

MINUTES

HOPEWELL
No. 2 Association

FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCHES

64th Annual Meeting
1996

**MINUTES OF THE 64TH ANNUAL MEETING
HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES
1996**

INDEX

BOARDS AND OFFICERS

Association Officers	Page 2
Executive Board	Page 3
Credential Board	Page 3
Camp Ground Board	Page 3
Women's Auxiliary Officers	Page 4
Ordained & Licensed Ministers	Page 5
Ordained Deacons	Page 6
Church Directory Information	Page 7
Youth Camp Ground Board Rules	Page 8

QUARTERLY MEETINGS

First Quarterly Meeting	Page 9 - 13
Second Quarterly Meeting	Page 14 - 18
Third Quarterly Meeting	Page 19 - 24
Annual Association Meeting	Page 25 - 30

INFORMATION

Rules of Order	Page 31
Order of Business	Page 32
Government of the Churches	Page 32
Constitution of Hopewell No. 2	Page 33 - 35
By-Laws of Hopewell No. 2	Page 36 - 37
Articles of Faith	Page 38 - 39
Church Covenant	Page 40
National Guideline of Ordination	Page 41 - 47

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

MODERATOR - - - - - L. T. WOODALL
ROUTE 6, BOX 224 PHONE:
DUNCAN, OK 73533 (405) 255-1725

ASST. MODERATOR - - - - - CARROLL MILNER
ROUTE 3, BOX 96 PHONE:
ADA, OK 74820 (405) 436-6193

CLERK - - - - - WANDA KELLETT
2603 SW 'A' AVENUE PHONE:
LAWTON, OK 73505 (405) 355-4668

ASST. CLERK - - - - - SHELIA ROOKER
2512 SW 'A' AVENUE PHONE:
LAWTON, OK 73505 (405) 357-8755

TREASURER - - - - - LORAY SPURGIN
P. O. BOX 842 PHONE:
VELMA, OK 73091 (405) 444-2527

ASST. TREASURER - - - - - MARY HEAD
P. O. BOX 143 PHONE:
VELMA, OK 73091 (405) 444-2470

REPORTER - - - - - CATHY LITTLE
ROUTE 3, BOX 126-A PHONE:
DUNCAN, OK 73533 (405) 444-3549

PARLIAMENTARIAN - - - - - BILL HOLDER
3 CHEROKEE, BOX 20115 B PHONE:
HEALDTON, OK 73438 (405) 229-2279

EXECUTIVE BOARD

LORAY SPURGIN - - - - - 5 YEARS
MYRL KELLETT - - - - - 4 YEARS
DALE HOWELL - - - - - 3 YEARS
DAVID GARDNER - - - - - 2 YEARS
TROY LEWELLEN - - - - - 1 YEAR

CREDENTIAL BOARD

CHARLES NEWELL - - - - - 5 YEARS
CARROLL MILNER - - - - - 4 YEARS
DAVID GARDNER - - - - - 3 YEARS
DON ZICKEFOOSE - - - - - 2 YEARS
MYRL KELLETT - - - - - 1 YEAR

CAMP GROUND BOARD

DARRYL ROBINSON- - - - - 5 YEARS
1614 SW 'B' AVENUE PHONE:
LAWTON, OK 73501 (405) 248-5921

J. T. MC CLANAHAN - - - - - 4 YEARS
ROUTE 3, BOX 88 PHONE:
DUNCAN, OK 73533 (405) 444-2355

DON ZICKEFOOSE - - - - - 3 YEARS
1912 GARFIELD PHONE:
LAWTON, OK 73501 (405) 357-9788

DAVID GARDNER - - - - - 2 YEARS
STAR ROUTE 107 ASTOR PHONE:
LONE GROVE, OK 73443 (405) 657-2971

JIMMY TATE, CHAIRMAN- - - - - 1 YEAR
ROUTE 3, BOX 53 B PHONE:
ARDMORE, OK 73401 (405) 657-3899

IMOGENE WOODALL - - - - - .TREASURER ONLY
ROUTE 6, BOX 224 PHONE:
DUNCAN, OK 73533 (405) 255-1725

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - - - - -	SHELIA ROOKER
2512 SW 'A' AVENUE	PHONE:
LAWTON, OK 73505	(405) 357-8755
VICE-PRESIDENT - - - - -	RHONDA ADDINGTON
P. O. BOX 205	PHONE:
FOX, OK 73435	(405) 673-2405
SECRETARY - - - - -	AMANDA TEAFATILLER
P. O. BOX 205	PHONE:
FOX, OK 73435	(405) 673-2405
TREASURER - - - - -	FRANCES LEWELLEN
P. O. BOX 201	PHONE:
GRAHAM, OK 73437	(405) 673-2315
CO - TREASURER - - - - -	DIANN PIERSON
P. O. BOX 6	PHONE:
GRAHAM, OK 73437	(405) 673-2109
MISSION STUDY - - - - -	MARIA AYALA
1221 SW 26TH PLACE	PHONE:
LAWTON, OK 73505	(405) 357-9469
MISSION ACTION - - - - -	KIM ROBINSON
1614 SW 'B' AVENUE	PHONE:
LAWTON, OK 73501	(405) 248-5921
MISSION PRAYER - - - - -	BARBARA DAVIS
1612 SW 'B' AVENUE	PHONE:
LAWTON, OK 73501	
FIELD WORKER - - - - -	SHERRY HENLEY
2307 NE 36TH	PHONE:
LAWTON, OK 73507	(405) 355-5702

