

**1963**  
**MINUTES**

**Hopewell No. 2**  
**Association**

## OFFICERS

|                                                                          |           |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Moderator, Rev. Jerry Rhoades,<br>501 15th N.W., Ardmore .....           | CA 3-5641 |
| Assistant Moderator, Rev. A. L. McAffrey<br>1302 W. 13th, Sulphur .....  | 526W      |
| Clerk, Rev. Doyle Cox,<br>219 S. 6th, Healdton .....                     | BA 9-0397 |
| Asst. Clerk, Rev. Beryl Blair<br>Rt. 3, Duncan                           |           |
| Treasurer, Paul Clark<br>Route 1, Sulphur                                |           |
| Asst. Treasurer, Mrs. Paul Clark<br>Route 1, Sulphur                     |           |
| Parliamentarian, Rev. Dee Arthur Yandell<br>301 S. 1st, Duncan           | 1789      |
| Asst. Parliamentarian, Rev. Merle Wilson<br>702 2nd, N.W., Ardmore ..... | CA 3-4546 |

## DISTRICT OFFICERS

|                             |         |
|-----------------------------|---------|
| ..... Executive Board ..... |         |
| Beryl Blair .....           | 5 years |
| C. C. Higgins .....         | 4 years |
| Merle Wilson .....          | 3 years |
| Mike McCumber .....         | 2 years |
| Marlin Bivins .....         | 1 year  |

|                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| ..... Credentials Board ..... |         |
| Dee Arthur Yandell .....      | 3 year  |
| A. L. McAffrey .....          | 2 years |
| Doyle Cox .....               | 1 year  |

|                               |         |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| ..... Camp Ground Board ..... |         |
| C.C. Higgins .....            | 3 years |
| W. A. Dehart .....            | 2 years |
| Marlin Bivins .....           | 1 year  |

|                          |         |
|--------------------------|---------|
| ..... League Board ..... |         |
| L. R. Spurgin .....      | 5 years |
| Dale Howell .....        | 4 years |
| Marlin Bivins .....      | 3 years |
| Troy Lewellan .....      | 2 years |
| T. D. Holland .....      | 1 year  |

The 31st Annual Session of the Hopewell No. 2 Association of Free Will Baptist when convened at the Camp ground, beginning Thursday night, August 22 through the 24, 1963.

Services opened with singing led by Rev. Jerry Rhoades with Myrna Spurgion at the piano.

Prayer led by Reverend Dee Arthur Yandell.

Introduction message brought by Rev. Jerry Rhoades using Psalm 119:11,16 "The Word of God."

Dismissed in prayer by Reverend Beryl Blair.

#### FRIDAY MORNING

Services called to order by the Moderator, opened with singing led by Rev. Ward Fellabaum with Myrna Spurgion at the piano. "Kneel at the Cross."

Devotion brought by Rev. A. L. McAffrey, using Galations 6:1,10, prayer by Rev. McAffrey.

Letters read from 10 churches and delegates seated with a fellowship handshake.

Officers were elected. See page One.

The chair appointed all committees for this session. Divine Services Committee: Sis. Worstel, Sis. Winters, Sis. Truitt; League Committee: Myrna Spurgion, Carroll Harris, Vernice Cypert. Sunday School Committee: Sis. Yandell, Dale Howell, Mildred Morgan. Temperance Committee, C.C. Higgins, Clint Ray, P. B. Truitt. Obituary Committee: Alvis McAffrey, Henry Morgan, Sis. Clint Ray. Education Committee: Beryl Blair, W. A. Dehart, Sis Schrader. Resolutions committee: Dee Arthur Yandell, Marlin Bivins, L. R. Spurgion.

Rev. Ward Fellabaum offered his resignation from all board he now holds. Accepted.

Dismissed for Devine services with prayer by Rev. Merle Wilson.

11:00 O'clock services opened with singing led by Rev. Jerry Rhoades with Myrna Spurgion at the piano. "Revive us again."

Prayer by Rev. Lonnie Sparks.

Rev. Ward Fellabaum brought the morning message using Song of Solomon, 2:14,17 Subject "Little Foxes That Spoil the Grapes."

Dismissed in prayer by Rev. Beryl Blair.

#### FRIDAY EVENING

Opened with singing led by Marlin Bivins with Myrna Cox at the piano, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms."

Services turned to Rev. Doyle Dipboye who reported of the work of the State Superannuation Board.

