

MINUTES

OF THE

Fifty-fifth Annual Session

OF THE

JASPER FREE WILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

Held With New Oak Grove Church
October 4th, 5th and 6th, 1941.

OFFICERS:

Rev. H. A. Pitts, Moderator
Rev. A. L. Warren, Ass't Moderator
Brandon Estes, Clerk



The next Session of this Association will convene with Gum Springs Church, near Brilliant, Alabama, on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1942. Rev. W. D. Martin to preach the Introductory Sermon.

PROCEEDINGS:

Of the 55th Annual Session of the Jasper Free Will Baptist Association, which convened with New Oak Grove Church, October 4th, 5th, and 6th, 1941.

The meeting opened by singing, "Kneel at the Cross," and prayer by Rev. Carl Miller. We then had devotional service, conducted by Rev. Quinton Bell. Rev. Grady Hudson then preached interesting discourse from St. John 6th chapter and 68th verse. We were then dismissed one hour for refreshments.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5.

Afternoon Service: 1. After song by choir and prayer by Rev. J. A. Godsey, the Moderator and Clerk being present, the body was called to business.

2. Roll call of standing delegates.

The names of churches were called, letters read and contents noted. as per statistical table.

The Moderator appointed Bro. Wade Fowler and Rev. H. A. Pitts as reading clerks.

NAMES OF CHURCHES AND DELEGATES.

Bethlehem—J. H. Estes, Rufus Evans, Kelley Franks.

Bear Creek—Lon Gunnibon, S. M. Lindsey.

Brilliant-Boston—A. P. Leonard, Bro. Clarence Myers and wife, Clyde Warren.

Calumet—Represented by contribution.

Free Waters—Loyd Franks, Willie Franks.

Good Springs—Chester Humphress, Vester Humphress, T. D. Humphress.

Gum Springs—Will Estes, George Benson, Perry Morgan.

Holly Springs—Rep. by letter and contribution.

Hopewell—J. R. Bell, Mary Ruth Wakefield, Myrtle Bell.

Lone Star—Hershel Parr, Verbel Keeton, Earley Roberts.

Liberty—C. T. Wilson.

Mt. Olive—W. S. Flippo, A. G. May, W. E. Atkinson, Azale Parr.

Mt. Pleasant—Rep. by letter and contribution.

New Pleasant Hill—Not represented.

New Oak Grove—Virgie Kilgore, Henry Ford Knight, J. M. Robinson.

Piney Ridge—D. A. Farley, L. M. Farley, Leona Key.

Pocahontas—Rep. by letter and contribution.

Poplar Log—Hutson Burleson, W. B. Wiginton, W. C. Jones.

Red Bay—T. M. Keeton, H. S. Keeton, Savannah Gaddis.

Spring Hill—Jessie Hopson, Roxie Henson, Minnie Bevis.

Shady Grove—Ed Hill, E. R. McDuffie, J. T. Mashbern.

Union Chapel—Gus Eads, Elmer Reed.

Union Hill—Burl Chambers, Orbin Langston.

Union Ridge—E. R. Bostic, George Tharp.

5. Called for petitionary letters. Received none.

6. Moved, seconded and carried, that all delegates be seated.

7. Moved, seconded and carried, that the body be organized, which was done by electing Rev. H. A. Pitts moderator and Brandon Estes clerk.

8. Called for corresponding delegates. Received as follows:

Morning Star—Rev. V. Burkett.

Vernon—Rev. J. S. Fredrick, Rev. S. F. Lee, Bro. C. Roberts, and C. Fuller.

Bear Creek—Bro. Ben Wilcut.

Missionary Baptist—Clyde Lathan.

Nazerine—Rev. Monroe Martin.

Methodist—Bro. Albert Martin.

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

On Preaching.

E. R. McDuffie, P. A. Morgan, Clarence Myers, with Deacons of New Oak Grove church.

On Documents and Order of Business.

Revs. P. T. Keeton, W. D. Martin, B. M. Atkins, with moderator and clerk.

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Revs. J. S. Fredrick, M. T. Shirley, John Miller.

Literature—Bro. D. A. Farley, Rev. I. D. Nix, Bro. Hershel Parr.