ORDAINED MINISTERS

J. W. CRAFT
PHONE: (405) 439-6341

ROUTE 1, BOX 225
COMANCHE, OK 73529

ROYCE MC CLENDON
PHONE: (405) 657-8214

ROUTE 2, BOX 275 C
ARDMORE, OK 73401

DUGAN MC DONALD
PHONE: (405) 252-0701

1906 WINDSOR
DUNCAN, OK 73533

TOM STANLEY
PHONE: (405) 255-8874

103 E WALNUT
DUNCAN, OK 73533

DON ZICKEFOOSE
PHONE: (405) 357-9788

1912 GARFIELD
LAWTON, OK 73501

LICENSED MINISTERS

ROB ROOKER
PHONE: (405) 357-8755

2512 SW 'A' AVENUE
LAWTON, OK 73505

ORDAINED DEACONS

FOREST COX
PHONE: (405) 444-2584

ROUTE 1, BOX 46
RATCLIFF CITY, OK 73081

LUTHER EASON
PHONE: (405) 252-0239

ROUTE 5, BOX 7 E
DUNCAN, OK 73533

KENNETH GLENN
PHONE: (405) 229-2682

518 SW 3RD
HEALDTON, OK 73438

DALE HOWELL
PHONE: (405) 657-3836

STAR ROUTE, BOX A 104
LONE GROVE, OK 73443

OTHEL KYLE
PHONE: (405) 657-6420

ROUTE 3, BOX 31
ARDMORE, OK 73401

TROY LEWELLEN
PHONE: (405) 673-2315

P. O. BOX 201
GRAHAM, OK 73437

KENNETH LEWIS
PHONE: (405) 439-5164

105 CHEYENNE
COMANCHE, OK 73529

J. T. MC CLANAHAN
PHONE: (405) 444-2355

ROUTE 3, BOX 88
DUNCAN, OK 73533

TROY MORRIS
PHONE: (405) 657-4513

ROUTE 3, BOX 155
ARDMORE, OK 73401

TERRY PIERSON
PHONE: (405) 673-2109

P. O. BOX 6
GRAHAM, OK 73437

LEONARD ROBINSON
PHONE: (405) 657-4742

ROUTE , BOX 20
LONE GROVE, OK 73443

LORAY SPURGIN
PHONE: (405) 444-2527

BOX 842
VELMA, OK 73091

SAM STAGGS
PHONE: (405) 856-4088

P. O. BOX 126
COUNTYLINE, OK 73025

JIMMY TATE
PHONE: (405) 657-3899

ROUTE 3, BOX 53 B
ARDMORE, OK 73401

DAVID WATSON
PHONE: (405) 673-2635

P. O. BOX 212
FOX, OK 73435

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK
CHESTNUT AVENUE 1313 E CHESTNUT DUNCAN, OK 73533 PHONE: (405) 255-4686	MIKE HARRIS 1516 MOSLEY DRIVE DUNCAN, OK 73533 PHONE: (405) 252-5882	BONITA ELAM 1313 E CHESTNUT DUNCAN, OK 73533 PHONE: (405) 255-5604
COUNTRYSIDE PO BOX 235 VELMA, OK 73091 PHONE: (405) 444-3530	CARROLL MILNER ROUTE 3, BOX 96 ADA, OK 74820 PHONE: (405) 436-6193	CATHY LITTLE ROUTE 3, BOX 126-A DUNCAN, OK 73533 PHONE: (405) 444-3549
COUNTYLINE PO BOX 236 COUNTY LINE, OK 73025 PHONE: (405) 856-3543	L.T. WOODALL ROUTE 6, BOX 224 DUNCAN, OK 73533 PHONE: (405) 255-1725	BECKY HATTON PO BOX 103 TUSSY, OK 73088 PHONE: (405) 856-3481
GRACE 401 PATTERSON COMANCHE, OK 73529 PHONE: (405) 439-2311	BERYL BLAIR 707 PATTERSON COMANCHE, OK 73529 PHONE: (405) 439-2311	ELSIE LEWIS 105 CHEYENNE DRIVE COMANCHE, OK 73529 PHONE: (405) 439-5164
LAWTON FIRST 10 S 24TH STREET LAWTON, OK 73505 PHONE: (405) 355-4668	MYRL KELLETT 2603 SW "A" AVENUE LAWTON, OK 73505 PHONE: (405) 355-4668	WANDA KELLETT 2603 SW "A" AVENUE LAWTON, OK 73505 PHONE: (405) 355-4668
LONE GROVE PO BOX 325 LONE GROVE, OK 73443 PHONE: (405) 657-3246	BILL HOLDER 3 CHEROKEE, BOX 20115B HEALDTON, OK 73438 PHONE: (405) 229-2279	MARY BETH BRAY ROUTE 3, BOX 31 C ARDMORE, OK 73401 PHONE: (405) 657-4908
MIDWAY HC 63, BOX 2400 HEALDTON, OK 73438 PHONE: (405) 673-2599	CHARLES NEWELL ROUTE 1, BOX 76 RATLIFF CITY, OK 73081 PHONE: (405) 856-3667	RHONDA ADDINGTON PO BOX 205 FOX, OK 73435 PHONE: (405) 673-2405
STOBTOWN ROUTE 3, BOX 134 A ARDMORE, OK 73401 PHONE: (405) 657-6295	DAVID GARDNER STAR ROUTE 107 ASTOR LONE GROVE, OK 73443 PHONE: (405) 657-2971	ANN CHRISTIAN ROUTE 3, BOX 134 A ARDMORE, OK 73401 PHONE: (405) 657-2218

YOUTH CAMP GROUND BOARD RULES

1. This Board shall be composed of five (5) members, who are members of local churches and are in good standing with the church and the Association. They shall be elected at the discretion of the Association.
2. It is the duty of this Board that they "shall be available to assist" the elected Youth Camp Directors in planning, coordinating and conducting the yearly Youth Camp.
3. This Board shall prepare a Standing Order of Rules for the campers of the Youth Camp, to be approved by the Association in March. These rules, being subject to change with a yearly re-evaluation, shall be approved by the Association.
4. This Board, with the Youth Camp Directors, will prepare a schedule for Youth Camp, to be approved by the Association in March. This schedule, being subject to change with yearly re-evaluation, shall be approved by the Association.
5. This Board, along with the Youth Camp Directors, will oversee the purchasing of food and supplies for the Youth Camp. The Head Cook should be consulted, making a list of any necessary items, and invited to assist in the purchasing.
6. If at any time a Youth Camp Evangelist, for any reason, is not available, this Board and the Youth Camp Directors, shall 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 Camp Grounds, 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 No. 2 Camp Ground, 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, work done and funds received and disbursed and shall make a written report at each meeting of the association. All records shall be available to the Association at it's request.

**FIRST QUARTERLY MEETING
NOVEMBER 10 - 11, 1995**

On Friday, November 10, 1995, the Hopewell No. 2 Association convened at 7:30 PM. at the Countyline Free Will Baptist Church for evening worship.

Bro. L. T. Woodall opened the services. Prayer was led by Bro. Rob Rooker. The congregational singing of "There is Power in the Blood" was led by Bro. Don Zickefoose with Sis. Imogene Woodall at the piano. Sis. Joyce Combs sang "Do You Know My Jesus?". Bro. Don Zickefoose led in prayer.

Bro. Milo Miller brought the evening message from I Corinthians 8 : 6 - Experience Him, I Peter 2 : 3 - Taste the Heart of God, Matthew 9 : 18 - 22 - Feel His Touch, II Corinthians 5 : 17 - Affected by the Will of God and Acts 7 : 54 - 60 - Suffer With Jesus. The title of the message was "Who Is Jesus?". He gave an invitation to the lost and was excused to travel to Arkansas.

Services continued special singing: Bro. & Sis. Harold Robinson - "Master of Blue Galilee", Sis. Kim Robinson - "He'll Do It Again" and Jared & Jeremy Hatton - "I'll Fly Away". There were special prayer requests with Sis. Naomi Mullins leading in prayer. The service ended with singing of "Amazing Grace".

The November 11, 1995, service opened at 9:30 AM. with singing "Are You Washed In the Blood?", led by Bro. Don Zickefoose with Sis. Imogene Woodall at the piano.

Bro. Bill Holder led in prayer. The congregation was admonished by Bro. L. T. Woodall from I Peter 1 : 5 - 9. Another prayer was led by Bro. J. W. Craft.

Motion carried to receive the letters from 7 churches and to seat the delegates. A right hand of fellowship was given while singing "When We All Get To Heaven".

Motion carried to receive the minutes as read.

Petitionary letter was read and received from Midway that the Credential Board examine Bro. Chuck Newell for ordination into the Free Will Baptist denomination.

