

Shelia + Rob

MINUTES

HOPEWELL
NO. 2
ASSOCIATION

FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCHES

69th Annual Meeting
2001

**MINUTES OF THE 69TH ANNUAL MEETING
HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES
2001**

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ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

2002

Carroll Milner

MODERATOR
HCR 62, 107 ASTOR
LONE GROVE, OK 73443

DAVID GARDNER
PHONE: (580) 657-2971

ASST. MODERATOR
1127 N 9TH
PURCELL, OK 73080

Marvin Harris

CARROLL MILNER
PHONE: (405) 527-3093
EMAIL: pheartok@oeadvantage.net

CLERK
2512 SW 'A' AVENUE
LAWTON, OK 73505

SHELIA BOOKER
PHONE: (357-8755)
EMAIL: srooker@sirinet.net

ASST. CLERK
4702 SE DREXEL
LAWTON, OK 73501

CHRISTY KELLETT
PHONE: (580) 355-8622
EMAIL: makellett5@aol.com

TREASURER
ROUTE 1, BOX 213
RATLIFF CITY, OK 73481

Frances Lewellen

JOYCE MULLINS
PHONE: (580) 856-3290

ASST. TREASURER
PO BOX 145 766
VELMA, OK 73091

Temple Grundy
444-7201

MARY HEAD
PHONE: (580) 444-2470
EMAIL: mlhead@cottoninternet.net

tns@texhome.net

REPORTER
PO BOX 6
GRAHAM, OK 73437

Kim Robinson

DIANN PIERSON
PHONE: (580) 673-2109

PARLIAMENTARIAN
2603 SW 'A' AVENUE
LAWTON, OK 73505

WANDA KELLETT
PHONE: (580) 355-4668
EMAIL: wandaok@juno.com

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Randy Smith

LORAY SPURGIN	-----5-----	5 YEARS
CHARLES NEWELL	-----3-----	4 YEARS
JIMMY TATE	-----2-----	3 YEARS
DAVID GARDNER	-----1-----	2 YEARS
TROY LEWELLEN	-----1-----	1 YEAR

CREDENTIAL BOARD

Marvin Harris

RICHARD WATKINS	-----5-----	5 YEARS
CARROLL MILNER	-----3-----	4 YEARS
DAVID GARDNER <i>Jimmy Tate</i>	-----2-----	3 YEARS
MYRL KELLETT	-----1-----	2 YEARS
TERRY PIERSON	-----1-----	1 YEAR

