

Assistant
Clerk

Minutes

Hopewell No. 2 Association

FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCHES

61st Annual Meeting

1993

MINUTES OF THE
61st ANNUAL MEETING
HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES
1993

- OFFICERS -

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

Assistant Moderator Myrl Kellett
2603 A. Ave., Lawton, Ok. 73505
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Clerk Charlene Robinson
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Assistant Clerk Wanda Kellett
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Treasurer Loray Spurgin
Box 842, Velma, Ok. 73091
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Assistant Treasurer Mary Head
P.O. Box 143, Velma, Ok. 73091
Phone: 444-2470

Reporter Imogene Woodall
Rt. 6, Box 224, Duncan, Ok. 73533
Phone: 255-1725

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Beryl Blair	5 Years
Troy Lewellen	4 Years
Loray Spurgin	3 Years
Myrl Kellett.	2 Years
J.W. Craft.	1 Year

CREDENTIAL BOARD

Don Zickefoose.	5 Years
Myrl Kellett.	4 Years
J.W. Craft	3 Years
Dugan McDonald.	2 Years
Troy Lewellen	1 Year

CAMPGROUND BOARD

Marshall Robinson	5 Years
1007 I. Ave. Lawton, Ok. 73501	
Phone: 248-3536	
Beryl Blair	4 Years
707 Patterson, Comanche, Ok. 73529	
Phone: 439-2311	
L.T. Woodall.	3 Years
Rt. 6, Box 224, Duncan, Ok. 73533	
Phone: 255-1725	
Terry Pierson	2 Years
Box 6, Graham, Ok. 73437	
Phone: 673-2109	
Don Zickefoose.	1 Year
1912 Garfield, Lawton, Ok. 73501	

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President Cleo Spurgin
Box 842, Velma, Ok. 73091
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Vice-President. Diann Pierson
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Secretary Imogene Woodall
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Treasurer Frances Lewellen
P.O. Box 201, Graham, Ok. 73437
Phone: 673-2315

Mission Study Maria Ayala
1221 Sw. 26th Pl., Lawton, Ok. 73505
Phone: 357-9469

Mission Action. Kim Robinson
1614 B Ave., Lawton, Ok. 73501
Phone: 248-5921

Mission Prayer. Nadine Nix
Rt. 3 Box 231, Duncan, Ok. 73533
Phone: 444-2537

Field Worker. Wanda Kellett
2603 A Ave., Lawton, Ok. 73505
Phone: 355-4668

Theme: Profit or Loss in Serving the Lord
Malachi 3:14

FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING
November 13-14, 1992
Midway

Friday, November 13, 1992, Hopewell No. 2 Quarterly Meeting was opened with Bro. Beryl Blair in charge of services. Prayer was led by Troy Lewellen. Congregational singing was led by Terry Pierson with Diann Pierson at the piano. Songs were "Joy Unspeakable", "A New Name Written Down In Glory", "I Shall Not Be Moved", and "Blessed Assurance". Followed by an altar of prayer. Special music was brought by Cathy Little "If We Hold On Together" and Terry Pierson "Touch Me With Love". Bro. L.T. Woodall brought the message from Psalms 100:4, John 15:13, Romans 1:21-28 and Psalms 103:2. His message was entitled "Being Thankful". Dismissed in an altar of prayer.

Saturday, November 14, 1992, 9:30 a.m., the business session was called to order by Bro. Beryl Blair. Congregational singing was led by Terry Pierson with Diann Pierson at the piano singing "Heavenly Sunlight". Prayer was led by Bro. Dugan McDonald.

Letters from 8 Churches were read and received. Bro. Beryl Blair read the Covenant. The right hand of fellowship was given while Terry Pierson led "When We All Get To Heaven".

Minutes of the August Meeting was read and received. Petinary letters from Midway Church request L.T. Woodall go before the Credential Board for examination to be reinstated as minister. Motion carried to grant the request. Letters from Missionaries, Lonnie Sparks and Lynn Midget were read. Reading of the rules of order were by Bro. Beryl Blair. Visitors were invited to be seated in council.

