

**Minutes of the
46th Annual Meeting
HOPEWELL
NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FREEWILL BAPTIST
CHURCHES
1978**

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46th Annual Meeting
HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES
1978

OFFICERS

Moderator. Beryl Blair
707 Patterson, Comanche, Ok. 73529
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Asst. Moderator. Harvey White
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Asst. Clerk Teresa McClanahan
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Treasurer. Vivian Lewis
803 N. Elm St., Waurika, Ok. 73573
Phone 228-3420

Asst. Treasurer. Joyce Lewis
Waurika, Ok. 73573

Reporter Juhree McClain
Rt.1, Box 111, Ratliff City, Ok. 73081
Phone 856-3554

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Noah Smith	5 years
Cleo Chism	4 years
Harold Boerstler	3 years
J. T. McClanahan	2 years
Ralph Mullins, Sr.	1 year

CREDENTIAL BOARD

Hershel Lewis	5 years
Wesley Hamilton	4 years
Jess Gillaspy	3 years
Beryl Blair	2 years
Harvey White.	1 year

MISSION BOARD

Jess Gillaspy	5 years
Harold Robinson	4 years
Beryl Blair	3 years
Ed Staggs	2 years
Hershel Lewis	1 year

CHURCH EDUCATION BOARD

J. T. McClanahan.	5 years
Charley Jones	4 years
Othel Kyle	3 years
Cleo Chism	2 years
Ed Staggs	1 year

FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING

Nov. 11 & 12, 1977

The Friday Night Service of the First Quarterly Meeting of the Hopewell No. 2 Association, when meeting with the Stobtown Church. Called to order by Moderator, Bro. W. C. Hamilton. Bro. Othel Kyle led the song service with Sis. Mary Hamilton at the piano. Songs were: "I Feel Like Traveling On," "I Must Tell Jesus" and "I'll Fly Away." There were 20 present, with 4 Churches in the Association represented: Countryside, Duncan Eastside, Countyline and Stobtown. An altar of prayer was called for. Special prayer requests were ask for. Bro. Troy Morris led the

altar of Prayer. Bro. Carroll Milner led in a testimony service. Sis. Mary Hamilton sang a special, "Scarlet Purple Robe."

Bro. Noah Smith brought the message using Romans 13:1-14 for his Scripture text.

Dismissed in prayer by Sis. Connie Morris.

Saturday Morning: Service called to order by Moderator Bro. W. C. Hamilton. Bro. Hershel Lewis led in prayer. Sis. Vivian Lewis at the piano, Bro. Lewis led singing "Victory in Jesus."

Letters read and accepted. The delegates seated by the Ordained.

Minutes read and accepted.

The petitionary letter from the Duncan Church was reread.

The Rules of Order read by the Asst. Moderator Bro. Beryl Blair.

Visitors were invited to set in council.

Committees appointed: Divine Service Committee: Bro. Ed Staggs, Sis. Nora Truitt and Sis. Shelly Lee.

Resolution Committee: Bro. Hershel Lewis, Bro. J. T. Dover and Bro. Cleo Chism.

Obituary Committee: Bro. Harold Collier, Bro. Sam Staggs and Sis. Onita Ford.

With Sis. Shirley McClendon at the piano, Bro. Othel Kyle led the congregation in "It Won't Be Very Long."

The Divine Service Committee selected Bro. Carrol Milner to bring the morning message.

The Executive Board report given by Bro. Noah Smith and accepted. (See report)

C.E. Board report. Bro. Carrol Milner talked of having a workshop at Countryside. The Board to get together on this and let the Churches know the date.

The Treasurers report given by Sis. Vivian Lewis and accepted.

The Campground Treasurers report given by Sis. Geraldine Staggs and accepted.

Motion made to adjourn business until 1 PM. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Ward Fellabaum.

Morning Worship opened with Sis. Vivian Lewis at the piano and Bro. Othel Kyle leading the singing. The songs were "When All of God's Singers Get Home" and "When the Saints Go Marching In." Bro. Harvey White led in prayer. Special song by Bro. Othel Kyle, Sis. Donna Gothard and Sis. Shirley McClendon "Jesus Use Me." Testimony Service. Special Song by Sis. Mary Hamilton "Jesus Will Outshine Them All." Special song by Sis. Shirley McClendon "It Took a Miracle."

Bro. Carrol Milner brought the message from Matt. 16:1-4, Matt. 24:3-13, II Cor. 6:1-2, Luke 12:41-47, Psalms 62:1-8 "A Precious Commodity - Time."

Worship service dismissed and blessing ask on the noon meal by Bro. Ward Fellabaum.

Afternoon session opened by Bro. W. C. Hamilton. The Credential Board report read and received as read.

Oral Obituary report given - None. We praise the Lord.

Resolution Committee report given and accepted. (See reports)

Motion carried that all monies in the Home Mission Fund stay in the fund for Local Home Missions work only.

A standing vote of thanks was given the Stobtown Ladies for the noon meal.

Motion carried to release all committees.

With Sis. Shirley McClendon at the piano, Bro. Othel Kyle led the congregation in "I Love To Tell The Story." Bro. Ward Fellabaum gave the evening devotional using I John 1:1-7.

The Minutes read. Next Quarterly Meeting was announced by Moderator for Feb. 10-11 at the Duncan Eastside Church, with Bro. W. C. Hamilton preaching on Friday Night.

Standing vote of thanks to the Clerks.

Motion carried that we adjourn. Dismissed with singing "How Great Is My God" and a handshake.

Moderator - Bro. W. C. Hamilton
Clerk - Naoma Mullins

TREASURERS REPORT -- FIRST QUARTERLY

Carried forward	\$ 165.79
Received from Churches	1271.29
Working Balance	<u>\$1437.08</u>

Expense: Bro. & Sis. Staggs	\$ 78.00
OG&E	14.46
Carter County Water Co.	12.16
State Delegates	120.00
State Coop	419.92
Total Expense	<u>\$ 644.54</u>

Balance in Bank	\$ 792.54 (long 1¢)
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Working Coop:	
Campground Fund	\$ 64.40
C.T.S.	66.50
Local Missions	66.35
General Fund	595.28
	<u>\$ 792.53</u>

CAMPGROUND FUND REPORT FIRST QUARTER

Balance left in fund last quarter (Checking Account)	\$ 651.27
INCOME: Countyline Church	91.88
Refund on Campers Insurance	27.50
Refund on profit gain on concession stand	81.80
Total income	<u>\$201.18</u>

EXPENSES: Printing Report	10.00
K-Mart, antifreeze for bathrooms	4.11
Total expenses	<u>14.11</u>

Withdrawn and put in savings account	\$500.00
Balance left in Checking account	338.34
Total balance in fund	<u>838.34</u>

GIVINGS BY CHURCHES - FIRST QUARTER

CHURCH	State Coop	H.M.	F.M.	L.M.	H.D.	CTS	C.G.	G.F.	COOP	TOTAL
Countyline	34.82			3.50	6.96	3.50	6.96	58.91	65.65	114.65
Countryside	41.25	40.00		4.11	8.25	4.14	8.25	61.50	82.50	167.50
Duncan	41.77			4.18	8.35	4.18	8.35	61.71	83.54	128.54
Lawton	84.54			8.45	16.90	8.46	16.91	178.83	169.10	314.16
Midway								45.00		45.00
Stobtown			90.00					155.00		245.00
Waurika	39.25			3.93	7.85	3.93	7.85	115.70	78.50	178.50
	241.63	40.00	90.00	24.19	48.31	24.21	48.32	676.65	483.29	1193.29

EXECUTIVE BOARD REPORT - FIRST QUARTER

The Executive Board met Aug. 20, 1977 to elect a Chairman of the Board and to arrange a meeting with Midway Free Will Baptist Church to try to get them to come and fellowship with us in the association and be one of us.

The Board voted to meet with Bro. Troy Lewellen the Chairman of the Deacon Board to find out if they will meet with the Executive Board.

The Chairman of the Executive Board met with Bro. Troy Lewellen, Aug. 23, 1977. He said they voted to wait till they called a pastor and he would let them know what they decided. He talked with Bro. Troy, Nov. 6, 1977 and they haven't called a pastor.