PO Box 362

Lone Grove 73443

657-3762

jdKd C bright OK.net

Jim McLaughlin

CAMP GROUND BOARD

DARRYL ROBINSON	-----5-----	5 YEAR / TREASURER
6021 SWATTERBURY	-----4-----	PHONE:
LAWTON, OK 73505		(580) 536-0370

ED STAGGS	-----3-----	4 YEARS
5624 SE 2ND STREET		PHONE:
MIDWEST CITY, OK 73110		(405) 737-2190

TERRY PIERSON	-----2-----	3 YEARS
PO BOX 6		PHONE:
GRAHAM, OK 73437		(580) 673-2109

MARK KELLETT	-----1-----	2 YEARS / ASST. TREASURER
4702 SE DREXEL		PHONE:
LAWTON, OK 73501		(580) 355-8622

DAVID GARDNER	-----1-----	1 YEAR
HCR 62, 107 ASTOR		PHONE:
LONE GROVE, OK 73443		(580) 657-2971

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

pheartok @purcellok.net

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK
COUNTRYSIDE PO BOX 235 VELMA, OK 73491 PHONE: (580) 444-3530	oecadvantage CARROLL MILNER <i>Fran</i> 1427 N 9TH 1st Fuggle St. PURCELL, OK 73080 <i>760-097</i> PHONE: (405) 527-3893 pheartok@oecadvantage.net	CATHY LITTLE ROUTE 3, BOX 126-A DUNCAN, OK 73533 PHONE: (580) 444-3549 gclittle@texhoma.net
COUNTYLINE PO BOX 236 COUNTY LINE, OK 73425 PHONE:	JOHN BALLARD <i>margaret</i> ROUTE 3, BOX 366 BLANCHARD, OK 73010 PHONE: (405) 222-0268	BECKY HATTON PO BOX 1 TUSSY, OK 73488 PHONE: (580) 856-3481
GRACE 401 PATTERSON COMANCHE, OK 73529 PHONE:	MARVIN HARRIS <i>Dorothy</i> RR 2, BOX 56 <i>145 FM 367</i> BELLEVUE, TX 76228 PHONE: (940) 476-2213 marvin1930@morgan.net	ANNA JANZ 1318 COTTON HILL DRIVE DUNCAN, OK 73533 <i>9310 FM 4</i> PHONE: (580) 255-1252 <i>Bellevue</i> <i>Carmen Harris 940.428.70</i>
HEALDTON FIRST 219 S 6TH STREET <i>Box 779</i> HEALDTON, OK 73438 PHONE: (580) 229-0397	W.C. HAMILTON PO BOX 878 <i>Mary Lou</i> CALERA, OK 74730 PHONE: (580) 434-8017	JANETTE WATKINS PO BOX 235 FOX, OK 73435 PHONE: (580) 673-2798
LAWTON FIRST 10 S 24TH STREET LAWTON, OK 73505 PHONE: (580) 355-4668	MYRL KELLETT <i>wanda</i> 2603 SW "A" AVENUE LAWTON, OK 73505 PHONE: (580) 355-4668	WANDA KELLETT 2603 SW "A" AVENUE LAWTON, OK 73505 PHONE: (580) 355-4668 wandaok@juno.com
LONE GROVE PO BOX 325 LONE GROVE, OK 73443 PHONE:	LEWIS HOWELL <i>Carolyn</i> PO BOX 1613 LONE GROVE, OK 73443 PHONE: (580) 657-4218	MARY BETH BRAY ROUTE 3, BOX 31 C ARDMORE, OK 73401 PHONE: (580) 657-4908
MIDWAY HC 63, BOX 2400 HEALDTON, OK 73438 PHONE: (580) 673-2599	CHARLES NEWELL <i>Dana</i> ROUTE 1, BOX 76 RATLIFF CITY, OK 73481 PHONE: (580) 856-3667	TERRI NEWELL <i>Phyllis Pie</i> PO BOX 94 <i>Rt. 1 Box 2</i> RATLIFF CITY, OK 73481 <i>Foster</i> PHONE: (580) 856-3788 bigmlittle@juno.com <i>658-135</i>
STOBTOWN ROUTE 3, BOX 134 A ARDMORE, OK 73401 PHONE: (580) 657-6295	DAVID GARDNER <i>Terri</i> HCR 62, 107 ASTOR LONE GROVE, OK 73443 PHONE: (580) 657-2971	ANN CHRISTIAN ROUTE 3, BOX 134 A ARDMORE, OK 73401 PHONE: (580) 657-2218

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT 2512 SW 'A' AVENUE LAWTON, OK 73505	-----	SHELIA ROOKER PHONE: (580) 357-8755
VICE-PRESIDENT PO BOX 73 FOX, OK 73438	-----	JANETTE ANDERSON PHONE: (580) 856-3457
SECRETARY 4702 SE DREXEL LAWTON, OK 73501	-----	CHRISTY KELLETT PHONE: (580) 355-8622
CO - TREASURER PO BOX 201 GRAHAM, OK 73437	-----	FRANCES LEWELLEN PHONE: (580) 673-2315
CO - TREASURER PO BOX 6 GRAHAM, OK 73437	-----	DIANN PIERSON PHONE: (580) 673-2109
ACTION CHAIRMAN 2618 SW 'A' AVENUE LAWTON, OK 73505	-----	BARBARA DAVIS PHONE: (580) 357-4954
PRAYER CHAIRMAN 1218 SW 26TH PLACE LAWTON, OK 73505	-----	JACKIE WORTHY PHONE: (580) 591-0739
STUDY CHAIRMAN RT 1, BOX 730 B MARIETTA, OK 73448	-----	RHONDA ADDINGTON PHONE: (580) 276-5086
FIELD WORKER 504 W SINCLAIR HEALDTON, OK 73438	-----	GENNY WHITT PHONE: (580) 229-1898

ORDAINED MINISTERS

ROYCE MC CLENDON CHURCH: STOB TOWN	(580) 657-8214	ROUTE 2, BOX 275 C ARDMORE, OK 73401
✓ ED STAGGS CHURCH: LONE GROVE	(405) 737-2190	5624 SE 2ND STREET MIDWEST CITY, OK 73110
? TOM STANLEY CHURCH: GRACE	(580) 255-1274	103 E WALNUT DUNCAN, OK 73533
✓ HARVEY WHITE CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 657-4058	507 N BROADWAY LONE GROVE, OK 73443

