

MINUTES

**HOPEWELL
NO. 2
ASSOCIATION**

FREE WILL BAPTIST
CHURCHES

77TH ANNUAL MEETING
2009

**MINUTES OF THE 77TH ANNUAL MEETING
HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
FREE WILL BAPTIST CHURCHES
2009**

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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-alma.k12.ok.us
COUNTYLINE 165 OLD HWY 7 PO BOX 236 COUNTYLINE, OK 73425	ED STAGGS (BOBBIE) 5624 SE 2 ND 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	DEREK BOLIN PO BOX 779 HEALDTON, OK 73436 PHONE: (580) 673-2798	JANETTE WATKINS PO BOX 235 FOX, OK 73435 PHONE: (580) 673-2798
IRON CHAPEL 21949 MAY AVENUE PURCELL, OK 73080 PHONE: (405) 344-6311	JOEY HOWETH (PEGGY) 21626 160 TH ST PURCELL, OK 73080 (580) 527-5133	LORETTA HACKER PO BOX 547 NICOMA PARK, OK 73066 PHONE: (405) 769-4622
LAWTON FIRST 10 SOUTH 24 TH 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@iuno.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 3 RD STREET HEALDTON, OK 73438 PHONE: (580) 229-2682 glenns72@cebridqe.net
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

ASST. MODERATOR
PO BOX 235
VELMA, OK 73491

CLERK
PO BOX 6
GRAHAM, OK 73437

ASST. CLERK
PO BOX 193
GRAHAM, OK 73437

TREASURER
2512 SW 'A' AVENUE
LAWTON, OK 73505

ASST. TREASURER
2204 NW 43RD STREET
LAWTON, OK 73505

REPORTER
PO BOX 235
VELMA, OK 73491

PARLIAMENTARIAN
21626 160TH ST
PURCELL, OK 73080

PAUL UNDERWOOD
PHONE: (580) 229-1144
EMAIL: pacu@sbcglobal.net

GARLAND DAVIDSON
PHONE: (580) 444-3530

DIANN PIERSON
PHONE: (580) 673-2109
EMAIL: diann@starband.net

LEWELLA ABREO
PHONE: (405) 922-0242
EMAIL:

SHELIA ROOKER
PHONE: (580) 357-8755
EMAIL: srooker@sirinet.net

CINDY JORDAN
PHONE: (580) 351-1268
EMAIL:

SUE DAVIDSON
PHONE: (580) 444-3530
EMAIL:

JOEY HOWETH
PHONE: (580) 527-5133

*Progressive
Holdenville
Faith Free Will
Jessica
is ordained
Was Youth
Pastor //*

3

EXECUTIVE BOARD

ED STAGGS	5 YEAR
JOEY HOWETH	4 YEAR
RANDY SMITH	3 YEAR
GARLAND DAVIDSON	2 YEAR
ROYCE McCLENDON	1 YEAR

CREDENTIAL BOARD

JIM MC LAUGHLIN	5 YEAR
TROY LEWELLEN	4 YEAR
JOEY HOWETH	3 YEAR
MARK KELLETT	2 YEAR
ROYCE McCLENDON	1 YEAR

YOUTH ASSOCIATION BOARD

TEMPLE LEE GRUNDY	CHAIRMAN
RENEE HENSON	COUNTRYSIDE
JIM McLAUGHLIN	STOBTOWN

ORDAINED MINISTERS

DEVLON FORD	(580) 657-3611	PO BOX 384
CHURCH: STOBTOWN		LONE GROVE, OK 73443

JOHN GILMORE	(580) 255-4802	532 N 20 TH
CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE		DUNCAN, OK 73533