CREDENTIALS BOARD REPORT - FIRST QUARTER

We, the Credential Board met with Bro. Hershel Lewis and found him sound in faith and Free Will Doctrine. We send this recommendation to permit him to be ordained with our prayers and support.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT - FIRST QUARTER

We recommend that each church pay 1% of local tithes and offerings to the Association Mission Fund and the monies are to be used for mission work only.

SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING

Feb. 10-11, 1978, Meeting time changed to March 10-11, 1978 because of bad weather.

Friday Night service of the Second Quarterly Meeting of the Hopewell No. 2 Association, when meeting with the Duncan Eastside Church - 5 Churches represented: Stobtown, Countyline, Countryside, Duncan Eastside and Lawton.

Called to order by Asst. Moderator, Bro. Beryl Blair. Bro. Carroll Milner led in prayer. With Sis. Vala Robinson at the piano, Bro. Charley Jones led the singing. The songs were: "Victory in Jesus" and "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder." Prayer by Bro. Harvey White. Next song "He Set

Me Free." Special songs: Bro. & Sis. Harvey White and Bro. & Sis. Don Jones sang "Thanks For Loving Me." Bro. & Sis. Harold Robinson sang "A Rose Among The Thorns." Sis. Donna, Pamela Sherry Jones and Gina White sang "One Day at a Time." Sis. Vivian Lewis, Gloria Spruell and Ruth Franklin and Mary Jones sang "I Need No Mansion." Bro. Charley Jones and his daughter Mary sang "I'm A Child of the King." Countyline Church sang "Stroll Over Heaven." Congregational song "I'll Live In Glory." Prayer by Bro. Carroll Milner.

Bro. W. C. Hamilton brought the message using as his main text St. Luke 18:9-12.

Altar Service, Sis. Mary Hamilton sang "Let My Light Shine" and "He Brought Me In."

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Hershel Lewis until 9:30 Business meeting Saturday morning.

Saturday Morning: Opened by prayer by Moderator, Bro. W. C. Hamilton. With Sis. Mary White at the piano, Bro. Harvey White led singing. The songs were: "I Never Shall Forget That Day" and "Living By Faith."

Letters were read from the Churches by Sis. Fran Milner and accepted.

Request from the Stobtown Church that Bro. David Gardner and Bro. Royce McClendon be licensed to preach the Gospel.

Request from the Midway Church that their pastor be accepted into Association.

With Sis. Mary Hamilton at the piano, Sis. Shirley McClendon led singing "The Old Rugged Cross" while giving the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

Minutes read and accepted.

Requests on Church letters reread.

Committees selected: Divine Service - Bro. Jess Gillaspy, Bro. J. T. Dover and Bro. Chris Ellege.

Resolution Committee: Bro. Hershel Lewis, Sis. Ora Posey and Sis. Nora Truitt.

Obituary Committee: Bro. Harold Robinson, Sis. Ruth Franklin and Sis. Teresa McClanahan.

Bro. Beryl Blair read the rules of order and welcomed the visitors.

Letter of recommendation read on Bro. Harvey White and accepted.

The C.T.S. and C.E.B. reports given and accepted.

Youth Camp report given and accepted.

Motion carried that each church pay the \$100.00 to the Youth Camp the way they wish.

Treasurers report given by Sis. Vivian Lewis and accepted.

Campground treasurers report given by Sis. Bobby Staggs and accepted.

Bro. David Gardner was selected to bring the morning message.

Report on the State Church Extension Program was given by Bro. Blair.

Recess for 15 minutes until Morning Worship Service. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. W. L. Lowe.

The Morning Worship service was opened by singing "Love Lifted Me" led by Bro. Jess Gillaspay with Sis. Teresa McClanahan at the piano. Another congregational song "There Shall Be Showers of Blessings." Bro. Royce McClendon led in prayer. A Short testimony service. Special songs: Sis. Juanita Lowe, Janette Watkins, Cheryl Lewellen and Pam Needham "Heaven Came Down and Glory Filled My Soul." Bro. & Sis. W. C. Hamilton, Bro. & Sis. Harvey White, Sis. Shirley McClendon, and Bro. David Gardner "The Eastern Gates." Sis. Vivian Lewis, Bro. & Sis. Hamilton, Bro. & Sis. White "Jesus Put a Song In My Heart." Everyone sang "How Great is My God" and "Call Him Up." Bro. Harvey White led in prayer.

Bro. David Gardner brought the message using as his text St. Luke 8:5-8.

Bro. Hamilton read Gal. 6:6 and gave the altar invitation. Sis. Hamilton sang "If I Could But Touch The Hem of His Garment" and "Let My Light Shine." Dismissed in prayer and ask the blessing on the noon meal by Bro. Harold Robinson.

Afternoon service opened by singing "Victory in Jesus" led by Bro. Jess Gillaspay with Sis.

Vivian Lewis at the piano. Prayer by Bro. Troy Lewellen.

Obituary Committee report given - Bro. George Gillaspay of Countyline. A moment of silent prayer concluded by Bro. Harvey White.

Resolution Committee report read and accepted.

Credential Board report read and accepted.

No Executive Board report.

Motion carried that we release the committees for the day.

Bro. & Sis. W. L. Lowe, Bro. David Gardner and Bro. Royce McClendon were given the right hand of fellowship, while we sang "We'll Work Till Jesus Comes."

Devotion given by Bro. Royce McClendon using Gen. 1:1-5.

Minutes of the meeting were leisurely read.

Standing vote of thanks to the Duncan Ladies for the noon meal.

Motion carried we adjourn from business for this session.

Next Fellowship announced to be at Midway.

Next Quarterly Meeting to be at Countyline May 12-13, 1978. Bro. Carroll Milner will be preaching the evening message. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Carroll Milner.

Moderator - Bro. W. C. Hamilton
Clerk - Naoma Mullins

CAMPGROUND REPORT - SECOND QUARTER

Total balance left in Fund last quarter.	\$ 838.34
INCOME: Countyline Church	63.70
Interest earned on savings account	4.16
Total income	<u>\$ 67.86</u>
EXPENSES: Printing report	6.00
Total expenses	<u>\$ 6.00</u>
Balance left in Checking account	\$ 396.04
Balance left in Savings account	<u>\$ 504.16</u>
TOTAL BALANCE IN FUND	\$ 900.20

TREASURERS REPORT - SECOND QUARTERLY

Carried forward	\$ 792.53
Received from Churches	922.67
	<u>\$1715.20</u>

Expenses: State Coop	\$476.17
O.G& E	11.09
Water	21.00
Printers	250.00
Insurance	523.00
Total Expenses	<u>1281.26</u>

Balance	\$ 433.94
District Working Balance:	
Local Missions	\$124.17
C.T.S.	91.32
Campground	88.13
General Fund	130.33
Total	<u>\$433.95 (1¢)</u>

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT - SECOND QUARTER

Be is resolved: That it go on record, that the pastors admonish the church members to refrain from, and curb as far as possible, the X-rated shows on TV in the home - to guard the children from such things on TV.

CREDENTIAL BOARD REPORT - SECOND QUARTER

We the members of the Credential Board met with Bro. David Gardner and Bro. Royce McClendon on this the 11th day of March, 1978. We have found them sound in Free Will Baptist Doctrine and Faith and recommend for 1-year license.

We the above welcome Bro. W. L. Lowe into Hopewell No. 2 with full fellowship and God Speed with letter of recommendation from his Association.

OBITUARY COMMITTEE REPORT - SECOND QUARTER

Bro. George Gillaspay - Countyline.