Deceased Ministers and Members.

Rev. Quinton Bell, Bro. C. T. Wilson, Bro. Clarence Myers.

Resolutions—Bro. Kelley Franks, Jessie Hopson, Hutson Burleson.

Education—Bro. Clyde Warren, J. H. Estes, Rufus Evans.

Home Missions—Sister Roxie Henson, Rev. Carl Miller, Bro. A. G. May.

Temperance—Henry Ford Knight, J. B. Keeton, M. E. Atkinson.

Finance—Virgil Kilgore, B. C. Chism, Booker Wiginton.

Examining Committee—Revs. J. H. Potts, B. M. Atkins, P. T. Keeton.

10. Report on Preaching:

Rev. J. S. Fredrick, Saturday night.

Rev. W. C. Rayburn, Sunday, 9:00 A. M.

Rev. H. A. Pitts, Sunday, 11:00 A. M.

Rev. A. L. Warren, Sunday night.

Rev. Harvy Key, Monday, 11:00 A. M.

E. R. McDuffie, Chairman.

Report received and committee discharged.

11. Call names of churches and consign delegates to their places of stay for the session.

12. Moved, seconded and carried that the business of this body be suspended until Monday, 8:00 A. M.

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE.

After singing by choir and several good prayers and testimonies Rev. J. S. Fredrick preached an able discourse from the 3rd chapter and 21st verse of Ephesians.

SUNDAY SERVICE.

At 9:00 A. M. Rev. W. C. Rayburn preached an interesting sermon from St. John 3d chapter 16 verse.

Instead of having Sunday School at 10:30 A. M., Bro. Brandon Estes gave a short lecture.

At 11:00 A. M. Rev. Pitts preached a fine sermon from 2nd Chronicles, 7th chapter, 14th verse.

Sunday afternoon a large number of delegates and ministers visited the sick bed of Bro. Archie Keeton, a Deacon of New Oak Grove Church. After several good songs and prayers Rev. J. H. Potts delivered a fine, enjoyable sermon.

SUNDAY NIGHT SERVICE.

After one hour of singing and 30 minutes of testimonies and prayers, Rev. A. L. Warren preached a very interesting sermon from St. Luke, 6th chapter and 46th verse. We then had an interesting Lord's Supper, followed by the humble service of foot washing, in which 78 people took part. Everybody seemed to enjoy all services. Let us pray that when we go home we will have services like these throughout the year.

MONDAY MORNING SERVICE.

After singing by choir and prayer by Rev. A. L. Warren, the roll was called. The Moderator then declared a quorum present and the body ready for business.

1. Minutes of Saturday read and approved as read.
2. Alternate delegates seated in places where needed.
3. The committees then went to work, while the rest of the body had a devotional service.

Call for Report of Committees:

ON ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. We recommend that this Association meet on Saturday before the first Sunday in October, 1942.
2. We recommend that the Moderator be paid \$5.00 and the Clerk \$10 out of the associational fund.
3. We recommend that W. D. Martin preach the introductory sermon in 1942.
4. We find only Gum Springs asking for the associations'. We recommend that they have it.
5. We recommend that the association pay for printing the form of church letters sent to the churches each year.
6. We recommend that we have 100 certificates of ordination printed.
7. We recommend the form of church conference attached to the minutes.
8. We recommend that each minister make or send a report to the association.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. H. A. Pitts, moderator.
Brandon Estes, clerk.

Report received and adopted by sections. Committee discharged.

ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

We, your committee on Sabbath Schools, find one church without a Sunday school. We find 22 having a Sunday School.

We recommend that each pastor take more interest in Sunday school.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. J. S. Fredrick, Chairman.

Report received and committee discharged.

ON LITERATURE.

We, your committee on Literature report as follows: We recommend that our churches study the Bible with a prayerful heart in both home and Sunday School.

We recommend the use of the Free Will Baptist literature in our Sunday Schools.

We recommend that each teacher get a teacher's book for each class.

We recommend that Christian literature be placed in the homes for our children to read instead of story books and magazines.

We recommend that each Sunday School have a program which might influence our young people.

T. D. Nix, Chairman.

Report received and committee discharged.

