

# *Minutes*

## *Hopewell No. 2 Association*

FREE WILL BAPTIST  
CHURCHES

*54th Annual Meeting*

*1986*

MINUTES OF THE  
54th ANNUAL MEETING  
HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION  
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES  
1986

- OFFICERS -

MODERATOR . . . . . W. L. Lowe  
HC 63, Box 2400, Healdton, Ok. 73438  
Phone: 673-2599

ASSISTANT MODERATOR . . . . . Beryl Blair  
707 Patterson, Comanche, Ok. 73529  
Phone: 439-2311

CLERK . . . . . Wanda Kellett  
2603 A Avenue, Lawton, Ok. 73505  
Phone: 355-4668

ASSISTANT CLERK . . . . . Lynne Truax  
4820 S.E. Brown, Lawton, Ok. 73501  
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TREASURER . . . . . Juanita Lowe  
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Assistant TREASURER . . . . . W. L. Lowe  
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REPORTER . . . . . Bobbie Staggs  
P.O. Box 156, County Line, Ok. 73025  
Phone: 856-3978

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

|                            |         |
|----------------------------|---------|
| J. W. Craft . . . . .      | 5 Years |
| Myrl F. Kellett . . . . .  | 4 Years |
| Ralph Mullins, Sr. . . . . | 3 Years |
| Beryl Blair . . . . .      | 2 Years |
| W. L. Lowe . . . . .       | 1 Year  |

## CREDENTIAL BOARD

|                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| W. L. Lowe . . . . .      | 5 Years |
| David Gardner . . . . .   | 4 Years |
| Ed Staggs . . . . .       | 3 Years |
| J. W. Craft . . . . .     | 2 Years |
| Myrl F. Kellett . . . . . | 1 Year  |

## STANDING CAMP GROUND BOARD

Darryl Russell

Box 169 E, Ratliff, Ok. 73081

Phone: 856-3459

Floyd McDaniels

Rt. 3, Box 166 B, Ardmore, Ok. 73401

Phone: 657-8730

Richard Emberling, Treasurer

512 Stanolind, Healdton, Ok. 73438

Phone: 229-1428

Charles Denny

P.O. Box 566, Lone Grove, Ok. 73443

Phone: 657-6514

Jess Gillespy

Box 3, County Line, Ok. 73025

Phone: 356-3462

## WOMAN'S AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President . . . . . Cleo Spurgeon  
Box 842, Velma, Ok. 73091  
Phone: 444-2527

Vice President . . . . . Dianne Pierson  
Box 6, Graham, Ok. 73437  
Phone: 673-2109

Secretary . . . . . Lynne Truax  
4820 S.E. Brown Ave, Lawton, Ok. 73501  
Phone: 248-8499

Treasurer . . . . . Francis Lewellen  
Box 201, Graham, Ok. 73437  
Phone: 673-2315

Field Worker . . . . . Juanita Lowe  
HC 63, Box 2400, Healdton, Ok. 73438  
Phone: 673-2599

Mission Action . . . . . Vali Hayes  
HC Box 63, Box 1500, Healdton, Ok. 73438  
Phone: 229-2958

Mission Prayer . . . . . Wanda Kellett  
2603 A Ave., Lawton, Ok. 73505  
Phone: 355-4668

Mission Study . . . . . Florene Waldrep  
120 N. W. 44th #B5, Lawton, Ok. 73505  
Phone: 357-3751

THEME: "WE ARE ONE."

### \*MEETINGS\*

10-11-86, Countryside, Unity of the Brethren.  
1-17-87, Lawton, Unity of the Spirit.  
3-87, Lawton, District Workshop & Retreat.  
4-11-87, Midway, Unity with Christ.  
7-11-87, Stobtown, Unity of the Family.

FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING  
November 8-9, 1985  
Lone Grove

Friday, November 8, 1985, 7:30 p.m., the Hopewell No. 2 Association Quarterly Meeting was called to order by, Bro. Beryl Blair.

Bro. Myrl F. Kellett, led in Prayer.

Bro. Luther Gaines, led the congregational singing, with Sis. Mary Beth Bray at the piano, I'm too Near Home, Amazing Grace, Are You Washed In The Blood, I'm Free Again, and What A Day.

Special singing by, Sis. Shirley McDaniels, Thirty Pieces of Silver, Bro. Beryl Blair, Sis. Reba Boerstler and Sis. Jerri Strealy, I Need No Mansion Here and Bro. and Sis. Harold Robinson, Robes of White.

Bro. Ralph Mullins, led in prayer.

Bro. Beryl Blair, led Testimony Service, concluded with the congregation singing, Everybody Will Be Happy Over There.

Bro. James Waldrep, brought the evening message from, John 14:1-4, entitled, Blasting Off.

Saturday morning at 9:30 a.m., November 9, 1985, the meeting was called to order by Bro. Jerry Anderson.

Bro. James Waldrep, led in prayer.

Bro. Ralph Mullins, led singing, with Sis. Mary Beth Bray, at the piano, A Soul Winner for Jesus, and When the Roll Is Callep Up Yonder.

Bro. Jerry Anderson, admonished the Association from Romans 8:24.

Letters were read from the seven Churches by Sis. Burneze Mullins.

Right hand of fellowship was given as Bro. Ralph Mullins led, What A Friend, with Sis. Mary Beth Bray at the piano.

Minutes were read and approved.

Motion carried to receive the Petitionary letter from Stobtown, that Bro. Victor Cook,

be examined for acceptance into the Association.

Bro. Beryl Blair read the rules of order.

Visitors, Bro. Lewis Howell, First Oklahoma and Bro. Burton Perry, State Missions Director, was invited to seat in Council.