Appointment of Committees:

Resolution: Terry Pierson, Bro. Eason, Rob Rooker. Obituary: Bobby Staggs, Mary Head, Loretha Pierson. Temperance: Troy Lewellen, Imogene Woodall, Sheila Rooker. Divine: Roger Kellett, Nadine Nix, Joyce Combs. Treasurers report was given by Bro. Loray Spurgin of \$.22 balance on hand. No unfinished business. Business dismissed until 1:00 with prayer.

Morning worship service with Terry Pierson in charge. Leading in "Leaning on the Ever Lasting Arms". Congregational singing was "He Keeps Me Singing", "Footsteps of Jesus" and "On Jordans Stormy Banks" with Diann Pierson at the piano. Prayer was led by Bro. Ed Staggs. Special music was by Don Zickefoose "Satisfied With Me", Bro. & Sis. Marshall Robinson "Nothing My God Can't Do" and Imogene Woodall and Diann Pierson "Would Jesus Find Us Watching". The message was brought by Bro. Myrl Kellett entitled "Looking to Jesus". His scriptures were in Hebrews 12:1-3 and 12-15. Dismissed for lunch at 12:00.

Afternoon business opened with a devotional and special singing from Bro. & Sis. Marshall Robinson "Heaven" and "He's Still Working On Me".

Board Reports:

Campground Board: Balance on hand of \$ 2,540.00 with the garage sale bringing in \$ 210.00. Credential Board Report: The petition to reinstate to previous position and give full fellowship and privilege as recommended by the Midway Church was voted down. The members present were: Dugan McDonald, Ed Staggs, Don Zickefoose, and Myrl Kellett. General Board Members Report: Given by Bro. Beryl Blair, noted about the Hillsdale College needs.

Committee Reports:

Resolution: We as an Association body and family of God, should support the work that can be done through the Eastside Duncan Church. We need to hold them up in our prayers that the Lord will send a preacher and laborers soon to a much needed work.

Temperance: From Matthew 5:9, "Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the Children of God". As Christians, we need to stand on his word and stand against Satan and the things of this world. We need to support the boycott against K-Mart, Walden Books and Levi Strauss that promote pornography. We need to seek Gods will every day and ask Him to bring us closer to Him and create more unity in our Churches and our Association. Obituary: Ernest Matthews of Midway Church and Amelia McClannahan of the Countyline Church.

New Business: Be it resolved that the license of Harvey Clark, that is filed in the Stephens County Courthouse, be annulled, as they are not valid and against the Free Will Baptist Constitution, and the ruling the Hopewell No. 2 Association done in business August 8, 1992. Motion carried and received. Motion carried to adjourn. Prayer of dismissal by I.T. Woodall.

Bro. Beryl Blair, Moderator
Charlene Robinson, Clerk

HOFEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
1ST QUARTER 92

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on Hand, July 31-92	\$ 94.83
Income from Churches	1,462.75
Less Expense	1,347.35

Expenses

Water	\$ 61.25
Water (Nov. bill)	29.50
O.G.&E.	191.60
State Assoc.	280.00
Assoc. Minutes	250.00
State Co-Op	535.00

Balance on Hand-October 31-92	\$.22
Campground Fund	\$ 210.01

HOFEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
1ST QUARTER 92
TREASURER'S REPORT

CHURCH	INCOME	STATE CO-OF	F.S.H. MISSIONS	STATE DELE MINUTES	ASSOC. EVANG.	HILLS- DALE	CAMP GROUND	GEN. FUND
Countryside	265.00	60.00	55.00	85.00		25.00	20.00	20.00
Countyline	47.41	28.85					9.28	9.28
Duncan								
Grace	411.22	171.84		75.00	50.00		57.19	57.19
Lawton	360.00	171.00		75.00			57.00	57.00
Lone Grove	205.31	78.19		75.00			26.06	26.06
Midway	75.00				75.00			
Stobtown	98.81			55.00			28.81	15.00

TOTALS	\$1,462.75	\$509.88	\$55.00	\$365.00	\$125.00	\$25.00	\$198.34	\$184.53
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SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING
February 12-13, 1993
Stobtown

