

Minutes

Hopewell No. 2 Association

**FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCHES**

62nd Annual Meeting

1994

MINUTES OF THE
62nd ANNUAL MEETING
HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES
1994

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Marshall Robinson 5 Years
Beryl Blair 4 Years
Troy Lewellen 3 Years
Loray Spurgin 2 Years
Myrl Kellett. 1 Year

CREDENTIAL BOARD

Mike Harris 5 Years
Don Zickefoose. 4 Years
Myrl Kellett. 3 Years
J.W. Craft. 2 Years
L.T. Woodall. 1 Year

CAMPGROUND BOARD

Don Zickefoose. 5 Years
1912 Garfield, Lawton, Ok. 73501
Phone: 357-9788
Marshall Robinson 4 Years
1007 I. Ave. Lawton, Ok. 73501
Phone: 248-3536
Beryl Blair 3 Years
707 Patterson, Comanche, Ok. 73529
Phone: 439-2311
L.T. Woodall. 2 Years
Rt. 6, Box 224, Duncan, Ok. 73533
Phone: 255-1725
Terry Pierson 1 Year
Box 6, Graham, Ok. 73437
Phone: 673-2109

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President Sheila Rooker
2512 A Ave., Lawton, Ok. 73505
Phone: 357-8755

Vice-President. Carmen Harris
108 N. 30th, Duncan, Ok. 73533
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Secretary Imogene Woodall
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Treasurer Frances Lewellen
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Mission Study Maria Ayala
1221 SW 26th Pl., Lawton, Ok. 73505
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Mission Action. Fern Harris
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Mission Prayer. Charlene Robinson
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Phone: 248-3536

Field Worker. Wanda Kellett
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Phone: 355-4668

FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING
November 12-13, 1993
Countyline

Friday evening worship service was opened by Bro. Beryl Blair. Congregational singing was led by J. T. McClanahan, "I'll Be Satisfied", "Land Where Living Waters Flow", and "Amazing Grace", with Vala Robinson at piano. Mike Harris led in an altar of prayer. Special singing by Bro. and Sis. Harold Robinson, "I Claim the Blood", Joyce Combs, "My Wonderful Lord", Bro. and Sis. Marshall Robinson, "In the House of a King", and "The Sun's Coming Up", and Bro. and Sis. Mike Harris, "Canaanland Is Just In Sight". Bro. L.T. Woodall brought the message from Mark 6:31-36 and 45-52, entitled "Their Hearts Were Hardened". Prayer of dismissal by Bro. Myrl Kellett.

Saturday morning business opened by Bro. Beryl Blair. Marshall Robinson led the congregational singing, "Leave It There" and "Come and Dine", with Vala Robinson at the piano. Dale Howell led in prayer. Bro. Beryl Blair admonished the Association from John 4:34-38.

Letters from eight Churches were read and received, with the Delegates being seated while Marshall Robinson led, "Just Over in the Gloryland", with Vala Robinson at piano. Motion carried to receive the minutes as read. Recommendations were read from Midway and received that Youth Camp dates not be scheduled on the following dates, June 20-24 and July 4-8. Motion carried to receive the Petitionary letter from Heaven Bound, that Bro. Tom Stanley go before the Credential Board, to be examined to come into the fellowship of the Association.

Other letters read from the National Association concerning volunteers for the Youth Ministries Division. Bro. Burton Perry spoke concerning the State Lottery and a Christmas gift for Missions. Bro. Myrl Kellett read the Rules of Order.

Appointment of Committees:

Divine: Darryl Robinson, Nadine Nix, Janetta Tate. Resolution: L.T. Woodall, Marshall Robinson, Ronnie Inmon. Temperance: Debbie Ryans, Loray Spurgin, Cecile Adams. Obituary: Joyce Combs, Tonya Allen, Donna Gothard. Bro. Burton Perry was chosen for the morning speaker. Motion carried to break until 10:50 a.m. and to resume business at 1:15 p.m. Morning worship was opened by Bro. Beryl Blair. Marshall Robinson led singing, "Try Jesus" and "Power in the Blood", with Vala Robinson at the piano. Special singing by Bro. and Sis. Harold Robinson, "My Real Home is Up in Heaven" Carmen Harris, "Just the Mention of His Name", Sandra Barks, "In One Accord", Cecile Adams, "Amazing Grace", Don Zickefoose, "Is He Satisfied With Me", Bro. and Sis. Marshall Robinson, "I'm Building a Bridge". Bro. Burton Perry brought the message from Genesis 18:23-25 and Jeremiah 32:17, entitled, "Shall Not the Judge of All the Earth Do Right" J.W. Craft dismissed in prayer.