ON DECEASED MINISTERS AND MEMBERS.

We find that the Lord has called from our midst the following.

From Red Bay—Bro. John Sharp died May 27, 1941, aged 84 years.

From Bear Creek—Bro. Hope Coak, aged 72 years.

From Union Hill—Sister Zell Mitchell, age 90 years. Bro. John Smith,

From Pocahontas—Bro. Bill Wakefield.

From New Oak Grove—Sister Martha Jane Noles, age 86 years.
Sister Malissa Mote, age 81. Bro. J. H. Martin.

From Mt. Olive—Bro. Carol Reed, age 89. Marshall Oliver Maddox, age 17.

From Lone Star—Sister Willie Rorhad, age 70 years.

Holly Springs—Sister Willie Mae Lay, age 21 years.

Gum Springs—Sister K. A. Glasco, age 100 years, Sister Loney Doss, age 47 years.

Good Springs—Sister Nan Creekmore, age 65.

Free Waters—Bro. Dewie Franks.

Brilliant-Boston—Bro. Ross Kimbell.

New Pleasant Hill—Rev. J. F. Broadrick.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Quinton Bell, Chairman.

REPORT RECEIVED AND COMMITTEE DISCHARGED.

ON EDUCATION.

We, your committee on Education, report as follows:

Christ says, in His Word, to search the scriptures. We understand the scriptures to be the Bible. We call your attention to this Scripture, "Show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

We recommend that we read and teach our children to read and study our church paper and literature, instead of love story magazines.

We recommend a Bible education for children, along with their other studies.

Respectfully submitted,

Clyde Warren.

Report received and committee discharged.

ON RESOLUTIONS.

We, your committee on resolutions, report as follows:

We tender our thanks to the New Oak Grove Church and community for their kindness and cooperation in attendance, prayer and fellowship. We thank our officers of this association for their faithful service. We further tender our thanks to the ministers for the Gospel messages they have preached. Also, to the good Brothers and Sisters for their inspiring songs. It was food to our soul to hear these good songs and messages.

We thank the Brothers and Sisters for their services rendered at the piano.

May we all pray for one another and work faithfully to make the best better.

Kelly C. Franks, Chairman.

Report received and committee discharged.

ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your committee on temperance:

Be it resolved that this body use its influence in every possible way to promote a total abstinence of the use of every form of narcotics; that we use our influence to uphold the 18th Amendment, and to bring back a land of prohibition. Let us use our influence to spread the evils of liquor and other

narcotics. May we be fully aware of the damnation that whisky and strong drink has brought to other nations who have indulged in it. Let us pray for victory against practices that will lead to prostitution and disgrace. Let us pray that God will make a Christian nation out of good old America.

Henry Ford Knight, Chairman.

Report received and committee discharged.

OUR HOME MISSION.

We, your committee on home missions report as follows:

We recommend that each member of the church do everything for the upbuilding of the Sunday School. That each home have family prayer.

That each member be in harmony with each other.

That every member read the Bible and go according to it.

Carl Miller, Chairman.

Report received and committee discharged.

ON MINISTERIAL CHARACTER.

We, your committee on ministerial character find all our ministers in good standing and at peace one with another.

We ask each church to stand by their pastors and assist them in our Lord's work.

W. H. May, Chairman.

W. C. Pearce, W. C. Lacy, Lee A. Nix, J. A. Underwood,

Report received and committee retained.

EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

We, your committee of the examination of Brother Quinton Bell and Brother Carl Miller, now proceeded with the examination carefully and recommend their ordination.

Rev. J. H. Potts, Rev. B. M. Atkins, Rev. P. T. Keeton.

Report received and committee discharged.

By a move and second we adjourned one hour while Rev. Harry Key preached a fine sermon on the Rich Man and Lazarus. We were then dismissed one hour for refreshments.

MONDAY AFTERNOON SERVICE.

After song and prayer by Rev. Benson it was moved and seconded that Bro. Carl Miller and Rev. Quinton Bell be ordained, which was done by the ordaining council—Rev. J. S. Fredrick, Rev. Roy Benson and Rev. A. L. Warren.

SECRETARY-TREASURERS REPORT.