Friday, February 12, 1993, Hopewell No. 2 Quarterly Conference was opened with Bro. Beryl Blair. Prayer was led by Bro. Royce McClendon. Congregational singing was led by Othel Kyle with Shirley McClendon at the piano. Songs were "There Is Power in the Blood", "Just a Little Talk with Jesus", "I Shall not be Moved" and "Heavens Jubilee", with a fellowship following. Special music brought by Othel Kyle and Shirley McClendon "Stroll Over Heaven" and "He Filled a Longing", Harold & Vala Robinson "I'm Going with Jesus", Bro. & Sis. Marshall Robinson "I Am Blessed", and Jimmy Tate "To Go To Heaven". Singing was followed by an altar of prayer. Bro. J.W. Craft brought the message from II Corinthians 4:5-9, Mark 16:15-18, Acts 4:10-12. His message was entitled "Jesus Christ". Dismissed in prayer.

Saturday, February 13, 1993, 9:30 a.m., the business session was called to order by Bro. Beryl Blair, with a few words of admonishment. Congregational singing was led by Othel Kyle with Shirley McClendon at piano. Songs were "When The Saints Go Marching In", and "Just Over In The Gloryland". Dismissed in prayer by Othel Kyle.

Letters from 8 Churches were read and received. The right hand of fellowship was given while "Victory in Jesus" and "I'm Bound For That City" was led by Othel Kyle.

Minutes of the November meeting was read and received. Petinary letters were from Heaven Bound Free Will Baptist Church of Duncan, that Pastor Danny Barks and Deacon Mike Harris go before the Credential Board to be examined and received into the Association.

Motion carried to grant the request. Reading of the rules of order were by Bro. Beryl Blair. Visitors were invited to be seated in council.

Appointment of Committees:

Resolution: Mary Head, Don Zickefoose, Kim Robinson. Obituary: Naomi Mullins, Imogene Woodall, L.T. Woodall. Temperance: Dale Howell, Othel Kyle, Elsie Garrett. Divine: Darryl Robinson, Nadine Nix, Donna Gothard. Treasurers report was given by Loray Spurgin of \$ 86.83 on hand. No unfinished business. Dismissed business with two songs led by Othel Kyle, "Understand It Better By And By" and "This World Is Not My Home". Adjourned until 1:00 from business.

Morning worship service with Bro. Beryl Blair in charge. Song led by Bro. Othel Kyle of "When We All Get To Heaven". Congregational singing was "When I See The Blood". Special music by Harold & Vala Robinson "The Lovely Name of Jesus", Don Zickefoose "This Is The Hour", Darryl, Kim & Charlene Robinson "Standing On Holy Ground", Bro. & Sis. Mike Harris "Carry On Church" and Sandra Barks "In One Accord". Bro. Danny Barks gave a good report on the progress of the Heaven Bound Free Will Baptist Church. Then he brought the message from Luke 24:13-36 entitled "Effective for Christ". He concluded his message with "The Old Rugged Cross" with Othel Kyle leading. Dismissed for noon meal. Bro. Dugan McDonald prayed the benediction.

Afternoon business opened with Don Zickefoose leading "What A Friend We Have In Jesus" with Shirley McClendon at piano.

Board Reports:

Executive Board report given by Bro. Beryl Blair that they voted not to renew insurance until the Association at Grace Church. Camp Ground Treasurer Report has balance on hand of \$ 3,587.81.

Campground Board Report: given by Bro. Beryl Blair, that they not renew the campground insurance until the Associational meeting. Credential Board Report: Bro. Mike Harris was examined and found sound in doctrine and recommended to be received into full fellowship of the Association. Bro. Danny Barks was examined and found sound in doctrine and recommended to be received into full fellowship of the Association, upon receiving a letter of recommendation from Dibble Association.

Committee Reports:

Resolution: Motion carried to receive item by item. (1) Be it resolved that we consider renting a campground due to the fact that we only have it once a year and upkeep is almost impossible. It would bring more young people to camp. It is for the sake of the children and their salvation. (2) We also recommend John Beverly for camp evangelist. (3) We recommend the date to be June 13-18 to accommodate the evangelist or the renting of a camp.

Temperance: We recommend that we as Christians hold our nations leaders and those in authority in serious and fervent prayer and that they will seek Gods leadership in their decisions.

Obituary: had no deaths reported.