Appointment of Committees as follows:

Resolution Committee: Emma Combest, Harold Robinson and Donna Gothard.

Obituary Committee: Juhree McClain, Sandy Young, and Reshinda Anderson.

Temperance Committee: Norma Pugh, Steve Robinson and John Truax.

Divine Committee: Cindy Staggs, Vala Robinson, and Myrtle Norton.

Bro. Victor Cook, was selected for the 11:00 a.m. Speaker and Bro. Burton Perry, for the Afternoon Speaker.

Sis. Juanita Lowe, gave the Treasurer's report with \$1363.62 balance on hand. Motion carried to receive the report.

Motion carried that the Premium on the Insurance of \$704.00 be paid by the Camp Ground Treasurer.

Unfinished Business:

Motion carried that Bro. Leonard Cook be the Youth Camp Evangelist for 1986 and that the alternate be, Bro. Millard McGuire.

Bro. Burton Perry, State Missions Director, gave a report on the State Missions work.

New Business:

Motion carried that Youth Encampment be June 16-20, 1986.

Motion carried to adjourn Business until 1:00 o'clock and that we take a few minutes break before 11:00 a.m. Worship.

Bro. Harold Robinson dismissed in prayer.

11:00 a.m. Worship Service was opened with prayer by, Bro. Myrl F. Kellett.

Bro. Ralph Mullins, led singing, with Sis. Burneze Mullins at the piano, Victory In Jesus, He Set Me Free, Are You Washed In The Blood, and Sweet Hour of Prayer.

Special numbers rendered by Reshinda Anderson, playing a piano solo, Stobtown Church. I'm Bound For That City, The Mullins Family, Gone, and Sis. Norma Pugh, Take My Hand Precious Lord.

Bro. Victor Cook, brought the Message from I Corinthians 1:18-31.

Bro. David Gardner dismissed in Prayer and said the Blessing over the noon meal.

Business resumed at 1:25 p.m., with singing, I'm Bound For The Kingdom and I'll Live In Glory, led by Bro. Ralph Mullins, with Sis. Burneze Mullins at the piano.

#### Board Reports:

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Treasurer report of \$2780.31 balance on hand given by Bro. Steve Robinson.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Board report on the Youth Retreat all day October 5, 1985, also the Youth Valentine Banquet, February 15, 1985, at Midway.

Motion carried to receive the Credential Board report that they found Bro. Victor Cook, sound in doctrine and that he be received into full Fellowship of the Association upon receiving a letter of recommendation from his former Association of Hopewell No. 1. Signed: David Garder, J. W. Craft, Myrl F. Kellett, and W. L. Lowe.

Motion carried to receive the State Association report from the General Board member, Bro. Myrl F. Kellett. It was reported that there would be a Special called State Meeting, to elect a State Executive Secretary. (The Meeting was November 30, 1985, 10:00 a.m. at Hillsdale College.)

Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee recommendation, that we have a REVIVAL or Preaching Services, before our Annual Meeting and encourage everyone to attend.

Motion carried that we elect an Evangelist in February for the Annual Revival.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance

Committees recommendations as follows:

1. Stand against pornography and profanity in Public places. 2. Watch over the Education of our Children in the Schools.

Motion carried to receive the Obituary Committees report that, Bro. C. D. Roberts, from Stobtown was deceased. A moment of silent prayer with, Bro. W. L. Lowe concluding the prayer.

Miscellaneous Business:

Bro. Beryl Blair was elected as the third year man on the Executive Board in place of Bro. Tommy Brown.

Bro. Jerry Anderson was elected as the four year man on the Credential Board in place of Bro. Tommy Brown.

Motion carried to adjourn Business and go into the evening Worship at 2:15 p.m. Worship Service opened with singing, Blessed Assurance and I'll Fly Away, led by Bro. Ralph Mullins, with Sis. Burneze Mullins at the piano.

Special singing by, Sis. Shirley McDaniels, Its Beginning To Rain, Cindy Staggs, Born To Serve The Lord, Reshinda Anderson, Consider the Lilies, and Stobtown Church, What A Day That Will Be.

Bro. Burton Perry brought the evening Message from Psalms 62.

An Altar of Prayer followed the message dismissing the service.

Bro. Jerry Anderson, Moderator  
Sis. Wanda Kellett, Clerk

TREASURER'S REPORT

|                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Income from Churches . . . . .  | \$3309.98 |
| Balance in Ass'n Fund . . . . . | 1363.62   |

Expenses:

|                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Gen. Board Member Exp. . . . . | \$ 100.00 |
|--------------------------------|-----------|



|                               |            |
|-------------------------------|------------|
| Postage & Copies . . . . .    | \$ 10.40   |
| State Delegates Fee . . . . . | 245.00     |
| State Hosting Fee . . . . .   | 210.00     |
| Association Minutes . . . . . | 250.00     |
| OG&E . . . . .                | 84.00      |
| Water Department . . . . .    | 67.00      |
| Campground Fund . . . . .     | 458.25     |
| State Givings . . . . .       | 1993.72    |
| Total Paid Out . . . . .      | \$ 3418.37 |

#### CAMPGROUND FUND

|                             |            |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Balance brought forward.... | \$ 2537.21 |
| Total Deposits.....         | 567.85     |
| Total.....                  | \$ 3105.06 |
| Less pay outs.....          | 324.75     |
| Balance on hand.....        | \$ 2780.31 |

#### SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING

February 7-8, 1986

Eastside Duncan

Friday, February 7, 1986, 7:30 p.m. the Hopewell No. 2 Association convened for the Quarterly Conference.