Services turned to Rev. Lonnie Sparks who spoke on Missions with a reading from Luke 24, as the subject. Prayer by Rev. Sparks.

An offering was taken for the Sparks vehicle fund with \$36.01 being received.

A united prayer was held with Rev. Sparks.

Resolution No. 1 read. See reports

Resolution No. 2 read. See reports

Resolution No. 3 read. Laid on the table until Saturday.

Camp ground Treasurer report read and Accepted.

Doyle Cox was elected as Camp ground director for next years camp.  
Motion made and seconded that director be given the right to choose his Teachers and officers to serve under him and they be approved by the body.  
Rev. Merle Wilson was elected as General Board Member.

Resolution No. 4 read. See reports

Place of the next quarterly meeting and speakers were selected.

November ..... Healdton ..... Rev. Merle Wilson

February ..... Sulphur ..... Rev. Beryl Blair

May ..... Ardmore ..... Rev. Dee Arthur Yandell

Association ..... Camp Ground .... Rev. Doyle Cox, Asst., Rev. McAffrey

Local pastors will serve as alt. for the Quarterly meetings.

Services turned to Rev. Don Payne who reported on the Okla. Bible College.

Treasurers report read and accepted.

Motion made and seconded that Clerk be paid his expenses.

Motion made and seconded that we adjourn until 9:30 Saturday morning.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Clint Ray.

## SATURDAY MORNING

Opened with singing led by Rev. A. L. McAffrey with Velma McAffrey at the piano. "Jesus Saves." Prayer by Forest Cox.

Devotion by Rev. Rex. Weatherman reading from 2nd Cor. 7.

Rev. N. R. Smith was selected to bring the memorial sermon at 11 o'clock.

Motion made and seconded that resolution No. 3 come off the table. read and was accepted. See reports

Motion made and seconded that our articles of faith, Rules of order and Constitution be printed in the minutes. Carried

Obituary report read. See reports. Prayer by Bro. John Wood.

Education report read. see reports.

Motion made and seconded that we elect a speaker and alternate for the memorial service for next year. Rev. A. L. McAffrey, Alt. Rev. Dee Arthur Yandell. Services turned over to Rev. N.R. Smith who reported on the state work.

Resolution No. 5 read. See reports.

Resolution No. 6 read. See reports

Motion made and seconded that we set the date of our youth camp for next year.

Motion made and seconded that our Associational Meeting begin Thursday night before the third Sunday in August 1964, and the Youth camp precede it by ten days.

Motion made and seconded that our revival run in conjunction with our youth camp.

Motion made and seconded that we adjourn for 11:00 o'clock services. Dismissed with prayer by Bro. John Wood.

11:00 o'clock services opened with singing led by Rev. Jerry Rhoades with Velma McAffrey at the piano. "How Beautiful Heaven must Be." Prayer by Rev. T. D. Holland.

Rev. N. R. Smith brought the message using 1 Cor. 15:12,20, "The Resurrection." Dismissed with prayer by Rev. Gayle Gardner.

## SATURDAY EVENING

Opened with singing led by Rev. A. L. McAffrey with Velma McAffrey at the piano. "I Feel Like Traveling On." Prayer by C. C. Higgins.

Camp Evangelist elected. Rev. Gayle Gardner. Alt, Rev. T. D. Holland.

Motion made and seconded that the Camp Ground Board place a chain across the cattle guard at the entrance to our camp ground and it be locked.

Temperance Committee report read. See reports.

Motion made and seconded that the Association pay \$350.00 toward the Lonnie Sparks Vehicle fund. Carried.

Motion made and seconded that the clerk send thank you cards to the Pierce Propane and Baker Construction Co. for their services and donations to the Youth Camp. Carried.

Youth Camp Directors Treasury report read and accepted.

Motion made and seconded that we have Friday Night services during our Associational Meeting next year.

State delegates appointed and approved.

Motion made and seconded that Alternates may be appointed if necessary.

Motion made and seconded that a new sign be placed on the highway at entrance to our camp ground and it be made higher.

Motion made and seconded that this body set a date for the fiscal year and recommend that all churches adopt the same date.

Motion made and seconded that our fiscal year close on the 15th day of July.

Motion made and seconded that we adjourn. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Paul Clark.

## RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

Resolution No. 1 (lost)

Resolution No. 2 Be it resolved that we recommend to our churches to more carefully examine people presenting themselves for membership when coming from another denomination.