New Business: Motion carried to rescind motion of old minutes that said ordained not attending two meetings, had to send a letter of apology, before they can vote in next meeting. Motion carried that the Insurance on the Youth Camp be not renewed. Motion carried to adjourn with a prayer of dismissal.

Beryl Blair, Moderator

Charlene Robinson, Clerk

HOFEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
2ND QUARTER 92-93

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on Hand, November 1-93	\$ 210.23
Income from Churches	1,336.07
Less Expenses	1,459.47

Expenses

Water	\$ 84.00
O.G.&E.	121.50
State	789.57
Campground	464.40

Balance on Hand-January 31-93	\$ 86.83
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HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
2ND QUARTER 92-93
TREASURER'S REPORT

CHURCH	STATE INCOME	CO-OP MISSION	HOME MISSION	STATE MISSION	HILLS- DALE	CAMP GROUND	GEN. FUND
Countryside	145.00	45.00	45.00		25.00	15.00	15.00
Countyline	550.30	330.18				110.06	110.06
Duncan	109.06	65.44				21.81	21.81
Grace	229.68	97.60	17.00		50.00	32.54	32.54
Lawton							
Lone Grove	263.93	158.37				52.78	52.78
Midway							
Stobtown	38.10					23.10	15.00
TOTALS	\$1,336.07	\$696.59	\$62.00		\$75.00	\$255.29	\$247.19

THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING
May 7-8, 1993
Countryside

Friday, May 7, 1993, Hopewell No. 2 Association was opened with Bro. Beryl Blair in charge of service. Marshall Robinson led the singing of "Are You Washed In The Blood". Bro. Danny Barks led in prayer. Congregational singing led by Marshall Robinson "Let My Life Be A Light" and "Joy Unspeakable", with Vala Robinson at the piano. Special music was brought by Cathy Little leading Countryside youth in "If We All Hold On Together", Harold & Vala Robinson "Jesus Is Precious", Darryl, Kim & Charlene Robinson "Call Me By Name" and Bro. & Sis. Marshall Robinson "I Know The Master Of The Wind". Marshall Robinson led "Heavens Jubilee" while a hand of fellowship was presented. Bro. Mark Barnes brought the message from Hebrews 3:12-15 and Hebrews 2:1. His message was entitled "Gods Warning". Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Myrl Kellett.

Saturday, May 8, 1993, 9:30 a.m., the business session was called to order by Bro. Beryl Blair. Congregational singing was led by Marshall Robinson "Victory In Jesus" with Vala Robinson at the piano. Association was admonished by the moderator, Bro. Beryl Blair with the scripture from Romans 12:1&2.

Letters from 5 Churches were read and received. Bro. Beryl Blair read the Covenant and the right hand of fellowship was given while Marshall Robinson led singing "Power In The Blood".

Minutes were read and received. Petitionary letters from Countryside request for Bro. Mark Barnes to be received into the Hopewell No. 2 Association after going before the Credential Board. Motion carried to grant

the request. Reading of the rules of order were by Bro. Beryl Blair. Visitors were invited to be seated in council.

Appointments of Committees:

Resolution: L.T. Woodall, Barbara Davis, Mary Head. Temperance: Loray Spurgin, Alice Spurgin, Tonya Allen. Obituary: Cathy Little, Don Zickefoose, Joyce Combs. Divine: Kim Robinson, Nadine Nix, Michelle Blair.

The selection for the morning speaker was Bro. Jack Richey. Treasurers report was given by Loray Spurgin of \$ 385.09. Campground Treasurers report was given by Terry Pierson of \$ 3,875.41 on hand. Campground report was read by Marshall Robinson that the Board recommends to use Hopewell No. 2 Camp. Also Bro. Dale Vandenburg as Evangelist. They recommend that Saturday, May 15, be work day for the Campground. Unfinished business: Insurance for Campground, Campground Evangelist, and date of Youth Camp.

Bro. Jack Richey came to speak a moment about Hillsdale and its activities. Bro. Connie sent greetings from the State Executive Office. Motion carried to adjourn business until 1:15.