Bro. Beryl Blair called the meeting to order.

Bro. Sanford Isham, led in prayer.

Bro. Ralph Mullins, led the singing of How Great Thou Art, Blessed Assurance, Standing On The Promises and Praise Him, with Sis. Florene Waldrep, at the piano.

Special singing by Bro. John Truax family, Joshua and Caleb, County Line, I'll See You In The Rapture.

Testimony Service followed with Bro. Ed Staggs concluding in prayer.

The evening message was brought by Bro. Charles Crenshaw, from I Peter 4:19 entitled, "Continue To Do What Is Right."

Bro. Myrl F. Kellett dismissed in prayer.

# GIVING BY CHURCHES - FIRST QUARTER

| CHURCH               | RECEIVED         | STATE<br>CO-OP | F.M.   | S. M. | HILLS<br>DALE | CAMP<br>GROUND | G.F.   | H.M.   |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------|--------|-------|---------------|----------------|--------|--------|
| Country<br>Side      | 82.50            |                | 27.50  |       |               |                | 55.00  |        |
| County<br>Line       | 139.38           | 50.63          |        |       |               | 16.88          | 71.87  |        |
| Duncan               |                  |                |        |       |               |                |        |        |
| Lawton               | 726.00           | 402.60         |        |       |               | 134.20         | 189.20 |        |
| Lone<br>Grove        | 614.72           | 335.84         |        |       |               | 111.94         | 166.94 |        |
| Midway               | 1156.75          |                | 245.65 | 64.60 | 433.90        | 59.60          | 55.00  | 298.00 |
| Stob<br>town         | 240.63           |                | 135.00 |       |               | 35.63          | 70.00  |        |
| L.W.Tab.<br>&N.Smith | 250.00<br>100.00 |                |        |       |               | 100.00         | 250.00 |        |
| TOTALS               | 3309.98          | 789.07         | 408.15 | 64.60 | 433.90        | 458.25         | 858.01 | 298.00 |

Saturday morning, February 8, 1986, 9:30 a.m., the meeting was called to order by Bro. Beryl Blair.

Bro. Ralph Mullins, led the singing, He Set Me Free, and Standing On The Promises, with Sis. Burneze Mullins at the piano.

Bro. J. W. Craft, led in prayer.

Bro. Myrl Kellett, was appointed Assistant Moderator, for the day.

Motion carried to receive the seven Church letters and to seat the delegates.

The right hand of fellowship was given while, Bro. Ralph Mullins, led the singing, What A Friend, with Sis. Burneze Mullins, at the piano.

Minutes were read and approved.

Bro. Myrl Kellett read the rules of order.

Appointment of Committees as follows:

Resolution: Harold Boerstler, Emma Combest, and Marty Cook.

Obituary: Kathy Davis, Delores Gillaspy, and Carol Vaughn.

Temperance: John Truax, Cindy Staggs, and Melodye Craft.

Divine: Jerri Strealy, Kimberly Mullins, and Kathy Elam.

The Divine Committee selected, Bro. James Waldrep, for the morning Speaker.

Motion carried to receive the Treasurers report of \$1626.25, balance on hand, given by Sis. Juanita Lowe.

Motion carried to dismiss until 10:55 a.m.

Bro. Steve Robinson, led in prayer.

11:00 a.m. worship service began with Bro. Myrl Kellett leading in prayer.

Bro. Ralph Mullins led the singing, Sunshine In My Soul, His Way With Thee, The Old Gospel Ship, and I'll Live in Glory, with Sis. Burneze Mullins, at the piano.

Special singing by Melodye and Lola Craft, I've Been Waitin, The Mullins family, Until You've Known God's Love, Lone Grove Church,

Just A Little Talk With Jesus and Bro. & Sis. Ed Staggs, One Day At A Time.

Bro. David Gardner, led in prayer.

Bro. James Waldrep, brought the message entitled, The Time Is Running Out, from John 9:4-5 and Amos 8:11-13.

Invitational song, Just As I Am, with Bro. Charles Crenshaw, praying the dismissal prayer and the Blessing over the noon meal.

Business resumed at 1:00 p.m., with Bro. Harold Boerstler, leading in prayer.

Bro. Ralph Mullins, led Love Lifted Me, with Sis. Burneze Mullins at the piano.

Bro. Ed Staggs brought a devotional from Luke 16:25, followed by prayer.

Unfinished Business:

Bro. Victor Cook, was elected as the Evangelist for the Associational Revival, August 4-7, 1986, at the Camp Ground with Bro. Charles Crenshaw, as the alternate.

Motion carried to pay the Evangelist \$200.00.

Special prayer was requested for Bro. Joe Blair and Sis. Eason.

New Business:

Motion carried to purchase two electric stoves for \$30.00 each for the Youth Cam from Timbers Apartments in Lawton, Oklahoma.

Note: Consider a type of Air Conditioning for the Camp Ground for the August meeting.

Motion carried to receive the Executive Board report given by Bro. Ralph Mullins.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Treasurers report with a balance on hand of \$3326.45, given by, Bro. Steve Robinson.

Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee report as follows:

For the Preachers to teach and preach against Drug and Alcohol abuse, also to have special prayer for those who are out of Church without reason.

Motion carried to receive the Obituary Committee report, with a moment of silent prayer, concluded by, Bro. Ralph Mullins for J. T. Dover and Lou Ashley, from Stobtown.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report as follows:

1. Stand against the movies and the T.V. shows that have profanity, pornography, immorality and prejudices in them. 2. Stand against secular humanism that is taught in schools. 3. We as Christians should become more involved with the Political Laws governing our Country.