MARK KELLETT	(580) 355-8622	4702 DREXEL
CHURCH: LAWTON		LAWTON, OK 73501

SCOTT BATTICE	(580) 465-2352	125 "D" ST S.W.
		ARDMORE, OK 73401

ORDAINED DEACONS

LORAY SPURGIN CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE	(580) 444-2527	PO BOX 842 VELMA, OK 73491
RALPH MULLINS, JR. CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE	(580) 856-3290	PO BOX 36 RATLIFF CITY, OK 74081
RANDY SMITH CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE	(580) 470-9441	ROUTE 5, BOX 38 C DUNCAN, OK 73533
EDDIE CROWSON CHURCH: COUNTRYSIDE	(580) 673-2109	PO BOX 802 VELMA, OK 73491
VON COLVIN CHURCH: COUNTYLINE	(580) 856-3581	PO BOX 234 COUNTYLINE, OK 73425
J.T. McClANAHAN CHURCH: COUNTY LINE	(580) 444-2355	ROUTE 3, BOX 88 DUNCAN, OK 73533
JEFF HARVEY CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 229-1325	832 DANIEL STREET HEALDTON, OK 73438
W.E. LEWIS CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 673-2289	27696 STATE HWY 53 HEALDTON, OK 73438
BRAD MULLINS CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 229-0987	PO BOX 284 HEALDTON, OK 73438
TED WALLER CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 229-9969	213 E FIRST STREET HEALDTON, OK 73438
RICHARD WATKINS CHURCH: HEALDTON	(580) 673-2798	PO BOX 235 HEALDTON, OK 73438
EARL HACKER CHURCH: IRON CHAPEL	(405) 769-4622	PO BOX 547 NICOMA PARK, OK 73006
TROY HACKNEY CHURCH: IRON CHAPEL	(405) 344-7111	21153 MAY AVENUE PURCELL, OK 73080

KENNETH GLENN	(580) 229-2682	PO BOX 518
CHURCH: MIDWAY		GRAHAM, OK 73438
TROY LEWELLEN	(580) 673-2315	PO BOX 201
CHURCH: MIDWAY		GRAHAM, OK 73437
TERRY PIERSON	(580) 673-2109	PO BOX 6
CHURCH: MIDWAY		GRAHAM, OK 73437
JIM McLAUGHLIN	(580) 657-3762	PO BOX 1622
CHURCH: STOB TOWN		LONE GROVE, OK 73433
MARSHALL MITCHELL	(580) 657-4252	1643 ASHTON ROAD
CHURCH: STOB TOWN		ARDMORE, OK 73401
LEONARD ROBINSON	(580) 657-4742	7785 N NEWPORT ROAD
CHURCH: STOB TOWN		LONE GROVE, OK 73433

LOCAL WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OFFICERS

COUNTRYSIDE

PRES.	RENEE' HENSON	PO BOX 471	VELMA, OK 73491	(580) 252-1579
SEC.	MARY HEAD	PO BOX 143	VELMA, OK 73491	(580) 444-2527
TREAS.	SHERRIE SMITH	RT 5, BOX 38 C	DUNCAN, OK 73533	(580) 470-9441

LAWTON

PRES.	MARIA AYALA	1221 SW 26 TH PLACE	LAWTON, OK 73505	(580) 357-9469
SEC.	SHELIA ROOKER	2512 SW 'A' AVENUE	LAWTON, OK 73505	(580) 357-8755
TREAS.	CHRISTY KELLETT	4702 SE DREXEL	LAWTON, OK 73501	(580) 355-8622

MIDWAY

PRES.	EDITH UNDERWOOD	PO BOX 173	HEALDTON, OK 73438	(580) 229-1144
SEC.	TINA STUBBLEFIELD	PO BOX 691	HEALDTON, OK 73438	(580) 264-1003
TREAS.	DIANN PIERSON	PO BOX 6	GRAHAM, OK 73437	(580) 673-2109

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY OFFICERS

2008 - 2010 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

PO BOX 207
HEALDTON, OK 73438

RHONDA ADDINGTON

PHONE: (580) 229-0142 / 504-0389
EMAIL: rhondaaddington@sbcglobal.net

VICE PRESIDENT

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RENEE' HENSON

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SECRETARY

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4702 SE DREXEL
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CHRISTY KELLETT

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*Srooker@fidnet.
com*

PRAYER CHAIRMAN

PO BOX 6
GRAHAM, OK 73437

DIANN PIERSON

PHONE: (580) 673-2109
EMAIL: diann@starband.net

STUDY CHAIRMAN

1221 SW 26TH PLACE
LAWTON, OK 73505

MARIA AYALA

PHONE: (580) 357-9469
EMAIL: jfaleon42@sbcglobal.net

DISTRICT AUXILIARIES

MARCH 27, 2010

APRIL 23 & 24, 2010

JUNE 26, 2010

JULY 19 & 20, 2010

SEPTEMBER 11, 2010

RETREAT

WNAC

ANNUAL

MIDWAY

TULSA

LAWTON

OKLAHOMA CITY

COUNTRYSIDE

(DISTRICT MEETINGS BEGIN AT 10 AM & EACH CHURCH PROVIDES THE PROGRAM & LUNCH.)
OCTOBER 11, 2010 1 PM STATE OWAC HILLSDALE, MOORE

BI-ANNUAL MEETING

March 6 - 7, 2009

Friday, March 6, 2009

On Friday, March 6, at 7:30 p.m., the Hopewell #2 Association convened at Iron Chapel Freewill Baptist Church. Brother Paul Underwood, Moderator, opened the evening services. Brother Joey Howeth led in prayer.

