

MINUTES

HOPEWELL
NO. 2
ASSOCIATION

FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCHES

73RD ANNUAL MEETING
2005

**MINUTES OF THE 73RD ANNUAL MEETING
HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES
2005**

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HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION

DIRECTORY INFORMATION

CHURCH	PASTOR	CLERK
COUNTRYSIDE PO BOX 235 VELMA, OK 73491 PHONE: (580) 444-3530	GARLAND DAVIDSON (SUE) PO BOX 235 VELMA, OK 73491 PHONE: (580) 444-3530	SHERRIE SMITH RT. 5, BOX 38 C DUNCAN, OK 73533 PHONE: (580) 470-9441 ssmith@velma.kiz.ok.us
COUNTYLINE 165 OLD HWY 7 PO BOX 236 COUNTYLINE, OK 73425	ED STAGGS (BOBBIE) 5624 SE 2ND STREET MIDWEST CITY, OK 73110 PHONE: (405) 737-2190	BECKY HATTON PO BOX 1 TUSSY, OK 73488 PHONE: (580) 856-3481
HEALDTON FIRST 700 E LINCOLN PO BOX 779 HEALDTON, OK 73438 PHONE: (580) 229-0397	W.C. HAMILTON (MARY LOU) PO BOX 878 CALERA, OK 74730 PHONE: (580) 434-8017	JANETTE WATKINS PO BOX 235 FOX, OK 73435 PHONE: (580) 673-2798
LAWTON FIRST 10 SOUTH 24TH STREET LAWTON, OK 73505 PHONE: (580) 355-4668	MYRL KELLETT (WANDA) 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
MIDWAY 16642 HIGHWAY 76 HEALDTON, OK 73438 PHONE: (580) 673-2599	PAUL UNDERWOOD (EDITH) PO BOX 713 HEALDTON, OK 73438 PHONE: (580) 229-1144	ELAINE GLENN 518 S 3RD STREET HEALDTON, OK 73438 PHONE: (580) 229-2682
STOBTOWN 1101 MERIDIAN ARDMORE, OK 73401 PHONE: (580) 657-6295	ROYCE MC CLENDON (SHIRLEY) PO BOX 1604 LONE GROVE, OK 73443 PHONE: (580) 657-8214	ANN CHRISTIAN 2051 JEHOVAH ROAD ARDMORE, OK 73401 PHONE: (580) 657-2218

ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

MODERATOR

PO BOX 713
HEALDTON, OK 73438

PAUL UNDERWOOD

PHONE: (580) 229-1144
EMAIL:

ASST. MODERATOR

PO BOX 1604
LONE GROVE, OK 73443

ROYCE MC CLENDON

PHONE: (580) 657-8214
EMAIL:

CLERK

2512 SW "A" AVENUE
LAWTON, OK 73505

SHELIA ROOKER

PHONE: (580) 357-8755 / 585-0902
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ASST. CLERK

4702 SE DREXEL
LAWTON, OK 73501

CHRISTY KELLETT

PHONE: (580) 355-8622 / 695-1082
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TREASURER

PO BOX 766
VELMA, OK 73491

TEMPLE LEE GRUNDY

PHONE: (580) 444-7201
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ASST. TREASURER

PO BOX 688
VELMA, OK 73491

JOHNNIE GRUNDY

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REPORTER

PO BOX 384
LONE GROVE, OK 73443

TINA FORD

PHONE: (580) 657-3611
EMAIL: dtrdford@brightok.net

PARLIAMENTARIAN

PO BOX 384
LONE GROVE, OK 73443

DEVLOM FORD

PHONE: (580) 657-3611
EMAIL: dtrdford@brightok.net

EXECUTIVE BOARD

JIM MC LAUGHLIN	5 YEAR
ROYCE MC CLENDON	4 YEAR
TROY LEWELLEN	3 YEAR
RANDY SMITH	2 YEAR
LORAY SPURGIN	1 YEAR

CREDENTIAL BOARD

ROYCE MC CLENDON	5 YEAR
JIM MC LAUGHLIN	4 YEAR
MYRL KELLETT	3 YEAR
PAUL UNDERWOOD	2 YEAR
RICHARD WATKINS	1 YEAR

CAMP GROUND BOARD

PAUL UNDERWOOD	5 YEAR / TREASURER
PO BOX 713	PHONE: (580) 673-2599
HEALDTON, OK 73438	EMAIL: NONE
MARK KELLETT	4 YEAR
4702 SE DREXEL	PHONE: (580) 355-8622
LAWTON, OK 73501	EMAIL: mack3897@aol.com
JIM MCLAUGHLIN	3 YEAR
PO BOX 362	PHONE: (580) 657-3762
LONE GROVE, OK 73443	EMAIL: jdkd@brightok.net
ROBERT CHARLES	2 YEAR / ASST. TREASURER
PO BOX 634	PHONE: (580) 993-0749
HEALDTON, OK 73438	EMAIL: NONE
ED STAGGS	1 YEAR
5624 SE 2ND STREET	PHONE: (405) 737-2190
MIDWEST CITY, OK 73110	EMAIL: NONE