Miscellaneous Business:

Announcement of Revivals, Stobtown, March 17, 1986, Lawton, February 24-28, 1986.

Prayer requests from each Church, followed by an Altar of Prayer.

Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Harold Robinson.

Adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Beryl Blair, Moderator  
Wanda Kellett, Clerk

TREASURER'S REPORT

|                                 |           |
|---------------------------------|-----------|
| Income from Churches . . . . .  | \$3796.70 |
| Balance in Ass'n Fund . . . . . | 1626.25   |

Expenses:

|                            |                |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| Water Dept. . . . .        | \$ 30.00       |
| OG&E . . . . .             | 93.09          |
| Camp Ground Fund . . . . . | 640.18         |
| State Giving . . . . .     | 2770.80        |
| Total Paid Out . . . . .   | <u>3534.07</u> |

CAMPGROUND FUND

|                                   |                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Balance brought forward . . . . . | \$2730.31      |
| Total Deposits . . . . .          | <u>2165.28</u> |
| Total . . . . .                   | \$4045.59      |
| Less Pay outs . . . . .           | <u>719.14</u>  |
| Balance on hand . . . . .         | \$3326.45      |

# GIVING BY CHURCHES - SECOND QUARTER

| CHURCH          | RECEIVED | STATE<br>CO-OP | F.M.   | S.M.  | HILLS<br>DALE | CAMP<br>GROUND | G.F.   | H.M.    |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|--------|-------|---------------|----------------|--------|---------|
| Country<br>Side | 82.50    | 33.00          | 27.50  |       |               | 11.00          | 11.00  |         |
| County<br>Line  | 150.32   | 90.19          |        |       |               | 30.07          | 30.06  |         |
| Duncan          |          |                |        |       |               |                |        |         |
| Lawton          | 716.00   | 429.60         |        |       |               | 148.20         | 143.20 |         |
| Lone<br>Grove   | 682.34   | 259.42         |        |       |               | 336.46         | 86.46  |         |
| Midway          | 1878.04  |                | 85.00  | 81.95 | 564.57        | 81.95          |        | 1064.57 |
| Stob<br>town    | 187.50   |                | 135.00 |       |               | 37.50          | 15.00  |         |
| L.W. Tab.       | 100.00   |                |        |       |               |                | 100.00 |         |
| Totals          | 3796.70  | 812.21         | 247.50 | 81.95 | 564.57        | 640.18         | 385.72 | 1064.57 |

THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING  
May 9-10, 1986  
Lawton

The Hopewell No. 2 Association convened Friday, May 9, 1986, 7:30 p.m. for the District Conference.

Bro. Beryl Blair, opened the service by calling on Bro. Myrl F. Kellett to pray.

Bro. Ralph Mullins, led the singing, He Abides, Tell It To Jesus, Are You Washed In The Blood and When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder, with Sis. Vala Robinson at the piano.

Altar of prayer led by Bro. James Waldrep.

Special singing by, Bro. & Sis. Harold Robinson, Pity The Man, Bro. Charles Denny, Heaven's National Anthem and The Marshall Robinson family, Who Can Do Anything.

Bro. Charles Denny, led the Congregation in singing, Praise The Lord and O How I Love Jesus.

Bro. David Gardner brought the message from Matthew 5:14-19, II Corinthians 7:17, entitled, "Let Your Light Shine In The Church."

Invitational song, In The Cross, led by Bro. Marshall Robinson, with Sis. Vala Robinson at the Piano.

An Altar of Prayer followed with Bro. J.W. Craft dismissing in prayer.

Refreshments were served following the service.

Saturday, May 10, 1986, 9:30 a.m., the Meeting was called to order by Bro. Jerry Anderson.

Bro. Harold Boerstler, led in prayer.

Bro. Ralph Mullins, led the singing, A Beautiful Life, and Hand In Hand With Jesus, with Sis. Vala Robinson at the piano.

Letters were read and received from the seven Churches.

The right hand of fellowship was given to the Delegates while, Bro. Ralph Mullins,

led, Amazing Grace, with Sis. Vala Robinson, at the piano.

Minutes were read and approved.

Motion carried to receive the Petitionary letters from Eastside Duncan, to pray for the Church to survive, and healing for Sis. Ruth Franklin and Sis. Ida Eason and Country Side's be set aside until 1:00 p.m. business.

A letter of recommendation from Hopewell No. 1, was read and received for, Bro. Victor Cook.

Bro. Beryl Blair, read the rules of order.

Appointment of Committees as follows:

Divine Committee: Myrtle Norton, Deloris Gillaspy and Kathy Davis. Resolution Committee: Charles Denny, Marshall Robinson, and Sharon Simon. Obituary Committee: Richard Emberling, Royce Gothard, and Nora Truitt. Temperance Committee: Kimberly Mullins, Kenettia Denny and Lisa Robinson.

Bro. James Waldrep, was chosen for the morning Speaker.

Unfinished Business:

Motion carried to purchase two water coolers for the Camp Ground Tabernacle.

Motion carried that the Association Purchase the Coolers.

Motion carried to receive the Treasurers report of balance on hand \$1895.84, given by Sis. Juanita Lowe.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Treasurer's report of balance on hand \$2324.13, given by Bro. Richard Emberling.

New Business:

Motion carried to replace Bro. Doug Hudson, on the Camp Ground Board with Bro. Charles Denny, by acclamation.

Motion carried to adjourn business until 1:00 p.m.

Bro. Jerry Anderson admonished the Association, from the Scripture, Philippians 4: 6-13, before dismissal.



11:00 a.m. Worship Service, was opened with singing, At Calvary.