Motion carried to receive the letter of recommendations for Bro. Carroll Milner from the Center Association.

Bro. Myrl Kellett read the Rules of Order and visitors were invited to be seated in council.

The committees were appointed as follows:

Divine: (1) Sis. Nadine Nix (2) Sis. Lauranna Cox (3) Bro. Cecil Janz
Resolution: (1) Sis. Fern Harris (2) Sis. Nancy Blair (3) Sis. Maria Ayala
Temperance: (1) Sis. Anna Janz (2) Sis. Loretha Pierson (3) Bro. Lee Gothard
Obituary: (1) Sis. Cheryl Dunn (2) Sis. Brenda Perkins (3) Bro. Dennis Gothard

The Divine Committee chose Bro. Chuck Newell for the morning speaker.

Motion carried to receive the Treasurer's report of \$2,472.60 balance on hand given by Bro. Loray Spurgin.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Treasurer's report of \$2,086.63 balance on hand given by Bro. L. T. Woodall.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Board report.

Motion carried to take the motion off the table and elect an Association Evangelist for 1996. Bro. Gary Dodson, 1801 Jackson Drive, Norman, OK 73071 [Phone: (405) 321-6387] was chosen as the evangelist. He was contacted on November 14 and consented to be the evangelist.

Motion carried that if Bro. Gary Dodson becomes unavailable and if the Association does not have an opportunity to elect another evangelist, that the Executive Board select one.

Motion carried at 10:55 AM. to have a 15 minute break. Bro. Loray Spurgin dismissed in prayer.

Business resumed at 11:10 AM. with singing "Higher Ground" led by Sis. Joyce Combs with Sis. Imogene Woodall at the piano. Bro. Lee Gothard led in prayer.

Motion carried to receive the State Woman's Auxiliary report prepared by Sis. Glenda Sanchez and given by Sis. Imogene Woodall.

Motion carried to receive the Credential Board recommendation: That Bro. Chuck Newell was sound in scriptural doctrine and faith and that his church, Midway Free Will Baptist, have the freedom to organize and conduct the ordination services at Bro. Chuck Newell's and the Church's discretion. Signed by: Rev. Myrl F. Kellett, Rev. J. W. Craft and Rev. Don Zickefoose.

Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee report and adopt business item by item:

- (1) To send \$100.00 to the Home Missions most needy account.
- (2) To increase the amount paid for expenses of the General Board Member from \$100.00 to \$300.00.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report: That the dress code should be in a Christian manner in all meetings. No shorts or pants on women and men in proper attire. All of our work and actions should be prayerful and in subjection to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Motion carried to receive the Obituary Committee report of those deceased: Bro. Walter Smith, Lone Grove. There was a moment of silent prayer concluded by Bro. Don Zickefoose.

Motion carried to adjourn business at 11:40 AM. and go into the worship service.

The services were led by Bro. L.T. Woodall. The congregation sang "I'll Fly Away" led by Bro. Don Zickefoose with Sis. Imogene Woodall at the piano. Sis. Rhonda Addington sang "The Potter".

Bro. Chuck Newell brought the message entitled: "If We Be Risen With Christ" from Colossians 3 : 1 - 3.

Bro. Bill Holder dismissed in prayer at 12:10 PM. to fellowship and have lunch.

Bro. L.T. Woodall Moderator
Sis. Wanda Kellett Clerk

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FIRST QUARTER, 1995
AUGUST / SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER
TREASURER'S REPORT

CHURCH	TOTAL RECEIVED	STATE CO-OP	F + S + H MISSIONS	REP FEE	HILLSDALE	CAMP GROUND	GENERAL FUND
CHESTNUT	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
COUNTYLINE	\$268.40	\$96.72	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$139.44	\$32.24
COUNTRYSIDE	\$111.47	\$66.89	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$22.29	\$22.29
GRACE	\$568.42	\$257.05	\$0.00	\$140.00	\$0.00	\$85.68	\$85.69
LAWTON	\$116.00	\$69.60	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$23.20	\$23.20
LONE GROVE	\$213.50	\$74.10	\$0.00	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$24.70	\$24.70
MIDWAY	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$90.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
STOBTOWN	\$147.78	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00	\$0.00	\$62.78	\$10.00
TOTALS	\$1,515.57	\$564.36	\$0.00	\$395.00	\$0.00	\$358.09	\$198.12

BEGINNING BALANCE ON HAND - JULY 31, 1995

\$2,455.73

INCOME FROM CHURCHES

\$1,605.57

EXPENSES:

STATE CO-OP

\$588.70

ASSOCIATION EVANGELIST

\$400.00

STATE REPRESENTATION FEE

\$400.00

STATE DELEGATE EXPENSES

\$100.00

COUNTRYSIDE - REVIVAL ELECTRICITY

\$100.00

LESS EXPENSES

\$1,588.70

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - OCTOBER 31, 1995

\$2,472.60

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
 FIRST QUARTER, 1995
 AUGUST / SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER
 CAMPGROUND TREASURER'S REPORT

BEGINNING BALANCE - AUGUST 29, 1995	\$2,281.90
INCOME FROM CHURCHES	\$54.00
SUBTOTAL	\$2,335.90
EXPENSES:	
OG&E - ELECTRIC	\$122.02
WESTERN CARTER CO - WATER	\$27.25
HEADRICK INSURANCE	\$100.00
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	\$249.27
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - OCTOBER 10, 1995	\$2,086.63

SECOND QUARTERLY MEETING FEBRUARY 9 - 10, 1996

On Friday, February 9, 1996 at 7:30 PM., Bro. L.T. Woodall opened the worship service of the Hopewell No. 2 Association.

Bro. Beryl Blair gave a warm welcome to the Association by the Grace Free Will Baptist Church. Bro. Myrl Kellett led in prayer.

The congregational singing of "Standing On The Promises", "O, I Want To See Him", "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms" and "Joy Unspeakable" was led by Bro. Terry Pierson with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano. Bro. Mike Harris led in prayer.

Special singing was: Bro. & Sis. Harold Robinson - "Wilt Thou Be Made Whole", Sis. Barbara Davis - "How Great Thou Art", Bro. Don Zickefoose - "God On The Mountain" and Bro. & Sis. Terry Pierson - "Till The Storm Passes By". Bro. Loray Spurgin prayed for the special prayer requests.

Bro. Bill Holder brought the message from Matthew 12 : 22 - 30 entitled, "Two Kingdoms - Satan's and God's" (One ruled by force and one ruled by love).

Invitational song "Have Thine Own Way" was led by Bro. Terry Pierson with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano. Bro. Don Zickefoose dismissed in prayer.

Everyone enjoyed refreshments after the service while the Credential and Executive Boards met with Bro. Mike Harris for examination to become an ordained minister. The Chestnut Free Will Baptist Church petitioned the Association for examination on Friday night. Those examining him were: Bro. Myrl Kellett, Bro. Don Zickefoose, Bro. Loray Spurgin and Bro. Dale Howell.

The Saturday, February 10, 1996 business was opened at 9:30 AM. by Bro. L.T. Woodall. Congregational singing of "Victory In Jesus" was led by Bro. Terry Pierson with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano.