Resolution No. 3 Be it resolved that the resolution passed in the last quarterly meeting on the subject of feet washing and the Lord's Supper be inserted in our articles of faith. Our articles of faith be so amended.

Resolution No. 4 (lost)

Resolution No. 5 Be it so resolved that duplicate copies of all written reports be submitted by all boards and treasurers.

Resolution No. 6 Be it resolved the executive board specify the duties of all boards in a written report to be approved by Association.

## RESOLUTIONS OF QUARTERLY MEETINGS

"Be it resolved that we interpret the treaties to teach Christian Baptism by emersion only, and in the name of the father, Son, and Holy Ghost. and of the observance of the Lords Supper at night only in connection with washing of the Saints feet."

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

We the education Committee recommend that the association carry out the recommendations handed in last year concerning the school on Free Will Baptist Doctrine.

## TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

We ask that all church members abide by our church covenant and abstain from the use and sale of intoxicating beverages, and to temperate in all things at all times which cover a multitude of sins. We also recommend that each church teach and warn our youth more, the danger and downfall of mankind in the use of intoxicating beverages.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

We recommend our churches read last years report and strive harder to follow it in order that our teachers be able to better teach the student.

## OBITUARY COMMITTEE REPORT

We are sorry to report the death of the following members. Bro Berdell, Lone Grove; Fannie Ramine, Ardmore; Bro. Brooks, Duncan; Mrs. Rich, Ardmore; Sister Brooks, Duncan; Calvin Morrison, Duncan; Alice Gedoma Burnett, Duncan; C. A. Oxley, Sulphur; Mrs. Beal, Sulphur. Our loss is heavens gain, may we meet them to rejoice in Heaven together. "There may be others not mentioned."

## LEAGUE RALLY REPORT

The meeting was called to order by Alvis McAffrey. Glenda Mullins gave the welcome. Bobbie Higgins led in singing with Susan Farrell at the piano.

We then elected officers for the next year as follows:

President, Myrna Spurgion; Vice-President, Alvis McAffrey; Recording Sec., Sandra Davenport; Corresponding Secretary, Diane Stout; Treasurer, Billy Reed; Asst. Treasurer, Clarinda Leming; Song leader, Bobby Higgins; Pianist, Susan Ferrell; Ushers, James Fellabaum, Gary Stout; Sword Drill Leader, Beula Leming; Sponsors, Bob and Helen Seward.

Bro. Ward Fellabaum brought the morning message.

Sulphur won the program and attendance banner. Santa Fe won the Sword drill banner.

## STATISTICS

|                                   |             |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|
| Churches reporting .....          | 10          |
| Total Membership .....            | 1,025       |
| Ordained Ministers .....          | 16          |
| Licensed Ministers .....          | 1           |
| Deacons .....                     | 40          |
| Paid Pastors .....                | \$26,810.25 |
| Paid Evangelists .....            | 1,174.63    |
| Building and repair .....         | 7,143.55    |
| Publication and Literature .....  | 1,679.61    |
| Cooperative Fund .....            | 1,250.87    |
| Missions .....                    | 1,524.32    |
| Miscellaneous .....               | 11,945.72   |
| Value of Church Property .....    | 200,700.00  |
| Value of Parsonage Property ..... | 29,938.00   |

| Church and pastor               | Clerks and address                   | Value of<br>Church Property | Membership | Members received | Members dismissed | Members died |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------|
| Ardmore—Rev. Jerry Rhoades      | Wanda Dillard, 721 H N.W., Ardmore   | 65,000                      | 222        | 39               | 5                 | 0            |
| Clemson—Rev. Gayle Gardner      | Francis Lewellen, Graham, Oklahoma   | 6,000                       | 93         | 16               | 8                 | 0            |
| Comanche—Rev. T. D. Holland     | Furn Harris, Rt. 2, Comanche         | 4,500                       | 27         | 6                | 3                 | 0            |
| County Line—Rev. Ward Fellabaum | Jewell Chaudoin, Box 4, Alma         | 4,000                       | 51         | 6                | 3                 | 0            |
| Duncan—Rev. Dee Arthur Yandell  | Vivian Lewis 703 N. 13th, Duncan     | 72,700                      | 319        | 11               | 6                 | 4            |
| Healdton—Rev. Doyle Cox         | Mrs. P. B. Pruitt, Box 457, Healdton | 15,000                      | 71         | 11               | 0                 | 0            |
| Lawton—No report                | No. Report                           |                             |            |                  |                   |              |
| Lone Grove—Rev. Merle Wilson    | Jean Bennett, Box 115, Lone Grove    | 5,000                       | 67         | 5                | 3                 | 1            |
| Sante Fe—Rev. Beryl Blair       | Mrs. J. T. McClanahan, Rt. 3, Duncan | 12,438                      | 40         | 9                | 1                 | 0            |
| Stobtown—Rev. Rex. Weatherman   | Sue Miller, Rt. 3, Ardmore           | 3,000                       | 94         | 0                | 0                 | 0            |
| Sulphur—Rev. A. L. McAffrey     | Emley Palmer, 1322 W. 18th, Sulphur  | 42,000                      | 141        | 25               | 3                 | 2            |