Afternoon business resumed with singing "Send the Light" led by Marshall Robinson with Vala Robinson at piano. Troy Lewellen led in prayer. David Gardner brought the Devotional from II Chronicles 34:27, James 4:8-10 and I Peter 5:1-6. Motion carried to receive the Treasurers report given by Loray Spurgin with a balance on hand of \$ 567.76.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Board Report given by Don Zickefoose as follows: Board met August 28 at 9:00 a.m. at the Camp Ground. Those attending were Marshall Robinson, Terry Pierson, L.T. Woodall and Don Zickefoose. They repaired broken water lines, replaced a cut off valve in the main water line. Scheduled work day Sept. 1 to prepare for Youth Rally Sept. 18th. October 5 the Camp Ground was winterized. No Executive Board report. Motion carried to receive the General Board report given by Bro. Myrl Kellett. He informed the District about the increase in National and State fees from each Church to the District. Motion carried to receive the Credential Board recommendation that Bro. Tom Stanley be received into the Association, upon receiving a letter of recommendation from Dibble Association. The Board found him sound in doctrine and faith.

Motion carried to pay the Electric bill to Grace Church during the week of the Associational Revival in August. Motion carried to take business that was tabled in August off the table. Motion carried to receive the Resolution recommendations and adopt them item by item.

1. Motion carried the Association send a letter of request to the State Executive Board of Free Will Baptist, to have the 1994 State Free Will Baptist Meeting in Lawton, Oklahoma, to be convened at McMahon Auditorium, 801 N.W. Ferris, also using the three Churches at Lawton; Crystal Hills, Brockland and First Church. 2. Motion carried that

the By-laws of Hopewell No. 2 Association No. 11 be changed to reflect the recommendation by the State, \$ 40.00 printing Minutes, \$ 25.00 to State and \$ 25.00 to National. This is a total of \$ 90.00 to be sent to the Annual Meeting in August. 3. Motion carried to have Youth Camp June 27-July 1. 4. Motion carried that Brad Utley be the Youth Camp Evangelist. 5. Motion carried that the August Annual Association Revival and Business be at Grace Free Will Baptist Church, Comanche. 6. Motion carried to pay the Electric bill at the Church that has the Associational Revival. Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report as follows: Take a stand against the Lottery. Make every effort to control tempers and emotions, and not to put too much peer pressure on the young Christians.

Motion carried to receive the Obituary report of no deaths. A theme was chosen for the next Quarterly Meeting, "Seeking the Lost.". Hand of thanks was given to the Host Church for their Hospitality. Prayer of dismissal by J.T. McClanahan.

Bro. Beryl Blair, Moderator
Charlene Robinson, Clerk

HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
1ST Quarter 93

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on Hand	\$ 755.71
Income From Churches	\$1,461.67
Less Expense	\$1,649.62

Expenses

Association State Fee	\$ 280.00
Wrightway Printing Minutes	250.00
Childrens Home	127.00
Myrl Kellett Expense	100.00
Association Revival	300.00
State	450.08
Campground	142.54
Balance on Hand - 10/31/93	\$ 567.76

HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
1ST QUARTER 93
TREASURER'S REPORT

CHURCH	STATE INCOME	F.S.H. CO-OP	MISSIONS	STATE MINUTES	DELE DALE	HILLS- CAMP GROUND	GEN. FUND
Countyline	116.41	24.85		75.00		8.28	8.28
Countryside	320.00	45.00	70.00	75.00	50.00	15.00	15.00
\$50.00(Revival)							
Heaven Bound	344.15	161.48		75.00		53.83	53.84
Grace	75.00			75.00			
Lawton	-0-						
Lone Grove	175.87	105.49				35.19	35.19
Midway	330.00		127.00	75.00	128.00		
Stobtown	100.24			55.00		30.24	15.00
TOTALS	\$1,461.67	336.82	197.00	480.00	178.00	142.54	127.31

SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING
February 11-12, 1994
Heaven Bound

Friday, February 11, 1994, Hopewell No. 2 Quarterly Conference was opened with Bro. Myrl Kellett. Prayer by Bro. L.T. Woodall. Congregational singing was led by Marshall Robinson, "I Feel Like Traveling On" and "At the Cross", with Sandra Barks at the piano.