GIVINGS BY CHURCHES - SECOND QUARTER

CHURCH	STATE COOP	F.M.	H.M.	L.M.	H.D.	CTS	C.G.	G.F.	TOTALS
Countyline	31.85			3.17	6.38	3.19	6.38	*112.74	163.71
Countryside	41.25		25.00	4.14	8.25	4.11	8.25	16.50	107.50
Duncan	76.09			7.60	15.21	7.62	15.24	*130.43	252.19
Lawton	76.78			7.68	15.36	7.68	15.35	30.71	153.56
Midway									
Stobtown		180.00		35.11				20.00	235.11
Waurika							10.60		10.60
	\$225.97	180.00	25.00	57.70	45.20	22.60	55.82	*10.38	922.67

* Campground Insurance - \$100

THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING
May 12-13, 1978

Friday Night Service of the Third Quarterly Meeting of the Hopewell No. 2 Association when meeting with the Countyline Church, called to order by Bro. Ward Fellabaum, with Sis. Teresa McClanahan at the piano and Bro. Ralph Mullins leading the singing. The songs were: "My Wonderful Lord". Prayer by Bro. Noah Smith. We sang "All That Thrills My Soul." Special singing by Countyline young people: Teresa, Bat, James McClanahan, Janie Webb, Cindy Staggs and Tammy Youngblood. Special by Bro. & Sis. Edd Staggs, Pat McClanahan and Inez Staggs "One Day At A Time." Special by Bro. & Sis. Harold Robinson "I Won't Walk Without Jesus." Special by Bro. & Sis. Ralph Mullins "Touring That City." Testimony Service led by Bro. Harold Boerstler.

Bro. W. L. Lowe brought the evening message using as his main text St. Matt. 9:36-38.

Altar of Prayer by Bro. Ralph Mullins. Praying that God might send forth more laborers into His harvest. Announcements. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. J. T. McClanahan.

Four churches represented: Midway, Countyline, Duncan Eastside and Lawton.

Saturday Morning: Meeting opened by Moderator Bro. W. C. Hamilton. Bro. W. L. Lowe led in prayer. With Sis. Mary White at the piano, Bro. Don Jones led "Redeemed."

Letters read by Sis. Fran Milner and accepted. The delegates were given the right hand of fellowship.

Minutes read and accepted.

Bro. W. C. Hamilton appointed Bro. Harvey White as his assistant for the day.

Visitors welcomed.

Bro. Harvey White read the Rules of Order.

Request from the Duncan Church: We send Bro. Charley Jones to be examined for ordination as a Deacon.

Committees appointed:

Divine Service Committee: Sis. Barbara Jones, Sis. Nora Truitt and Sis. Minnie Barnhill.

Resolution Committee: Bro. J. T. McClanahan, Bro. Lyndon Hughes and Bro. Don Jones

Obituary Committee: Sis. Lynette Ashley, Sis. Teresa McClanahan and Bro. Chris Elledge.

Old business called for - none.

New business called for: C.T.S. report given by Bro. Carroll Milner on Youth Camp literature. Youth Camp discussed. Work day at Camp, June 10. Sandwiches on Sunday night, June 18.

Divine Service Committee dismissed to select the minister to bring the morning message.

Bro. Bill Jones talked about Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College.

Bro. W. C. Hamilton was selected to bring the morning message.

Treasurers report given by Sis. Vivian Lewis and accepted.

Campground Treasurers report given by Sis. Bobbie Staggs and accepted.

Dismissed until 11:00 Worship Service.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Carroll Milner.

Bro. Harvey White opened the Service, with Sis. Teresa McClanahan at the piano, Bro. J. T. McClanahan led singing: "My Wonderful Lord," and "Amazing Grace." Prayer by Bro. Ward Fellabaum. We sang "When We All Get To Heaven." We had a praise item. Testimony Service. Special song by Bro. & Sis. Harvey White and Bro. & Sis. Don Jones "The Prodical Son." Special song by Bro. & Sis. Hershel Lewis, "Keys to the Kingdom."

Bro. W. C. Hamilton brought the message using as his main text Eph. 5:15-22.

An altar invitation was given while Bro. & Sis. White and Bro. & Sis. Jones sang "Gone."

Bro. Jones wants to meet with all the teachers.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Noah Smith and blessing asked on the noon meal.

We had special prayer for little Sammie Ponder, who was seriously hurt.

Afternoon session was opened by our Moderator, Bro. W. C. Hamilton, with Sis. Mary White at the piano, Bro. Don Jones led "Victory in Jesus."

Letter of recommendation read on Bro. W. L. Lowe.

Credential Board report given and accepted.
(See reports)

Resolution Committee report given and accepted.
(See reports)

Obituary report - None. Praise the Lord.

Motion carried that we release the committees for today.

Bro. Don Jones brought the evening devotional using I Cor. 13:11-12.

Special song by Sis. Carol Higgins and Lynette Ashley "Let My Light Shine."

Motion carried that we give \$100.00 to Hillsdale out of our General Fund.

Standing vote of thanks to the Ladies of the Countyline Church for the noon meal.

All 6 Churches represented.

Motion carried that we adjourn. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Bill Jones.

Moderator - Bro. W. C. Hamilton
Clerk - Naoma Mullins

CAMPGROUND FUND REPORT - THIRD QUARTER

Total balance left in fund last quarter.	\$900.20
INCOME:	
Countyline Church	65.95
Interest earned on saving account.	<u>6.30</u>
Total income	<u>72.25</u>
Expenses: Printing last quarter	6.00
Balance left in checking account	\$455.99
Balance left in savings account	<u>\$510.46</u>
TOTAL BALANCE IN FUND	\$966.45

TREASURERS REPORT - THIRD QUARTERLY

Carried forward	\$ 433.95
Received from Churches	1043.06
Working balance	<u>\$ 1477.01</u>

Expenses: O.G.&E.	\$ 21.00
Carter County Water	14.97
FWB Bookstore	35.98
Campground Treasurer	100.00
State:	

Coop	\$200.74		
HD.	196.64		
PJ 5000	156.50		
Home M.	5.00		
Foreign M.	<u>140.00</u>	<u>698.88</u>	
Total paid out		<u>\$870.83</u>	<u>\$870.83</u>
BALANCE			<u>\$606.18</u>

Bank Balance:			
Local Missions	\$212.82		
CTS	111.39		
Campground	92.32		
General Fund	<u>189.66</u>	<u>\$606.19</u>	(1¢)

CREDENTIAL BOARD REPORT - THIRD QUARTER

We the Credential Board met with Bro. Charley Jones and have found him sound in both Faith and Free Will Baptist Doctrine and recommend him to his Church to be ordained.

RESOLUTION COMMITTEE REPORT - THIRD QUARTER

Be it resolved that each local church put forth more effort to have a full delegation at district meetings, and if not give reason to local church.

GIVINGS BY CHURCHES - THIRD QUARTER

CHURCH	Coop	FM	HM	HD	LM	CTS	CG	PROJ. 5000	GF	
Countyline	32.97			5.58	8.34	3.30	6.58		13.31	\$70.98
Countryside	27.50		5.00	5.50	2.76	2.74	5.50		11.00	60.00
Duncan	57.88			11.58	17.92	5.79	11.58		23.15	127.90
Lawton	82.39			16.48	8.23	8.24	16.49		32.95	164.78
Midway			5.00	156.50				156.50		318.00
Stobtown		135.00			51.40		100.00		15.00	301.40
										\$1043.06

46th ANNUAL ASSOCIATION OF HOPEWELL NO. 2

The 46th Annual Association of Hopewell No.2 convened at the Campground Aug. 10, 1978. Called into session by Asst. Moderator, Bro. Beryl Blair. With Sis. Vala Robinson at the piano, Sis. Mary White led the singing "I Feel Like Traveling On." Prayer by Bro. W. L. Lowe. Next songs: "O I Want To See Him" and "I'll Live on." Testimony Service led by Bro. Noah Smith. Special songs: Bro. & Sis. Harold Robinson "Some Day I'll Walk on Gold. Countyline Church "One Day at a Time." Sis. Mary White and daughter, Gina "If Heavens Only a Dream, Let Me Dream On."

Bro. Harvey Whites message taken from Col. 3:1-10, Seek those things above.

Five Churches present: Lawton, Duncan East-side, Countryside, Countyline and Midway.

Dismissed with altar of prayer.

Friday morning session opened by Asst. Moderator Bro. Beryl Blair. With Sis. Teresa McClanahan at the piano, Bro. Harvey White led "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms." Prayer by Bro. W. C. Hamilton. Scripture reading taken from Psalms 15.

Letters read by Sis. Fran Milner and accepted.

With Sis. Teresa McClanahan at the piano, Bro. White led "Stand Up For Jesus" while giving the delegates the right hand of fellowship.

Reading of the minutes by Sis. Naoma Mullins and accepted.