Charles Newell
Medway

(580) 856-3667

Rt. 1 Box 76
Ratliff City 73873481

West Fork 55 C AOL.com

76228

50E
73434

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LICENSED MINISTERS

✓ RAY CHRISTIAN CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 229-0360	Land 416 ROCKWAY HEALDTON, OK 73438
John Gilmore CountrySide	(580) 255-4802	532 N 20th Duncan OK 73533
WON COLVIN CHURCH: COUNTYLINE	(580) 856-3581	PO BOX 234 COUNTYLINE, OK 73425
JOHN GILMORE CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE	(580) 255-4802	532 N 20TH DUNCAN, OK 73533
✓ KENNETH GLENN CHURCH: MIDWAY	(580) 229-2682	518 SW 3RD HEALDTON, OK 73438
✓ DALE HOWELL CHURCH: LONE GROVE	(580) 657-3836	STAR ROUTE, BOX A 104 LONE GROVE, OK 73443
✓ CECIL JANZ CHURCH: GRACE	(580) 255-1252	1318 COTTON HILL DRIVE DUNCAN, OK 73533
OTHEL KYLE CHURCH: STOB TOWN	(580) 657-6420	ROUTE 3, BOX 31 ARDMORE, OK 73401
✓ TROY LEWELLEN CHURCH: MIDWAY	(580) 673-2315	PO BOX 201 GRAHAM, OK 73437
✓ KENNETH LEWIS CHURCH: GRACE	(580) 439-5164	105 CHEYENNE COMANCHE, OK 73529
✓ W.C. LEWIS CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 673-2289	62 HC 65, BOX 1000 HEALDTON, OK 73438
✓ J. T. MC CLANAHAN CHURCH: COUNTYLINE	(580) 444-2355	ROUTE 3, BOX 88 DUNCAN, OK 73533
✓ RALPH MULLINS, JR. CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE	(580) 856-3290	ROUTE 1, BOX 213 RATLIFF CITY, OK 73481
✓ TERRY PIERSON CHURCH: MIDWAY	(580) 673-2109	PO BOX 6 GRAHAM, OK 73437
LEONARD ROBINSON CHURCH: STOB TOWN	(580) 657-4742	HC 62, BOX 1300 LONE GROVE, OK 73443
Randy Smith CountrySide	(580) 470-9441	Rt. 5 Box 38C Duncan OK 73533
LORAY SPURGIN CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE	(580) 444-2527	PO BOX 842 VELMA, OK 73491 H Smith e Flash. No.
JIMMY TATE CHURCH: STOB TOWN	(580) 657-3899	ROUTE 3, BOX 53 B ARDMORE, OK 73401
✓ RICHARD WATKINS CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 673-2798 6	PO BOX 225 FOX, OK 73435

BI – ANNUAL MEETING

March 2-3, 2001

On Friday, March 2, 2001 at 7:30 p.m. the Hopewell No. 2 Association convened at the Stobtown Free Will Baptist Church. The worship service was opened by the Moderator, Bro. David Gardner.

Bro. Harvey White led in prayer.

The congregation sang "The Promised Land", "I Shall Not Be Moved" and "Where Could I Go". Sis. Ann Christian led the singing with Sis. Tinky Needham at the piano.

Special singing by: Sis. Gina Richardson and Sis. Mary Dell White - "Step Into The Water" and "I Will Follow Thee", Sis. Cecile Adams - "Four Days Late" and "Peace In The Valley", and Sis. Kim and Bro. Larry Miller - "Holding Up The Ladder" and "Let's Go Down To The River".

Bro. W. C. Hamilton brought the message from Ecclesiastes 5:1-7, entitled "Suffer Not Thy Mouth To Sin." The Invitation song, "Thank You, Lord", was led by Sis. Mary Dell White with Sis. Gina Richardson at the piano.

There was a testimony service with Bro. J.C. Christian dismissing in prayer.

On March 3, 2001, Bro. David Gardner opened the Saturday morning business with Bro. Myrl Kellett leading in prayer.

Motion carried to receive the letters from seven Churches and seat the Delegates. Sis. Ann Christian led the singing of "On Jordan's Stormy Banks" with Sis. Tinky Needham at the piano.

Motion carried to receive the Minutes as read, with one correction on the Camp Ground Board, listing Bro. Darryl Robinson as the Assistant Treasurer.

Motion carried to receive the letter from First Oklahoma Association requesting a letter of recommendation for Bro. Dustin Gardner. Letter was granted.

Motion carried to receive the Petitionary letter from Lone Grove Free Will Baptist Church that Bro. Lewis Howell be received into the Hopewell No. 2 Association upon examination by the Credential Board.

Letters of information were read from Hillsdale Free Will Baptist College.

Bro. Carroll Milner read the Rules of Order.

The visitors, Bro. Carl Cheshire, Bro. Steve Robinson and Jeremiah Robinson, were invited to be seated in council.

Appointment of Committees:

	<u>Divine</u>	<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Temperance</u>	<u>Obituary</u>
1)	Joyce Boswell	Jeff Trammell	Bivian Simon	Mary Head
2)	Donna Riffe	Jackie Worthy	Barbara Davis	Kathy Nordman
3)	Kim Robinson	Cheryl Miller	Clinta O'Dell	Nathan Christian

The Divine Committee chose Bro. Carl Cheshier as the morning speaker.

Motion carried to receive the Treasurer's report given by Sis. Mary Head with a balance on hand of \$4,753.85.

Motion carried to receive the Campground Treasurer's report given by Bro. Darryl Robinson with a balance on hand of \$3,864.80 in regular checking, balance on hand in Special Building Fund checking account of \$2,000.00 and \$43,175.17 balance on hand in the Money Market Building Fund Account. The total of account accounts is \$49,039.97.

Motion carried to have a break for the Committees to meet and complete business. The congregation sang "I Shall Not Be Moved" with Bro. W.C. Hamilton dismissing in prayer.

Business resumed at 10:50 a.m.