Morning worship service opened with Bro. Beryl Blair in charge. Song led by Marshall Robinson of "Rescue the Perishing" with Vala Robinson at the piano. Don Zickefoose led in prayer. Continued singing, "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms". Special music by Michelle Blair "Two Winning Hands", Kim Robinson "When I Knelt The Blood Fell", Cathy Little "The Only Real Peace", Bro. & Sis. Marshall Robinson "Praying", and Don Zickefoose "Peace Be Still". Bro. Jack Richey brought the message from II Kings 6:1-7. His message was entitled "Take Up Our Axes and Go To Work". Bro. Mark Barnes prayed the benediction.

Afternoon business opened with singing, "Love Lifted Me" led by Marshall Robinson with Vala Robinson at the piano.

Board Reports:

Executive Board had no report. Motion carried to receive the Credential Board as follows: We have examined Bro. Mark Barnes and we find him sound in doctrine and recommend that he be received into the Association upon receiving a letter of recommendation from his Association. Signed: Dugan McDonald, Don Zickefoose, Danny Barks, and Myrl Kellelt.

Committee Reports:

Resolution Committee: Motion carried to receive item by item: (1) Recommend that we have the Ministers Quartet come again July 23rd 1993 for promotion of El Reno Land & Church at Lawton Church, (note: was set up July 30th). (2) We encourage the Hopewell No. 2 Association to send a letter to the State and National Association in support of the Church Covenant as written. (3) We recommend if we have camp at the Hopewell No. 2 Association Campground, the parents and all the Churches in the Association become more supportive both before and during Camp. Temperance Committee: We recommend to hold to scripture I John 2:16, Lust of flesh, which includes alcohol and drugs, Lust of eyes which is our sexual conduct, and Pride of life which is being humble. Motion carried to receive. Obituary Committee: received no deaths. Announcements: Youth Camp date June 27th thru July 2nd 1993. And Revival at Countryside June 4-6, Work day at Camp May 15th. L.T. Woodall dismissed in prayer.

Bro. Beryl Blair, Moderator
Charlene Robinson, Clerk

HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
3RD QUARTER 93

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on Hand, February 1-93	\$ 86.83
Income from Churches	2,123.02
Less Expenses	1,824.76

Expenses

Water	\$ 0.00
O.G.&E.	119.92
State	1,429.84
Campground	275.00

Balance on Hand-April 30-93	\$ 385.09
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HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
3RD QUARTER 93
TREASURER'S REPORT

CHURCH	INCOME	STATE CO-OF	FOREIGN MISSION	HOME MISSION	STATE MISSION	HILLS- DALE	CAMP GROUND	GEN. FUND
Countryside	640.00	45.00		65.00		500.00	15.00	15.00
Countyline	63.00	37.80					12.60	12.60
Grace	399.05	239.43					79.81	79.81
Heaven Bound	430.95	193.57	75.00(minutes)		20.00		71.19	71.19
Lawton	462.00	276.80					92.60	92.60
Lone Grove	88.70	53.22					17.74	17.74
Midway								
Stobtown	39.32						24.32	15.00

TOTALS	\$2,123.02	\$845.82	\$75.00	\$65.00		\$520.00	\$313.26	\$303.94
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ANNUAL ASSOCIATIONAL MEETING
August 6-7, 1993
Grace

Friday, August 6, 1993, Hopewell No. 2 Association Annual Meeting was opened with Bro. Beryl Blair in charge of the service. Congregational singing "I'll Fly Away" led by Marshall Robinson with Vala Robinson at the piano. Bro. Wade Jernigan led in prayer. Special music was by the Griffin Family with "Some Day", "Just Any Day Now", "Love Is Why" "Boundless Love", "Call Out My Name Loud And Clear", "No Grave Going to Hold My Body Down" "I Saw Jesus When I Prayed Last Night", and "I Saw the Light". Bro. Bill Griffin led a testimony service. Bro. Bill Griffin brought the message from Luke 16:19-31 entitled "Rich Man - Poor Man". After altar service, Bro. Wade Jernigan spoke on Home Missions giving in November. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Mark Barnes.

Saturday, August 7, 1993, 9:30 a.m., the business session was called to order by Bro. Beryl Blair. Congregational singing was "Amazing Grace" and "Just Over in the Gloryland", with Marshall Robinson leading and Imogene Woodall at the piano. Followed by an altar of prayer which was led by Bro. Myrl Kellett.