Bro. Myrl Kellett, led in prayer.

Bro. Ralph Mullins, led the singing, Just Over in Gloryland and My Sins are Gone, with Sis. Burneze Mullins, at the piano.

Special singing, Bro. and Sis. Charles Denny, Gone, and Bro. Marshall Robinson family, He's My Strength, The Sun's Coming Up and Who Can Do Anything.

Bro. James Waldrep, brought the message from John 15:1-7, and James 4:5-8, entitled, "You Are Clean Through the Word."

Invitational song, Just As I Am, with Bro. James Waldrep, dismissing in prayer for the noon meal.

At 1:15 p.m., business resumed, with Bro. Ralph Mullins, leading, Jesus Saves, and Just a Little Talk With Jesus, with Sis. Vala Robinson at the piano.

Bro. W. L. Lowe, led in prayer.

Bro. Steve Robinson, gave a Camp Ground Board report and it was received.

Work day at the Camp, May 17, 1986.

Motion carried to receive the Youth Camp Director's report on rules and activities for the Youth Encampment, June 15-20, 1986.

Motion carried to receive the Executive Boards oral report.

Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee report as follows:

1. Be it resolved that we be a better witness to our lost loved ones and the lost world. 2. Be it resolved to spend more time on our personal prayer life and encourage the Church to establish a designated time of prayer.

Obituary Committee report was received with no deaths reported.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance

Committee report as follows:

1. We recommend that our pastors be alert and warn their people of the teaching on secular humanism that is being taught in our Educational Systems today. 2. That our people recognize the sin of legalized lottery and all forms of gambling, and make a stand for the Kingdom of God. 3. That we adhere to the Spiritual principles given in the Church Covenant and in Titus 2:11-13. 4. That we reaffirm our position as being opposed to homosexuality, drug abuse, divorce, immorality in both movies and the television programming and all other immoral issues. 5. That we encourage our people to become more active in all moral, ethical, and political issues.

Miscellaneous Business:

Motion carried to bring the Petitionary Letter from Country Side off the table. We request that the Brethern using the Camp Ground to vacate in 90 days or less.

Motion carried to table the above Petition until next Quarterly Conference.

Motion carried to adjourn.

Note: Consider changing the date for the May Meeting.

Dismissed in Prayer at 1:53 p.m. by Bro. Richard Emberling.

Jerry Anderson, Moderator  
Wanda Kellett, Clerk/

TREASURER'S REPORT

Income from Churches . . . . . \$3598.61  
Balance in Ass'n Fund . . . . . 1895.84

Expenses:

|                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Water Department . . . . . | \$ 34.00         |
| OG&E . . . . .             | 128.84           |
| State Giving . . . . .     | 2414.46          |
| Campground . . . . .       | 751.72           |
| Total Paid Out . . . . .   | <u>\$3329.02</u> |

# CAMP GROUND FUND

|                                   |                  |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Balance brought forward . . . . . | \$3326.45        |
| Total Deposits . . . . .          | 1610.16          |
| Total . . . . .                   | <u>\$4936.61</u> |
| Less pay outs . . . . .           | 2612.48          |
| Balance on hand . . . . .         | <u>\$2324.13</u> |

THE 54th ANNUAL ASSOCIATION OF HOPEWELL  
NO. 2 CONVENED AT THE CAMP GROUND, Aug. 8-9,  
1986

August 8, 1986, 7:30 p.m., the Hopewell No. 2 Association Yearly Conference was called to order by, Bro. Beryl Blair.

Bro. James Waldrep, led in prayer.

There was a time of Fellowship while singing, Victory in Jesus.

Bro. Ralph Mullins, led singing, It Took A Miracle, I've Never Been Sorry, Just A Little Talk With Jesus and Glad Reunion Day, with Sis. Vala Robinson, at the piano.

Testimony Service was led by, Bro. Beryl Blair.

Special singing, Bro. & Sis. Harold Robinson, Robe of White, Missy Blair, The Sun's Coming Up, County Line Church, I'll Live In Glory, Cindy Staggs, You Ain't Seen the Last of Me, Bro. & Sis. Darryl Russell, Our Precious Lord and the Lawton Quartet, Bro. & Sis. John Truax, Sharon Simon, and Wanda Kellett, Sweet Hour of Prayer.

Bro. Victor Cook, brought the message from Colossians 2:1-23, entitled, Functioning In the Body of Christ.

Cindy Staggs, played and sang the Invitational song.

The Evening service was dismissed singing, Amazing Grace and fellowshiping with Bro. Victor Cook and his family.

Saturday, August 9, 1986, the meeting was called to order by Bro. Jerry Anderson.

# GIVING BY CHURCHES - THIRD QUARTER

| CHURCH          | RECEIVED | STATE<br>CO-OP | F.M.   | S.M.  | HILLS-<br>DALE | CAMP<br>GROUND | G.F.   | H.M.   |
|-----------------|----------|----------------|--------|-------|----------------|----------------|--------|--------|
| Country<br>Side |          |                |        |       |                |                |        |        |
| County<br>Line  | 84.44    | 50.66          |        |       |                | 16.89          | 16.89  |        |
| Duncan          |          |                |        |       |                |                |        |        |
| Lawton          | 759.00   | 455.40         |        |       |                | 151.80         | 151.80 |        |
| Lone<br>Grove   | 918.67   | 551.19         |        |       |                | 183.74         | 183.74 |        |
| Midway          | 1526.50  |                | 85.00  | 99.29 | 496.46         | 349.29         |        | 496.46 |
| Stob<br>town    | 250.00   |                | 180.00 |       |                | 50.00          | 20.00  |        |
| L.W.Tab.        | 60.00    |                |        |       |                |                | 60.00  |        |
| TOTALS          | 3598.61  | 1057.25        | 265.00 | 99.29 | 496.46         | 751.72         | 432.43 | 496.46 |

Bro. Ralph Mullins, led Amazing Grace and Victory In Jesus, with Reshinda Anderson, at the piano.