Special singing by Countyline youth, "I Shall Not Be Moved", Bro. and Sis. Harold Robinson, "That Beautiful Home", Heaven Bound "That Makes Me Love Him More and More", and Bro. and Sis. Marshall Robinson, "The Lighthouse". Bro. Danny Barks led in prayer. Deacons and Preachers sang "Oh I Want To See Him" while the congregation fellowshiped.

Bro. Beryl Blair brought the message from Revelations 20:15, Psalms 9:17, Genesis 2:9 and Matthew 7:21-24 entitled "The Lord Will Turn The Wicked Into Hell and The Righteous Into Heaven". Invitational song "Just As I Am" by Marshall Robinson with Sandra Barks at the piano. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. Mike Harris.

Saturday morning business opened by Bro. Beryl Blair. Marshall Robinson led the congregational singing "Power In The Blood" and "Tell It To Jesus", with Sandra Barks at the piano. Prayer led by Terry Pierson.

Bro. Beryl Blair admonished the Association from Romans 12:1-2. Letters were called for, read and received from 8 Churches. The right hand of fellowship was given while singing "When We All Get To Heaven" led by Marshall Robinson with Sandra Barks at the piano. Bro. Jimmy Howell was voted to preach at the morning worship service. Minutes were read and received. There were no Petitionary

letters. Motion carried to receive letter of recommendation for Bro. Tom Stanley from Dibble Association. A letter from National Free Will Baptist and Bro. Connie Cariker was read as information concerning the National Officers Indebtedness. Rules of Order were read by Bro. Myrl Kellett. Visitors were invited to be seated in Council. Appointment of Committees as Follows: No Divine Committee. Resolution: Terry Pierson, Marshall Robinson, Nadine Nix. Temperance: Joyce Combs, Jimmy Tate, Fern Harris. Obituary: Todd Trollinger, Don Zickefoose, Dennis Gothard. Treasurers report given by Bro. Loray Spurgin with a balance on hand of \$ 876.35. Camp Ground Treasurers report given by Terry Pierson with a balance on hand of \$ 2,859.00. No Camp Ground Board was reported. Motion carried to send a letter of recommendation for Bro. Lewis Howell the time he was in the Hopewell # 2 Association (The letter will go to San Joaquin Association.)

May 4th, Sis. Emma Combest will be 90 years old, the Association gave her a standing ovation to honor her. No business for Cred-ential report. Motion carried to adjourn business until 1:00 P.M. Dismissed with an altar of prayer for all the prayer requests for the sick and lost.

Morning worship service was opened by Bro. Beryl Blair. Bro. Myrl Kellett led in prayer. Marshall Robinson led "Rescue The Perishing" and "Jesus Saves" with Sandra Barks at the piano. Special sining was Bro. and Sis. Harold Robinson, "Blood Stains On The Cross", Sis. Carmen Harris "Go To The Rock", Heaven Bound Youth "Somebody Touched Me", Bro. and Sis. Danny Barks "The Prodicall Sons Coming Home" and Bro. and Sis. Marshall Robinson "The Tomb is Empty Now".

Bro. Jimmy Howell brought the message from

1 John 4:7-8, John 14:23, Ephesians 5:6, Luke 10:25-35, entitled "Gods Love is Powerful Love Because". Invitation was given with an altar of prayer. Dismissed in prayer by Loray Spurgin.