ORDAINED MINISTERS

DEVLON FORD	(580) 657-3611	PO BOX 384
CHURCH: STOBTOWN		LONE GROVE, OK 73443
JOHN GILMORE	(580) 255-4802	532 N 20TH
CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE		DUNCAN, OK 73533
CHARLES NEWELL	(580) 856-3667	ROUTE 1, BOX 76
CHURCH: MIDWAY		RATLIFF CITY, OK 73481
HARVEY WHITE	(580) 657-4058	507 N BROADWAY
CHURCH: HEALDTON		LONE GROVE, OK 73443

LICENSED MINISTERS

RAY CHRISTIAN	(580) 229-0360	416 ROCKLAND
CHURCH: HEALDTON		HEALDTON, OK 73438

ORDAINED DEACONS

NATHAN CHRISTIAN	(580) 657-2082	PO BOX 1687
CHURCH: HEADLTON		LONE GROVE, OK 73443
		ccsorecords@justice.com
VON COLVIN	(580) 856-3581	PO BOX 234
CHURCH: COUNTYLINE		COUNTYLINE, OK 73425
EDDIE CROWSON	(580) 444-7273	PO BOX 802
CHURCH: COUNTYLINE		COUNTYLINE, OK 73425
		crowson@starcomm.net
KENNETH GLENN	(580) 229-2682	518 SW 3RD
CHURCH: MIDWAY		HEALDTON, OK 73438

ORDAINED DEACONS

TROY LEWELLEN CHURCH: MIDWAY	(580) 673-2315	PO BOX 201 GRAHAM, OK 73437
W.E. LEWIS CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 673-2289	27696 STATE HWY 53 HEALDTON, OK 73438
J.T. MC CLANAHAN CHURCH: COUNTYLINE	(580) 444-2355	ROUTE 3, BOX 88 DUNCAN, OK 73533
JIM MC LAUGHLIN CHURCH: STOB TOWN	(580) 657-3762	PO BOX 362 LONE GROVE, OK 73443 jdkd@brightok.net
KENNETH MILLER CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 657-4970	PO BOX 70 LONE GROVE, OK 73443
BRAD MULLINS CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 229-0987	PO BOX 284 HEALDTON, OK 73438
RALPH MULLINS, JR. CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE	(580) 856-3290	PO BOX 36 RATLIFF CITY, OK 74081
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 CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE	(580) 470-9441	ROUTE 5, BOX 38 C DUNCAN, OK 73533
LORAY SPURGIN CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE	(580) 444-2527	PO BOX 842 VELMA, OK 73491
TED WALLER CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 229-9969	213 S FIRST HEALDTON, OK 73438
RICHARD WATKINS CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 673-2798	PO BOX 235 FOX, OK 73435

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

ROUTE 1, BOX 730 B
MARIETTA, OK 73448

RHONDA ADDINGTON

PHONE: (580) 276-5086
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VICE PRESIDENT

ROUTE 3, BOX 47
ARDMORE, OK 73401

CHERYL MILLER

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SECRETARY / ASST. TREASURER CHRISTY KELLETT

4702 SE DREXEL
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CO-TREASURER

2512 SW "A" AVENUE
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PRAYER CHAIRMAN

1218 SW 26TH PLACE
LAWTON, OK 73505

JACKIE WORTHY

PHONE: (580) 591-0739
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STUDY CHAIRMAN

1221 SW 26TH PLACE
LAWTON, OK 73505

MARIA AYALA

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FIELD WORKER

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GRAHAM, OK 73437

DIANN PIERSON

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DISTRICT AUXILIARY MEETINGS

MARCH 11, 2006

MAY 20, 2006

JULY 15, 2006

SEPTEMBER 9, 2006

STOBTOWN

LAWTON

MIDWAY

COUNTRYSIDE

ANNUAL

EACH CHURCH PROVIDES PROGRAM & LUNCH.

BI-ANNUAL MEETING

March 4 - 5, 2005

On Friday, March 4, 2005 at 7:30 PM, the Hopewell No. 2 Association convened at the Healdton Free Will Baptist Church. Bro. Paul Underwood, the Moderator, opened the services. Bro. Robert Charles led the opening prayer.

The congregation sang "I'll Be Listening", "When The Saints Go Marching In" and "Just Over In The Gloryland" led by Bro. Eddie Welch with Sis. Janette Watkins at the piano.

Special singing by: David & Anita Lomenick - "O What A Savior", Nathan & Shirley Christian - "I Saw The Light", Mary Beth Bray - "One More Valley" & Eddie Welch - "He Was Thinking Of Me". There was a short testimony service with one person from each church testifying.

Bro. Paul Underwood brought the message "How To Break Out Of A Rut" from Mark 10:46-52. There was an altar of prayer with Bro. Terry Pierson dismissing the service in prayer.

On Saturday, March 5, 2005 at 9:30 AM, the services were opened by Bro. Paul Underwood with Bro. W.C. Hamilton leading in prayer.

Bro. Ed Staggs admonished the Association from Acts 3:1-5.

Letters were called for, read and received from six Churches.

Delegates were seated after a right hand of fellowship was given while singing "He Set Me Free" played by Sis. Diann Pierson on the piano.