## MINISTERS DIRECTORY

|                                           |            |
|-------------------------------------------|------------|
| Rex Weatherman, 1713 Tower Drive, Ardmore | CA 3-6765  |
| W.W. Fellabaum, Box 63, Ratliff City      | Pike 38J7  |
| Doyle Cox, 219 S. 6th, Healdton           | BA 9-0397  |
| A. L. McAffrey, 1302 W. 13, Sulphur       | 526W       |
| Beryl Blair, Rt. 3, Duncan                | 23K2       |
| Terrell Holland, 621 Grimes, Comanche     |            |
| J. H. Hill, 1116 East 2nd, Sulphur        |            |
| Troy Dobbs, 316 5th, N.W., Ardmore        | CA 3-2300  |
| O. H. Foust, 108 South Mill, Ardmore      | CA 3-8092  |
| Bill Ritter, Ringling                     | 2-2332     |
| Jerry Rhoades, 501 15th, N.W., Ardmore    | CA 3-5641  |
| Claudis Mullins, Ratliff City             |            |
| T. Maynard, Comanche, 'Retired'           |            |
| Merle Wilson, 702 2nd Ave., N.W., Ardmore | CA 3-4546  |
| Dee Arthur Yandell, 301 S. 1st, Duncan    | 1789       |
| Gayle Gardner, Clemescott                 | Pike 18J35 |
| <b>Licensed Ministers</b>                 |            |
| James Deatherage, Marietta, Okla.         |            |

## DEACONS

|                                              |            |
|----------------------------------------------|------------|
| Wayne Howell, 615 15th, N.W. Ardmore         | 7159       |
| Lamar Howell, Box 1073, Ardmore              | 5465       |
| Mike McComber, 909 10th, N.W., Ardmore       | 1190J      |
| Herman Green, 1527 1st, S.W., Ardmore,       | 2753W      |
| Frank Collender, 1614 Mt. Wash. Rd., Ardmore |            |
| Elmer Buck, 816 Carter, S.E., Ardmore        |            |
| Jessie Justice, 512 Maxwell, Ardmore         | 3731       |
| Zelous Chaudion, Box 92, Velma               | Alma 1K15  |
| John McIlvain, Box 92, Velma                 | Alma 73K54 |



|                                               |           |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Ralph Mullins, Rt. 1, mAl a                   |           |
| E. L. Griffin, 1415 "A" N.E., Ardmore         |           |
| John Woods, Box 398, Healdton, .....          | Pike 7J51 |
| Troy Lewellen, Box 244, Fox .....             | Pike 1J15 |
| Elmer Hickman, 1114 Jefferson, Duncan, .....  | AL 5-1699 |
| Dorris Beers, 413 N. 21st, Duncan .....       | AL 5-2942 |
| E. J. Reid, Rt. 1, Marlow .....               | OL 8-3574 |
| Archie Smith, Wirt .....                      | 638       |
| W. A. Dehart, Healdton .....                  | 256       |
| Jay Crisp, Wirt .....                         | 753W2     |
| Herb Welch, 500 12th St., S.E., Ardmore ..... | 2005M     |
| Roy Spurgeon, Loco                            |           |
| LoRay Spurgeon, Rt. 3, Duncan .....           | 56K71     |
| Forest Cox, Rt. 3, Duncan .....               | 4K25      |
| Les Dunn, Ringling                            |           |
| Herman Hood, Alma                             |           |
| Buddy Anderson, Healdton                      |           |
| Troy Morres, Rt. 3, Box 155, Ardmore .....    | OL 7-4513 |
| Joe Balthrop, Rt. 3, Box 154, Ardmore .....   | OL 7-4451 |
| Guy Denney, Star Rt, Lone Grove .....         | OL 7-4277 |
| Henry Christian, Rt. 3, Box 152, Ardmore      |           |
| Arbie Butler, Rt. 2, Ardmore .....            | OL 7-4572 |
| James Adams, Rt., Ardmore .....               | OL 7-4513 |
| G. O. Palmer, 1324 W. 18th, Sulphur .....     | 1095R     |
| C. C. Higgins, 702 W. 10th, Sulphur .....     | 300       |
| C. L. Lerner, Rt. 2, Sulphur .....            | 17F4      |
| John A. Crooks, Duncan                        |           |
| Othel Kyle, Rt. 3, Ardmore                    |           |
| W. M. Buttram, 2501 A. Ave., Lawton           |           |
| Robert Rachell, 1419 N. 21, Duncan .....      | AL 5-6490 |
| Dave Spain, Rt. 1, Duncan .....               | AL 5-5023 |
| Dale Howell, Lone Grove .....                 | OL 7-4225 |