Business resumed at 1:00 P.M. with singing "He Set Me Free" led by Marshall Robinson with Sandra Barks at the piano. Bro. Dale Howell led in prayer. Singing continued with "When The Roll is Called Up Yonder". Bro. Don Zickefoose brought the devotional from Revelation 21:1-4. Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee report of no business. Motion carried to receive the Temperance report that we take a stand on the state lottery. We as Christians do not want it, and try to put God and prayer back in the schools and government. Motion carried to receive the Obituary report: Howard Hammers, Marty Medley, Frances Harrison from First Church in Lawton. Belinda Burris from Stobtown Church. There was a moment of silent prayer with Bro. Danny Barks concluding the prayer. Motion carried to adjourn. Dismissed in prayer by Marshall Robinson.

Beryl Blair, Moderator

Charlene Robinson, Clerk

HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
2ND QUARTER 93-94
TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on Hand	\$ 567.68
Income From Churches	1,537.97
Less Expenses	1,229.30

Expenses

State	\$ 898.01
Campground	331.29

Balance on Hand-1/31/94	\$ 876.35
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HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
2ND QUARTER 93-94
TREASURER'S REPORT

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>STATE CO-OP</u>	<u>F.S.H. MISSIONS</u>	<u>HILLS- DALE</u>	<u>CAMP GROUND</u>	<u>GEN. FUND</u>
Countyline	72.50	43.50			14.50	14.50
Countryside	50.00	30.00			10.00	10.00
Heaven Bound	292.24	175.82			58.21	58.21
Grace	-0-					
Lawton	902.00	541.20			180.40	180.40
Lone Grove	179.31	107.59			35.86	35.86
Midway	-0-					
Stobtown	41.92				31.92	10.00
TOTALS	\$1,537.97	898.11			330.89	308.97

THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING
May 13-14, 1994
Lawton

Friday, May 13, 1994, Hopewell No. 2 Association was opened with Bro. Myrl Kellett in charge of service. Congregational singing was led by Marshall Robinson, "Victory in Jesus". Prayer led by Harold Robinson. Congregation continued with "Leave It There" and "Nothing But The Blood" with Sheila Rooker at the piano.

Special singing by Bro. and Sis. Danny Barks "He Set Me Free", Sheila Rooker "Until You've Known the Love of God", Don Zickefoose "Near The Cross", Bro. and Sis. Marshall Robinson "My Lord Loves Me".

Bro. Danny Barks brought the message from Hebrews 6:9-20 entitled "Exhortation and Encouragement". Bro. Danny Barks ended in prayer with singing "Standing on the Promises", led by Marshall Robinson and Sheila Rooker at the piano. Dismissed in prayer by Don Zickefoose.

Saturday morning business opened by Bro. Beryl Blair. Marshall Robinson led the congregation singing "He Keeps Me Singing" and "Eastern Gate", with Vala Robinson at the piano. Prayer by Bro. J.W. Craft.

Bro. Beryl Blair admonished the Association from Romans 12:1-5. Letters called for, read and received from 7 Churches. The right hand of fellowship was given while singing "At Calvary" led by Marshall Robinson with Vala Robinson at the piano. Minutes were read and received. There were no petitionary letters. Rules of Order were read by Bro. Myrl Kellett. Visitors were invited to be seated in Council. Appointment of Committee as Follows: Divine: Darryl Robinson, Tonya Allen, Ronnie Inman. Resolution:

Chris Harris, Don Zickefoose, Audra Frances. Temperance: Janetta Tate, Roger Kellett, Linda Inman. Obituary: Loray Spurgin, Carmen Harris, Todd Trollinger. Bro. David Gardner was chosen as the morning speaker.

Treasurers report given by Loray Spurgin with a balance on hand of \$ 1,496.76. There was no Camp Ground Treasurers report given. Camp Ground report was given by Don Zickefoose. The Board met at the campground on the 16th of April. At this meeting, plans for the new sidewalks were made. A vote also was made to have each Saturday until camp day as a work day at the campground to make all repairs needed and to work in getting the sidewalks built. On Saturday April 30th, work day was rained out. On April 23, work began on the sidewalks and a broken water line in the girls dorm was fixed. May 7, work was continued on the sidewalks with the forms laid ready for the pouring of the concrete. Also another broken water line was found outside the girls bath house which yet needs to be fixed. If weather permits and we can get enough help we hope to pour concrete next Saturday, the 21. No business reported by Executive board. Motion carried to dismiss business until 1:00 P.M.