Minutes were read and received.

The following petitionary letters were read:

1. Tennessee Appalachian Association request for a letter of recommendation for Bro. Marvin Harris.
2. Letter from the Oklahoma State Association of FWB increasing fees from \$25 to \$50 per church to assist in hosting the national conference in Oklahoma City in 2010. Motion carried to update By Laws # 10 to include this change.
3. Countryside FWB request for Bro. Eddie Crowson to be examined as Deacon. Note: He was unable to attend due to his National Guard obligation and requested a special meeting with the Credential Board at a later date.
4. Stobtown FWB requested Bro. Devlon Ford be examined for ordination as a Minister.
5. Bro. Mark Kellett's resignation as Camp Ground Treasurer.

There were no other letters and no visitors attending. Bro. Robert Charles read the Rules of Order.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

<u>Divine</u>	<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Temperance</u>	<u>Obituary</u>
1) Robert Charles	Juan Ayala	Donna Riffe	Maria Ayala
2) Rhonda Addington	Larry Sanner	Kathy Nordman	Amy Soto
3) Devlon Ford	Eddie Welch	Dewinda Ford	Mary Beth Bray

The Divine Committee selected Bro. W.C. Hamilton as the morning speaker.

Motion carried to accept the Treasurer's report given by Bro. Temple Grundy with a balance on hand of \$3,317.97.

Motion carried to accept the Camp Ground Treasurer's report given by Bro. Mark Kellett with a balance on hand of \$1,995.71 in checking and \$3,042.69 in the money market account. The total of both accounts is \$5,038.40.

Motion carried to receive Camp Ground Board report given by Bro. Paul Underwood. He sent letters to all Oklahoma FWB Churches in January, but has had no response at this time. He had also sent letters to several foundations for grants, but all responses were denials. He was still waiting for response from one on a possible matching fund grant.

The meeting was dismissed at 10:30 AM for the committees to meet and resumed at 10:55 AM.

Motion carried for the Clerk to send a letter to the Tennessee Appalachian Association stating that no recommendation could be given for Bro. Marvin Harris due to the fact that under his pastorate the Grace FWB Church withdrew from our association to serve independently in March, 2003. (Mailed 3-6-05)

Motion carried to receive the Executive Board report as read by Sis. Shelia Rooker. The Board met on August 12, 2004, at the Countryside FWB Church to serve as the Auditing Committee for Sis. Frances Lewellen's Treasurer's books. They audited the books, found them in good order and approved the transfer of books and checking account to the new Treasurer, Bro. Temple Lee Grundy and Assistant Treasurer, Sis. Johnnie Grundy.

Motion carried to receive the Credential Board report as follows.

Bro. Devlon Ford was approved for ordination as a Minister. He is currently the Associate Pastor at Stobtown FWB Church and is studying at Hillsdale FWB College.

Motion carried to accept the Resolution Committee report and adopted the business item by item:

1. Change By Laws # 11 to "The Treasurer's of this Association shall submit a written report at each session. If a written report is not given, a new Treasurer will be elected. All treasurers' books are to be audited yearly to include the Association Treasurer and Camp Ground Treasurer books.
2. Give \$500 to the Camp Ground Building Fund

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report. John 16:1-3 was read. We encourage each Christian to support our fellow Christians in their and our endeavors to stand for Christianity and Christians that are taking a stand against pornography, gay rights, and all other persecutions Christians are facing when they take a stand for Biblically based principles.

Motion carried to receive the Obituary Committee report. The following members have gone to be with the Lord: Countyline - Sis. Audra Francis, Sis. Oma Gillespy & Sis. Darlene Fletcher; Stobtown - Bro. Othel Kyle; Healdton - Sis. Myrtle Bivengs & Sis. Marie Carroll.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Assistant Moderator:	Bro. Royce McClendon
Credential Board, 1 year:	Bro. Royce McClendon
Camp Ground Treasurer:	Bro. Paul Underwood
Asst. Camp Ground Treasurer:	Bro. Robert Charles
Camp Ground Board, 2 year:	Bro. Robert Charles
General Board Member, 2005:	Bro. Paul Underwood

Announcements:

Stobtown & Countryside to have Youth Camp at Sulfur on May 30 – June 3. Cost is \$50 per child and all churches are invited to participate.

Midway will be having a Homecoming service on April 10 from 11 AM – 1 PM.

District Women's Auxiliary will be at Stobtown on April 16 at 10 AM.

Bro. Troy Lewellen led in prayer for the families of the deceased as mentioned in the Obituary Report.

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

Congregation singing was led by Bro. Eddie Welch with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano. Songs were "Where The Soul Never Dies" and "Just A Little Talk With Jesus".

Special singing by: Bro. Nathan & Sis. Shirley Christian – "This Old Man".

Bro. W.C. Hamilton brought the message entitled "Pure Or Defiled?" from Titus 1:10-16. Bro. David Lomenick led the invitation song "Because He Lives". Bro. Richard Watkins dismissed the service in prayer.