Bro. Beryl Blair led in prayer. Bro. Bill Holder brought a devotion from Ephesians 4 : 1 - 6.

Motion carried to receive the letters from 8 churches and to seat the delegates. A right hand of fellowship was given to the delegates while singing "When We All Get To Heaven". Bro. David Gardner led in prayer.

Motion carried to receive the minutes as read.

Petitionary letters were read from the Chestnut Avenue Free Will Baptist Church asking that Bro. Mike Harris be examined for ordination as a minister. The Lawton Free Will Baptist Church requested that Bro. Rob Rooker be examined for license to preach for one year. Motion carried to receive the letters as read.

Bro. Myrl Kellett read the Rules of Order.

The committees were appointed as follows:

Divine: (1) Bro. Von Colvin (2) Bro. David Gardner (3) Bro. Darryl Robinson
Resolution: (1) Sis. Audra Francis (2) Bro. Charlie Monroe (3) Sis. Ruby Miller
Temperance: (1) Sis. Loda Hopkins (2) Sis. Loretha Pierson (3) Bro. Dustin Gardner
Obituary: (1) Sis. Mary Monroe (2) Sis. Fern Harris (3) Sis. Nancy Blair

The Divine Committee selected Bro. Dustin Gardner for the morning speaker.

Motion carried to receive the Treasurer's report given by Bro. Loray Spurgin of \$2,521.88 balance on hand.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Treasurer's report given by Bro. L.T. Woodall of \$2,801.54 balance on hand.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Director's report given by Bro. Rob Rooker of Youth Camp to be held June 23 - 28, 1996. The theme will be "Thy Word Is A Light Unto My Feet", Psalm 119 : 105. An education seminar to be presented by Bro. Phil Akins will be held on March 9, 1996 at the Countyline Free Will Baptist Church from 9:30 AM until 11:30 AM.

Motion carried to receive Bro. Jack Richey's State report given by Bro. L.T. Woodall.

Motion carried to adjourn at 10:35 AM. for a 15 minute break. Bro. Carroll Milner dismissed in prayer.

Business resumed at 11:00 AM. with Bro. Terry Pierson leading the singing of "Everybody Will Be Happy" with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano. Announcements were made by Bro. L.T. Woodall. Prayer was led by Bro. Rob Rooker.

Motion carried to receive the Credential and Executive Board action from Friday night's session that they had examined Bro. Mike Harris and found him sound in faith and doctrine, and recommended that he be ordained to preach the Gospel and at the discretion of the Church and Bro. Mike Harris to plan and execute the Ordination Services.

Motion carried to receive the Credential Board's recommendation that Bro. Rob Rooker be licensed to preach the Gospel for one year, as they had found him sound in Free Will Baptist doctrine. Signed by: Bro. David Gardner, Bro. Carroll Milner and Bro. Loray Spurgin.

Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee recommendation that we resolve to be more understanding and patient with those around us and to be more caring with those in need, and to support our church activities. We pray for those who need to know the Lord, for the sick and afflicted and do what we can to help them.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report to encourage young people to attend Association meetings, church, youth camp and fellowships.

Motion carried to receive the Obituary Committee report of one death: Bro. Floyd Morgan - Countyline. There was a moment of silent prayer with Bro. Terry Pierson concluding the prayer.

Bro. David Gardner asked the Association to forgive him for not being in the Association meetings that last two times because of deaths in his church.

Motion carried to dismiss the business and go into the worship service at 11:10 AM.

Worship service began with singing "I've Been Redeemed", "Living By Faith", "Where The Soul Never Dies" and "Heaven's Jubilee" led by Bro. Terry Pierson with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano. Testimony service was led by Bro. L.T. Woodall.

Special singing was: Sis. Rhonda Addington & Sis. Amanda Teafatiller - "I Know Who Holds Tomorrow", Bro. Beryl Blair & Sis. Imogene Woodall - "O, I Want To See Him" and Sis. Kim Robinson - "Broken and Spilled Out".

Bro. Dustin Gardner brought the message from Matthew 5 : 14 - 16 entitled "Hold Your Candle High".

Bro. Beryl Blair dismissed in prayer and prayed over the lunch.

Announcements: Next District Meeting will be held at the Chestnut Avenue Free Will Baptist Church in Duncan on May 17 - 18, 1996. The Brashear's will be in concert at Grace on March 11, 1996 and revival with the McGuire's beginning March 12 - 15, 1996.

Bro. L.T. Woodall Moderator
Sis. Wanda Kellett Clerk

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
 SECOND QUARTER, 1995 - 1996
 NOVEMBER / DECEMBER / JANUARY
 TREASURER'S REPORT

CHURCH	TOTAL RECEIVED	STATE CO-OP	F + S + H MISSIONS	REP FEE	HILLSDALE	CAMP GROUND	GENERAL FUND
CHESTNUT	\$242.73	\$145.63	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$48.55	\$48.55
COUNTYLINE	\$316.52	\$119.70	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$156.92	\$39.90
COUNTRYSIDE	\$174.11	\$103.87	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$35.12	\$35.12
GRACE	\$338.82	\$202.28	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$68.27	\$68.27
LAWTON	\$570.01	\$183.01	\$0.00	\$140.00	\$0.00	\$186.00	\$61.00
LONE GROVE	\$403.24	\$241.94	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$80.65	\$80.65
MIDWAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
STOBTOWN	\$86.25	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$71.25	\$15.00
TOTALS	\$2,131.68	\$996.43	\$0.00	\$140.00	\$0.00	\$646.76	\$348.49

BEGINNING BALANCE ON HAND - OCTOBER 31, 1995

\$2,472.60

INCOME FROM CHURCHES

\$2,131.68

EXPENSES:

STATE CO-OP \$938.87
 CAMP GROUND \$1,043.53
 HOME MISSIONS - MOST NEEDY \$100.00

LESS EXPENSES

\$2,082.40

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - JANUARY 31, 1996

\$2,521.88

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
 SECOND QUARTER, 1995 - 1996
 NOVEMBER / DECEMBER / JANUARY
 CAMPGROUND TREASURER'S REPORT

BEGINNING BALANCE - OCTOBER 10, 1995	\$2,086.63
INCOME FROM CHURCHES	\$1,043.53
SUBTOTAL	\$3,130.16
EXPENSES:	
OG&E - ELECTRIC	\$175.29
WESTERN CARTER CO - WATER	\$144.75
GORDON LUMBER	\$8.58
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	\$328.62
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - FEBRUARY 10, 1996	\$2,801.54

THIRD QUARTERLY MEETING MAY 17 - 18, 1996

The Hopewell No. 2 Association convened at 7:30 PM on Friday, May 17, 1996 at the Chestnut Free Will Baptist Church in Duncan, OK.

Bro. L.T. Woodall opened the services by asking Bro. Chuck Newell to lead in prayer. Bro. Mike Harris, pastor of the Chestnut Church, welcomed the Association.

Bro. Don Zickefoose led the congregational singing of "What A Day That Will Be", "Just Over In The Gloryland" and "Land Where Living Water Flows" with Sis. Anna Janz at the piano and Sis. Carmen Harris at the organ. Prayer was led by Bro. Don Zickefoose.