Brother Elmer Davis led congregation singing: "Just A Little Talk With Jesus", "Heaven's Jubilee" and "Jesus Hold My Hand" with Sister Rosa Lee Thomas at the piano.

Special Singing by: Sister Betty Gardenhire - "Sweet Hour of Prayer" and Sister Rosa Lee Thomas - "I Don't Know About Tomorrow".

Brother Jeff Sloan, Pastoral and Youth Ministry Professor for Hillsdale FWB College, brought the message on "All Of God's Gifts Are Good" from James 1:13-17.

Brother Paul Underwood dismissed in prayer.

Saturday, March 7, 2009

On Saturday, March 7 at 9:30 a.m., Brother Paul Underwood, Moderator, opened the Saturday morning services. Brother Mark Kellett led in prayer.

Brother Garland Davidson admonished the association from Hebrews 2:1-3

Letters were called for and read from seven churches. The delegates were seated after a right hand of fellowship was given while singing "Gloryland Way", led by Brother Terry Pierson with Sister Diann Pierson at the piano.

The minutes were read and received.

Petitionary letters: Healdton First Free Will Baptist requested Brother Derek Bolin be examined.

Other letters: Harvest Free Will Baptist Church is searching for a new pastor. Information was provided for any seeking that position.

Brother Joey Howeth read the Rules of Order.

Visitors were invited to be seated in council. Those visiting from the State Office were Brother Brad Ranscum, Director for Oklahoma FWB Missions, and Brother Mike Wade, Executive Director for Oklahoma Free Will Baptist Association. Also Brother Hyatt for Harvest FWB Children's Ministries in Mexico.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

<u>Divine</u>	<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Temperance</u>	<u>Obituary</u>
Ronnie Skaggs	J. B. Henson	Rhonda Addington	Gilbert Ortiz
Amy Soto	Glenda Sanchez	Juan Ayala	Maria Ayala
Jamie Knipe	David Lomenick	Glenda Knipe	Anita Lomenick

A fifteen minute break was given for the committees to meet.

The Divine Committee unanimously selected Brother Derek Bolin, new pastor of the Healdton First FWB church, as the morning speaker.

Motion carried to accept the Treasurer's Report given by Brother Temple Lee Grundy with a balance on hand of \$2,748.16 and the Certificate of Deposit balance with Bank of Commerce \$2,882.34.

There was no unfinished business in need of action.

New Business:

Motion carried to receive the Credential Board report:

The Credential Board has found Brother Derek Bolin to be sound in Free Will Baptist doctrine and recommends he be accepted in the Hopewell #2 Association pending receipt of a letter of recommendation from the First Mission Association.

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

- a) By-Law #11 amended: Treasurer's books are to be audited yearly on the Friday night before Saturday Annual Business Meeting in August.

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report and adopt them item by item.

- a) Pray for our country.
- b) Admonish our Churches to continue and increase teaching for discipleship, that we may be more effective witnesses in our world, especially with the shape and decline of our world. Matthew 28: 18-20 and Mark 10:27

Motion carried to accept the Obituary Committee report:

Countyline: Sister Brenda Gordon
Healdton: Brothers Jim Tarter and Bob Gaytor
Midway: Brother Melvin Martin
Lawton: Sister Cathy Keller

The congregation stood for a moment of silence held in remembrance of these individuals.

Miscellaneous Business:

Brother Jim McLaughlin spoke about Loving Hands Youth Camp in Sulphur, OK. He extended an invitation to all adults and children to visit or attend the camp.

Brother Mike Wade gave information to the congregation about an upcoming "Come and See" statewide evangelistic campaign. He encouraged local churches to make a special effort to invite those who do not attend church anywhere to your church during this campaign.