Bro. Paul Underwood, Moderator

Sis. Shelia Rooker, Clerk

73RD ANNUAL MEETING

August 5 - 6, 2005

On Friday, August 5, 2005 at 7:30 PM, the Hopewell No. 2 Association convened at the Countryside Free Will Baptist Church. The service was opened by the Moderator, Bro. Paul Underwood. Countryside's new pastor, Bro. Garland Davidson, led the opening prayer.

The congregation sang "Trust and Obey" and "We'll Work Til Jesus Comes" led by Sis. Kiwana McLaughlin with Sis. Joyce Mullins at the piano. Special singing by: Sis. Sue Davidson - "How Great Thou Art", Bro. J.D. Balthrop - "Somebody Touched The Lord", and Sis. Mary Beth Bray - "One More Valley".

Bro John Hewett from Children and Family Ministries told us about this new ministry.

Bro. Royce McClendon brought the message titled "God Keeps His Promises – Pray and Believe" from 2 Kings 2:9-14. Prayer was led by Bro. Paul Underwood, then Bro. Devlon Ford dismissed the service in prayer.

On Saturday, August 6, 2005 at 9:30 AM, the services were opened by the Moderator, Bro. Paul Underwood with Bro. Robert Charles leading in prayer.

Bro. Myrl Kellett admonished the Association from Matthew 5:1-12 and concluded in prayer.

Letters were called for, read and received from six Churches. Delegates were seated after a right hand of fellowship was given while Sis. Diann Pierson played "He Set Me Free."

Minutes were read and received.

The following petitionary letter was read:

1. Countryside requests their new pastor, Bro. Garland Davidson, be examined by the Credential Board for acceptance into the Association.
2. Healdton request that both Bro. Nathan Christian and Bro. Brad Mullins be examined by the Credential Board for the position of Deacon.
3. Lawton presented the following: If there has been no solution in finishing the Hopewell No. 2 Youth Camp and especially if there aren't any available funds to do so, we recommend:
 1. That the Hopewell No. 2 Association surrender the Hopewell No. 2 Camp Property, including the land and buildings, to the Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptists, according to the "Property and Real Estate" section of the Hopewell No. 2 Constitution which reads (Page 24 in the 2004 Minutes book) this: "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."
 - And according to the "Dissolution" section (Page 25 of the 2004 Minutes book) which reads thus:
 2. 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.

A letter was received from Dawn Hewett regarding her financial request for support to pursue her missionary studies in China. Motion carried to forward it to the Resolution Committee for consideration.

Rules of order were read by Bro. Devlon Ford.

Visitors Bro. Jim Puckett and Bro. Ernest Harrison from the State Office were invited to be seated in council.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Temperance</u>	<u>Obituary</u>
1) Juan Ayala	Mary Head	Cathy Little
2) Robert Charles	Brad Mullins	Kathy Nordman
3) Rhonda Addington	Bill Duvall	Debbie Chancellor

Motion carried to accept the Treasurer's report given by Bro. Temple Lee Grundy with a balance on hand of \$4,018.54.

Motion carried to accept the Camp Ground Treasurer's report given by Bro. Paul Underwood with a balance on hand of \$2,462.70 in general checking, \$846.75 in the building fund and \$3052.78 in the savings account. The total of all accounts is \$6,362.23. He also gave the Camp Ground Board report that no grants or funding had come available and no work had been done at the camp.

Motion carried to dismiss at 10:20 AM for the committees to meet. Bro. Paul Underwood called the meeting back to order at 10:45 AM.

There was no unfinished business or an Executive Board report.

Motion carried to receive the Credential Board reports.

1. The Credential Board met on May 5, 2005, to examine Bro. Eddie Crowson to be ordained as a deacon at Countryside. He was approved.
2. Bro. Garland Davidson, Pastor of Countryside, was examined for acceptance into the Hopewell No. 2 Association. He will be accepted upon receiving a letter of recommendation from the Mission Association in Missouri. (NOTE: Email request was sent to the Mission Association clerk on August 8 with copy was mailed on August 15. Copy was mailed to the Moderator on Sept. 9 with reply received Sept. 17 stating their next meeting will be Nov. 12.) Bro. Nathan Christian and Bro. Brad Mullins from Healdton were both examined and approved for the office of Deacon.

Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee report and adopt it item by item. Philippians 2:5-7 was read. We, the Resolution Committee, recommend the following items of business:

1. We recommend that the August 2006 meeting be held at the Lawton First Free Will Baptist Church.
2. We recommend that the Association send \$300.00 to Dawn Hewett to assist her on her trip to Japan and that her letter be send to the individual churches for further support.
3. We recommend that this Association surrender the Youth Camp property to the Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptists, to include land and buildings.
4. We recommend that the remaining Camp Ground funds from the treasury revert to the Hopewell No. 2 Association general fund.
5. We recommend that the Camp Ground Board be dissolved and removed from the Constitution upon completion of the transaction transferring the land and property to the Oklahoma State Association.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report as follows: Exodus 20:8 was read. We recommend the Sabbath Day be kept holy – pure and undefiled; to attend both church services; not to allow influences to draw us away from our obedience to observe the Sabbath Day; to be aware of our activities and to try to make adjustments of our time in order to set aside the entire day for worship and rest; to make a conscious effort to honor God by keeping the law of the Sabbath.