Letters called for, read and received from five churches. The right hand of fellowship was given while singing "Gloryland Way". Minutes were read and received. Petinary letters were read from Midway Free Will Baptist Church for Bro. L.T. Woodall to receive his ordination papers and be reinstated as an ordained minister. Other letters were from Dibble Association recommending Bro. Danny Barks.

Rules of order were read by Bro. Beryl Blair. Visitors were invited to be seated in council.

Appointment of Committees:

Resolution: J.W. Craft, Montie Blair, Darryl Robinson. Temperance: Nadine Nix, Troy Lewellen, Joyce Combs. Obituary: Don Zickefoose, Kim Robinson, Alice Spurgin. Speaker for Memorial Services at 11:00 a.m., Bro. Myrl Kellett. Treasurers report given by Loray Spurgin with \$ 755.71 on hand. Motion carried that Campground utility bills be paid by the Campground Treasurer. Campground Treasurer's report given by Terry Pierson with \$ 3,222.02 on hand. Motion carried to receive Campground Board report given by Marshall Robinson, that the Campground Board at the Quarterly District Meeting May 8, 1993, announced Campground work day, Saturday May 15, 1993. Necessary repairs on the Campground were started at that time. Subsequent work days were announced at each meeting. Work days were as follows: May 15, May 22, June 5, June 12 and June 26. Some of the projects under taken were repairs to water damaged floors in girls dorms and new floor cover in girls dorms also. Raised floor level in boys shower. New counter cover in kitchen, water leaks and plumbing repairs. General clean up and ground maintenance. The Campground Board also met August 6, 1993. The Campground Board recommends that the Campground rules stay as is. Motion carried to receive Youth Camp Directors report given by Bro. Beryl Blair that there were 62 Campers. The Youth Camp Directors commended the Youth Camp Staff and Marshall Robinson as promoter of repair work. Executive Board had no report. No unfinished business. Motion carried to break for coffee

and come back at 10:45 for worship service.

Morning worship service was opened by Bro. Beryl Blair. Marshall Robinson led singing "Love Lifted Me", "The Last Mile of the Way" and "Power in the Blood". Bro. Ed Staggs led in prayer. Special music by Don Zickefoose "Someone Who Cares" and "Homecoming in Heaven", Darryl, Kim and Charlene Robinson "I Know You Would". The Obituary report was given and a moment of silent prayer concluded by Don Zickefoose. Bro. Myrl Kellett brought the message from Psalms 116:1-19, Matthew 26:6-13, and II Timothy 4:6-8 entitled "When Death is Precious". Dismissed in prayer by Marshall Robinson.

Afternoon business was opened with Marshall Robinson leading "Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" with Diann Pierson at piano. Motion carried to receive the Credential Board Report that Bro. L.T. Woodall be reinstated as an ordained minister of Hopewell No. 2 and that he be granted his original ordination papers. Signed: Myrl Kellett, Ed Staggs, Don Zickefoose. Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee Report that we resolve that Pastors of the Churches encourage their members to attend Association Meetings and increase interest in the work of the Association. Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee of II Corinthians 12:20 and I Timothy 6:3-6. We recommend that the leaders of our Churches be more spiritual in action to one another and most of all be careful of our words that we speak to one another. Motion carried to receive the Obituary report of Gracie Wiley, Ernest Mathews and Amelia McClanahan.

Election of Associational Evangelist was Bill Griffin. Quarterly meeting dates and speakers:

November 12-13, 1993-Countyline with Bro. L.T. Woodall as speaker.
February 11-12, 1994-Heaven Bound with Bro. Beryl Blair as speaker.
May 13-14, 1994-Lawton with Bro. Danny Barks as speaker.
August 12-13, 1994- place unknown with Bro. Myrl Kellett as speaker, alternate, Bro. Mark Barnes.

Table the decision of where Annual Association and Revival will be until next meeting. Table Youth Camp dates until next meeting. Table Youth Camp Evangelist until next meeting. Election of Youth Camp Directors were Darryl Robinson as Director and L.T. Woodall as Assistant. Election of General Board Member to State for 1994 is J.W. Craft.