Morning worship service was opened by Bro. Beryl Blair. Bro. Danny Barks led in prayer. Marshall Robinson led singing "He Abides", "When I See The Blood" and "O I Want To See Him" with Vala Robinson at the piano. Special singing was Imogene Woodall "Amazing Grace", Don Zickefoose "Jesus Hold My Hand", Barbara Davis "I Can't Even Walk Without You Holding My Hand", Bro. and Sis. Marshall Robinson "Arise" and David Gardner "I Don't Understand".

Bro. David Gardner brought the message from I Peter 4:17-18 and II Timothy 3:1-5, entitled "Judgement will Start At The House

of God". Invitational song "Just As I Am" led by Marshall Robinson with Vala Robinson at the piano. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. L.T. Woodall.

Business resumed at 1:00 with singing "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms" with Marshall Robinson leading and Vala Robinson at the piano. Bro. Myrl Kellett led in prayer. Congregation continued singing "I Want To Be A Worker". Motion carried to receive the Resolution report item by item: 1. Recommend that all Pastors of the Churches of this Association to begin incouraging their members that their presence is badly needed to work at getting our campground ready for our children. 2. Be it resolved that this Association names Marshall Robinson as Song Director for the Association and Vala Robinson as Piano Player. Motion carried to receive the Temperance report: As Christians we should have more compassion to our fellow man which would show our sincerity in Christ. We should practice what we preach and teach as Christians. We as Christians need to let the Bible be the law in our life to live by as such in the Ten Commandments. Obituary report: none. Announcements: June 4 "The Singing Hearts" at Grace Church. District Fellowship July 23 at Countyline Church. District Revival August 8-12 at Grace Church. Annual Business August 12-13 at Grace Church. June 26-July 1 Youth Camp with Bro. Brad Utey. \$90.00 for minutes. \$125.00 for Youth Camp. \$5.00 per Camper. \$50.00 for Association Evangelist from each Church. Motion carried to adjourn. Dismissed in prayer by Harold Robinson.

Beryl Blair, Moderator

Charlene Robinson, Clerk

HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
3RD QUARTER 94

TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on Hand	\$ 876.35
Income From Churches	2,544.01
Less Expenses	1,923.60

Expenses

State	\$1,486.34
Campground	437.26

Balance on Hand-4/30/94	\$1,496.76
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HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
3RD QUARTER 94
TREASURER'S REPORT

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>STATE</u>	<u>F.S.H.</u>	<u>HILLS-</u>	<u>CAMP</u>	<u>GEN.</u>
		<u>CO-OP</u>	<u>MISSIONS</u>	<u>DALE</u>	<u>GROUND</u>	<u>FUND</u>
Countyline	139.60	83.76			27.92	27.92
Countryside	100.00	45.00		25.00	15.00	15.00
Heaven Bound	374.95	224.97			74.99	74.99
Grace	-0-					
Lawton	1447.00	868.20			289.40	289.40
Lone Grove	283.02	169.81			56.61	56.60
Midway	116.00	69.60			23.20	23.20
Stobtown	83.44				63.44	20.00
TOTALS	\$2544.01	1461.34		25.00	550.56	507.11

ANNUAL ASSOCIATIONAL MEETING
August 12-13, 1994
Grace

Friday, August 12, 1994, Hopewell No. 2 Association Annual Meeting was opened with Bro. Beryl Blair. Congregational singing "He Abides" while everyone fellowshiped. Prayer was followed with Bro. Harold Boerstler. Congregation continued with "Standing On The Promises" with Marshall Robinson leading and Vala Robinson at the piano. Special music by Bro. and Sis. Mike Harris "Lets Meet By The River", Mary Brake "God On The Mountain", Todd Trollinger "I know You Would", Don Zickefoose "Lovely Name Of Jesus", Tammy Trollinger "It Takes Jesus", Bro. and Sis. Marshall Robinson "He's My Strength" and "Leaving On My Mind", Bro. and Sis. Bill Griffin, Jack Griffin and Bob Hatcher "I Can Call Jesus Anytime", "I Want To Go There", "Lord I'm Depending On You", "Lights of That City", and "Ship Ahoy", Sis. Bratcher and Bob Hatcher, "I Want To Stroll Over Heaven". Bro. Bill Griffin brought the message from 1 Thesalonians 4:13-18, Ephesians 2:11-13, 1 Corinthians 15:13-21 and 51-53, entitled "The Hope of the Resurrection". The invitational song was "No Grave Going To Hold My Body Down" with Sis. Griffin singing and playing the piano. Dismissed in prayer by Bro. David Gardner.