Unfinished Business:

Letter was read from Sis. Imogene Woodall informing the Association that the Money Market account was earning 6.08 % interest.

Campground furniture needs to be moved from the Grace Free Will Baptist Church. Motion carried to give the Executive Board and the Camp Ground Board the responsibility of overseeing this.

Motion carried to give the Camp Ground Board and Executive Board the authority to have an architectural design drawn up of a building, obtain bids, make a decision and proceed in building.

Motion carried to receive the Credential Board recommendation as follows: We, the Credential Board, find Bro. Lewis Howell sound in doctrine and recommend that he be reinstated in the Hopewell No. 2 Association. Signed: Bro. David Gardner, Bro. Carroll Milner, Bro. Myrl Kellett and Bro. Terry Pierson.

Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee's report and to adopt business item by item: (1) That the Youth Camp Building starts very soon. (2) That the Camp Ground Board and Executive Board accept a bid and proceed with the Building Program. Matthew 25:21-29 was read by request of the Committee.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report: Galatians 5:19-23, One must depend on the Spirit for help, enabling him to live a God-pleasing life. We should be a Godly example.

Motion carried to receive the Obituary Committee reporting that the deaths of the following people: Sis. Vivian Lewis, Bro. Homer Garrett and Bro. Joe Handley - Comanche, Bro. Shagg Mitchell, Bro. Marvin Purcell, Bro. Artie McClanahan and Sis. JoAnn Silvers - Stobtown. There was a moment of silent prayer with Bro. Ed Staggs concluding the prayer. Also recognized was Bro. Ward Fellabaum, a former Countyline Pastor.

Bro. Mark Kellett was elected as the three year man on the Camp Ground Board.

Bro. Carl Cheshier, Hillsdale President, gave a report on the progress of the College of an increased enrollment, the Brick Campaign for funds to build a new Chapel building and the Bid For The Future projects.

Announcements:

District Woman's Auxiliary, March 24, 2001, 10:00 a.m. at Midway.

Loretha Pierson's wedding, August 11, 2001, 2:00 p.m.

Hillsdale: March 29-31 - On Campus Days, April 9 - Senior Saints Day and April 20 - 3rd Annual Hillsdale Auction.

Motion carried to adjourn business and go into the worship service.

The worship services were opened by Bro. David Gardner with Bro. Steve Robinson leading in prayer.

Sis. Ann Christian led the singing, "When The Roll Is Called Up Yonder" and "Just A Little Talk With Jesus" with Sis. Tinky Needham at the piano.

Special singing: Sis. Cheryl Miller - "Father, Forgive Them", Sis Ann Christian, Bro. J.C. Christian and Bro. Larry Miller - "A House Of Gold", Sis. Terri Gardner - "Another Soldier's Coming Home", and Bro. J.C. Christian, Bro. Larry Miller, and Bro. David Gardner - "Three Old Rusty Nails".

Bro. Carl Cheshier brought the message from Matthew 27:22 and 28:1-7 entitled "It's Friday, But Sunday's Coming". Invitation song was "Amazing Grace", with an altar of prayer concluded by Bro. Lewis Howell.

Bro. David Gardner, Moderator
Sis. Wanda Kellett, Clerk

**HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
AUGUST 1, 2000 - MARCH 1, 2001
TREASURER'S REPORT**

CHURCH	TOTAL RECEIVED	STATE CO-OP	TSP & MISSIONS	HILLSDALE	CAMP GROUND	GENERAL FUND
COUNTRYSID	\$3,920.14	\$1,443.11	\$700.00	\$700.00	\$481.02	\$596.01
COUNTYLINE	\$1,143.51	\$119.53	\$485.00	\$175.00	\$159.15	\$204.83
GRACE	\$1,608.68	\$731.25	\$140.00	\$250.00	\$243.72	\$243.71
HEALDTON	\$640.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$140.00
LAWTON	\$1,836.27	\$150.00	\$300.00	\$650.00	\$571.27	\$165.00
LONE GROVE	\$205.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$205.00
MIDWAY	\$1,000.00	\$60.00	\$540.00	\$350.00	\$0.00	\$50.00
STOBTOWN	\$540.43	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$340.43	\$200.00
TOTALS	\$10,894.03	\$2,503.89	\$2,665.00	\$2,125.00	\$1,795.59	\$1,804.55

BEGINNING BALANCE ON HAND - AUGUST 1, 2000 **\$5,528.55**

INCOME FROM CHURCHES	\$10,894.03	
REVIVAL LOVE OFFERING FOR BRO. CARL CHESHER	\$229.00	
TOTAL INCOME		\$11,123.03

EXPENSES:

STATE CO-OP	\$2,503.89	
NATIONAL HOME MISSIONS	\$500.00	
CAMPGROUND	\$1,795.59	
TSP MISSIONS	\$2,165.00	
HILLSDALE	\$3,125.00	
REVIVAL EVANGELIST - BRO. CARL CHESHER	\$628.00	
POSTAGE FOR MINUTES	\$21.25	
STATE & NATIONAL FEES	\$600.00	
GENERAL BOARD MEMBER EXP. - BRO. MYRL KELLETT	\$300.00	
PRINTING OF MINUTES	\$259.00	