Left in my hands from 1939 and 1940 Fund	\$ 3.50
Minutes Fund, 1941	38.87
Associational Fund 1941	13.30
Collection to buy a seal	7.35
Total in my hands October 6, 1941	63.02
Paid out, October, 1941	
To H. A. Pitts	5.00
To Brandon Estes	10.00
For letter forms	1.50
Total paid out Oct. 1940	16.50
Left in my hands for printing minutes and buying a seal	46.52

Respectfully submitted,
Brandon Estes, Sec'y-Treasurer.

NAMES OF MINISTERS.

Atkins, B. M., Rt. 3, Winfield, Alabama.
Bell, Quinton.
Benson, J. R., Nauvoo, Alabama.

Benson, J. W., Nauvoo, Alabama, Rt. 1.
Benson, Roy, Brilliant, Alabama.
Brasseal, J. L., Winfield, Alabama, Rt. 3.
Brooks, R. S., Hackleburg, Alabama.
Conner, J. L., California.
Daniels, J. Jasper, Alabama.
Flippo, G. W., Rt. 2, Guin, Alabama.
Ford, J. R., Rt. 2, Hackleburg, Alabama.
Franks, E. R., Rt. 2, Guin, Alabama.
Flippo, J. A., Haleyville, Alabama.
Godsey, J. A., Hamilton, Alabama.
Gardner, O. S., Hackleburg, Alabama.
Hudson, Grady, Hackleburg, Alabama.
Jones, J. O., Phil Campbell, Alabama.
Keeton, P. T. Belmont, Mississippi, Rt. 3.
Martin, W. D., Rt. 2, Guin, Alabama.
Miller, John, Rt. 3, Nauvoo, Alabama.
Miller, Carl, Rt. 3, Nauvoo, Alabama.
Nix, I. D., Rt. 1, Nauvoo, Alabama.
Parker, G. O., Rt. 3, Fulton, Mississippi.
Page, E. L., Pocahontas.
Pitts, H. A., Tremont, Mississippi, Rt. 3.
Potts, J. H., Pell City, Alabama.
Raburn, W. C., Hackleburg, Alabama.
Shirley, M. T., Guin, Alabama.
Springfield, E. B., Townley, Alabama.
Wesley, J. J., Guin, Alabama.
Warren, A. L., Brilliant, Alabama.
Yielding, Nathan, Hackleburg, Alabama.

LICENTATE MINISTERS.

Chism, B. C., Tremont, Miss., Rt. 1.
Key, Harvy, Arley, Alabama.
Key, Harvey, Arley, Alabama.

DECEASED MINISTERS.

Broaderick, J. F.	McVey, J. P.
Benson, W. B.	Nix, R. A.
Black, T. F.	Nickols, L. L.
Boughn, G. P.	Newman, W. R.
Bagbee, R. W.	Nelson, W. A.
Birdshow, J. H.	Owen, T. A.
Cochran, J. E.	Parks, E. G.
Collier, J.	Perkins, S. M.
Camp, T. M.	Phillips, C.
Cook, J.	Reese, F. C.
Crumbia, P. W. A.	Ramsey, S. B.
Dickson, F. M.	Springfield, T. J.
Dubois, Porter	Swindle, T. P.
Elliott, G. C.	Tingle, W. S.
Fowler, H. B.	Tomlin, R. H.
Flippo, R. C.	Turner, G. W.
Grace, J. A.	Thomas, C. C.
Griffin, T. T.	Ursy, James
Hulsey, J. R.	Vickery, P. V.
Haney, G. B.	Venson, W. G.
Holliday, J. R.	White, J. B.
Ingram, W. H.	Walker, T. L.
Jeffers, J.	Williams, J. R.
Johnson, J. A.	
Key, A. L.	
Lawler, A. R.	

These men are gone to be with

Martin, M. R.
McCombs, W. C.
McHaffey, E. M.

God.
Listed by W. D. Martin.

REPORT OF FIELD WORKER, 1941.

Pastored four churches.
Visited several churches and organized 6 Ladies' Aid Societies—4
Young People's Leagues—five Sabbath Schools, and officiated at 17 funerals.