Letter request read from Bro. Carroll Milner asking that the session accept his resignation from Boards and grant him a letter to the Center Association accepted.

Rules of order were read by Moderator, Bro. W. C. Hamilton.

Motion made and accepted that the Moderator have authority to appoint the Committees.

Committees appointed:

Divine Service Committee: Bro. Harold Robinson, Sis. Terry Gardner and Sis. Teresa McClanahan.
Resolution Committee: Sis. Juanita Lowe, Bro. Noah Smith and Bro. Harvey White.
Obituary Committee: Sis. Myrtle Norton, Sis. Kathy Davis and Sis. Minnie Barnhill.

Motion made and second that we have a Temperance Committee and Sunday School Committee for this session. - carried.

Temperance Committee: Sis. Mary White, Sis. Geraldine Staggs and Sis. Ann Christian.
Sunday School Committee: Sis. Juhree McClain, Sis. Shirley McClendon and Sis. Mary Hamilton.

The Divine Service Committee dismissed to get the speaker for the morning message.

Bro. Carroll Milner was selected.

Bro. W. L. Lowe was appointed from the floor to be the speaker for the Memorial Service in the absence of Bro. Carroll Milner.

No unfinished business.

Motion carried that we have our Annual Association on Saturday (all day) only.

Motion amended to start yearly meeting on Friday Night for Worship service. Carried.

Motion carried that we adjourn business session until 1:00 O'Clock. Sis. Shirley McClendon dismissed in prayer until 11:00 AM Service.

Bro. W. C. Hamilton called us back in session, with Sis. Mary White at the piano, Bro. Beryl Blair led "Heavenly Sunlight" and "I Feel Like Traveling On." Short testimony service.
Special songs: Sis. Mary White and Gina "Crying In The Garden." Sis. Mary Hamilton, Shirley McClendon, Ann Christian, Terry Gardner and Kathy Davis "O What a Happy Day" and "He Is Lord." Prayer by Bro. Harold Robinson.

Service turned to Bro. Carroll Milner for the morning message, using as his text John 4: 19-26 "True Worship."

Bro. Noah Smith led in pray and ask the blessing on the noon meal.

We gave Bro. & Sis. Carroll Milner the right hand of fellowship.

Afternoon session called to order by Asst. Moderator, Bro. Beryl Blair. With Sis. Shirley McClendon at the piano, Sis. Amelia McClanahan led "Soul Winner for Jesus." Prayer by Bro. Harvey White. Bro. Harold Robinson gave the devotion Eph. 1:3-4 and 2:1-10. Robert M. Adams talked about insurance for the campground and for churches.

Executive Board Report: Bro. Noah Smith gave an oral report, the Board didn't meet, because some of the members moving away. Accepted.

Campground Board report given by Sis. Bobbie Staggs - accepted.

A standing vote of thanks for Bro. & Sis. Edd Staggs for the good job they did taking care of the campground.

The Divine Service Committee choose Bro. Noah Smith to bring the message for tonight.

Motion carried that we adjourn business until tomorrow. Dismissed in prayer by Sis. Juanita Lowe.

Friday night service, neither the Moderator or Asst. Moderator was present. The Clerk ask for nominations for a Moderator for the night service. Bro. W. L. Lowe was nominated and regularly seconded and carried.

Bro. W. L. Lowe opened the service with Sis. Teresa McClanahan at the piano and Bro. J. T. McClanahan led "When We All Get to Heaven." Prayer by Bro. Ralph Mullins. We sang "Jesus Saves" and "Tell Me The Story of Jesus." Testimony Service led by Sis. Vala Robinson. Sis. Vivian Lewis at the piano led the congregation in "The Family of God" as her testimony. Special Songs: Bro. & Sis. Harold Robinson "Please Search the Book Again." Bro. & Sis. Ralph Mullins "Plan of Salvation." Sis. Reba Boerstler "Precious Memories." Bro. & Sis. J. T. McClanahan and Teresa and Bro. & Sis. Ralph Mullins "He Bore it All." Bro. & Sis. Edd Staggs, Cindy Staggs, Teresa McClanahan "There Is A River." Bro. W. L. Lowe led the congregation in "Hand In Hand With Jesus" as his testimony.

Service turned to Bro. Noah Smith for the Evening message, using St. Matt. 24:35-46 for his main text.

Announcements. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Harold Robinson.

Saturday Morning session opened by Moderator, Bro. W. C. Hamilton. Prayer by Bro. W. L. Lowe. Scripture reading - Psalms 27:23-25. With Sis. Mary Hamilton at the piano, Bro. Harvey White led "Send the Light."

Reading of the delegates and filling in alternates: Sis. Kathy Elam and Sis. Carol Higgins. Sis. Teresa McClanahan at the piano, Bro. W.L. Lowe led "I Am Thine O Lord." We gave Sis. Kathy Elam and Sis. Carol Higgins the right hand of fellowship

CAMPGROUND BOARD - This is a standing Board.

Bro. Cleo Chism - Bro. Harold Robinson -
Bro. Edd Staggs, Chairman - Bro. Edmond Franklin - Bro. Noah Smith.

New business: Motion carried that we keep this Campground Board and that they be endowed with power to take care of the maintenance of the Campground.

Motion carried that we take a love offering for Bro. & Sis. Edd Staggs for the fine job they did at the Campground. We received an offering of \$67.14, while Sis. Ruth Franklin led "Sunshine In The Soul" with Sis. Mary White at the piano. Prayer by Asst. Moderator, Bro. Beryl Blair.

Motion carried that we take enough money out of the Treasury to finish the love offering out to \$100.00.

Motion made and seconded that we combine the CTS Board and CE Board and call it the Church Education Board. - Carried.

Asst. Moderator, Bro. Beryl Blair read the Church Covenant.

Motion made and seconded that we abandon the Church Fellowship Meetings until a later date. Carried.

Associational Treasurers report given by Sis. Vivian Lewis and accepted.

The Executive Board to get together and audit the Associational Books and bring findings to next meeting.

Recess for 15 minutes. Bro. W. C. Hamilton led in prayer.

Our Moderator opened the service with Sis. Teresa at the piano, Sis. Mary White led "Standing On the Promises." Prayer by Bro. Harold Robinson. We sang: "Won't It Be Wonderful There," "Where The Soul Never Dies" and "The Glory Land Way." Special songs: Bro. & Sis. W. C. Hamilton, Sis. Ann Christian, Carol Higgins, Kathy Davis and Mary White "Stepping On The Clouds," "Let My Light Shine" and Everyone sang "He Is Lord."

Bro. W. L. Lowe brought the Memorial Message.

The congregation stood and had prayer by Bro. Noah Smith, in memory of those that have gone home to be with the Lord.

Bro. Lowe used as his text Phil. 1:21-24 and II Cor. 5:8-9.

Bro. Edd Staggs led in prayer and ask the blessing on the noon meal.

Saturday Evening session opened by our Moderator Bro. W. C. Hamilton. With Sis. Mary White at the piano, Bro. Harvey White led "Amazing Grace." Prayer by Bro. Harold Robinson.

Committee Reports: Resolution - No resolutions
Temperance Committee report given and accepted.
(See reports)

Sunday School Committee report given and accepted. (See reports)

Obituary Committee report given..(See reports)
While standing we had a moment of silent prayer and Bro. Harvey White concluded it.

Miscellaneous business: Motion made and second that the Campground Board take care of insurance. Carried.

Election of Boards:

Executive Board:

Bro. Noah Smith	5 years
Bro. Harold Boerstler	3 years
Bro. Ralph Mullins	1 year

Credential Board:

Bro. Hershel Lewis 5 years

Mission Board:

Bro. Jess Gillaspy 5 years

Christian and Church Education Board:

Bro. J. T. McClanahan 5 years

Bro. Charley Jones 4 years

Bro. Othel Kyle 3 years

Bro. Cleo Chism 2 years

Bro. Edd Staggs 1 year

State Delegates:

Bro. Cleo Chism	Lawton
Sis. Reba Boerstler	Duncan Eastside
Sis. Juhnee McClain	Countryside
Bro. Edd Staggs	Countyline
Sis. Juanita Lowe	Midway
Sis. Mary Hamilton	Stobtown

State General Board Member:

Bro. Noah Smith (1979)

Quarterly Meetings: Locations and Bates and Friday night speakers:

Nov. 10-11, 1978 - Duncan Eastside

Bro. W. C. Hamilton, Speaker

Feb. 9-10, 1979 - Countyline

Bro. W. L. Lowe, Speaker

May 11-12, 1979 - Lawton

Bro. David Gardner, Speaker

Annual Meeting: Aug. 10-11, 1979

Bro. Royce McClendon, Speaker Friday night.