Saturday morning service opened by Bro. Beryl Blair with singing "Heavens Jubilee" and "I'll Fly Away" with Marshall Robinson leading and Vala Robinson at piano. Prayer by Dale Howell.

Letters called for read and received from 8 Churches. The right hand of fellowship was given while singing "When We All Get To Heaven" with Marshall Robinson leading and

Vala Robinson at piano. Minutes were read and received. Petitionary letters read from Stobtown sent a request that Jimmy Tate be examined for Deacon. Motion carried to act upon this request.

Rules of order were read by Bro. Myrl Kellett. Visitors were invited to be seated in Council. Appointment of Committees: Resolution: Loray Spurgin, Joyce Combs, Todd Trollinger. Temperance: Fern Harris, Mike Harris, Gilbert Gardner. Obituary: Janetta Tate, Nadine Nix, Darryl Robinson. Speaker for Memorial services at 11:00 a.m., Bro. Myrl Kellett. Treasurers report given by Loray Spurgin of \$1,816.45. Campground Treasurers report given by Association Clerk of \$2,320.11. Motion carried to receive Campground report given by Don Zickefoose that the Campground board met at Lawton Church May 14 and voted to have two loads of chat put on Campground driveway. June 13, Board met at Grace Church and discussed the urgent need of getting the work finished on the pouring of the concrete for the sidewalks and preparing for Camp week. Also voted in favor of buying another water drinking fountain. June 18, the concrete was poured and completed. Motion carried to receive Youth Camp Director report given by Darryl Robinson which was a total of 77 Teachers and Campers in attendance. Motion carried to adjourn until 10:45 a.m.

Services opened by Bro. Beryl Blair. Marshall Robinson led congregation in singing "O I Want To See Him", "That Glad Reunion Day" and "Are You Washed in the Blood" with Vala Robinson at the piano. Troy Lewellen led in prayer. Special singing with Bro. and Sis Harold Robinson "God Made A Man", Don Zickefoose "Just Any Day Now", and Bro. and Sis. Marshall Robinson

"Tears Will Never Stain". Bro. Myrl Kellett brought the message from Matthew 26:6-13 entitled "Memorial Unto the Lord". Dismissed in prayer by Loray Spurgin.

Business resumed at 1:00 with singing "When the Roll is Called Up Yonder" with Marshall Robinson leading and Vala Robinson at the piano. Mike Harris led in prayer. Motion carried to receive the Credential Board report that Jimmy Tate, from Stobtown, was found sound in doctrine and that he be ordained as a Deacon.

Motion carried that we receive the Resolution Committee report as follows: 1. Be it resolved to teaching our children the way of the Lord. We should concentrate on our kids salvation. (1) By example-we must live Christian lives in order to be good examples. (2) We need to designate time with our children and make it "Quality Christian Time" (3) Notice signs of fading away and act upon it. (4) Prayer is always the answer. 2. If we take an office in Gods Business we need to be responsible enough of a Christian to fulfill the office to the best of our ability or let us find someone else to do the job. 3. Resolution to start having Ministers and Deacons Association Meeting for only Ministers and Deacons. 4. Churches plan more Bible study and discussion classes also study courses on doctrine. 5. Church needs to be recognized as Worship service and not entertainment.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance report that there is a need for each Church to instill in each family of their Church the need to use Christian principles in the way we dress. We as Christians need to be examples of Christ wherever we may be. Our testimony before others should be a deep conviction of any believer. To win the lost,

we need to appear as Christians. Motion carried to receive the Obituary report: from Countyline Church, Bro. G.L. Sanner, Sis. Oma Firestone, and Amelia Bailey Mc Clanahan. From Stobtown Church, Belinda McClendon. Followed by Bro. L.T. Woodall in prayer. Motion carried to ask each Church to poll their Church whether to have Associational Revival and what Evangelist.

