with Hopewell No. 2 Association at the Camp Ground.

We send as delegates Sisters Thelma Rice, Dora Ellis, Bro. Leonard Robertson as alternates, Sisters Gale Butler, Shirley Kyle, Bro. Joe Fellabaum.

State of Religion, good; Members received by letter, 3; by experience in grace, 2; Dismissed, none; died, none; Total membership, 80; Condition of young Peoples service, good; Of Sunday School, good; Average Pupils, 85; Of Officers, 8; Of Teachers, 5. Paid Pastor, \$2,361.85; for incidentals, \$1,051.46; Paid evangelist, \$100.00; Amount for building and repair, \$509.29; Value of church property \$13,000.00; Miscellaneous expenses \$1,560.75; Amount enclosed for Minutes \$12.00; Paid Children's home \$118.25.

Pastors name and address: Rev. Ward Fellabaum, Box 63, Ratliff City, Oklahoma.

Name of Deacons: Henry Christian, Othal Kyle, Troy Morris, Orbie Butler, James Adams.

Done by order of church assembled in conference this 5th day of August, 1956.

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

Executive Board

Bro. John Wood	1 year
Bro. N. C. Ballew	2 years
Rev. Gilbert Pixley	3 years
Bro. Marlin Bivins	4 years
Bro. Othal Kyle	5 years

Orphange Board

Rev. Ward Fellabaum	1 year
Bro. John Wood	2 years
Bro. C. C. Higgins	3 years

Credential Board

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

Board of Trustees

Rev. L. A. Shull	1 year
Bro. John Wood	2 years
Rev. Carl Shivers	3 years

Roll of Ministers

Rev. G. W. Hanks	Lone Grove, Okla.
Rev. T. Maynard	Commanche, Okla.
Rev. J. O. Hudson	Clemscott, Okla.
Rev. Ward Fellabaum	Box 63, Ratliff City, Okla.

Roll of Ordained Ministers

Rev. Dan Ellis	Henderson, Texas
Rev. Bill Ritter	Ringling, Okla.
Rev. James Minor	Ringling, Okla.
Rev. A. L. McAffrey	1301 W. 13th, Sulphur
Rev. J. H. Hill	1319 E. 1st, Sulphur
Rev. John Bullard	1011 Lindsay, Sulphur
Rev. J. P. Lewis	20 E. Tahlequah, Sulphur
Rev. Russell Allen	1401 Harris, Ardmore
Rev. Gilbert Pixley	301 S. Elm, Duncan
Rev. Willis Dunlap	307 Oak, Duncan
Rev. Eual Gorman	Healdton
Rev. Carl Shivers	Rt. 3, Duncan

Treasurer's Report

In Treasurer, August, 1955	\$ 801.53
Total received Aug. 1955 to Aug. 1956	2,398.44
Total Paid out Aug., 1955 to Aug., 1956	3,013.76
Balance on hand August, 1956	
in General Fund	122.57
In Camp Ground	63.64
Total in Treasurer, Aug. 1956	186.21

Statistics Hopewell Ass'n. No. 2—1955-56

Churches Reporting	9
Resident members	670
Ministers	16
Deacons	36
Paid Pastors	16,690.76
Paid Evangelist	1,147.45

Paid Children's Home	534.79
Building and Repair	7,204.47
Publication and Literature	359.86
Camp Ground	212.50
Cooperative Fund	1,247.94
Miscellaneous	1,663.60
Total Expenses	\$29,061.37
Value of church property	\$127,160.00

CHURCH LETTER FORM

Letter from Church we
the church of God denominated Free Will Baptist at
..... to Hopewell No. 2
Association when convened (at or with)

(Please state whether Yearly or Quarterly Meeting)

We send as delegates our beloved

Whom we pray you will receive to sit with you and
aid you in all your Godly deliberations.

State of religion,; members received by
letter,; by recommendation or by experience
in grace,; dismissed,; died,
.....; (name deceased); resident members,
.....; non-resident members,; Con-
dition of prayer meeting,; Condition of Sun-
day School,; Enrolment,; Average
attendance,; No. officers,; No.
teachers,; Condition of League,;
Enrolment,; Average attendance,
Finance Report:

Paid Pastor,; Paid Evangelist,;
For building and repair,; Publication and
Literature,; Miscellaneous expenses,
.....; Tithes paid cooperative,
Value of church property,

We recommend Bro. or Sister
as State Delegate.

Pastors name and addresses,

Ministers name and address belonging to our church,
.....
.....

Deacons name and address belonging to our church.
.....
.....

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

....., Moderator

....., Clerk

Clerk's address

Resolutions Passed in Quarterly Meetings

Resolutions No. I

Be it resolved that the chairman of all committees that are authorized to purchase material or what ever assigned to their responsibility check and sign purchase tickets thereof before presenting to treasurer for payment.

Resolution No. II

Be it resolved that our churches tithe to our local association treasurer and that 65% of some go to State Cooperative Work 35% be retained in local treasurer.

Be it further resolved that Resolution No. 2 in 55 minutes be revised to correspond with State Co-operative work.

Resolution No. III

Resolved we rescind Resolution No. 2 in 55 minutes and a Finance Committee form plans to present to next conference in regard, to allocating funds reserved in local treasurer.

Resolution No. IV

Be it resolved that this body elect committee of 3, to be known as Finance Committee:

Bro. A. L. McAffrey, Bro. Russell Allen, Bro. Don Ellis, the committee.

Finance Committee report (accepted) we recommend the following budget of finances for this association 50% for association Camp Ground, 30% for associational Home Missions ,20% for Miscellaneous Fund.

Miscellaneous fund shall be used for feeding delegates at quarterly meetings. Printing of Minutes, Postage, associational Evangelist, etc.

Resolution No. V

Resolved we change resolution No. 2 in first quarterly meeting to read 50% to State 50% to local association, some 50%, 30%, 20% for Camp Ground, associational Home Missions, Miscellaneous Fund respectively.

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.

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 or ministers should be called respecting the action.

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—New 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.

AMENDMENTS 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 and love to 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.

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