Motion carried to receive the Obituary Committee report. The following members have gone to be with the Lord: Countyline – Sis. Audra Francis, Sis. Oma Gillespy, Sis. Darlene Fletcher and Sis. Frankie Presgrove; Stobtown – Bro. Othel Kyle and Bro. J.C. Christian; Healdton – Sis. Myrtle Bivengs & Sis. Marie Carroll; Countryside – Bro. Jarid Letterman, son of Temple Lee and Suzi Grundy. It was noted that Sis. Imogene Woodall, former pastor's wife of Grace and Countryside had also passed away.

Discussion regarding the removal of all items currently on the Camp Ground property concluded with the conscientious that this was part of the Camp Ground Board duties. This should be done before the land and property transfer to the State Association is concluded.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Moderator:	Bro. Paul Underwood
Asst. Moderator:	Bro. Royce McClendon
Clerk:	Sis. Shelia Rooker
Asst. Clerk:	Sis. Christy Kellett
Treasurer:	Bro. Temple Lee Grundy
Asst. Treasurer:	Sis. Johnnie Grundy
Reporter:	Sis. Tina Ford
Parliamentarian:	Bro. Devlon Ford
Executive Board, 5 year man:	Bro. Jim McLaughlin
Credential Board, 5 year man:	Bro. Royce McClendon
Camp Ground Board, 5 year man:	Bro. Ed Staggs
General Board Member, 2006:	Bro. Devlon Ford

Motion carried to retain the current Camp Ground Board until the property transfer is complete.

The Bi-Annual meeting will be held at Midway on March 3-4, 2006. The Friday night speaker will be Bro. Ed Staggs.

Motion carried to change the 2006 Annual meeting from the first to the second weekend in August.

The Annual Association meeting will be held at Lawton on August 11-12, 2005. The Friday night speaker will be Bro. Myrl Kellett. The Saturday morning Memorial speaker will be Bro. Garland Davidson

All meetings begin as follows unless otherwise stated: Friday night service will begin at 7:30 PM and the Saturday business meeting will begin at 9:30 AM.

The Midway Church invited all women to attend the District Women's Auxiliary on Sept. 10 at 10 AM.

Motion carried to adjourn business and go into the worship service. Bro. Terry Pierson led in prayer.

The worship service was opened with the congregation singing of "Leaning On The Everlasting Arms" and "O How I Love Jesus" led by Bro. Terry Pierson with Sis. Diann Pierson at the piano.

Bro. Jim Puckett gave the TSP update and shared the unexpected financial blessing that had been received. Bro. Ernest Harrison, State Executive Secretary, shared that the Literature Center was now debt-free, gave an update on Hillsdale and mentioned that the Coop budget had been reached. There is also a new arm of Free Will Baptists in the works, CFM - Children and Family Ministry that hopes to be approved at the October State meeting in Broken Arrow.

Bro. Paul Underwood brought the message on being a memorial for the body of Christ. He dismissed the meeting in prayer with Bro. Garland Davidson blessing the food.

Bro. Paul Underwood, Moderator

Sis. Shelia Rooker, Clerk

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
AUGUST 1, 2004 - FEBRUARY 28, 2005
TREASURER'S REPORT

CHURCH	TOTAL RECEIVED	STATE CO-OP	TSP & MISSIONS	HILLSDALE	CAMP GROUND	GENERAL FUND	CAMP BLDG. FUND
COUNTRYSIDE	\$ 4,668.36	\$ 1,547.01	\$ 700.00	\$ 1,225.00	\$ 515.68	\$ 680.67	\$ -
COUNTYLINE	\$ 1,583.14	\$ -	\$ 449.00	\$ 225.00	\$ 278.36	\$ 630.78	\$ -
HEALDTON	\$ 365.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 165.00	\$ -
LAWTON	\$ 1,191.79	\$ 241.07	\$ 300.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 180.36	\$ 270.36	\$ -
MIDWAY	\$ 2,398.00	\$ 916.80	\$ 570.00	\$ -	\$ 605.60	\$ 305.60	\$ -
STOBTOWN	\$ 401.97	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 201.97	\$ 200.00	\$ -
DISTRICT WAC	\$ 187.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 187.50
TOTALS	\$ 10,795.76	\$ 2,704.88	\$ 2,219.00	\$ 1,650.00	\$ 1,781.97	\$ 2,252.41	\$ 187.50

BEGINNING BALANCE AUGUST 1, 2004

\$ 2,840.84

INCOME FROM CHURCHES

\$ 10,795.76

SUBTOTAL

\$ 13,636.60

EXPENSES

STATE CO-OP

\$ 2,704.88

TSP MISSIONS

\$ 2,219.00

HILLSDALE

\$ 1,650.00

CAMPGROUND

\$ 2,281.97

CAMPGROUND BUILDING FUND

\$ 187.50

CLERK EXPENSES

\$ 27.38

STATE & NATIONAL FEES

\$ 750.00

GENERAL BOARD MEMBER

\$ 300.00

KWIK KOPY - PRINTING OF MINUTES

\$ 197.90

LESS EXPENSES

\$ 10,318.63

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - FEBRUARY 28, 2005

\$ 3,317.97

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FEBRUARY 28 - AUGUST 12, 2005
TREASURER'S REPORT