Brother Brad Ranscum spoke about the TSP walk-a-thon for Missions.

Announcements:

WAC meeting will be March 28 at 10:00 a.m. at Midway Free Will Baptist Church.

Brother Mike Wade will be in revival services at Countryside Free Will Baptist Church, beginning March 29.

Motion carried to adjourn and enter into worship service. Brother Ed Staggs dismissed in prayer.

Brother Paul Underwood opened worship services. Brother Troy Lewellan led in prayer. Brother Elmer Davis led congregation singing: "Keep on the Firing Line", and "He Set Me Free", with Sister Diann Pierson at the piano.

Special Singing by: Sister Renee Henson - "Amazing Grace" and Brother Elmer Davis - "I Know a Man Who Can".

Brother Derek Bolin brought the message from Daniel 1: 8-12 entitled "Conviction of My Heart".

Brother Royce McClendon dismissed in prayer.

Respectively Submitted,

Brother Paul Underwood, Moderator
Sister Mary Head, Clerk
Sister Suzy Grundy, Assistant Clerk

77TH ANNUAL MEETING
August 14 – 15, 2009

Friday, August 14, 2009

The Hopewell # 2 Association convened for its annual meeting at Midway Freewill Baptist Church on August 14 at 7:30 p.m. Moderator, Brother Paul Underwood, opened the services and Brother Ed Staggs led in prayer.

Brother Terry Pierson led the congregational singing with Sister Diann Pierson at the piano. Songs were "He Set Me Free", "Shout to the Lord" and "I'll Fly Away".

Special singing presented by: Lewella Abreo and Tina Stubblefield - "Amazing Grace (My Chains are Gone)" and Terry Pierson - "My Savior Lives".

Brother Mark Kellett brought the message from Jeremiah 2, 1-9 and 20-21 entitled "Where are you in Your Life with Jesus Christ?"

The congregation prayed silently. Brother Paul Underwood dismissed in prayer.

Saturday, August 15, 2009

On Saturday, August 15 at 9:30 a.m., Brother Paul Underwood, Moderator, called the meeting to order with Brother Royce McClendon leading in prayer. Brother Mark Ed Staggs admonished the Association from John 14: 15-16.

Letters were called for and received from seven churches. The right hand of fellowship was given to the delegates while singing, "Blessed be Your Name" led by Brother Terry Pierson with words and music via video.

Minutes were read and received.

There were no Petitionary letters.

Other Letters:

Motion carried to receive a letter of recommendation for Brother Derek Bolin from First Mission Association.

Brother Joey Howeth read the Rules of Order.

Visitors were invited to be seated in council. Brother Bob Thompson from the State Office and Brother George Hyatt with Harvest FWB Ministries in Mexico were among those visiting.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

<u>Resolution</u>	<u>Temperance</u>	<u>Obituary</u>
Glenda Sanchez	Shelia Rooker	J. B. Henson
John Perdue	David Lomenick	David Dorman
Ronnie Skaggs	Sherrie Pierce	Anita Lomenick

There was a short break for the committees to meet.

Temple Lee Grundy read the Treasurer's report with a balance on hand of \$3,071.52 in the General Fund and the certificate of deposit balance \$2,925.66.

New Business:

Motion carried to receive the Executive Board Report from the Auditing Committee. The report stated the committee had met on August 14, 2009 at Midway FWB Church. The Association Treasurer's books were audited and found to be in good order.

Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee report.

- a) Awareness of the Commandments.
- b) To instruct more on the Commandments at Church and at home.
- c) Individually work to improve keeping The Commandments. (1 Corinthians 11:2)

Motion carried to receive the Temperance Committee report:

- a) Stand firm against diversified families (homosexual) being taught in schools and accepted in Churches.
- b) Pray for our children to not get involved in drugs/KKK/gangs/cults.
- c) Pray for our nation and government to return to God before it's too late.
- d) Pray for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our Christian Churches. (2 Chronicles 7:14 and Romans 12:1-2)

Motion carried to receive the Obituary Committee report:

Countyline: Brother Von Colvin

Stobtown: Sister Pam Balthrop

There was a moment of silence and Brother Garland Davidson led prayer in remembrance of these who have gone on to be with the Lord.