Quarterly Meeting dates and speakers:

November 11-12/94	Lone Grove	Beryl Blair
February 10-11/95	Midway	David Gardner
May 12-13/95	Stobtown	L.T. Woodall
August 11-12/95	Grace	Don Zickefoose

Youth Camp Date is June 25-30 1995. Youth Camp Directors: Darryl Robinson, Assistant: Marshall Robinson. General Board Member to State for 1995 is L.T. Woodall.

Election of Officers:

Moderator: Beryl Blair Asst: Myrl Kellett
Clerk: Charlene Robinson Asst: Wanda Kellett
Treasurer: Loray Spurgin Asst: Tabled
Reporter: Carmen Harris

Executive Committee 5 Year Man: Marshall Robinson. Credential Board 5 Year Man: Mike Harris, 1 Year Man: L.T. Woodall. Campground Board Member 5 Year Man: Don Zickefoose.

Announcements: Table Evangelist of Youth Camp until November 12. November 5 is Homecoming at Grace Church. Dismissed in prayer by Jimmy Tate.

Beryl Blair, Moderator
Charlene Robinson, Clerk

HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
4TH QUARTER 94
TREASURER'S REPORT

Balance on Hand	\$1,496.76
Income From Churches	1,716.13
Less Expenses	1,396.44

Expenses

State	\$ 939.13
Campground	457.31

Balance on Hand-7/31/94	\$1,816.45
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HOPEWELL #2 ASSOCIATION
4TH QUARTER 94
TREASURER'S REPORT.

<u>CHURCH</u>	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>STATE F.S.H. CO-OP MISSIONS</u>	<u>MINUTES</u>	<u>STATE DELE HILLS- DALE</u>	<u>CAMP GROUND</u>	<u>GEN. FUND</u>
Countyline	114.34	68.60			22.87	22.87
Countryside	240.00	90.00	90.00		30.00	30.00
Heaven Bound	575.34	345.20			115.07	115.07
Grace	100.68	60.40			20.14	20.14
Lawton	265.00	50.00(Evang.)	90.00		125.00	-0-
Lone Grove	135.47	81.28			27.10	27.09
Midway	-0-					
Stobtown	49.25				34.25	15.00
Conference of Ministers & Deacons	236.05			236.05		
TOTALS	\$1716.13	695.48	180.00	236.05	374.43	230.17

ORDAINED MINISTERS

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

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

Royce McClendon. Rt. 2 Box 275C
Phone: 657-8214 Ardmore, Ok.
73401

Tom Stanley. 103 E. Walnut
Phone: 255-8874 Duncan, Ok.
73533

Don Zickefoose 1912 Garfield
Lawton, Ok.
73501

ORDAINED DEACONS

Forest Cox Rt. 3
Phone: 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
Lone Grove, Ok.
73443

Othel Kyle Rt. 3 Box 31
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Loray Spurgin.	Box 842
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Sam Staggs	Box 126
Phone: 856-3581	Countyline, Ok.
	73025
Jimmy Tate	Rt. 3 Box 53 B
Phone: 657-3899	Ardmore, Ok.
	73401
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	L.T. Woodall Rt. 6 Box 224 Duncan, Ok. 73533 Ph: 255-1725	Becky Hatton P.O. Box 103 Tussy, Ok. 73088
Grace 411 Patterson Comanche, Ok. 73529	Beryl Blair 707 Patterson Comanche, Ok. 73529 Ph: 439-2311	Carmen Harris 108 N. 30 Duncan, Ok. 73533 Ph: 252-2229
Heaven Bound 1313 E. Chestnut Duncan, Ok. 73533	Danny Barks 304 N. N Ave. Duncan, Ok. 73533 Ph: 252-6238	Debbie Ryans Rt. 3 Box 255 Comanche, Ok. 73529 Ph: 255-9248
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		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		Elaine Glenn 518 SW 3rd Healdton, Ok. 73438 Ph: 229-2682
Stobtown Rt. 3 Box 154C Ardmore, Ok. 73401 Ph: 657-6295	David Gardner Star Rt. 107 Astor, Lone Grove, 73443 Ph: 657-4430	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, 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.

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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 \$90.00 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, \$25.00 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 Savior 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 exercise 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 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 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.