CHURCH	TOTAL RECEIVED	STATE CO-OP	TSP & MISSIONS	HILLSDALE	CAMP GROUND	GENERAL FUND	CAMP BLDG. FUND
COUNTRYSIDE	\$ 3,493.30	\$ 1,156.98	\$ 500.00	\$ 875.00	\$ 385.66	\$ 575.66	\$ -
COUNTYLINE	\$ 831.31	\$ -	\$ 173.00	\$ 90.00	\$ 141.86	\$ 426.45	\$ -
HEALDTON	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
LAWTON	\$ -	\$ -		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MIDWAY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
STOBTOWN	\$ 440.15	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 225.15	\$ 215.00	\$ -
DISTRICT WAC	\$ 862.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 862.00
TOTALS	\$ 5,526.76	\$ 1,156.98	\$ 673.00	\$ 965.00	\$ 752.67	\$ 1,217.11	\$ 862.00

BEGINNING BALANCE FEBRUARY 28, 2005 \$ 3,317.97

INCOME FROM CHURCHES \$ 5,626.76

SUBTOTAL \$ 8,944.73

EXPENSES

STATE CO-OP	\$ 1,156.98
TSP MISSIONS	\$ 673.00
HILLSDALE	\$ 965.00
CAMPGROUND	\$ 1,252.67
CAMPGROUND BUILDING FUND	\$ 862.00
CLERK EXPENSES	\$ 16.54

LESS EXPENSES \$ 4,926.19

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - AUGUST 12, 2005 \$ 4,018.54

HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
AUGUST 1, 2004 - FEBRUARY 28, 2005
CAMPGROUND TREASURER'S REPORT

CHECKING ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE AUGUST 1, 2004 \$ 1,876.74

INCOME:

CO-OP GIVING \$ 1,923.23
TRANSFER FROM MONEY MARKET \$ 707.75

TOTAL INCOME \$ 2,630.98

SUBTOTAL \$ 4,507.72

EXPENSES:

ELECTRIC / WATER \$ 188.76
POSTAGE (PAUL UNDERWOOD) \$ 200.00
INSURANCE \$ 2,123.25

LESS TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 2,512.01

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - FEBRUARY 28, 2005 \$ 1,995.71

BUILDING FUND MONEY MARKET ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE AUGUST 1, 2004 \$ 2,925.49

INCOME:

INTEREST INCOME \$ 13.31
HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION \$ 837.64
TOTAL INCOME \$ 850.95

SUBTOTAL \$ 3,776.44

EXPENSES

TRANSFER TO GENERAL FUND \$ 707.75
BANK SERVICE CHARGE \$ 26.00

LESS TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 733.75

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - FEBRUARY 28, 2005 \$ 3,042.69

GRAND TOTAL OF CAMPGROUND ACCOUNTS \$ 5,038.40

**HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FEBRUARY 28 - AUGUST 6, 2005
CAMPGROUND TREASURER'S REPORT**

CHECKING ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE FEBRUARY 28, 2005		\$	1,995.71
INCOME:			
CO-OP GIVING	\$	1,252.67	
TOTAL INCOME		\$	1,252.67
SUBTOTAL		\$	3,248.38
EXPENSES:			
ELECTRIC / WATER	\$	63.43	
INSURANCE	\$	707.75	
CHECK CHARGE	\$	14.50	
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES		\$	785.68
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - AUGUST 6, 2005		\$	2,462.70

BUILDING FUND ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE FEBRUARY 28, 2005		\$	-
INCOME:			
DONATION	\$	500.00	
COOP GIVING	\$	362.00	
TOTAL INCOME		\$	862.00
EXPENSES:			
CHECK COST	\$	15.25	
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$	15.25
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - AUGUST 6, 2005		\$	846.75

BUILDING FUND SAVINGS ACCOUNT

BEGINNING BALANCE FEBRUARY 28, 2005		\$	3,042.69
INCOME:			
INTEREST INCOME	\$	10.09	
TOTAL INCOME		\$	10.09
SUBTOTAL		\$	3,052.78
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES		\$	-
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - AUGUST 6, 2005		\$	3,052.78
GRAND TOTAL OF CAMPGROUND ACCOUNTS		\$	6,362.23

ANNUAL LETTER FROM DISTRICT ASSOCIATION TO STATE ASSOCIATION

<u>HOPEWELL NO. 2</u>		TO		<u>OKLAHOMA ASSOCIATION OF FWB</u>	
(NAME OF DISTRICT ASSOCIATION)				(NAME OF STATE ASSOCIATION)	
MEETING AT <u>BROKEN ARROW, OK</u>		ON		<u>OCTOBER 10 - 13, 2005</u>	
PERIOD OF TIME THIS REPORT COVERS		FROM		<u>8/03</u>	TO <u>8/04</u>
PRESENT MODERATOR'S NAME <u>PAUL UNDERWOOD</u>		PHONE		<u>(580) 229-114</u>	
MAILING ADDRESS <u>PO BOX 713</u>		CITY		<u>HEALDTON</u>	
STATE <u>OKLAHOMA</u>		ZIP		<u>73438</u>	
DELEGATES <u>SUE DAVIDSON</u>		<u>EDITH UNDERWOOD</u>			
<u>BOBBIE STAGGS</u>		<u>SHIRLEY MC CLENDON</u>			
<u>MARY LOU HAMILTON</u>		<u>WANDA KELLETT</u>			