Election of Officers:

Moderator:	Paul Underwood
Asst. Moderator:	Mark Kellett
Clerk:	Diann Pierson
Asst. Clerk:	Lewella Abreo
Treasurer:	Shelia Rooker
Asst. Treasurer:	Cindy Jordan
Reporter:	Sue Davidson
Parliamentarian:	Joey Howeth
Executive Board, 5 Year Man:	Ed Staggs
Credential Board, 5 Year Man:	Jim McLaughlin
Credential Board, 3 Year Man:	Joey Howeth
General Board Member, 2010	Paul Underwood

Brother Bob Thompson spoke on behalf of Hillsdale FWB College. He said there are 70 – 75 freshmen enrolled at Hillsdale this year and the college is expecting an increase in enrollment. He urged the Churches to encourage their young people to attend Hillsdale. He announced the Hillsdale singers are in need of new sound equipment for the traveling singers.

Brother Joey Howeth committed a gift of \$500.00 from Iron Chapel FWB Church toward purchasing the sound equipment for Hillsdale.

Motion carried for the Association to give \$1,000.00 toward purchasing the sound equipment for Hillsdale.

The Bi-Annual Meeting will be on March 5 & 6, 2010 at Stobtown Free Will Baptist Church. The Friday night speaker will be Brother Bob Thompson and the Hillsdale singers will provide the music for this meeting.

The Annual meeting will be at Midway Freewill Baptist Church on August 13 & 14, 2010. The Friday night speaker will be Brother Ed Staggs. The Saturday morning Memorial speaker will be Brother Royce McClendon.

All meetings begin as follows unless otherwise stated. Friday night services will begin at 7:30 P.M. and the Saturday business meeting will begin at 9:30 A.M.

Announcements:

WAC will meet at Countryside Free Will Baptist Church on September 19, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Brother Brad Ranscum will be in Revival at Countryside FWB Church on October 4 – 7, 2009.

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

Brother Paul Underwood opened the services with Brother Jim McLaughlin leading in prayer.

Worship service opened with the Congregation singing with a music video: "Joy of the Lord " and "Trading My Sorrow" led by Brother Terry Pierson. Special singing by Sister Lewella Abreo and Sister Tina Stubblefield - "Come As You Are", and Brother Terry Pierson - "East to West".

Brother Garland Davidson brought the message from 1 Corinthians 15, and 1 Thessalonians 4: 17.

Brother Paul Underwood dismissed in prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Paul Underwood, Moderator
Mary Head, Clerk
Suzi Grundy, Assistant Clerk

**HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
AUGUST 2008 - MARCH 2009
TREASURER'S REPORT**

CHURCH	TOTAL RECEIVED	STATE CO-OP	TSP & MISSIONS	HILLSDALE	RAINBOW MINISTRIES	GENERAL FUND
COUNTRYSIDE	\$ 3,416.90	\$ 901.36	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 1,175.64	\$ -	\$ 290.00
COUNTYLINE	\$ 1,037.66	\$ 398.93	\$ 279.40	\$ 125.00	\$ -	\$ 234.33
HEALDTON	\$ 490.00	\$ -	\$ 490.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
IRON CHAPEL	\$ 2,695.00	\$ -	\$ 725.00	\$ 725.00	\$ 1,055.00	\$ 190.00
LAWTON	\$ 2,290.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ -	\$ 190.00
MIDWAY	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 1,900.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 350.00	\$ 250.00	\$ -
STOBTOWN	\$ 190.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 190.00
TOTALS	\$ 12,919.56	\$ 3,800.29	\$ 3,144.40	\$ 3,575.54	\$ 1,305.00	\$ 1,094.33

BEGINNING BALANCE - JULY 19, 2009 \$ 6,246.24

INCOME FROM CHURCHES \$ 12,919.56

SUBTOTAL \$ 19,165.80

EXPENSES

STATE CO-OP	\$ 3,800.29	KWIK COPY	\$ 212.55	(MINUTES PRINTED)
TSP MISSIONS	\$ 3,144.40	CD	\$ 2,860.57	(BANK OF COMMERCE)
HILLSDALE	\$ 2,575.54	DESIGNATED	\$ 1,305.00	
CLERK EXPENSES	\$ 19.29	SPEAKER	\$ 150.00	(JEFF SLOAN)
DELEGATE FEE	\$ 1,050.00	HILLSDALE	\$ 1,000.00	(SCHOLORHSIP)
GENERAL BOARD	\$ 300.00			
LESS EXPENSES				<u>\$ (16,417.64)</u>
BALANCE	3/07/09			\$ 2,748.16
CD BALANCE				\$ 2,882.34