LESS EXPENSES **\$11,897.73**

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - MARCH 1, 2001 **\$4,753.85**

**HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
JULY 31, 2000 - FEBRUARY 5, 2001
CAMPGROUND TREASURER'S REPORT**

CHECKING ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE - JULY 31, 2000		\$3,188.83
INCOME FROM CHURCHES		\$1,089.86
SUBTOTAL		\$4,278.69
EXPENSES:		
OG&E - ELECTRIC	\$295.35	
WESTERN CARTER CO - WATER	\$84.00	
WOOLSEY'S SUPPLIES	\$14.14	
POSTAGE	\$20.40	
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES		\$413.89
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - FEBRUARY 5, 2001		\$3,864.80

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE - JULY 31, 2000		\$9,383.70
INCOME: LAWTON FIRST CHURCH	\$500.00	
LAWTON FIRST WOMEN'S AUXILIARY	\$290.00	
TOTAL INCOME:		\$790.00
SUBTOTAL		\$10,173.70
TRANSFER TO MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT	\$	(8,173.70)
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - FEBRUARY 5, 2001		\$2,000.00

BUILDING FUND MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE - JULY 31, 2000		\$33,591.62
TRANSFER TO MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT	\$8,173.70	
INTEREST INCOME	\$1,409.85	
TOTAL INCOME		\$9,583.55
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - FEBRUARY 5, 2001		\$43,175.17

GRAND TOTAL OF ALL 3 CAMPGROUND ACCOUNTS		\$49,039.97
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69TH ANNUAL MEETING

August 3-4, 2001

On Friday, August 3, 2001, at 7:30 p.m. at the Grace Free Will Baptist, the services were opened by Bro. Carroll Milner. Bro. Marvin Harris welcomed the Association to their Church. Prayer was led by Bro. Ralph Mullins. There were 43 in attendance.

Bro. Terry Pierson led the congregation singing, "Victory In Jesus" and "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms" with Sis. Joyce Mullins at the piano. Bro. Myrl Kellett led in prayer.

Special singing by Bro. Curtis Welch - "Going To My Mansion In The Sky", Sis. Joyce Mullins - "When It's My time" and the Lawton trio of Sis. Wanda Kellett, Sis. Barbara Davis and Sis. Shelia Rooker - "Sheltered In The Arms Of God."

Bro. Carroll Milner led in prayer, then presented the message entitled "The Winner's Circle" from 2 Timothy 4:1-8. Bro. Curtis Welch led "Amazing Grace" as the Invitation song.

69TH ANNUAL BUSINESS

On Saturday, August 4, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., the meeting was opened by the Moderator, Bro. David Gardner. Bro. Terry Pierson led the congregation in "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms" with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano. Bro. Marvin Harris led in prayer.

Bro. Carroll Milner admonished the Association from 2 Timothy 2:1-4.

Letters were read and received from eight Churches. The right hand of fellowship was given to the Delegates while singing "When We All Get To Heaven."

Motion carried to receive the Minutes as read.

A petitionary letter was read and received from the Grace Church for Bro. Marvin Harris to be examined by the Credential Board and received into fellowship by the Association.

Motion carried to accept Sis. Imogene Woodall's resignation letter from her position as Camp Ground Board Treasurer.

Rules of Order were read by Bro. Carroll Milner.

Bro. Wade Jernigan and other visitors were invited to be seated in council.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

	<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Temperance</u>	<u>Obituary</u>
1)	Bro. Jim McLaughlin	Sis. Kathy Nordman	Sis. Nadine Nix.
2)	Sis. Kim Robinson	Sis. Joyce Cook	Sis. Lewella Pierson
3)	Sis. Barbara Wilkins	Bro. Davis Smales	Sis. Donna Riffe

Motion carried to receive the Treasurer's report given by Sis. Joyce Mullins with a balance on hand of \$5,403.55.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Treasurer's report given by Bro. Darryl Robinson with a balance on hand of \$4,635.45 in Checking, \$2,000.00 in the Special Building Fund and \$44,210.21 in the Money Market Account. The total of all accounts is \$50,845.66.

Motion carried to receive the Camp Ground Board report given by Bro. Darryl Robinson. He read Proverbs 29:18 and asked everyone to pray for a vision of a completed Youth Camp Building. He had a revised drawing of an 80 X 60 building. The estimate was \$60,000 for a rough building with \$81,360 for a completed building.

Unfinished Business: from August, 2000, Resolution Committee item # 2:

Motion carried for the Pastors of the Association, the Board Members and Clerks meet before the 2001 Annual Business to update the Bylaws and the Constitution, and bring recommendations to the Annual Business meeting.

Note: This meeting still needs be set by the Moderator, Bro. David Gardner.