A. CHURCH CHARACTERISTICS		B. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION	
1. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES	<u>6</u>	1. TOTAL NUMBER OF BAPTISMS	<u>19</u>
2. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES IN: CITY/TOWN	<u>2</u>	2. TOTAL MEMBERS ADDED	<u>34</u>
RURAL	<u>4</u>	3. TOTAL MEMBERS LOST	<u>16</u>
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES REPORTING	<u>6</u>	4. TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	<u>776</u>
4. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES WITH:			
FULL TIME PASTORS	<u>4</u>		
BI-VOCATIONAL PASTORS	<u>2</u>		

C. STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION		D. BUILDING INFORMATION	
1. TOTAL INCOME OF ALL CHURCHES (3 REPORTED)	<u>\$ 135,208</u>	1. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES	<u>4</u>
2. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES WITH BUDGETS	<u>0</u>	WITH PARSONAGES	
		2. TOTAL VALUE OF ALL CHURCH PROPERTY,	
		INCLUDING PARSONAGES	<u>\$ 1,195.0</u>

E. GENERAL INFORMATION			
1. TOTAL NUMBER OF ORDAINED MINISTERS*	<u>10</u>	TOTAL ENROLLMENT:	
LICENSED MINISTERS*	<u>1</u>	4. SUNDAY SCHOOL	<u>105</u>
2. TOTAL NUMBER OF ORDAINED DEACONS	<u>17</u>	5. CTS	<u>8</u>
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES WITH:		6. WNAC	<u>54</u>
DAY CARES	<u>0</u>	7. MASTER'S MEN	<u>0</u>
KINDERGARTENS	<u>0</u>		
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOLS	<u>0</u>		
BIBLE INSTITUTES	<u>0</u>		
COLLEGES	<u>0</u>		

NUMBER OF STATE ASSOCIATION MINUTES REQUESTED		<u>15</u>	
SIGNED: CLERK'S NAME	<u>SHELIA ROOKER</u>	PHONE	<u>(580) 357-871</u>
MAILING ADDRESS	<u>2512 SW "A" AVENUE</u>		
CITY	<u>LAWTON</u>	STATE	<u>OKLAHOMA</u>
		ZIP	<u>73505</u>

HOPEWELL NO. 2 WOMEN ACTIVE FOR CHRIST
(DISTRICT CONVENTION NAME)

	<u>YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER, 2004</u>	<u>YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER, 2005</u>
LOCAL GROUPS		
NUMBER AT BEGINNING OF YEAR		2
NUMBER ADDED		0
NUMBER LOST		0
TOTAL GROUPS AT END OF YEAR		2

MEMBERSHIP	
NUMBER AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	18
MEMBERS ADDED	1
MEMBERS LOST	0
TOTAL MEMBERS AT END OF YEAR	19

MEMBERSHIP DUES PAID	\$	194.75
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2006 DELEGATE TO NATIONAL CONVENTION

NAME	WANDA KELLETT	ADDRESS	2603 SW "A" AVENUE
PHONE	(580) 355-4668		LAWTON, OK 73505

TREASURER'S REPORT

BEGINNING BALANCE AUGUST 31, 2004	\$	228.20
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INCOME:

LAWTON WAC	\$	592.50	
MIDWAY WAC	\$	-	
DISTRICT OFFERINGS	\$	227.03	
TOTAL INCOME	\$		819.53

SUBTOTAL	\$	1,047.73
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EXPENSES:

CHECK CHARGE	\$	14.77	
HOPEWELL NO. 2 CAMPGROUND	\$	387.50	
NATIONAL 50 / 50 ASIAN PRAYER CONFERENCE	\$	100.00	
CLEO PURCELL FOREIGN STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP	\$	25.00	
SHIRLEY WILLIAMSON - JAPAN	\$	120.00	
ALABAMA CHILDREN'S HOME	\$	50.00	
HILLSDALE - RENOVATION PROJECT	\$	55.00	
STEVE & LORI TORRISON - PANAMA PROJECT	\$	55.00	
LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	\$		807.27

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - AUGUST 31, 2005	\$	240.46
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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 & other 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. 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.
15. The Rules of Order shall distinctly be read from the chair immediately after organization.
16. Alterations may be made in these rules at any regular session of the Association by a two-thirds vote of the members present.

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, any member of the Executive Board, the Pastor of the local Church where the meeting is being held, or the Clerk, 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 Clerk and Assistant Clerk 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 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.
10. A fee of \$165.00 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 \$100.00 for the National Delegate fee.)
11. The Treasurer of this Association shall submit a written report at each session. If a written report is not given, a new Treasurer will be elected.
12. 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.
13. 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 known 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, Mission Board and Camp Ground Board. Each Board shall consist of five members as to have one (1) member retiring each year.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

This Board shall be composed of five (5) ordained Ministers or Deacons, 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 the Bi-Annual meeting 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.