Special singing: Bro. & Sis. Harold Robinson - "Just Go By", Sis. Barbara McLeary & Sis. Nigle Calloway - "Uncloved Day", Sis. Rhonda Addington - "I Need No Mansion", and Bro. Mike Harris - "Here We Are". Sis. Wanda Kellett led in prayer. Sis. Anna Janz sang "Take My Hand, Precious Lord".

Bro. Myrl Kellett brought the message from Ephesians 4 : 1 - 16 entitled, "Walk Worthy As You Are Called". Bro. Don Zickefoose led the invitational song - "Softly and Tenderly". Bro. Rob Rooker dismissed in prayer. Refreshments were enjoyed by all after the service.

Saturday, May 18, 1996, the business session was opened at 9:30 AM with Bro. Terry Pierson leading the congregational singing, "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms" with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano and Sis. Carmen Harris at the organ. Bro. Loray Spurgin led in prayer.

Bro. Bill Holder admonished the association from Ephesians 2 : 1 - 9.

Bro. L.T. Woodall asked for a vote to go into business.

Motion carried to accept the letters from the 8 churches and to seat the delegates.

Bro. David Gardner read Matthew 26 : 41 and concluded in prayer.

Bro. Terry Pierson led the congregational singing "When We All Get To Heaven" while right hand of fellowship was given to the delegates.

Motion carried to receive the minutes as read.

There was a moment of silent prayer with Bro. Myrl Kellett concluding the prayer for the families that had lost their loved ones: Bro. Troy Morris, Sis. Dovie Spurgin and Bro. Ronnie Inmon.

Motion carried to receive the Petitionary letter form Midway Church to examine Bro. Kenneth Glenn for ordination as a deacon.

Letter read from the National Free Will Baptist regarding the arrival of the yearbook.

Bro. Myrl Kellett read the Rules of Order. Visitors were invited to be seated in counsel.

Appointment of committees were as follows:

<u>Divine:</u>	(1) Sis. Joyce Combs	(2) Bro. Chris Harris	(3) Sis. Elaine Glenn
<u>Resolution:</u>	(1) Sis. Anna Janz	(2) Sis. Nadine Nix	(3) Sis. Cecile Adams
<u>Temperance:</u>	(1) Sis. Nancy Blair	(2) Bro. Jason Edgin	(3) Bro. Dennis Gothard
<u>Obituary:</u>	(1) Sis. Elsie Garrett	(2) Sis. Brenda Perkins	(3) Sis. Loretha Pierson

The Divine Committee chose Bro. David Gardner as the morning speaker.

Motion carried to receive the Treasurer's report given by Bro. Loray Spurgin with \$2,783.22 balance on hand.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Treasurer's report given by Bro. L.T. Woodall with \$3,090.74 balance on hand.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Board report given by Bro. L.T. Woodall. There is a need for two teachers for the upcoming youth camp. The youth camp needs to be cleaned and prepared for camp.

Motion carried to adjourn at 10:35 AM for a 15 minute break for the committees to meet. Bro. Dennis Gothard dismissed in prayer.

Business resumed at 11:00 AM. Bro. Harold Robinson led in prayer.

Motion carried to receive the recommendation of the Credential Board that they found Bro. Kenneth Glenn sound in doctrine and the faith and recommend he be ordained as a deacon. Signed by: Bro. Myrl Kellett, Bro. David Gardner & Bro. Don Zickefoose.

Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee report and adopt it item by item:

(1) Recommend that 3 air conditioners (refrigerated) be obtained for youth camp; one each for the girl's dorm, boy's dorm and kitchen (rented or borrowed).

(2) That 2 canopies be purchased for the outside classrooms at youth camp. (Note: These can be purchased at Sam's for \$200 each.)

(3) That the old desks and bulk trash at youth camp be disposed of and / or taken to the closest landfill.

(4) That each church discuss the possibility of changing the quarterly meetings to semi-annual meetings. The annual meeting to be held in August and one in March with a Friday night service and Saturday morning business. This is to be decided on at the August, 1996 annual meeting.

Motion carried that the District Treasurer reimburse the Camp Ground Treasurer \$100 that was paid to Bro. Phil Akins for the education seminar.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report as follows: Because our youth and young adults are our churches and our nation's future, we feel that it is necessary to encourage our youth and young adults to study the Word of God and hide It in their hearts for future use, so they will have a weapon to fight against temptations that Satan will place in their paths.

Motion carried to receive the Obituary Committee report of three deaths: Bro. Troy Morris - Stobtown, Bro. Ronnie Inmon - Countyline & Sis. Dovie Spurgin - Countryside. There was a moment of silent prayer concluded by Bro. Terry Pierson.

Motion carried to dismiss business and go into worship service. Sis. Geraldine Staggs dismissed in prayer.

Bro. Terry Pierson led the congregational singing, "Whosoever Meant Me", "I Want To Know More About My Lord" and "O How I Love Jesus", with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano and Sis. Carmen Harris at the organ.

Special singing by: Bro. Don Zickefoose - "God On The Mountain", Bro. Dennis Gothard & Sis. Cecile Adams - "Does He Still Feel The Nails?" and Sis. Cecile Adams - "You'll Never Thirst Again".

Bro. David Gardner brought the message from II Chronicles 5 : 1 - 4, 13 & 14 entitled "What Happens When We Praise God". The invitational song, "Amazing Grace", was sung by Sis. Cecil Adams.

There was an altar of prayer. Bro. Church Newell dismissed in prayer, praying over the noon meal.

Announcements: Bro. Chuck Newell's ordination service will be held May 26, 1996 at 2:00 PM at Midway. Bro. Mike Harris' ordination service will be held in June, 1996.

Bro. L.T. Woodall Moderator
Sis. Wanda Kellett Clerk

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
THIRD QUARTER, 1996
FEBRUARY / MARCH / APRIL
TREASURER'S REPORT

CHURCH	TOTAL RECEIVED	STATE CO-OP	F + S + H MISSIONS	OTHER	HILLSDALE	CAMP GROUND	GENERAL FUND
CHESTNUT	\$36.18	\$21.70	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7.24	\$7.24
COUNTYLINE	\$295.37	\$110.69	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$147.67	\$37.01
COUNTRYSIDE	\$1,055.18	\$434.50	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$331.00	\$144.84	\$144.84
GRACE	\$192.47	\$115.49	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$38.49	\$38.49
LAWTON	\$110.97	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$110.97	\$0.00	\$0.00
LONE GROVE	\$423.71	\$254.24	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$84.73	\$84.74
MIDWAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
STOBTOWN	\$83.09	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$68.09	\$15.00
TOTALS	\$2,196.97	\$936.62	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$441.97	\$491.06	\$327.32

BEGINNING BALANCE ON HAND - JANUARY 31, 1996

\$2,521.88

INCOME FROM CHURCHES

\$2,196.97

EXPENSES:

STATE CO-OP \$1,397.60
CAMP GROUND \$538.03

LESS EXPENSES

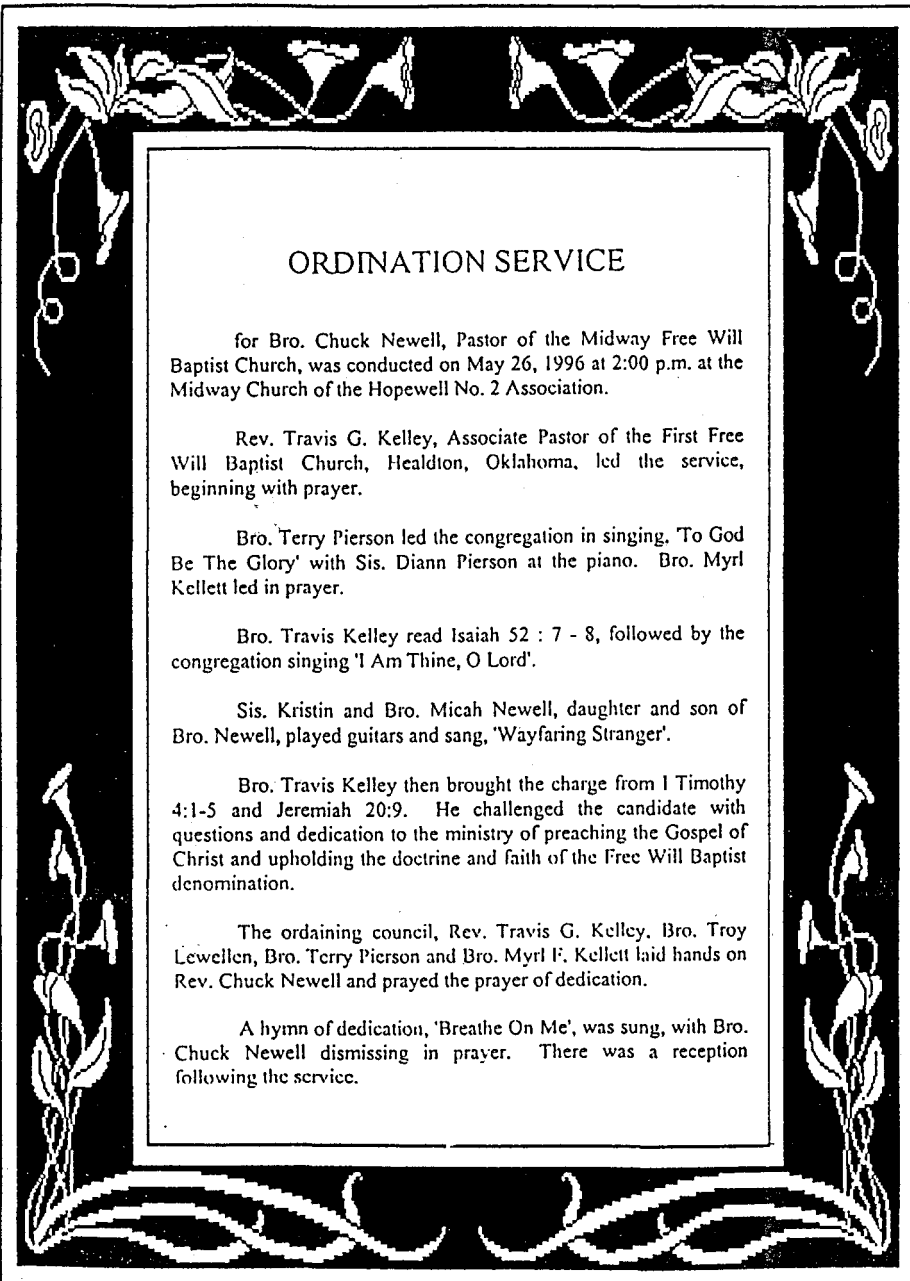
\$1,935.63

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND APRIL 30, 1996

\$2,783.22

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
THIRD QUARTER, 1996
FEBRUARY / MARCH / APRIL
CAMPGROUND TREASURER'S REPORT

BEGINNING BALANCE - FEBRUARY 10, 1996	\$2,801.54
INCOME FROM CHURCHES	\$538.03
SUBTOTAL	\$3,339.57
EXPENSES:	
OG&E - ELECTRIC	\$108.83
WESTERN CARTER CO - WATER	\$40.00
PHIL AKIN - EDUCATION SEMINAR	\$100.00
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	\$248.83
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - MAY 13, 1996	\$3,090.74

A decorative border with a repeating floral and vine motif surrounds the central text area.

ORDINATION SERVICE

for Bro. Chuck Newell, Pastor of the Midway Free Will Baptist Church, was conducted on May 26, 1996 at 2:00 p.m. at the Midway Church of the Hopewell No. 2 Association.

Rev. Travis G. Kelley, Associate Pastor of the First Free Will Baptist Church, Healdton, Oklahoma, led the service, beginning with prayer.

Bro. Terry Pierson led the congregation in singing, 'To God Be The Glory' with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano. Bro. Myrl Kellett led in prayer.

Bro. Travis Kelley read Isaiah 52 : 7 - 8, followed by the congregation singing 'I Am Thine, O Lord'.

Sis. Kristin and Bro. Micah Newell, daughter and son of Bro. Newell, played guitars and sang, 'Wayfaring Stranger'.

Bro. Travis Kelley then brought the charge from I Timothy 4:1-5 and Jeremiah 20:9. He challenged the candidate with questions and dedication to the ministry of preaching the Gospel of Christ and upholding the doctrine and faith of the Free Will Baptist denomination.

The ordaining council, Rev. Travis G. Kelley, Bro. Troy Lewellen, Bro. Terry Pierson and Bro. Myrl F. Kellett laid hands on Rev. Chuck Newell and prayed the prayer of dedication.

A hymn of dedication, 'Breathe On Me', was sung, with Bro. Chuck Newell dismissing in prayer. There was a reception following the service.

**64TH ANNUAL MEETING
AUGUST 9 - 10, 1996
COUNTRYSIDE**

The Association Revival began on August 5 with Bro. Gary Dodson as the Evangelist. There was good nightly attendance with wonderful congregation singing and special numbers.

Bro. Dodson's theme message Monday night was "Crossroads of Your Life" from Hebrews 11 : 23 - 30. Tuesday night was (1) "Two Ways of Living", (2) "Two Ways to Die" and (3) "Two Things to Remember" from Luke 16 : 19 - 31. Wednesday night was "Are You There?" from I Kings 17 : 1 - 6. Thursday night was "Breaking Chains" from Mark 5 : 1 - 20. Total love offerings collected were \$185.50, making a total with the \$400.00 from the Treasurer of \$585.50.

On Friday night, August 9, 1996, at 7:30 PM, the yearly Association meeting opened with Bro. L. T. Woodall leading the service.

Sis. Cleo Spurgin led the congregation singing of "Stand Up For Jesus" and "Sunlight" with Sis. Shelia Rooker at the piano. Sis. Wanda Kellett led in prayer.

Bro. & Sis. Harold Robinson sang "I Hold A Clear Title" followed by Bro. Carroll Milner leading in prayer. Sis. Imogene Woodall & Bro. Charlie Boyer sang "I'll Just Steal Away and Pray". Sis. Shelia Rooker & Sis. Barbara McLeary sang "Mansion Over The Hilltop".