**HOPEWELL NO. 2 ASSOCIATION
MARCH - AUGUST 2009
TREASURER'S REPORT**

CHURCH	TOTAL RECEIVED	STATE CO-OP	TSP & MISSIONS	HILLSDALE	RAINBOW MINISTRIES	GENERAL FUND
COUNTRYSIDE	\$ 3,655.29	\$ 338.12	\$ 2,180.00	\$ 1,037.17	\$ -	\$ 100.00
COUNTYLINE	\$ 624.51	\$ 300.15	\$ 191.00	\$ 100.00	\$ -	\$ 33.36
HEALDTON	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
IRON CHAPEL	\$ 2,312.00	\$ -	\$ 663.00	\$ 663.00	\$ 796.00	\$ 190.00
LAWTON	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
MIDWAY	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
STOBTOWN	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
TOTALS	\$ 6,891.80	\$ 638.27	\$ 3,334.00	\$ 1,800.17	\$ 796.00	\$ 323.36

BEGINNING BALANCE – MARCH 7, 2009 \$ 2,748.16

INCOME FROM CHURCHES \$ 6,891.80

SUBTOTAL \$ 9,639.96

EXPENSES

STATE CO-OP	\$ 638.27	
TSP MISSIONS	\$ 1,984.00	
TSP MISSIONS	WALK-A-THON \$ 1,350.00	CSFWB KIDS
HILLSDALE	\$ 1,800.17	
RAINBOW MINISTRIES	\$ 796.00	

LESS EXPENSES \$ (6,568.44)

ENDING BALANCE ON HAND – AUGUST 1, 2009 \$ 3,071.52

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>Hillsdale FWB College</u>	ON	<u>October 12 - 14, 2009</u>	
PERIOD OF TIME THIS REPORT COVERS	FROM	<u>August 2008</u>	TO	<u>August 2009</u>
PRESENT MODERATOR'S NAME	<u>PAUL UNDERWOOD</u>	PHONE	<u>(580) 229-1144</u>	
MAILING ADDRESS	<u>PO BOX 713</u>	CITY	<u>HEALDTON</u>	
STATE	<u>OKLAHOMA</u>	ZIP	<u>73438</u>	
DELEGATES	<u></u>		<u></u>	
	<u></u>		<u></u>	
	<u></u>		<u></u>	

A. CHURCH CHARACTERISTICS

1. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES	<u>7</u>
2. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES IN:	
CITY/TOWN	<u>2</u>
RURAL	<u>5</u>
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES REPORTING	<u>7</u>
4. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES WITH:	
FULL TIME PASTORS	<u>5</u>
BI-VOCATIONAL PASTORS	<u>2</u>

B. MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

1. TOTAL NUMBER OF BAPTISMS	<u>9</u>
2. TOTAL MEMBERS ADDED	<u>16</u>
3. TOTAL MEMBERS LOST	<u>7</u>
4. TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	<u>645</u>
(6 REPORTED)	

C. STEWARDSHIP INFORMATION

1. TOTAL INCOME OF ALL CHURCHES (5 REPORTED)	<u>\$ 183,020.61</u>
2. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES WITH BUDGETS	<u>0</u>

D. BUILDING INFORMATION

1. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES WITH PARSONAGES	<u>4</u>
2. TOTAL VALUE OF ALL CHURCH PROPERTY, INCLUDING PARSONAGES	<u>\$ 1,233,000.00</u>

E. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. TOTAL NUMBER OF ORDAINED MINISTERS*	<u>8</u>
LICENSED MINISTERS*	<u>3</u>
2. TOTAL NUMBER OF ORDAINED DEACONS	<u>19</u>
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF CHURCHES WITH:	
DAY CARES	<u>0</u>
KINDERGARTENS	<u>0</u>
CHRISTIAN DAY SCHOOLS	<u>0</u>
BIBLE INSTITUTES	<u>0</u>
COLLEGES	<u>0</u>

TOTAL ENROLLMENT:	<u>4</u>
4. SUNDAY SCHOOL	<u>329</u>
5. CTS	<u></u>
6. WNAC	<u>53</u>
7. MASTER'S MEN	<u>0</u>
(7 REPORTED)	