Bro. J. W. Craft, led in prayer.

Letters were read by Sis. Lynne Truax and received from seven Churches.

Right hand of fellowship was given while, Bro. Ralph Mullins led, What a Friend, with Reshinda Anderson, at the piano.

Bro. Jerry Anderson, admonished the Association from I John 4:17.

Minutes were read and approved.

Motion carried to receive the Petitionary letters from County Line requesting that Bro. Ed Staggs be accepted into the Fellowship of the Association and Midway requested that Bro. Richard Emberlings licenses be extended.

Motion carried to receive the letter of resignation from Bro & Sis. Steve Robinson's Offices in the Association. They were given a rising vote of Thanks, in appreciation for their labor of Love.

Bro. Beryl Blair, read the rules of order.

Appointment of Committees as follows:

Resolution Committee: Richard Emberling, Nora Truitt and Myrtle Norton. Obituary Committee: Delores Gillaspy, John Truax and Charles Denny. Temperance Committee: Harold Robinson, Floyd McDaniels and Genetta Tate.

Motion carried to receive the Treasurers report with \$1698.19 balance on hand, given by Sis. Juanita Lowe.

Unfinished Business:

Motion carried to bring the Petitionary letter from Country Side off of the table.

Motion carried to drop the item of Business as it has been worked out.

New Business:

Motion carried to move the May Conference to the third weekend.

Motion carried that any Church who would like to have extra minutes pay for them.

Motion carried that Bro. James Waldrep be granted Ordination papers to replace the original ones that were burned in a house fire. The Ordained present laid hands on and prayed over him.

Motion carried to receive the Executive Board's report. They chose Bro. Victor Cook to be the Friday night speaker, in the absence of Bro. Steve Robinson.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Treasurer report of \$722.37 balance on hand given by Bro. Richard Emberling.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Youth Director's report of 105 registered Campers and 19 conversions.

Motion carried to adjourn until 11:00 a.m. Worship.

Bro. Richard Emberling, dismissed in prayer.

The Worship service was opened by Bro. Jerry Anderson.

A moment of silent prayer for those who had deceased the past year with, Bro. J. W. Craft concluding the prayer.

Bro. Ralph Mullins led, O' Say But I'm Glad, Joy Unspeakable and Won't It Be Wonderful There, with Reshinda Anderson, at the piano.

Special singing by Sis. Shirley McDaniels, Sis. Kennitia and Bro. Charles Denny, Something Is About To Happen, Bro. & Sis. Myrl F. Kellett, I'm Building A Bridge and Steal Away and Pray.

Bro. James Waldrep, led in prayer.

Bro. Jerry Anderson, brought the message from I Corinthians 13, entitle, Love.

Bro. Beryl Blair, dismissed in prayer and said the Blessing over the noon meal.

Business resumed at 1:00 p.m.

Bro. Myrl F. Kellett, led in prayer.

Bro. Ralph Mullins led, Unclouded Day, How Beautiful Heaven Must Be, and If We Never Meet Again, with Reshinda Anderson at the piano.

Sis. Vivian Lewis, sang, That Holy City, and The Family of God, with the Congregation participating.

Motion carried to receive the Credential Board recommendation, that Bro. Ed Staggs be received into the Fellowship, being found sound in doctrine. Signed: Bro. J. W. Craft, Bro. Myrl F. Kellett, Bro. Beryl Blair, and Bro. Jerry Anderson.

Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committees report as follows: That we strive to keep our young people involved in our Free Will Baptist Churches.

Motion carried to receive the Obituary Committee report, that Albert Ferguson and J. T. Dover, Stobtown, Minnie Moore, Lone Grove, Randall, Son of Wilma Spires, Lawton, and Cornelus Ivy's, husband, Chester, County Line, had deceased.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committees recommendations as follows: 1. Take action and vote on Lottery. 2. Take a stand against Rock and Roll religious music. 3. Take a stand against liquor by the drink and parimutual gambling. 4. Help our children to take a stand for Jesus against drugs and worldly items.

Motion carried to send a letter of Thanks, to the Living Word Tabernacle for the Arm-strong floor covering, the repairs of the bathrooms and the painting of building.

Bro. Jerry Anderson, resigned from the Camp Ground Board.

Bro. Floyd McDaniels, was elected by acclamation in place of Bro. Anderson.

Bro. J. W. Craft was elected as the five year man on the Executive Board.

Bro. W. L. Lowe was elected as the five year man on the Credential Board.

Bro. Ed Staggs was elected as the three year man on the Credential Board.

Bro. Darryl Russell was elected to the Standing Camp Ground Board in place of Bro.

Steve Robinson.

Bro. Richard Emberling was elected Youth Camp Director and Bro. Charles Denny the Assistant.

OFFICERS ELECTED AS FOLLOWS:

Moderator: Bro. W.L. Lowe, Assistant Moderator, Bro. Beryl Blair.

Clerk, Sis. Wanda Kellett, Assistant Clerk, Lynne Truax.

Treasurer, Sis. Juanita Lowe, Assistant

Treasurer, Bro. W. L. Lowe.

Reporter, Sis. Bobbie Staggs.

Bro. Myrl F. Kellett, was elected as the General Board Member for the State Meeting.