## **RULES OF ORDER**

1. At every sitting of the Association, business shall be opened and closed with prayer by the Moderator or whosoever 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.

—Matt. 10-22 2 Pet. 1-4 to 10 Hebb: 4 to 6. 2 Pet 2-20-21

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 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.

### **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. Petitory 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.

## REVISED CONSTITUTION

From long experience, the members of the Church of God denominated Free Will Baptist, being regularly baptized upon a profession of 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.

**ARTICLE 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, their wives, Deacons, and their wives and Church Clerks of said union shall be regular members present, by virtue of their office.

**ARTICLE 2: NAME**—The members thus chosen and assembled with the Ministers and Deacons of the Quarterly or Annual Association of Hopewell No. 2 Association of Free Will Baptist 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.

**ARTICLE 3: LETTERS**—Each church may represent by sending three delegates who will bring Church Letters on the authorized letter form furnished by the association.

**ARTICLE 4 Section 1: OFFICERS**—The association shall consist of a moderator, assistant moderator, clerk, assistant clerk and youth camp director.

**ARTICLE 4, Section 2: BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**—The standing board of Hopewell No. 2 association shall be the Executive Board, League Board, Credential Board, and Board of Trustees. Committees as needed will be appointed by the Moderator and they will serve until their work is completed or their successor is appointed.

**ARTICLE 5: NEW CHURCHES**—Newly Constituted Churches may be admitted to the Association, which are to be petitioned by letter and delegates, and if upon examination, they are to be found orthodox and orderly, they may be received into the association, the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

**ARTICLE 6: QUESTIONS**—No questions from any Church shall come under the consideration of the association, unless it has first been considered in its own Churches.

**ARTICLE 7: DISCIPLINE**—Each ordained Minister shall be a member of a Church in the bounds of said association, and if the Church should hold his letter in question for a period of three months, he must surrender his Credentials to the quarterly meeting, or make restitution. In the event a Church does not abide by this article the association can deal with the Church.

**ARTICLE 8: BUSINESS**—The annual Association shall supercede the quarterly meetings, in its business. No printed matter can be changed by the quarterly meetings that appear in the yearly associational minutes (Exception: Should the need arise to change the printed matters in the minutes, it can be done by a called meeting of the association, by the Executive Board. Resolutions passed in the quarterly meeting shall be in force as long as it does not conflict with the printed matter in the minutes.)

**ARTICLE 9: AMENDMENTS**—Amendments to this constitution may be made when necessary, by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular session; providing the amendment be presented in writing one day in advance.

**ARTICLE 10 Section 1: FINANCE**—The work of this association shall be financed by the cooperative program, and such special appeals for funds as may be necessary.

**ARTICLE 10 Section 2**—Each Church shall send \$5.00 annually for minutes, which will be distributed by the Clerk to the Churches, unless the Church supports cooperatively.

**ARTICLE 10—Section 3**—Each Church shall send \$5.00 annually for the State Delegate.

## **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 the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ."

We will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together for church conferences, 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 the Spirit" in the bonds of peace. To be careful of one another's happiness and reputation, and seek to strengthen the weak, encourage the afflicted, admonish the erring, and as far as we are able, promote the success of the church and of the Gospel.