Bro. Gary Dodson brought the message from Job 1 : 1 - 12 and Job 42 entitled "The Meeting", concluding the message with prayer.

Bro. Beryl Blair dismissed the service in prayer. A fellowship and refreshments followed the service.

The August 10, 1996, service opened at 9:30 AM. The Annual Association Business was called to order by Bro. L. T. Woodall.

Bro. Don Zickefoose led the congregation singing of "Gloryland Way" and "Sweet By and By" with Sis. Vala Robinson at the piano. Bro. Beryl Blair led in prayer.

Bro. L. T. Woodall admonished the Association from I Corinthians 15 : 54 - 58.

Motion carried to receive the letters from 7 churches and to seat the delegates. A right hand of fellowship was given to the delegates while singing "Farther Along".

Motion carried to received the minutes as read.

A letter from the Countyline Free Will Baptist Church noted that they have set Bro. Von Colvin aside for one year on trial for deacon.

Bro. Myrl Kellett read the Rule of Order and visitors were invited to be seated in council.

The committees were appointed as follows:

<u>Resolution:</u>	(1) Sis. Leisa Hall	(2) Sis. Louranna Cox	(3) Sis. Nancy Blair
<u>Temperance:</u>	(1) Bro. Milo Miller	(2) Sis. Amanda Teafatiller	(3) Sis. Sherry Henley
<u>Obituary:</u>	(1) Sis. Nadine Nix	(2) Sis. Barbara Davis	(3) Sis. Joyce Combs

Bro. Jack Richey, Executive State Secretary, gave a report on the State work, Missions and Hillsdale College.

Motion carried to receive the Treasurer's report of \$3,262.48 balance on hand as given by Bro. Loray Spurgin.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Treasurer's report of \$1,773.18 balance on hand as given by Bro. L. T. Woodall.

Motion carried to receive the Youth Camp Director, Bro. L. T. Woodall's report on the 1996 Youth Encampment. Their theme was "Thy Word Is A Lamp Unto My Feet and A Light Unto My Path" taken from Psalm 119 : 105. There were 77 campers, 17 people saved and 7 rededications. Bro. Dustin Gardner surrendered to be a missionary.

There was no unfinished business. New business as follows:

Motion carried to have semi-annual Association meetings. The first one is to be held on February 28, 1997 through March 1, 1997 at Lawton with Bro. Milo Miller as the Friday night speaker. The annual Association business meeting will be held at Countryside on August 1 - 2, 1997, following the Association Revival beginning July 28, 1997, through August 1, 1997, at 7:30 PM nightly. Bro. Beryl Blair will be the memorial speaker on Saturday morning.

Bro. Millard McGuire [Phone: (918) 247-6332] was elected as the Revival Evangelist. Alternate is Bro. Mark Barnes. Note: Bro. McGuire was contacted on August 10, 1996 and he consented to be the Evangelist.

Motion carried that Youth Camp be held July 22 - 27, 1997.

Motion carried that the Youth Camp Board select the Director for 1997.

Motion carried to have Co-Directors for Youth Camp. Note: The Board selected Bro. David Gardner and Bro. Jimmy Tate as the Co-Directors. They also selected Sis. Imogene Woodall as the Camp Ground Board Treasurer.

Motion carried that Bro. Jimmy Holbrook [Phone: (405) 771-5461] be the night Evangelist and that Bro. Milo Miller [Phone: (405)____ - ____] be the morning Evangelist during the 1997 Youth Camp. Both have given consent.

There was a 15 minute break. Business resumed with Bro. J. T. McClanahan leading in prayer.

Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee report and adopt it item by item:

- (1) To have at least one Association Fellowship a year other than the two designated meetings of the Association. The first one to be at Countryside on Saturday, November 2, 1996.
- (2) That the Ministers of the Hopewell No. 2 Association meet for a day of fellowship and prayer retreat. The first meeting to be on Saturday, November 2, 1996, before the Association Fellowship meeting that night.
- (3) Motion carried that there be a planning committee consisting of Bro. Carroll Milner, Bro. Loray Spurgin and Bro. Chuck Newell for the Minister's Fellowship and Prayer Retreat.
- (4) That the Executive Board plan and organize a Mission's Conference.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report as follows:

- (1) That Ministers of this Association encourage members to abstain from involvement with cult activities, Ouija Boards, tarot cards, gambling of any nature, any relationship with witchcraft activities, use of alcohol and illegal drugs, and to refrain from involvement with any activities that interfere with a relationship with God, such as foul language.
- (2) That the dress code of the Youth Camp be enforced.
- (3) That our behavior patterns be consistent with a Christian walk, abstaining from sexual immorality, always supporting God's Word and works.

Motion carried to receive the Obituary Committee report of those deceased: Bro. Troy Morris & Bro. Bum Mitchell - Stobtown, Sis. Nora Truitt & Sis. Dovie Spurgin - Countryside, Sis. JoAnn Matthews - Midway, and Bro. Don Fletcher, Bro. Floyd Morgan and Bro. Ronnie Inmon - Countyline.

Motion carried to pay both Youth Camp Evangelists \$400.00 each.

Bro. Carroll Milner was elected as the General Board Member to the State for 1997.

The election of officers were as follows:

Moderator:	Bro. L. T. Woodall
Asst. Moderator:	Bro. Carroll Milner
Clerk:	Sis. Wanda Kellett
Asst. Clerk:	Sis. Shelia Rooker
Treasurer:	Bro. Loray Spurgin
Asst. Treasurer:	Sis. Mary Head
Reporter:	Sis. Cathy Little
Parliamentarian:	Bro. Bill Holder
Executive Board, 5 Year:	Bro. Loray Spurgin
Credential Board, 5 Year:	Bro. Chuck Newell
Camp Ground Board, 5 Year:	Bro. Darryl Robinson

Note: Each Board elects their own Treasurer and the One Year man of each Board is the Chairman.

Church Fees: \$ 90.00 annually for minutes and State and National fees.

\$125.00 annually for Youth Camp for camper's fees. (Each camper also pays a \$5.00 enrollment fee to attend Youth Camp.)

\$ 50.00 annually for the Association Revival Evangelist.

All money, including church fees, coop giving and youth camp offerings, should be sent to the Hopewell No. 2 Association Treasurer to be properly reported in our financial. He, in turn, will forward the money on to the other areas.

The morning worship service was led by Bro. L. T. Woodall. Bro. Don Zickefoose leading the singing of "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms" and "Deeper, Deeper" with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano. Bro. Myrl Kellett led in prayer.

Special singing: Lawton Church - "In Times Like These", Kali & Mason Robinson - "Jesus Loves Me" and Bro. Jack Richey - "Sheltered In The Arms of God".

Bro. Carroll Milner brought the Memorial message from Hebrews 10 : 16 and Hebrews 9 : 11 entitled "Desire To Be Near God, Desire For A Deeper Assurance and Desire To Be A True Christian". He paid tribute to all those who had passed on to the other side, concluding in prayer.