Associational Meetings and Speakers:

November 7-8, 1986, County Line, Speaker, Bro. Beryl Blair.

February 13-14, 1987, Lone Grove, Speaker, Bro. Ed Staggs.

May 15-16, 1987, Country Side, Speaker, Bro. Myrl F. Kellett.

August 7-8, 1987, Camp Ground, Friday night Speaker, Bro. David Gardner, alternate, J.W. Craft, Saturday morning Speaker, Bro. Richard Emberling, alternate, Bro. W. L. Lowe.

Date for Youth Encampment, June 14-19, 1987.

Motion carried to elect the Evangelist at the November meeting.

Motion carried to have an Associational Revival, August 3-6, 1987.

Bro. W. C. Hamilton was elected as the Evangelist.

Motion carried to pay the Evangelist \$300.00 plus Love Offerings for this fiscal year.

Motion carried to adjourn.

Bro. Jerry Anderson, Moderator

Sis. Wanda Kellett, Clerk



# TREASURER'S REPORT Fourth Quarter

Income from Churches . . . . . \$3534.40  
Balance in Ass'n Fund . . . . . 1698.19

## Expenses:

Water Dept. . . . . \$ 72.75  
OG&E . . . . . 284.67  
Campground . . . . . 893.69  
State Giving . . . . . 2230.94  
C. Denny (Water Cooler) . . . . . 250.00  
Total Expenses . . . . . \$3732.65

## YEARLY REPORT August 1985 - 1986

Total received . . . . . \$14,239.69  
Total paid out . . . . . 14,013.51  
Balance . . . . . 1,698.19

## CAMP GROUND FUND

Balance brought forward. . \$6691.91  
Expenses . . . . . 5969.54  
Balance in Fund . . . . . \$ 722.37

## MINISTERS AND DEACONS - OFFICERS & MEETINGS

Moderator . . . . . Beryl Blair  
Secretary & Treasurer . . Ralph Mullins

## MEETINGS:

October 25, 1986-----7:30 p.m.  
January 24, 1987-----7:30 p.m.  
April 25, 1987-----7:30 p.m.  
July 25, 1987-----7:30 p.m.

# GIVING BY CHURCHES - FOURTH QUARTER

| CHURCH                          | RECEIVED        | STATE<br>CO-OP | F.M.   | S.M.   | HILLS-<br>DALE | CAMP<br>GROUND  | G.F.   | H.M.   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|--------|--------|----------------|-----------------|--------|--------|
| Country<br>Side                 |                 |                |        |        |                |                 |        |        |
| County<br>Line                  | 66.34           | 39.80          |        |        |                | 13.27           | 13.27  |        |
| Duncan                          | 237.00          |                |        |        |                | 182.00          | 55.00  |        |
| Lawton                          | 765.00          | 372.00         | 20.00  |        |                | 249.00          | 124.00 |        |
| Lone<br>Grove                   | 737.48          | 442.48         |        |        |                | 147.50          | 147.50 |        |
| Midway                          | 1373.62         |                | 90.00  | 106.96 | 534.85         | 106.96          |        | 534.85 |
| Stob<br>town                    | 129.96          |                | 90.00  |        |                | 29.96           | 10.00  |        |
| H.W. Tab.<br>Grace<br>P.V.F.W.B | 125.88<br>40.88 |                |        |        |                | 125.88<br>40.88 | 60.00  |        |
| Totals                          | 3534.40         | 854.28         | 200.00 | 106.96 | 534.85         | 893.69          | 409.77 | 534.85 |

# GIVING BY CHURCHES - YEARLY REPORT

| CHURCH          | RECEIVED  | State<br>CO-OP | F.M.    | S.M.   | HILLS-<br>DATE | CAMP<br>GROUND | G.F.    | H.M.    |
|-----------------|-----------|----------------|---------|--------|----------------|----------------|---------|---------|
| Country<br>Side | 165.00    | 33.00          | 55.00   |        |                | 11.00          | 66.00   |         |
| County<br>Line  | 440.48    | 231.28         |         |        |                | 77.11          | 132.09  |         |
| Duncan          | 237.00    |                |         |        |                | 182.00         | 55.00   |         |
| Lawton          | 2966.00   | 1659.60        | 20.00   |        |                | 678.20         | 608.20  |         |
| Lone<br>Grove   | 2953.21   | 1588.93        |         |        |                | 779.64         | 584.64  |         |
| Midway          | 5934.91   |                | 505.65  | 352.80 | 2029.78        | 597.80         | 55.00   | 2393.88 |
| Stobtown        | 808.09    |                | 540.00  |        |                | 153.09         | 115.00  |         |
| Mrs. Smith      | 100.00    |                |         |        |                | 100.00         |         |         |
| J. W. Tab       | 470.88    |                |         |        |                | 125.00         | 470.00  |         |
| Grace F.W.B     | 125.88    |                |         |        |                | 40.00          |         |         |
| P.V. F.W.B      | 40.00     |                |         |        |                |                |         |         |
| Totals          | 14,239.69 | 3512.81        | 1120.65 | 352.80 | 2029.78        | 2743.84        | 2085.93 | 2393.88 |