Bro. Beryl Blair, Alternate speaker.

Memorial Speaker, Bro. Beryl Blair.

Officers elected:

Moderator - Bro. Beryl Blair

Asst. Moderator - Bro. Harvey White

Clerk - Sis. Naoma Mullins

Asst. Clerk - Sis. Teresa McClanahan

Treasurer - Sis. Vivian Lewis

Asst. Treasurer - Sis. Joyce Lewis

Reporter - Sis. Juhree McClain

Motion made and seconded ~~that~~ that we can change our Annual Meeting back to Thursday Night and Friday, if so desired at a quarterly meeting. carried.

Motion made and second that we adjourn.

Moderator - Bro. W. C. Hamilton

Clerk - Naoma Mullins

CAMPGROUND FUND ANNUAL REPORT

August 1978

Total balance left in fund last quarter. \$966.45

Income: Stobtown \$100.00

Duncan 100.00

Lawton 100.00

Countyline 142.90

Profit on consession sales 86.65

Camp food sale 23.90

Refund from Mary Jones 25.00

Interest on savings 6.38

Total Income \$584.83

Expenses: Gordon White Lumber

Co. for windows \$ 36.71

Wooldridge, Supplies for camp. 14.47

Onita Ford, Camp Groceries 357.00

Harvey White, Ice 7.50

Bro. Hamilton, Camp Insurance 56.25

Sis. Jones, Ice 25.00

Latham Plumbing, W.Heater rep. 9.31

Surplus City, Trash cans, etc. 40.13

Evergreen Store, flea & tick sp. 4.66

Milner, CTS Literature 17.00

Velma Tag Agency, printing rep. 6.00

Total Expenses \$574.03

Balance left in checking account \$461.40

Balance left in saving account \$516.84

Total balance left in fund \$978.24

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION TREASURERS REPORT ANNUAL SESSION - AUG. 1978

INCOME:

Countyline	\$327.19	
Countyside	417.00	
Duncan	698.68	
Lawton	819.29	
Midway	730.00	
Stobtown	981.57	
Waurika	189.10	
Love Offering (Staggs)	78.00	
		<u>\$4340.83</u>

EXPENDITURES:

Love Offering (Staggs)	\$ 78.00	
OG & E	151.72	
Water Company	87.05	
FWB Bookstore	35.98	
Printers - Minutes	250.00	
State Delegates	120.00	
Campground Insurance	523.00	
CG Treasurer (Stob)	100.00	
Hillsdale (gift)	100.00	
Coop-plan	2164.71	
		<u>\$3610.46</u>
		730.37
		(5%)

BALANCE

State:

Coop	\$682.68	Balance in bank:	
Hillsdale	505.03	CTS	\$137.82
PJ 5000	322.50	Local M.	326.79
F.M.	595.00	C.G.	60.58
H.M.	70.00	Gen. F.	205.14
	<u>\$2164.71</u>		<u>\$730.33</u>
Assoc.			
Cost	1445.75		
	<u>\$3610.46</u>		

Hopwell No. 2 Assoc. Treasurer
/s/ Vivian O. Lewis

GIVINGS BY CHURCHES: LAST QUARTER 1977-78

CHURCH	Coop	FM	HM	Hillsdale	LM	CTS	CG	Gen. F	PJ 5000	Total
Countyline	34.13			6.83	17.05	3.42	6.83	13.64		81.89
Countryside	41.25			8.25	4.14	4.11	8.25	16.50		82.50
Duncan	82.84			16.47	33.02	8.25	16.50	32.97		190.05
Lawton	93.43			18.68	9.35	9.34	18.68	37.37		186.85
Midway		10.00		191.00					166.00	367.00
Stobtown		135.00			50.06			15.00		200.06
	\$251.65	145.00		241.23	113.52	25.12	50.26	115.48	166.00	1108.35

My thanks to each treasurer of each Church, May
The Lord bless you in your work for Him, as this
is an important phase in the service of the Lord.

/s/ Vivian

TEMPERANCE COMMITTEE REPORT - ANNUAL REPORT

Resolution that nothing needs to be carried into the pulpit but a Bible. The Bible is our Sword and shield.

We move that no gambling or intoxicating beverages and dope be brought into the church and we will fight against it outside of the church. Beware of changes within our churches which is against the will of God.

SUNDAY SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT - ANNUAL REPORT

We, your Sunday School Committee agree that each church do all within their power to get the Church Members to attend Sunday School faithfully and that we each have a brother or sister assigned to us to be responsible for, to call and see why they were not there. Let us be our Brothers Keeper.

We also agree to try the National Outreach Program.

OBITUARY COMMITTEE REPORT - ANNUAL REPORT

In memory of our loved ones: Sis. Margie Bench, Countyline; Bro. George Gillaspay, Countyline and Sis. Bessie Talley, Stobtown.

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK
Midway FWB Rt. 1 Healdton, OK. 73438 Ph. 673-2599	W. L. Lowe Rt. 1 Healdton, OK 73438 Ph. 673-2599	Frances Lewellen Box 201 Graham, OK 73437 Ph. 673-2315
Countyline FWB Countyline, OK		Amelia McClanahan Rt. 3, Box 88 Duncan, OK 73533 Ph. 444-2355
Countryside FWB 1½ M. east of Velma, OK 73091 Ph. 444-3530	Paul Wood Velma, OK 73091 Ph. 444-3530	Mary Head Box 143 Velma, OK 73091 Ph. 444-2470
Duncan Eastside 703 N. 13th Duncan, OK 73533	Beryl Blair 707 Patterson Commanche, OK 73529 Ph. 439-2311	Oleta Spruill 412 N. Avenue Comanche, OK 73529 Ph. 439-5186
First FWB 10 S. 24th St. Lawton, OK 73505	Harvey White 2328 Cornell Lawton, OK 73505 Ph. 248-4782	Vala Robinson 409 S. 23 Place Lawton, OK 73505 Ph. 355-1757
Stobtown FWB Rt. 3 Ardmore, OK 73401 Ph. 657-6295	W. C. Hamilton Rt. 3 Ardmore, OK 73401 Ph. 657-6295	Shirley McClendon Hoxbar Rt. Box 342A Ardmore, OK. 73401 Ph. 226-5013

OTHER ORDAINED MINISTERS

J. O. Hudson	Rt. 1 Healdton, OK 73438	673-2529
Noah Smith	Rt. 2, Box 232 Elmore City, OK 73035	788-4161
George McKinney	4328 Santa Fe Lawton, OK 73501	357-3645

OTHER ORDAINED MINISTERS - continued

Hershel Lewis	803 N. Elm St. Waurika, OK 73573	228-3420
Howard Walker	2816 San Saba Ft. Worth, TX 76114	817-625-4706

ORDAINED DEACONS

Watie M. Buttram	2501 A Ave. Lawton, OK 73505	353-4278
Cleo Chism	508 S. 13th St. Lawton, OK 73501	353-8482
Loray Spurgin	P.O. Box 842 Velma, OK 73091	444-2527
Forrest Cox	Rt.1, Box 46 Ratliff City, OK 73081	444-2584
James Benge	P.O. Box 363 Velma, OK 73091	444-2166
Ralph Mullins, Sr.	Rt.1, Box 1 Ratliff City, OK 73081	856-3038
Jess Gillaspay	Box 3 Countyline, OK 73025	856-3462
J. L. McDaniel	Rt. 4 Duncan, OK 73533	255-1455
Edmond Franklin	313 N. A Duncan, OK 73533	255-0777
Tommy Lewis	Waurika, OK	
Harold Boerstler	721 N. 8th Duncan, OK 73533	255-7015
Z. E. Chadouin	Box 4 Alma, OK 73003	444-2583