CAMP GROUND BOARD

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, along with the Camp Ground Treasurer, shall be elected at the discretion of the Association.

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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.

4. 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 be invited to assist in the purchasing.
5. 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.
6. This Board should re-assess the Youth Camp fees yearly and advise the Association of any necessary changes.
7. This Board will instruct the Association yearly of necessary standards to meet the State Health inspection.
8. This Board 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.)
9. 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.
10. 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.

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 Testaments were given by inspiration of God, and are our infallible rule 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 Father, Son and Holy Ghost; yet as one God, infinitely wise and good, whom all intelligent creatures are supremely to love, adore, and obey.
3. **CHRIST** - Christ is God manifest in the flesh; in His divine nature truly God, in His human nature truly man. The mediator between God and man, once crucified, He is now risen and glorified, and is 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 the constitution and laws of nature. He also performs special acts of Grace, not otherwise provided for, as the highest welfare of men 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, sufferings, 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. Repentance or sincere sorrow for sin and hearty renunciation of it.
 - 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 unto 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, 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 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, is of universal obligation, and is to be administered to all true believers.
15. **TITHING** - God commanded tithes and offerings in the Old Testament; Jesus Christ endorsed it 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 hath prospered him" (1 Corinthians 16:2a).
16. **THE CHRISTIAN SABBATH** - The divine law requires that one (1) day in seven (7) be set apart from the secular employments 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 those who 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 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, 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, 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 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 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 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 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, 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 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 know the right words, but 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 Testaments, 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 in 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 the 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? _____

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 Articles 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 _____

MEMEBER OF THE _____ CHURCH

- 1) Do you have a license? _____
- 2) If you have a license, how long have you carried it? _____
- 3) By what Association was it 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 a 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 course 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? _____

ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE FROM OLD MINUTES 1933 - 2005

- 1944 Motion carried that this Association not ordain anyone to ministry of the Gospel who is not a member of some Free Will Baptist Church in good standing & has been licensed to preach for one year & proven worthy of ordination & recommended by his Church for ordination.
- 1959 Motion carried that the Moderator be an ordained Free Will Baptist Minister or Deacon in good standing in the Association.
- 1961 Motion carried that any Minister coming to our Association from another Oklahoma association, who is in good standing with the association that he is leaving, be examined by the Ministers & Deacons Conference (now the Credential Board).
- 1966 Motion carried that any member coming from another faith must prove themselves for one year before holding office in this Association.
- 1968 Motion carried that new officers take their office immediately after the closing of business of the annual Association meeting.
- 1972 Adopted the National Ordination Guidelines.
Motion carried to print the Women's Auxiliary report in the minutes.
Adopted the Constitution from the First Oklahoma Association with August designated as the annual session. (Listed under NAME in Constitution.)
Motion carried that the Camp Ground Board be given the authority to have their own Treasurer & handle the finances.
- 1973 Adopted the State Articles of Faith.
- 1978 Motion carried that we start our Annual meeting on Friday night with worship service & that all business be conducted on Saturday.
- 1979 Motion carried to record the starting time of our quarterly & annual meetings be as follows: Day services begin at 9:30 AM & Night services begin at 7:30 PM.
- 1982 Motion carried that when a member is elected to an office, board or committee, that he or she must be present.

- 1985 Motion carried to accept the recommendation from the Executive Board on the revision of the Cooperative giving in the Association. Revisions as follows 60% to Co-op, 20% to General Fund & 20 % to Camp Ground Fund. This does not affect the designated giving.
- 1989 Motion carried that the month of June be designated as Youth Camp Month.
- 1990 Motion carried that this Association will not ordain any Minister unless the work necessitates it.
Motion carried that the Standing Camp Ground Board be made a permanent Board consisting of five members & that the 1 year man on that Board will be the Chairman.
- 1994 Note: Each Church will pay \$125 to help with Youth Camp. Each camper will pay \$5.00 fee.
- 1995 Motion carried that all moneys paid to the different projects & funds of the Denomination & Association go through the Association Treasurer, including church fees, CO-OP, camp ground, youth camp funds, etc., to be properly reported on the financials.
Motion carried to pay all future Youth Camp Evangelists \$400.00, beginning in 1996.
- 1996 Motion carried to increase the amount paid for expenses of the General Board Member from \$100.00 to \$300.00.
Motion carried to have semi-annual Association meetings.
The one year man on each board will be chairman of that board.
- 1997 Reminder that all future candidates for licensing & ordination must complete Questionnaire for Ordination prior to coming before the Credential Board.
- 2002 Motion carried to adopt the Credential Board recommendation that any individual new to Free Will Baptist that desires to join this Association should receive & complete the State Questionnaire for Ordination prior to being considered for ordination.
- 2003 Motion carried to update the Rules of Order, By-Laws and Constitution.
- 2005 Motion carried to transfer the Youth Camp building and land to the Oklahoma State Association of Free Will Baptist.
Motion carried to retain the current Camp Ground Board until the transfer of property is complete & at which time, it will be removed from the Constitution.