| CHURCH                                                                  | PASTOR                                                                           | CLERK                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Countryside<br>Box 235<br>Velma, Ok.<br>73025<br>Ph: 444-3530           | Mark Paxton<br>Box 235<br>Velma, Ok<br>73025                                     | Emma Combest<br>Rt 3, Box 129B<br>Duncan, Ok.<br>73533<br>Ph: 444-2433     |
| County Line<br>Box 236<br>Countyline, Ok.<br>73025                      | Edward Staggs<br>P.O. Box 156<br>County Line, Ok.<br>73025<br>Ph: 856-3978       | Gearldine Staggs<br>Box 126<br>County Line, Ok.<br>73025                   |
| East Duncan<br>Box 1413<br>1303 Chestnut<br>Duncan, Ok.<br>Ph: 252-0519 | <del>Roger Porter<br/>P.O. Box 299<br/>Temple, Ok.</del>                         | Vivian Lewis<br>1105 W. Cedar<br>Duncan, Ok.<br>73533<br>Ph: 255-6348      |
| Lawton First<br>10 S. 24th St.<br>Lawton, Ok.<br>73505<br>Ph: 355-4668  | Myrl F. Kellett<br>2603 A Ave.<br>Lawton, Ok.<br>73505<br>Ph: 355-4668           | Wanda Kellett<br>2603 A Ave.<br>Lawton, Ok.<br>73505<br>Ph: 355-4668       |
| Lone Grove<br>P.O. Box 325<br>Lone Grove, Ok.<br>73443<br>Ph: 657-3246  | David Gardner<br>Star Rt. 107<br>Aster, Lone<br>Grove, Ok. 73443<br>Ph: 657-4430 | Mary Beth Bray<br>Rt. 3, Box 31-C<br>Ardmore, Ok.<br>43401<br>Ph: 657-4908 |
| Midway<br>HC-63 Box 2400<br>Healdton, Ok.<br>73438<br>Ph: 673-2599      | W. L. Lowe<br>HC-63 Box 2400<br>Healdton, Ok.<br>73438<br>Ph: 673-2599           | Janette Watkins<br>Box 235<br>Fox, Ok.<br>73435<br>Ph: 673-2798            |
| Stobtown<br>Rt. 3, Box 154C<br>Ardmore, Ok.<br>73401<br>Ph: 657-6295    | Harvey White                                                                     | Ann Christian<br>Rt. 3 Box 134A<br>Ardmore, Ok.<br>73401<br>Ph: 657-2218   |
| Grace FWB<br>P.O. Box 132<br>Comanche, Ok.<br>73529<br>Ph: 439-2311     | Beryl Blair<br>707 Patterson<br>Comanche, Ok.<br>73529<br>Ph: 439-5241           | Geneva Hughes<br>Comanche, Ok.<br>73529                                    |

## OTHER ORDAINED MINISTERS

|                 |                                      |                   |
|-----------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| J. W. Craft     | Rt. 1, Box 225<br>Comanche, Ok.      | 439-6341<br>73529 |
| J. O. Hudson    | HC 63<br>Healdton, Ok.               | 673-2524<br>73438 |
| Royce McClendon | Rt. 2<br>Ardmore, Ok.                | 657-8214<br>73401 |
| Gary Newnum     | Hq. AFCEINT RESERVE<br>Corp. APO, NY | 09145             |
| James Waldrep   | 120 N.W. 44th St.<br>Lawton, Ok.     | 357-3751<br>73505 |

## LICENSED MINISTERS

|                   |                                |                   |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| Richard Emberling | 512 Stanolind<br>Healdton, Ok. | 229-1428<br>73438 |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|

## ORDAINED DEACONS

|               |                                             |                   |
|---------------|---------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Ralph Mullins | Box 275<br>Ratliff City, Ok.<br>73081       | 856-3038          |
| Jess Gillaspy | Box 3<br>Countyline, Ok.<br>73025           | 856-3462          |
| Sam Staggs    | Box 126, Countyline,<br>Ok.                 | 73025             |
| Loray Spurgin | Box 842<br>Velma, Ok.                       | 444-2527<br>73091 |
| Forest Cox    | Rt. 1, Box 46<br>Ratliff City, Ok.<br>73081 | 444-2584          |

# ORDAINED DEACONS - continued

|                   |                                            |          |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------------|----------|
| Harold Boerstler  | 721 N. 8th<br>Duncan, Ok. 73533            | 255-7015 |
| Luther Eason      | Rt. 5, Box 7E<br>Duncan, Ok. 73533         | 252-0239 |
| Cleo Chism        | 508 S. 13th<br>Lawton, Ok. 73501           | 353-8482 |
| Dale Howell       | St. Rt., Box A104<br>Lone Grove, Ok. 73443 | 657-3836 |
| Troy Morris       | Rt. 3, Box 155<br>Ardmore, Ok. 73401       | 657-4513 |
| Othel Kyle        | Rt. 3, Box 31<br>Ardmore, Ok. 73401        | 657-6420 |
| Leonard Robinson  | Rt. Box 20<br>Lone Grove, Ok. 73443        | 657-4742 |
| Marshall Mitchell | Rt. 3, Ardmore,<br>Ok. 73401               | 657-4252 |
| Troy Lewellen     | Box 201<br>Graham, Ok. 73437               | 673-2315 |
| Terry Pierson     | Box 6<br>Graham, Ok. 73437                 | 673-2109 |
| Richard Watkins   | Box 235<br>Fox, Ok. 73435                  | 673-2798 |
| Billy Christian   | Star Rt. Box 17<br>Lone Grove, Ok. 73443   | 657-4842 |

## **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 <sup>Church</sup> 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 ministers 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.

### **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**

### **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 fifteen cents (15¢) 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 \$55.00 is to be sent to the Annual Session of this Association. (\$20.00 for printing of the minutes and \$25.00 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."—I 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 Jesus 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 study of the Scriptures, secret prayer, family devotions, and social worship, and by self-denial, faith, and good works endeavor to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We will not 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.

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 judg-



ment 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. 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 this 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 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.

7. 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 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.

#### 8. 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 sample 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.