Election of Officers:

Moderator: Beryl Blair
Asst. Moderator: Myrl Kellett
Clerk: Charlene Robinson
Asst. Clerk: Wanda Kellett
Treasurer: Loray Spurgin
Asst. Treasurer: Mary Head
Reporter: Imogene Woodall

Executive Committee 5 Year Man: Beryl Blair
Credential Board 5 Year Man: Don Zickefoose,
3 Year Man: J.W. Craft, 1 Year Man: Troy Lewellen.

Camp Ground Board Member 5 Year Man: Marshall Robinson.

Announcements:

21st day of August, singing at Grace, "Singing Harts" at 7:00 p.m.

18th of September at Camp Ground with Roy Vandenburg preaching at 7:00 p.m.

Bro. Ed Staggs dismissed in prayer.

Beryl Blair, Moderator
Charlene Robinson, Clerk

HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
4TH QUARTER 93

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on Hand, April 30-93	\$ 385.09
Income from Churches	2,953.36
Less Expense	2,582.74

Expenses

El Reno Land	\$ 90.30
Propane	69.00
FWBCH	230.00
Water	65.75
O.G.&E.	112.50
State	1,420.92
Campground	594.27
Balance on Hand-July 31-93	\$ 755.71

HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
4TH QUARTER 93
TREASURER'S REPORT

CHURCH	INCOME	STATE CO-OP	FOREIGN MISSION	HOME MISSION	STATE MISSION	HILLS- DALE	CAMP GROUND	GEN. FUND
Countryside	265.30	45.00		90.30		100.00	15.00	15.00
Countyline	38.63	23.18					7.72	7.73
Grace	88.87	53.32					17.77	17.78
Heaven Bound	267.72	160.63					53.54	53.55
Lawton	1045.00	477.00	75.00	50.00			284.00	159.00
Lone Grove	254.00	92.40					130.80	30.80
Midway	956.00		248.00	230.00		378.00	50.00	50.00
Stobtown	37.84						22.84	15.00
TOTALS	\$2953.36	\$851.53	\$323.00	\$370.30		\$478.00	\$581.67	\$348.86

ORDAINED MINISTERS

J.W. Craft Rt. 1 Box 225
Phone: 439-6341 Comanche, Ok.
73529

David Gardner Star Rt. 107 Astor
Phone: 657-4430 Lone Grove, Ok.
73443

Bill Holder Box 20115
Phone: 229-2279 3 Cherokee,
Healdton, Ok. 73438

L.T. Woodall Rt. 6, Box 224
Phone: 255-1725 Duncan, Ok.
73533

Don Zickefoose 1912 Garfield
Lawton, Ok.
73501

ORDAINED DEACONS

Forest Cox Rt. 3
Duncan, Ok.
73533

Luther Eason Rt. 5 Box 7E
Phone: 252-0239 Duncan, Ok.
73533

Mike Harris 108 N. 30th
Phone: 252-2229 Duncan, Ok.
73533

Dale Howell Star Rt. Box A104
Phone: 657-3836 Lone Grove, Ok.
73443

Othel Kyle Rt. 3 Box 31
Phone: 657-6420 Ardmore, Ok.
73401

Troy Lewellen.	Box 201
Phone: 673-2315	Graham, Ok. 73437
Kenneth Lewis.	105 Cheyenne
Phone: 439-5164	Comanche, Ok. 73529
J.T. McClanahan.	Rt. 4
Phone: 444-2355	Velma, Ok. 73091
Troy Morris.	Tr. 3 Box 155
Phone: 657-4513	Ardmore, Ok. 73401
Terry Pierson.	Box 6
Phone: 673-2109	Graham, Ok. 73437
Leonard Robinson	Rt. Box 20
Phone: 657-4742	Lone Grove, Ok. 73443
Loray Spurgin.	Box 842
Phone: 444-2527	Velma, Ok. 73091
Sam Staggs	Box 126
Phone: 856-3581	Countyline, Ok. 73025
David Watson	Box 212
Phone: 673-2635	Fox, Ok. 73435