NUMBER OF STATE ASSOCIATION MINUTES REQUESTED	<u>18</u>
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SIGNED:	CLERK'S NAME	<u>Mary L. Head</u>	PHONE	<u>(580)444-2470</u>
	MAILING ADDRESS	<u>P. O. Box 143</u>		
	CITY	<u>Velma</u>	STATE	<u>OKLAHOMA</u>
			ZIP	<u>73491</u>

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

	<u>YEAR BEGINNING SEPTEMBER, 2008</u>	<u>YEAR ENDING SEPTEMBER, 2009</u>
LOCAL GROUPS		
NUMBER AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	3	3
NUMBER ADDED (COUNTRYSIDE)	0	0
NUMBER LOST	0	0
TOTAL GROUPS AT END OF YEAR	3	3
MEMBERSHIP		
NUMBER AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	32	30
MEMBERS ADDED	0	0
MEMBERS LOST	2	1
TOTAL MEMBERS AT END OF YEAR	30	29
MEMBERSHIP DUES PAID (\$15.00 NATIONAL)		\$ 435.00

2010 DELEGATE TO NATIONAL CONVENTION

NAME	RENEE' HENSON	ADDRESS	PO BOX 42
RHONE	(580) 252-1579	CITY / STATE / ZIP	VELMA, OK 73491

TREASURER'S REPORT

BEGINNING BALANCE AUGUST 31, 2008	\$ 162.80
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INCOME:

COUNTRYSIDE WAC	\$ 139.50	
LAWTON WAC	\$ 575.00	
MIDWAY WAC	\$ 139.50	
DISTRICT OFFERINGS	\$ 195.01	
TOTAL INCOME		\$ 1,049.01
SUBTOTAL		\$ 1,211.81

EXPENSES:

OWAC	MEMBERSHIP DUES (2008 - 18 @ \$15.25)	\$ 274.50
OWAC	MEMBERSHIP DUES (2009 - 10 @ \$15.25)	\$ 152.50
OWAC	SCHOLARSHIP FUND	\$ 25.00
OWAC	HOST FUND	\$ 75.00
OWAC	WNAC NATIONAL OFFICE - GENERAL FUND	\$ 50.00
OWAC	TSP	\$ 50.00
OWAC	HILLSDALE - STUDENT CENTER PROJECT	\$ 50.00
OWAC	HILLSDALE - HAVE A HEART	\$ 100.00
OWAC	SUNNY LANE FWB CHURCH - EARP FAMILY	
OWAC	MEDICAL BILLS	\$ 100.00
OWAC	PANAMA SEMINARY	\$ 25.00
OWAC	VILLALBA, SPAIN	\$ 70.00
OWAC	WNAC PROJECT - 20/20/20	\$ 79.00

LESS TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 1,051.00
ENDING BALANCE ON HAND - AUGUST 31, 2009	\$ 160.81

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. Report of Treasurer
11. Unfinished Business
12. New Business
13. Reports of Boards
14. Reports of Committees
15. Miscellaneous Business
16. 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 \$190.00 is to be sent to the Annual Session of this Association. (\$40.00 for printing of the minutes, \$50.00 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. All Treasurers' books are to be audited yearly on Friday night before the Saturday annual business meeting in August by the Executive Board.

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.

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" (I 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 - 2009

- 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 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, campground, 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 each 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 & 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.

2006 Motion carried to accept the recommendation from the Resolution Committee to revise the Cooperative giving of the Association to 90% to State Co-op & 20% to Association General Fund. This does not affect designated giving.

Motion carried to accept the recommendation from the Resolution Committee to change our Annual Meeting to the second weekend in August.

2007 Motion carried to accept the Executive Board guidelines as follows:

- a) The Resolution Committee should make suggestions but not dollar amounts.
- b) The Temperance Committee should have Spiritual recommendations as the Resolution is more physical.
- c) The Divine Committee should continue to do as they have in the past.
- d) No more than one person from each church should be on each committee. The Moderator and Assistant Moderator will choose these committees.

2008 Motion carried to receive the Resolution Committee recommendations to uphold the resolutions found in the 2005 Free Will Baptist Year Book pages 69-70 concerning same sex marriages.

2009 By Law # 11 amended: Treasurer's books are to be audited yearly on the Friday night before the Saturday Annual Business Meeting in August.