ORDAINED DEACONS - continued

Richard Watkins	Fox, OK 73435	673-2798
Joel Harmon	Fox, OK 73435	673-2312
Troy Lewellen	Box 201 Graham, OK 73437	673-2315
Troy Morris	Rt. 3 Ardmore, OK 73401	657-4513
Leonard Robinson	Star Rt. Lone Grove, OK	657-4742
Othel Kyle	Rt. 3, Box 41 Ardmore, OK 73401	657-6420
James Adams	Rt. 3, Box 169 Ardmore, OK 73401	657-4280

RULES OF ORDER

1. At every setting of the Association, business shall be opened and closed with prayer by the Moderator or whosoever he may request.
2. All standing delegates and elected delegates present are invited to seats, allowed to take part in debates on all subjects and to vote.
3. Those who speak shall rise and address the Moderator. Personal reflections shall be avoided in all debates.
4. The Moderator shall not allow discussion when not carried on in a Christian spirit.
5. No motion shall be discussed without a second.
6. 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 answer is given from the voting delegation the question shall be dismissed.
7. A ruling of the Moderator may be overruled by a two-thirds vote of the members present.
8. No question from any church shall come under the consideration of the Association unless it has been first discussed in its own church.
9. 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.
10. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded.
11. No one shall speak more than twice on the same subject without special leave of the Moderator.
12. All questions shall be decided by a majority vote of all members present.
13. No member shall absent himself without special leave of the Moderator.
14. Minutes shall be leisurely read and corrected before the close of the Association.
15. At all future sessions of the Association, arrangements shall be made to assure two sermons or other devotional exercises equivalent thereto, and the chair shall announce, just before adjournment, who shall fill the stand at the next meeting.
16. The Rules of Order shall be distinctly read from the chair immediately after organization.
17. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Introductory Sermon
2. House called to order by the Moderator
3. Letters called for and read and received
4. Right hand of fellowship and seating of the delegates
5. Reading of Minutes
6. Petitionary letters called for
7. Reading Rules of Order
8. Invite visitors to seats in council
9. Appointment of Committees
10. Unfinished Business
11. New Business
12. Reports of Boards
13. Reports of Committees
14. Miscellaneous Business
15. Election of Officers

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.

CONSTITUTION OF HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

PREAMBLE

From long experience, we, the members of the Free Will Baptist denomination, realizing the necessity of a bond of union and fellowship among us as a group of churches, do hereby ordain this Constitution for our progress and do perpetuate better associational government.

NAME

This Association shall be known as the Hopewell No. 2 Association of Free Will Baptist of the State of Oklahoma. It shall meet four times each year with August session designated as the Annual Session. Each quarterly conference shall possess the same authority as the Annual Session except for the election of Officers and Board Members.

PURPOSE

The object and purpose of this organization shall be to unify the work of the various bodies composing this District Association and to devise and execute measures for the extension of the Kingdom of God in connection with the various bodies in the Association, or that may hereafter be, represented therein.

MEMBERSHIP

This Association shall be composed of Free Will Baptist Churches which maintain Gospel order and agree with denominational doctrine and practices; and favor the enterprises that have been endorsed by the Association. Voting representation, at any session, shall be as described in Article Four (4) of the By-Laws.

NEW CHURCHES

Any regular organized Free Will Baptist Church desiring to unite with this Association may do so by presenting a petitionary letter and being examined by the Executive Board of the Association. A majority vote of this Association is necessary for the acceptance of any church into the association.

DISCIPLINE

This Association shall have the right to settle any question of discipline, doctrine or practices that may properly come before it from any of the bodies composing said organization. Furthermore, if there be any question of discipline, doctrine or practices on the part of an affiliated church, delegates of that church shall not be seated until these questions have been settled to the satisfaction of the Credential Board.

Section 2: Decisions of the Credential Board may be appealed in this manner. All appeals shall come before the body of the Hopewell No. 2 Association.

OFFICERS

The officers of this Association shall be a Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Clerk, Assistant Clerk and Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, all whom shall be elected at the annual session.

Section 2: In the event of a vacancy occurring between sessions, the Executive Board shall fill the vacancy until the next session.

BOARDS

The following standing Boards shall be elected in the Annual Session: Executive Board, Credential Board, Church Training Board, Christian Education Board, Mission Board. Each Board shall consist of five members as to have one member retiring each year.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

This Board shall be composed of five members who are members of an affiliated church, in good standing with their church and faithful in attendance and support. They shall be elected at the discretion of this Association. It shall be the duty of this Board to act in behalf of the Association when it is not in session. It shall be bound to carry out the directions of the Association and shall hold itself bound by every consideration of morality and honor to carry out the wishes of this Association and to act under its instructions in whatever technical rights, civil laws and the decisions of courts may give it in certain emergencies. It shall be the duty of this board to sign their signatures to any and all papers concerning properties, indebtedness, bonds, or other legal documents pertaining to the execution of the will of the Association. No member of the

Executive Board shall delegate authority to any other member of said Board to cast his vote for him in any matter. The Executive Board shall have the power to call the Association into conference by notifying each church, ten days prior to the conference; and, they shall have the authority to change quarterly meetings or the annual meeting if the place where said meeting is to be held is unable to care for the meeting. No meeting of the Executive Board shall be held unless there is a quorum present of three members. This Board shall make a full report in writing of its activities at each session.

CREDENTIAL BOARD

The Credential Board shall be composed of five ordained members of this Association who are members of an affiliated church, in good standing with their church and faithful in attendance and support. The credential board shall examine minister for license and ordination. It shall be the duty of this Board to examine all ordained ministers who wish to unite with this association. It shall also be the responsibility of this Board to examine candidates for the office of Deacon who are sent from their churches before this Association. In cases of discipline this board shall have the authority to labor with the ordained of this association.

CHURCH TRAINING SERVICE BOARD

This Board shall be composed of five members who are members of an affiliated church, in good standing with their church and faithful in attendance and support. The duties of this Board shall be to plan and assist in organizing and sustaining a strong Church Training Service in every Church in the Association. This Board shall plan, co-ordinate and conduct the Youth Camp program of this Association. they shall have full power to employ the needed staff for such a camp. This board shall keep an accurate record of all meetings, decisions, work done, funds received and disbursed and shall make a report in writing at each Annual Session of the Association. All records shall be available to this Association at its request.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD

This Board shall be composed of five members who are members of an affiliated church, in good standing with their church and faithful in attendance and support. The duties of the board shall be to promote Teacher Training in every Church of the association by clinics, seminars, institutes and conventions, on local and district levels. This board shall keep an accurate record of all meetings, decisions, work done, funds received and disbursed and shall make a report in writing at each annual session of the Association. All records shall be available to this Association at its request.

MISSION BOARD

This board shall be composed of five members who are members of an affiliated church, in good standing with their church and faithful in attendance and support. It shall be the duty of this board to labor to further the Gospel of Jesus Christ into the uttermost part of the Earth. In accomplishing this, they are to endeavor to establish missions and churches in communities within the bounds of this Association with whatever moral and financial assistance that may be theirs. In cases of all churches failing to function, whatever assistance deemed appropriate shall be rendered to maintain the effective witness of that church by direct labor with the church. The promotion of Missionary endeavors from a local, state or national level shall come within the scope of endeavor of this board. This board shall assist in maintaining prayer and financial support of missionary enterprises through whatever channels are available.

PROPERTY AND REAL ESTATE

Any church that is a member of the Hopewell No. 2 Association that shall become extinct, or that has or shall cease to function and use its property, shall be taken charge of by this Association, in accordance with the laws of the State of Oklahoma. Every endeavor shall be made by this Association to keep any church from becoming extinct.

VACANCIES

Vacancies shall occur when a member moves from the territorial bounds of this Association or by death, by resignation or by removal from office by this Association. In the event of disciplinary action where charges concerning misconduct, doctrine or practice shall have been lodged against a member of any Board, or officer, his office shall be held in abeyance until such charges shall be concluded or as determined by this Association. All boards shall have power to fill vacancies arising between sessions of this Association. Such appointment shall terminate at the next session of the Association and shall be filled by this Association.