Unfinished Business: from March, 2001:

Campground furniture needs to be moved from the Grace Free Will Baptist Church. Motion carried to give the Executive Board and the Camp Ground Board the responsibility of overseeing this.

The Executive Board and Camp Ground Board stated the furniture will be moved to the girls' dorm within the next few weeks. This has now been completed.

The meeting was dismissed in prayer at 10:25 a.m. by Bro. Wade Jernigan for the committees to meet and conduct business.

The meeting resumed at 11:05 a.m. Bro. Wade Jernigan gave an encouraging report on Hillsdale and thanked everyone for their support. He stated they had an increase in enrollment and had more students than any other FWB College in the states. They hope to be able to start construction of the new Chapel Building after the State Meeting in October. They currently have \$2.8 million, but need a total of \$3.9 million to finish the building.

Motion carried to receive the Credential Board report. They examined Bro. Marvin Harris, found him sound in doctrine and recommend that he be accepted into the fellowship of the Association pending receipt of a letter of recommendation from the 1st Kansas Quarterly. The Board members present were Bro. Carroll Milner, Bro. Terry Pierson and Bro. Myrl Kellett.

Note: The recommendation letter was received in December, 2001.

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

Read 2 Thessalonians 3:11-13. It is our opinion that the process of having committees is needful in the decision making process. Be it resolved that we not grow weary in taking care of God's business. If we start eliminating small things that have worked for years, then we will become slack in all of His work. Press toward the mark and rely on God's strength to sustain you.

1) Recommend that each Church be responsible to submit a completed state questionnaire at the time a licensee is sent to the Association for examination by the Credential Board.

Note: The following reminder was given to the Association at the March 1, 1997 meeting by the Asst. Moderator: Future candidates for licensing and ordination are to fill out the Questionnaire for Ordination from the State Minutes prior to coming before the Credential Board.

2) Recommend that any individual new to Free Will Baptist that desires to join this Association should receive and complete the same questionnaire mentioned in item # 1 prior to being considered for ordination.

Note: This item was tabled and referred to the Credential Board until the next Association meeting.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report. Our lives should be right with God. We should study His Word daily. We should not get carried away in the worldly things, but need to get into the Word of God. We should pray for the safety of all children as they go back to school. We should share the love of Jesus.

Motion carried to receive the Obituary Committee report of the following members who have gone on to be with the Lord: Sis. Betty Mitchell - Stobtown, Sis. Betty Gregg - Healdton and Sis. Betty Thompson - Midway.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Moderator:	Bro. David Gardner
Asst. Moderator:	Bro. Carroll Milner
Clerk:	Sis. Shelia Rooker
Asst. Clerk:	Sis. Christy Kellett
Treasurer:	Sis. Joyce Mullins
Asst. Treasurer:	Sis. Mary Head
Reporter:	Sis. Diann Pierson
Parliamentarian:	Sis. Wanda Kellett
Executive Board, 5 year man:	Bro. Loray Spurgin
Credential Board, 5 year man:	Bro. Richard Watkins
Camp Ground Board, 5 year man:	Bro. Darryl Robinson
Camp Ground Board Treasurer:	Bro. Darryl Robinson
Asst. Camp Ground Board Treasurer:	Bro. Mark Kellett
General Board Member, 2002:	Bro. Myrl Kellett

The Bi-Annual meeting will be held at Countryside on March 1-2, 2002. The Friday night speaker will be Bro. Marvin Harris with the service beginning at 7:30 p.m. Saturday business will begin at 9:30 a.m.

The Annual Association business will be held at Lawton First on August 2-3, 2002. The Friday night speaker will be Bro. David Gardner. The Saturday morning Memorial Speaker will be Bro. Myrl Kellett.

Motion carried that the Camp Ground Treasurers be authorized to move all Camp Ground accounts to a Lawton bank.

Note: The new bank is the Bank of Elgin in Lawton.

Motion carried to adjourn and go into worship service.

The service was opened by Bro. David Gardner. Bro. Terry Pierson led the congregation singing of "Stand Up For Jesus" and "My Sins Are Gone" with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano.

Special singing by: Sis. Kim Robinson - "The Blood Will Never Lose It's Power" and Sis. Kali Robinson - "Rise Up and Walk".

Bro. David Gardner brought the message from Psalm 90:12 and 1 Corinthians 15:26 entitled "In Death, You Are Accountable For Your Life." The Invitation song was "I Need Thee" led by Bro. Terry Pierson with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano. There was an altar of prayer with Bro. Ed Staggs leading the dismissal prayer.