We will everywhere hold Christian principle 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, the success of Sunday Schools, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world. And may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH

(1) We believe in one true and living God, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, and these are equal in Divine essence, power and Glory Romans 1-20: "For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even his eternal power and God head; so that they are without excuse:"

I John 1:1: "That which was from the beginning which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon and our hands have handled, of the work of life."

2: "(For the life was manifested, and we have seen it, and bear witness, and shew unto you that eternal life, which was with the Father, and was manifested unto us;)"

3: "That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship is with the Father, and with His son Jesus Christ."

I John 5:6: "This is he that came by water and blood, even Jesus Christ; not by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the spirit that beareth witness, because the spirit is true."

7: "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: And these three are one."

John 17:21: "That they all may be one; as thou,

Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: That the world may believe that thou has sent me."

22: "And the glory which thou givest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:"

23. "I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me."

(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-

2 Tim. 3:16: "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:"

17: "That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works."

2 Pet: 1:18. "And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the mount."

19: "We have also a more sure word of prophecy; where unto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts;"

20: "Knowing this first, that no prophecy, of the scripture is of any private interpretation."

21: "For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but Holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

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

Gen. 3:7: "And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons."

8: "And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of the garden,"

9: "And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?"

10: "And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself."

11: "And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?"

12: "And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat."

13: "And the Lord God said unto the woman, What is this that thou hast done? And the woman said, The serpent beguiled me, and I did eat."

14: "And the Lord God said unto the serpent, Because thou hast done this, thou art cursed above all cattle, and above every beast of the field; upon thy belly shalt thou go, and dust shalt thou eat all the days of thy life."

15: "And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel."

16: "Unto the woman he said, I will greatly multiply thy sorrow and thy conception; in sorrow thou shalt bring forth children; and thy desire shall be to thy husband, and he shall rule over thee."

17: "And unto Adam he said, Because thou hast hearkened unto the voice of thy wife, and hast eaten of the tree, of which I commanded thee, saying, Thou shalt not eat of it: cursed is the ground for thy sake; in sorrow shalt thou eat of it all the days of thy life;"

Ecc. 7:29: "Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions."

Rom. 3:23: "For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;"

Rom. 7:7: "For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die."

Heb. 2:9. "But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honour; that he by the grace of God should taste death for every man."

Gal. 3:22: "But the scripture hath concluded all under sin, that the promise by faith of Jesus Christ might be given to them that believe."

(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."

Isa. 45:22: "Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: For I am God, and there is none else."

2 Cor. 5:14: "For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead."

15: "And that he died for all, that they which lived should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto them which died for them, and rose again."

Isa. 53:5: "But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed."

6: "All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord hath laid on him the iniquity of us all."

7: "He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth."

I Tim. 4:9: "This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance."

10. "For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, especially of those that believe."

Act 17:28: "For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring."

29: "Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device."

30. "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:"

31: "Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead?"

Acts 20:20: "And how I kept back nothing that was profitable unto you, but have shewed you, and have taught you publickly, and from house to house,"

21: "Testifying both to the Jews, and also to the Greeks, repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ."

I Cor. 15:12: "Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?"

13. "But if there be no resurrection of the dead, then is Christ not risen:"

14: "And if Christ be not risen, then is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain."

15: "Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not."

16: "For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised:"

17: "And if Christ be not raised, your faith is vain; ye are yet in your sins."

18: "Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished."

19: "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable."

20: "But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the first fruits of them that slept."

21: "For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead."

(5) We believe that adult persons must be regenerated and born of the Spirit of God if they inherit eternal life—

John 3:1: "There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews:"

2: "The same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him,"

3: "Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."

4: "Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?"

5: "Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God."

6: "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit."

7: "Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again."

8: "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit."

9: "Nicodemus answered and said unto him, How can these things be?"

10: "Jesus answered and said unto him, Art thou a master of Israel, and knowest not these things?"

(6) We believe that infants are saved by the merits of the Son of God-

Mark 10:13: "And they brought young children to him, that he should touch them: and his disciples rebuked those that brought them."

14: "But when Jesus saw it, he was much displeased, and said unto them, Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not: for of such is the kingdom of God."

15: "Verily I say unto you, Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein."

16: "And he took them up in his arms, put his hands upon them, and blessed them."

Matt. 18:1: "At the same time came the disciples unto Jesus, saying, Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?"