SPECIAL SESSIONS

Elected delegates to the last session of the Association shall be retained as standing delegates for special called sessions.

DISSOLUTION

Should this Association cease to function, all properties and holdings shall go to the Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptist after all creditors are satisfied and indebtedness cleared.

AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be amended or altered at any regular session of the Association by a two-thirds majority vote of members present in writing to the body one day in advance.

BY-LAWS OF

THE HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION OF FREE WILL BAPTIST

1. The Moderator or Assistant Moderator shall call the Association into conference. In their absence the senior minister, in years, shall call the Association into conference and the body shall elect a moderator to serve for that session.

2. The Clerk of the Association shall have the duty of enrolling the delegates from the churches in this Association, who shall present themselves with proper evidence of their rights to seats therein.

3. It shall be the duty of every church belonging to this Association to send a letter to every session of this Association reporting in the same the spiritual condition of the church and the list of delegates. Any church belonging to this Association which shall fail to report itself for one year may be dismissed from the Association by a two-thirds vote of all members present.

4. The voting body of this Association shall consist of all ordained ministers and their wives, all ordained deacons and their wives, local church clerks, and three elected delegates from each church affiliated with this Association.

5. Any standing or elected delegate to this Association who is opposed to the doctrine of the National Association of Free Will Baptist, as set forth in the Treatise, will not be entitled to a seat in conference.

6. A majority of the Churches of this Association shall constitute a quorum, a lesser number shall adjourn until such a quorum is present.

7. Visiting brethren are invited to seats as advisory members, but may not vote on any question.

8. No person shall be allowed to nominate more than one member to a Board or Committee, provided the person nominated be elected.

9. All Boards and Committees of this Association shall be paid for travel to and from meetings at the rate of ten cents (10¢) per mile.

10. All Officers and Board Members of this Association must be faithful in attendance and support to their local church. Failure to comply will result in dismissal from their office.

11. A fee of \$45.00 is to be sent to the Annual Session of this Association. (\$15.00 for Printing of the minutes and \$20.00 for State Delegate fee, \$10.00 State Association expenses.)

12. The Treasurer of this Association shall be bonded in the amount of \$2,500.00. He is to submit a written report at each session. If a written report is not given a new treasurer will be elected.

13. It shall be the duty of all boards to meet as often as may be necessary and any member absenting himself for three successive meetings may be dropped from the Board and his successor elected.

14. These By-Laws may be altered or amended at any regular session of this Association by a two-thirds vote of members present.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. THE BIBLE - The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by the inspiration of God, and are infallible rules of faith and practice.

2. GOD - There is one living and true God, revealed in nature as the Creator, Preserver and Righteous Governor of the Universe, and in the Scriptures as the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore and obey.

3. CHRIST - Christ is God manifest in the flesh: in His divine nature truly God, in His Human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified. He is now risen and glorified is our ever-present Saviour and Lord.

4. THE HOLY SPIRIT - The Scriptures assigns to the Holy Spirit all the attributes of God. He is the Reprover, Comforter, Guide and Sanctifier of all men.

5. THE GOVERNMENT OF GOD - God exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining this constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of Grace, not otherwise provided for as highest welfare of man requires.

6. THE SINFULNESS OF MAN - Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin, and become guilty before God.

7. THE WORK OF CHRIST - The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, suffering, death, and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation of faith.

8. THE WORK OF SALVATION - The conditions of salvation are:

1. The Repentance of sincere sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciation.

2. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Saviour and Lord, with purpose to love and obey Him in all things. In the exercise of saving faith the soul is renewed by the Holy Spirit: freed from the dominion of sin and becomes a child of God.

3. Continuance in faith and obedience until death.

9. **ELECTION** - God determined from the beginning to save all who should comply with the conditions of salvation. Hence by faith in Christ, men become His elect.

10. **FREEDOM OF WILL** - The Human will is free and self controlled, having power to yield to the influence of the truth and the Spirit and live, or to resist them and perish.

11. **SALVATION FREE** - God desires the salvation of all, the Gospel invites all, the Holy Spirit strives with all, and whosoever will may come and take of the water of life freely.

12. **PERSEVERANCE** - All believers in Christ, who through grace persevere in holiness to the end of life, have the promise of eternal salvation.

13. **BACKSLIDING AND APOSTASY** - A person who has been regenerated or born again and is living in unconfessed, unforgiven sin, is rebellious to the principles of the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and therefore is a backslider in a lost condition who must repent and be restored to the right relationship with God or be eternally lost.

We recognize, according to Hebrews 6:4-6, that it is possible for a person to get in the condition that he could never return to Christ. This, we believe, is Apostasy; however, we also recognize that a regenerate person can fall into sin, be in a lost condition and still not be an apostate. This person, through repentance, can be reconciled to God.

14. **GOSPEL ORDINANCES** - Baptism, or the immersion of believers in water, and the Lord's Supper, are ordinances to be perpetuated under the Gospel: Feet Washing, an ordinance teaching humility, of universal obligation, and to be administered to all true believers.

15. **TITHING** - God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament: Jesus Christ endorsed in the Gospel (Matt. 23), and the Apostle Paul said, "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store as God has prospered him." 1. Cor. 16:2.

16. **THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH** - The divine law requires that one day in seven be set apart from the secular employment and amusements for rest, worship, holy works and activities, and for personal communion with God.

17. **RESURRECTION, JUDGMENT, AND FINAL RETRIBUTION** - The Scriptures teach the resurrection of all men at the last day. They that have done good will come forth to the resurrection of life, and they that have done evil unto the resurrection of damnation: then the wicked shall "Go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

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 promise 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 every where 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 pray 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 School, and evangelistic efforts for the salvation of the world and may the God of peace sanctify us wholly, and preserve us blameless up to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**NATIONAL
GUIDELINE
OF ORDINATION**

**ORDINATION TO THE MINISTRY
IN THE
FREE WILL BAPTIST DENOMINATION**

PREFACE

This little booklet has been prepared by the Executive Committee of the General Board of the National Association, and has been approved by the National Association of Free Will Baptists.

It must be clearly understood that this booklet is intended to be descriptive and not legislative. Nobody can set ordination requirements for the denomination as a whole; such ordaining body across the denomination has full liberty to follow whatever practices it chooses.

From time to time, however, various persons engaged in exercising ordaining responsibilities are desirous of knowing what is being practiced abroad in the denomination. For that reason this booklet has been prepared. The Executive Committee trusts that the suggestions and descriptions will be helpful for those who wish help.

PART 1: GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

THE AUTHORITY TO ORDAIN

Free Will Baptist, committed to doctrine of congregational church government, understand that the authority to ordain ministers lies in the local church. In practice, however, some local Free Will Churches work together in the matter of ordination by delegating the authority of ordination to the association of churches in which the local church holds membership. The true source of this authority should never be lost sight of.

THE PROCEDURE FOR ORDINATION

In some areas of the denomination, ordination follows a procedure at least similar to the following outline.

1. The individual, acknowledging his call from God, makes known his calling and desire for ordination to the local church of which he is a member.
2. The local church, led by the Holy Spirit to recognize that the individual does, indeed, appear to possess the gift, proceeds to have the candidate "licensed."
 - a. In many areas, the local church grants this "license" directly.
 - b. In other areas, the local church files a petition with the association that this "license" be granted.

Generally, there is no formal examination of a candidate involved for licensing. The request or action of the local church is all that is necessary at this stage. (For this reason, local churches should "license" or request license only after being firmly convinced the candidate has been called by God.)

3. The license issued in the preceding step is in force for a period of one year, and may be annually renewed if the licentiate is not ready for ordination. This renewal must be made by action or request of the local church.
4. Near the end of the licensing year, if the candidate feels he is ready for ordination, he again approaches his local church and signifies this. The local church, if it also feels that the candidate may be ready, now files a petition with the association that the candidate be examined for ordination.