Bro. David Gardner, Moderator
Sis. Wanda Kellett, Clerk

**HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
MARCH 1, 2001 - JULY 31, 2001
TREASURER'S REPORT**

CHURCH	TOTAL RECEIVED	STATE CO-OP	TSP & MISSIONS	HILLSDALE	CAMP GROUND	GENERAL FUND
COUNTRYSID	\$4,870.12	\$1,057.62	\$500.00	\$2,607.43	\$352.54	\$352.53
COUNTYLINE	\$760.06	\$101.15	\$368.00	\$125.00	\$132.20	\$33.71
GRACE	\$1,337.87	\$411.23	\$100.00	\$437.50	\$137.08	\$252.06
HEALDTON	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
LAWTON	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
LONE GROVE	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
MIDWAY	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
STOBTOWN	\$266.01	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$241.01	\$25.00
TOTALS	\$7,434.06	\$1,570.00	\$1,168.00	\$3,169.93	\$862.83	\$663.30

BEGINNING BALANCE ON HAND - MARCH 1, 2001 **\$4,753.85**

INCOME FROM CHURCHES **\$7,434.06**

EXPENSES:

STATE CO-OP	\$1,570.00
CAMPGROUND	\$862.83
TSP MISSIONS	\$1,168.00
HILLSDALE	\$3,169.93
POSTAGE	\$13.60

LESS EXPENSES **\$6,784.36**

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - JULY 31, 2001 **\$5,403.55**

**HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FEBRUARY 5 - JULY 31, 2001
CAMPGROUND TREASURER'S REPORT**

CHECKING ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE - FEBRUARY 5, 2001	\$3,864.80
INCOME FROM CHURCHES	\$1,084.97
SUBTOTAL	\$4,949.77
EXPENSES:	
OG&E - ELECTRIC	\$231.19
WESTERN CARTER CO - WATER	\$70.00
WOOLSEY'S SUPPLIES	\$13.13
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	\$314.32
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - JULY 31, 2001	\$4,635.45

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE - FEBRUARY 5, 2001	\$2,000.00
INCOME: NONE	\$0.00
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - JULY 31, 2001	\$2,000.00

BUILDING FUND MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE - FEBRUARY 5, 2001	\$43,175.17
INTEREST INCOME	\$785.04
ROB & SHELIA ROOKER	\$250.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$1,035.04
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - JULY 31, 2001	\$44,210.21
GRAND TOTAL OF ALL 3 CAMPGROUND ACCOUNTS	\$50,845.66

NOTES: 6/1/01 - THERE WILL BE A SERVICE CHARGE OF \$5.00 PER MONTH ON
THE CHECKING ACCOUNT UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

ANNUAL LETTER FROM DISTRICT ASSOCIATION TO STATE ASSOCIATION

HOPEWELL NO. 2 to OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION
(Name of District Association) (Name of State Association)

Meeting at COMANCHE FWB Church on AUGUST 3 & 4, 2001

Period of time this report covers: From 8/00 to 7/01

Present Moderator' Name: DAVID GARDNER Telephone (580) 657-2971

Mailing Address HCR 62, 107 ASTOR

City: LONE GROVE State: OKLAHOMA Zip: 73443

DELEGATES: FRAN MILNER WANDA KELLETT
MARGARET BALLARD BOBBIE JO STAGGS
MRS. MARVIN HARRIS MRS. CHARLES NEWELL
MARY LOU HAMILTON TERRI GARDNER

A. CHURCH CHARACTERISTICS

1. Total number of churches: 8
2. Total number of churches in: city / town 4
rural 4
3. Total number of churches reporting: 8
4. Total number of churches with:
full-time pastors 4
part-time pastors 4

B. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

1. Total number of baptisms: 37
2. Total members added: 59
3. Total members lost: 19
4. Total membership: 699

C. STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION

1. Total income of all churches \$ 224,709
2. Total number of churches with budgets 0

D. BUILDING INFORMATION

1. Total number of churches with parsonages 6
2. Total value of all church property, including parsonages \$ 1,342,000

E. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Total number of ordained ministers* 12
licensed ministers* 1
2. Total number of ordained deacons 16
3. Total number of churches with Day Cares 0
Kindergartens 0
Christian Day Schools 0
Bible Insititues 0
Colleges 0

Average Attendance: _____
4. Total Sunday School 305
5. Total CTS 7
6. Total WNAC 45
7. Total Master's Men 0

Number of state association minutes requested: 40

Amount of representation fees to be mailed by the treasurer, Joyce Mullins:
STATE \$ 200.00 NATIONAL \$ 400.00

Signed: Clerk's Name: SHELIA ROOKER Phone: (580) 357-8755
Mailing Address: 2512 SW "A" AVENUE
City: LAWTON State: OKLAHOMA Zip: 73505

* Attach names, mailing addresses and telephone numbers.

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 be seated 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

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 a 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 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 exercise 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.

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 their 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. The Association shall approve these rules, being subject to change with a yearly re-evaluation.
4. This Board, along with the Youth Camp Directors, will prepare a schedule for Youth Camp, to be approved by the Association in March. The Association shall approve this schedule, being subject to change with a yearly re-evaluation.
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 any 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, and be 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 its request.

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 the 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 Church gives all persons the right hand of fellowship.

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.

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 Association 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 is 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 \$115.00 is to be sent to the Annual Session of this Association. (\$40.00 for printing of the minutes, \$25.00 for the State Delegate fees and \$50.00 for the National Delegate fees.)
12. The Treasurer of this Association shall be bonded in the amount of \$2,500.00. He or she 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.