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK
Countryside P.O. Box 235 Velma, Ok. 73091 Ph: 444-3530	Mark Barnes Rt. 1 Box 46 Duncan, Ok. 73533 Ph: 252-6158	Cathy Little P.O. Box 834 Velma, Ok. 73091 Ph: 444-3549
Countyline P.O. Box 236 Countyline, Ok. 73025	E.L. Staggs P.O. Box 34 Countyline, Ok 73025 Ph: 856-3384	Gearldine Staggs P.O. Box 126 Countyline, Ok. 73025 Ph: 856-3581
Grace 411 Patterson Comanche, Ok. 73529	Beryl Blair 707 Patterson Comanche, Ok. 73529 Ph: 439-2311	Geneva Hughes Rt. 1 Box 307 Comanche, Ok. 73529 Ph: 439-5241
Heaven Bound 1313 E. Chestnut Duncan, Ok. 73533	Danny Barks 304 N. N Ave. Duncan, Ok. 73533 Ph: 252-6238	Jean Riley 1313 N. 20th Duncan, Ok. 73533 Ph: 255-3756
Lawton First 10 So. 24th Lawton, Ok. 73505 Ph: 355-4668	Myrl Kellelt 2603 A Ave. Lawton, Ok. 73505 Ph: 355-4668	Wanda Kellelt 2603 A Ave. Lawton, Ok. 73505 Ph: 355-4668
Lone Grove P.O. Box 325 Lone Grove, Ok. 73443	Harvey White P.O. Box 325 Lone Grove, Ok 73443 Ph: 657-3246	Mary Beth Bray Rt. 3 Box 31-C Ardmore, Ok. 73401 Ph: 657-4908
Midway HC 63 Box 2400 Healdton, Ok. 73438 Ph: 673-2599	Dugan McDonald HC 63 Box 2400 Healdton, Ok. 73438 Ph: 673-2599	Elaine Glenn 518 S.W. 3rd. Healdton, Ok. 73438 Ph: 229-2682
Stobtown Rt. 3 Box 154C Ardmore, Ok. 73401 Ph: 657-6295		Ann Christian Rt. 3 Box 134A Ardmore, Ok. 73401 Ph: 657-2218

YOUTH CAMPGROUND BOARD OF HOPEWELL #2

1. This Board shall be composed of (5) five members, who are members of local Churches and in good standing with the Church and Association. They shall be elected at the discretion of the Association.
2. The duties of this board, shall be available to "assist" the elected Youth Camp Directors in planning, co-ordinating and conducting the yearly Youth Camp.
3. This Board shall prepare a Standing Order of Rules for the campers of Youth Encampment, to be approved by the Association in February. These rules being subject to change with a yearly re-evaluation, approved by the Association.
4. This Board, with the Youth Camp Directors, will prepare a schedule for Youth Encampment to be approved by the Association in February. This schedule subject to change with a yearly re-evaluation, approved by the Association.
5. This Board, along with the Youth Camp Directors, will oversee the purchasing of food and supplies for Youth Camp. The Head Cook should be consulted, making a list of necessary items, and invited to assist in the purchasing.
6. If at anytime a Youth Camp Evangelist, for any reason is not available, this Board, with the Youth Camp Directors, have the authority to replace him.
7. This Board should re-assess the Youth Camp fees yearly and advise the Association of necessary changes.
8. This Board will instruct the Association yearly of necessary standards to meet the State Health inspection.
9. This Board will select their own officers, such as Chairman (if One-Year Man is not present), Treasurer, etc., and will act as Caretaker of the Campgrounds, responsible for turning on and off utilities, etc. (The Board is to be notified of intended use of Grounds at any time).
10. This Board will oversee the upkeep of the Hopewell #2 Campgrounds, advising the Association of necessary repairs, promoting financial support and labor for said enterprises.
11. This Board shall keep an accurate record of all Meetings, decisions, and work done, funds received and disbursed and shall make a report in writing at each meeting of the Association. All records shall be available to the Association at its request.

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, 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.

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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 Associational Officers and Board Members, 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 \$75.00 is to be sent to the Annual Session of this Association. ~~(\$40.00 for printing of the minutes and \$25.00 for State Delegate fee, (\$10.00) State Association expenses.)~~ ^{25.00} ~~25.00~~ ^{25.00}
(start) charged to 50.00
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.

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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.

—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 Baptists 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 Baptists 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 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.