5. Having received petition from the local church, the association's ordaining committee proceeds to "examine" the candidate. In reference to this step in the procedure, it should be noted that the details of the practice differ considerably from one place to another. But the basic practice is the same — Each association has some level of organization (a presbytery, ordination council or committee, etc.) which conducts the examination, and many groups require that a candidate fill out a formal "application" at this stage. This application should cover basic information on the candidate. The national bookstore has application forms for sale.
6. The ordination committee reports the results of its examination to the association as a whole, and makes recommendations to be acted upon by the association as a body. If a recommendation is made and approved that the candidate be ordained the actual service of ordination soon follows. (In some cases, the committee for examination will recommend some further studies for the candidate before he should be ordained, in which case his license will be renewed until the suggestions are followed and another examination made, or, in some cases, the committee should recommend that the candidate completely withdraw for consideration as an ordained minister, in which case his license should not continue to be renewed.)

It should be noted here that in at least one or two areas, a recommendation for ordination does not have to be approved by the associational body as a whole. Such a practice tends to forget that ordination, after all, is done by the churches, not the ministry.

7. The procedure for setting up the ordination service varies considerably.
 - a. In many associations the same committee that made the examination arranges and conducts the ordination service.
 - b. In some areas, the associational recommendation is directed back to the local church and the local church arranges and conducts the ordination service.
 - c. In some areas, the candidate is permitted to choose some or all of a committee of ministers to arrange and conduct the ordination service.

In all areas, the service is conducted by ministers as the ordained representatives of the churches, and includes the "laying on of hands" as signifying the candidate's to the gospel ministry.

The Meaning of Ordination

There are some groups that do not practice any kind of official "ordination." Free Will Baptist are not among these, but it should not be inferred that Free Will Baptists believe the "church" gives a man authority to preach. The authority for a man to preach lies solely with God. Free Will Baptist believe in a divinely-called ministry.

Yet the visible church always finds itself called on to pass judgment on the exercise of ALL spiritual gifts, the ministry included. The injunction of the Bible is everywhere "Try the spirits." It is not sufficient that a man gain hearing simply because he says he is called by God and is bringing God's message.

Ordination then, is simply the church's official recognition that a man does indeed possess the gift and calling of God to the ministry and is therefore entitled to be heard as such. As indicated in the previous discussion of ordination procedure, there are really two levels of direct

responsibility in ordination; the local church, primary, the associational ordination apparatus, secondary. Both levels should be thoroughly convinced, based on the evidence seen in life, ministry and knowledge, that the candidate has the required gift. And the general public should always be able to rely upon the fact of ordination as a clear sign that many Christians of mature judgment have recognized that the one ordained is gifted and capable to minister.

No group responsible for ordination would presume to imply that it is infallible. Candidates genuinely possessing the gift may on occasion be rejected, but although this is true the ordaining councils must not simply decide to ordain anyone just because he desires it.

The Responsibilities of Ordination.

The Candidate who has been ordained continues to have certain responsibilities relating to those who have ordained him, in addition to his obvious responsibilities to the Lord who has called him.

First, he should report regularly to the body with which he holds ordination.

Second, he should submit to any call issued by the body for disciplinary purposes. If he shows himself, by conduct or doctrine, to be unworthy or continuing as ordained, he should willingly relinquish his ordination certificate to those who have the authority and having followed the correct procedures — request it.

The Transfer of Ordination

Moving about from one place to another in the denomination often involves transferring ordination from one association to another. A minister in good standing in one association is usually granted confirmation of his ordained status in another association with a minimum of procedural requirements. But caution should be followed so that two definite responsibilities are observed.

- (1) The association from which a minister is transferring has the shared responsibilities to inform the new association if there were any questions at all about the minister's standing; conduct, or doctrine.
- (2) The association to which the minister is transferring should make sure by whatever means are necessary, that the minister has left his former association in good standing, and is worthy by conduct and doctrine, of ordination.

PART II: STANDARDS FOR ORDINATION

Obviously, there is considerable variety within the Free Will Baptist denomination in reference to requirements for ordination. The following outline will deal with the areas generally agreed to be most important.

1. General Qualifications Of Character And Conduct

The earlier portion of this booklet has made clear that the primary requirements is that the evidence given in the candidate's life be such as to convince those who observe — both in the candidate's local church and in a broader area that he possesses the gift and calling of God.

More specifically, the character and conduct of the candidate should be above reproach. To begin with, the Bible itself furnishes a list of standards in this area, and this list should be carefully checked. (1 Tim. 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9.) All persons responsible for examining candidates should make sure, either by their own personal knowledge, or by interviewing enough persons with direct knowledge, that the candidate meets the standards of these Biblical passages.

Obviously, the official recommendation of the local church should not be given to a candidate unless that recommendation can be fully relied on to mean that the candidate, by sufficient length of time, has given full assurance to the members of the church that he meets the standards of these Biblical lists.

2. The Candidate's Business Relationships

One of Paul's specific requirements is that the ministers "have a good report on them which are without," (1 Tim. 3:7). In reference to this, a matter of great importance is the candidate's financial reputation. The "Ministry" has been blighted by men who do not pay their bills. Every effort should be made to make sure the candidate is scrupulously careful to keep his finances in order.

To aid in achieving this assurance, several Free Will Baptist ordaining groups are now requiring the candidate to submit several credit references, and then perhaps even the credit bureaus are closely checked.

3. The candidate's Ministerial Activities

There have been far too many Free Will Baptist persons ordained as "preachers" who almost never preach or perform any real ministry for which ordination is required. Every effort should be made to be sure the candidate is actually going to be involved in ministerial duties. Indeed, he should already be manifesting ministerial abilities in some degree.

This need has brought more and more of our ordaining groups to follow his practice of only renewing license and not actually ordaining until a candidate actually gets involved in a specific "ministry" like pastoring, regular evangelistic work, missionary labor, or other types of church employment needing ordination. Perhaps this reflects Paul's requirement that the individual to be ordained not be a "novice" — neither immature as a Christian nor in Christian Service.

4. The Candidate's Marital Status

Perhaps one of the touchiest areas in connection with ordination requirements concerns divorce and remarriage. Paul says "the husband of one wife." Most groups do not take this to mean a single man cannot be ordained, but only that if he is married, he must not be a polygamist.

In a few areas, a person divorced and remarried might be ordained, although this is not true in most places. Whether this is right and good is a matter that needs a great deal of careful study across the whole denomination.

5. The Candidate's Sex

Throughout the years, a few women have been ordained to the ministry in the denomination and a very few are currently active. The general trend however, has been in the opposite direction; and most areas will not now ordain women.

6. The Candidate's Education

To our knowledge there are no specific educational requirements connected with ordination that are generally followed across the denomination, and probably there never should be. In order to raise the level of Biblical knowledge (see the next section), however, there are a few areas now requiring the completion of certain Bible correspondence courses as a minimum before ordination.

The Candidate's Biblical Knowledge

It is absolutely necessary that a minister have a good general knowledge of the word. Therefore, procedures are always in order among ordaining councils that will help them determine the level of Biblical knowledge possessed by the candidate. This is, indeed, one of the main purposes of the examination. When administered well, oral examinations along this line can certainly be sufficient, but the trend now in many areas is to go to some type of written examination covering Biblical knowledge. Such examinations, whether written or oral, should cover (1) knowledge of general Biblical facts and (2) ability to explain basic Biblical concepts. In order to cover these matters well, such examinations have to be carefully planned. And the ordainers should have recommendations about specific studies the candidate can get involved in to prepare him for these examinations — both before his first examination, and in preparation for a second examination if he fails to satisfy them the first time.

Please note that there has been included an Appendix 1 of this booklet, a sample examination covering this area (and the next). This examination is much like one in actual use by one ordaining group in the Free Will Baptist denomination.

The Candidate's Doctrinal Position

Closely related to the previous are (Biblical knowledge) is the matter of the candidate's doctrinal position and understanding. By actual examination (again, either orally or, perhaps better, in writing) the ordainers should be completely satisfied on these counts:

- (1) that the candidate is doctrinally sound and holds a clear-cut position in agreement with basic fundamentals of Christianity;
- (2) that the candidate is denominationally sound and holds a clear-cut position in agreement with the distinctive doctrines of the Free Will Baptist denomination;
- (3) that the candidate not only knows the right words, but understands and can satisfactorily explain the doctrines involved in the two areas just mentioned.

Again, please note that Appendix 1 of this booklet contains a simple examination covering this area and the previous one. The examination is much like the one in actual use by one ordaining group in the denomination.