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 know as the Hopewell No. 2 Association of Free Will Baptist of the State of Oklahoma. It shall meet two times each year with the August session designated as the Annual Session. Each Bi-Annual 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 on behalf of the Association when it is not in session. It shall be bound to carry out the directions of the Association and 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. 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 (5) 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.

ARTICLE OF FAITH

1. **THE BIBLE** - The Scriptures of the Old and New Testament were given by the inspiration of God, and are our 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. He is 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 assign 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 the 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 comes 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 grounds of salvation of faith.
8. **THE WORKS OF SALVATION** - The conditions of salvation are:
 - A. The Repentance or 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. Therefore, he 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 23:23) 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 (1) 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.

By His grace, we promise 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; to abstain 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; 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 hold Christian principle sacred everywhere 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 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 I: GENERAL OBSERVATIONS

THE AUTHORITY TO ORDAIN

Free Will Baptists, 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 (1) year and may be renewed annually if the licentiate is not ready for ordination. This renewal must be made by the 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 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 and not by 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 Association 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 Association 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 just anyone 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 of 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. Caution should be followed so that two (2) 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 as an immature Christian nor in the 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 candidate's level of Biblical knowledge. 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:

- 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 on 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 knows the right words, but also understands and can satisfactorily explain the doctrines involved in the two areas just mentioned.

QUESTIONS ON DOCTRINE

- 1) Do you believe that the Scripture, the Old and New Testament, are the infallible Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice? _____
- 2) Do you believe in the Trinity? _____
- 3) Name the God Head: _____
- 4) Is salvation obtained through the Blood of Christ? _____
- 5) Name the condition of salvation: _____
- 6) Do you believe that speaking in an unknown tongue is evidence of having received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost? _____
- 7) Do you believe in a second definite work of Grace or Baptism if the Holy Ghost, separate and apart from regeneration? _____
- 8) What composes the body of Christ? _____
- 9) Does the Bible teach that God has an organized visible Church on this earth? _____
- 10) Do you believe that Baptism is a Gospel Ordinance? _____
- 11) Who are the proper subjects for Baptism? _____
- 12) Do you believe that Immersion is the proper method of water baptism? _____
- 13) Do you believe that the Lord's Supper and Feet Washing are divine ordinances and should be observed repeatedly? _____
- 14) A. Do you teach and practice these ordinances? _____
B. Do you practice the ordinances at night? _____
- 15) Do you believe in the possibility of apostasy? _____
- 16) Do you believe in the resurrection of the bodies of all men? _____
- 17) Do you believe that there will be a judgment when time and man's probation will close forever and then all will be judged according to their works? _____
- 18) Do you believe that immediately after the judgment that righteous will enter into eternal life, and the wicked into a state of endless punishment? _____
- 19) Do you believe that Christ at His second coming will close the gospel dispensation, glorify His saints, and judge the world? _____
- 20) I pledge myself to teach and defend the Free Will Baptist Doctrine to the best of my ability. If at any future time I preach or teach any doctrine contrary to the Free Will Baptist Article of Faith, I will surrender my credentials to the Association of which I am a member.

Signed _____

Date _____

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MINISTERS TO BE ORDAINED

NAME _____ DATE _____

ADDRESS _____

MEMBER OF _____ CHURCH

- 1) Do you have a license? _____
- 2) If you have a license, how long have you carried them? _____
- 3) By what Association were they issued? _____
- 4) How many sermons have you preached? _____
- 5) Where are you preaching now? _____
- 6) Why do you want to be ordained? _____
- 7) Are you married? _____ How many times? _____
- 8) If you have been married more than once, is a former companion living? _____
- 9) How many children do you have? _____
- 10) Is your wife a member of the Free Will Baptist Church? _____
- 11) How long have you been a Christian? _____
- 12) How long have you been a Free Will Baptist? _____
- 13) Is your wife willing that you be ordained? _____
- 14) Do you or your wife have any habits that would hinder your ministry?

- 15) If you have belonged to other denominations, give the name of each and the length of time with each:

- 16) In your opinion, what is God's plan for financing His Work?

- 17) Do you tithe to the Church you are a member of? _____
- 18) Are you willing to make any sacrifice that may be involved in this ministry?

- 19) Are you willing to abstain from any indulgences that might hinder your effective influence in the ministry? _____
- 20) Will your financial circumstances hinder you in taking the pastoral care of a Church?

- 21) How much education do you have? _____
- 22) Have you had any special training in doctrinal and pastoral theology?

- 23) Have you had any courses of study in Homiletics? _____
- 24) Do you have plans to better qualify yourself for the ministry? _____
- 25) If so, what are your plans? _____
- 26) Are you resolved to devote yourself wholly to the ministry? _____
- 27) Would you be willing to continue preaching under license if this committee felt that it was best? _____
- 28) Have you completed the Minister's Preparation Course? _____