2: "And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them,"

3: "And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter in to the kingdom of heaven."

4: "Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

(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. 10:21: "And the brother shall deliver up the brother to death, and the father the child: and the children shall rise up against their parents, and cause them to be put to death."

22: "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved."

2 Pet. 1:4: "Whereby are given unto us exceeding

great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust."

5: "And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;"

6. "And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness;"

7: "And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity."

8: "For if these things be in you, and abound, they make you that ye shall neither be barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."

9: "But he that lacketh these things is blind, and cannot see afar off, and hath forgotten that he was purged from his old sins."

10: "Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure; for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall:"

Hebrews 6:4: For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

5; And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come.

6; If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

II Pet. 2:20: For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning.

21: For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

22; But it is happened unto them according to the true proverb, The dog is turned to his own vomit again; and the sow that was washed to her wallowing in the mire.

I Tim. 1:19: Holding faith, and a good conscience; which some having put away concerning faith made shipwreck:

Matt. 10:22: And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved.

(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-

Matt. 3:13: "Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him."

14; "But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me?"

15; "And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness. Then he suffered him."

16; "And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and fighting upon him:"

Matt. 28:19: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

20; "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

Acts 8:36: "And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized?"

37; "And Phillip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

38: "And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him."

39: "And when they were come up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him no more: and he went on his way rejoicing."

(9) We believe that God in his goodness calls and to a great degree qualifies his servants by the teaching of the Holy Ghost, and by the instructors 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.

John 14:26: "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."

Heb. 5:4: "And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron"

I Tim. 1:9: "Knowing this, that the law is not made for a righteous man, but for the lawless and disobedient, for the ungodly and for sinners, for unholy and profane, for murderers of fathers and murderers of mothers, for manslayers,

10; "For whoremongers, for them that defile themselves with mankind, for menstealers, for liars, for perjured persons, and if there be any other thing that is contrary to sound doctrine;"

11; "According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust."

(10) Ammended to read. We believe that Baptism and the Lords Supper and washing of the Saint's feet are Divine ordances and should be observed by all his children. We interpet the Treaties to teach Christian Baptism by imersion only, and in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, and in observance of the Lords supper at night only in connection with the washing of the Saint's feet.

21: "For in eating every one taketh before other his own supper: and one is hungry, and another is drunken."

22; "What? have ye not houses to eat and to drink in? or despise ye the church of God, and shame them that have not? What shall I say to you? shall I praise you in this? I praise you not."

23; "For I have received of the Lord that which also I denvered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread:"

24; "And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me."

25; "After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, this cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me."

26; "For as often as ye eat this bread, and dring this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come."

27; "Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord."

28; "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup."

29; "For he that eath and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body."

Rom. 6:4: "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

5; "For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection."

I Pet. 3:21: "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

22; "Who is gone into heaven, and is on the right hand of God; angels and authorities and powers being made subject unto him."

Matt. 28:19: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost;"

20; "Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world. Amen".

John 13:13: "Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for so I am."

14; "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet."

15; "For I have given you an example, that ye should do as I have done to you."

16; "Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither he that is sent greater than he that sent him."

17; "If ye know these things, happy are ye if ye do them."

(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 shall be unanimous.

Tit. 1:5: For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee:"

Acts 14:23: "And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed."

II Thess. 3:6: "Now we command you, brethren, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye withdraw yourselves from every brother that walketh disorderly, and not after the tradition which he received of us."

7; "For yourselves know how ye ought to follow us: for we behaved not ourselves disorderly among you;"

(12) We believe it to be the duty of each church to assemble themselves together in conference 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: "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread, and drink of that cup."

John 13:14: "If I then, your Lord and Master have washed your feet; ye also ought to wash one another's feet."

Heb. 10:23: "Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised:)"

24; "And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works:"

25; "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

(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: "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

I John 2:9: "He that saith he is in the light, and hateth his brother, is in darkness even until now."

John 17:19: "And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth."

John 15:3: "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you."

I Pet. 3:15: "But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:"

Heb. 12:10: "For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but he for our profit, that we might



be partakers of his holiness."

11; "Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby."

12; "Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees;"

13; "And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.

14; "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:"

15; "Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;"

Gal. 6:10: "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith."

(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.

John 5:28: "Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice,"

29; "And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation."

Dan. 12:1: "And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered, every one that shall be found written in the book."

2; "And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt."