Bro. Dale Howell dismissed in prayer, asking God's blessings on the noon meal.

Bro. L. T. Woodall Moderator
Sis. Wanda Kellett Clerk

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FOURTH QUARTER, 1996
MAY / JUNE / JULY
TREASURER'S REPORT

CHURCH	TOTAL RECEIVED	STATE CO-OP	F + S + H MISSIONS	CAMP FEE	HILLSDALE	CAMP GROUND	GENERAL FUND
CHESTNUT	\$262.88	\$157.74	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$52.57	\$52.57
COUNTYLINE	\$441.42	\$118.45	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$158.48	\$39.49
COUNTRYSIDE	\$883.73	\$455.22	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$151.75	\$151.76
GRACE	\$445.73	\$267.45	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$89.14	\$89.14
LAWTON	\$200.00	\$120.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$40.00
LONE GROVE	\$478.24	\$211.94	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$70.65	\$70.65
MIDWAY	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$125.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$75.00
STOBTOWN	\$95.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$80.00	\$15.00
TOTALS	\$3,007.00	\$1,330.80	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$642.59	\$533.61

BEGINNING BALANCE ON HAND - APRIL 30, 1996

\$2,783.22

INCOME FROM CHURCHES

\$3,007.00

EXPENSES:

STATE CO-OP \$1,330.80
CAMP GROUND \$1,096.94
PHIL AKINS - TRAINING SEMINAR \$100.00

LESS EXPENSES

\$2,527.74

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND JULY 31, 1996

\$3,262.48

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FOURTH QUARTER, 1996
MAY / JUNE / JULY
CAMPGROUND TREASURER'S REPORT

BEGINNING BALANCE - MAY 13, 1996	\$3,090.74
INCOME FROM CHURCHES	\$1,504.47
SUBTOTAL	\$4,595.21
EXPENSES:	
TOTAL UTILITIES	\$371.42
HEADRICK INSURANCE	\$100.00
GORDON LUMBER	\$39.52
OK FWB BOOKSTORE	\$220.20
FOOD & SUPPLIES	\$1,202.87
LITERATURE	\$20.67
CANOPIES	\$399.92
EVANGELIST - BRO. JIMMY HOLBROOK	\$400.00
DUNCAN RENT-ALL	\$16.05
SPRAY FOR BUGS	\$51.38
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,822.03
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - JULY 30, 1996	\$1,773.18

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 debated 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 have first been discussed in its own church.
9. If any proposition or motion under debate contains two (2) 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 members 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 (2) 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 distinctly be 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, read and received
4. Right hand of fellowship and seating of the delegates
5. Reading of the Minutes
6. Petitionary letters called for
7. Reading of the 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 related 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 THE 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 the 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 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, Treasurer and 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 and 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 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 (3) members. This Board shall make a full report in writing of its activities at each session.

CREDENTIAL BOARD

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

PROPERTY AND REAL ESTATE

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

VACANCIES

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

SPECIAL SESSIONS

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

DISSOLUTION

Should this Association cease to function, all properties and holdings shall go to the Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptists 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 the members present in writing to the body one day in advance.

**BY-LAWS OF THE
HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
OF FREE WILL BAPTIST**

1. The Moderator or Assistant Moderator shall call the Association into conference. In their absence, the senior minister, in years, shall call the Association into conference and the body shall elect a Moderator to serve for that session.
2. The Clerk of the Association shall have the duty of enrolling the delegates from the churches in this Association, who shall present themselves with proper evidence of their rights to seats therein.
3. It shall be the duty of every church belonging to this Association to send a letter to every session of this Association reporting in the same the spiritual condition of the church and the list of delegates. Any church belonging to this Association which shall fail to report itself for one year may be dismissed from the Association by a two-thirds vote of all members present.
4. The voting body of this Association shall consist of all Associational Officers and Board Members, all ordained ministers and their wives, all ordained deacons and their wives, local church clerks and three (3) 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 questions.
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 (15) cents 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, \$25.00 for the State Delegate fee and \$25.00 for 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 (3) 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 is glorified as 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 exercises a wise and benevolent providence over all beings and all things by maintaining this constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of Grace, not otherwise provided for as highest welfare of man requires.
6. **THE SINFULNESS OF MAN** - Man was created innocent, but by disobedience fell into a state of sin and condemnation. His posterity, therefore, inherited a fallen nature of such tendencies that all who come to years of accountability, sin, and become guilty before God.
7. **THE WORK OF CHRIST** - The Son of God, by His incarnation, life, suffering, death and resurrection effected for all a redemption from sin that is full and free and is the ground of salvation of faith.
8. **THE WORKS OF SALVATION** - The conditions of salvation are:
 - A. The Repentance of sincere sorrow for sin and the hearty renunciation.
 - B. Faith or the unreserved committal of one's self to Christ as Savior 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.
 - C. 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 IS 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 (Matthew 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 Corinthians 16 : 2.

16. **THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH** - The divine law requires that one day in seven (7) 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 Savior 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 to 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 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 Baptists, committed to doctrine of congregational church government, understand that the authority to ordain ministries 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 area 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 renewed annually 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. 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 make 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 that "laying on of hands" as signifying the candidate's call 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 the ordination procedure, there are really two levels of direct responsibility in ordination: the local church - primary, and 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. The general public should always be able to rely upon the fact of ordination as a clear sign that many Christians of mature judgment have recognized that the one ordained is gifted and capable to minister. No group responsible for ordination would presume to imply that it is infallible. Candidates genuinely possessing the gift, may on occasion, be rejected. 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 himself 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 to 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. Caution should be followed so that two definite responsibilities are observed.

- A. 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.
- B. 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 2: 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.

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS OF CHARACTER AND CONDUCT

The earlier portion of this booklet has made clear that the primary requirement 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 possess 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.

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 Timothy 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.

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 Christian nor in Christian service.

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 can not 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.

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.

THE CANDIDATE'S EDUCATION

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

THE CANDIDATE'S BIBLICAL KNOWLEDGE

It is absolutely necessary that a minister have a good general knowledge of the Word. Therefore, procedures are always in order among ordaining councils that will help them determine the level of Biblical knowledge possessed by the candidate. This is, indeed, one of the main purposes of the examination. When administered well, oral examinations along this line can be sufficient, but the trend now in many areas is to go to some type of written examination covering Biblical concepts. Such examinations, whether written or oral, should cover:

- A. Knowledge of general Biblical facts
- B. Ability to explain basic Biblical concepts.

In order to cover these matters well, such examinations have to be carefully planned. The ordainers should have recommendations about specific studies the candidate can get involved in to prepare him for the examinations, both before his first examination and in preparation for a second examination if he fails to satisfy them the first time.

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

THE CANDIDATE'S DOCTRINAL POSITION

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

- A. That the candidate is doctrinally sound and holds a clear-cut position in agreement with basic fundamentals of Christianity.
- B. That the candidate is denominationally sound and holds a clear-cut position in agreement with the distinctive doctrines of the Free Will Baptist denomination.
- C. That the candidate not only know the right words, but understands and can satisfactorily explain the doctrines involved in the two areas just mentioned.