Respectfully submitted,
A. L. Warren, Field Worker.

SUNDAY SCHOOL RALLY REPORT.

We met at Free Waters. The following churches gave a program:

Bethlehem,
Free Waters,
Union Hill,

We meet the second Sunday in April, 1942, with Bethlehem.

W. D. Martin, Chairman.
Brandon Estes, Secretary.

By a move, the Moderator appointed delegates to sister associations as follows:

State Line—W. C. Rayburn, W. D. Martin, P. T. Keeton, Vernon; A. L. Warren, John Miller, I. D. Nix.

Morning Star—B. M. Atkins, W. D. Martin.

Bear Creek—I. D. Nix, J. W. Benson, Progressive; A. L. Warren, State Conference; B. M. Atkins, I. D. Nix.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

1. By a move, the clerk was given power to buy a seal.
2. Be it resolved that any minister of the Jasper Free Will Baptist Association who desires to set forth the full functions of the Gospel, the same shall be made known to the Association by recommendation from the church or churches to which they belong. If upon examination they are found worthy the Association may ordain them, but all ordinations must be done at the annual Association.
3. By motion the Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum were ordered appended to our minutes.
4. By motion the Association adjourned to meet at the above named place, after which there was singing by the choir and the parting hands were taken amid tears and joy.
5. Be it resolved that we will not accept the baptism of any unordained minister.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

Art. 1. We believe there is one and but one living, true God, who is in personality the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, equal and harmonious in every divine perfection. 1st Timothy 2-5.

Art. 2. We believe that God is the author of the Holy Bible, and that its teachings construe the only infallible doctrine of the government of His church. 2 Timothy 3-16.

Art. 3. We believe that Adam was created holy, but by voluntary transgression fell into depravity, and consequently involved his posterity in sin. Genesis 3-6.

Art. 4. We believe that the grace of God comprehends all spiritual blessings; that the Gospel is the power unto salvation; that the Holy Spirit not only reproves the world of sin, but is the means whereby sinners are converted, regenerated and saved. Romans 10-12.

Art. 5. We believe that Christian faith is belief in Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Redeemer of the world, and in the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures, that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. John 3-36.

Art. 6. We believe that repentance is sorrow for sin and the kind of sorrow which constitutes Godly repentance must be preceded by effectual conviction for sin. 2 Cor. 7-9-10.

Art. 7. We believe that the human will is free, and that man has ability to accept or reject the conditions of salvation as they are revealed in the Holy Scriptures. Micha 4-6-8.

Art. 8. We do not believe under the gospel dispensation that any soul is elected to eternal life unconditionally, but that those who by faith persevere to the end will be saved; that it is possible for men who have been converted to make shipwreck of faith, turn again to sin and be finally lost. Luke 9-62.

Art. 9. We believe that good works is the result of faith, and that those who have faith will do works of righteousness, while those who have no faith do anything pleasing or acceptable to God. Matt. 7, 19-20.

Art. 10. We believe that Christian baptism is in the immersion of a believer in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, that baptism cannot be spiritually administered without faith in the subject who receives it. Rom. 6-4.

Art. 11. We believe the Supper instituted by our Savior is a commendable ordinance; that it was instituted by Christians and that all Christians unite in observing the sacred service, regardless of name or denominational distinction. 1 Cor. 11, 18-29.

Art. 12. We believe that man is a living soul; that the body will die, but that the soul is immortal; that death is the separation of the mortal and immortal parts of human beings. Genesis 2-7.

Art. 13. We believe in the resurrection of the dead. When the Resurrection shall take place the soul and body will reunite and form an immortal being, that the righteous will be received into a state of everlasting happiness to reign with God forever and ever, but the wicked will be bound hand and foot and cast into outer darkness. The wicked are driven away in their wickedness, but the righteous have hope in their death. John 5, 28-29.

CONSTITUTION.

1. This Association shall be known as the Jasper Free Will Baptist Association of Alabama, and being composed of Ministers and Delegates from the different churches forming the same, each church being entitled to three (3) delegates.

2. This body shall be considered an advisory council.

3. All questions of doctrine and matters of general interest shall be decided by two-thirds vote of the Association, and the decision shall be final.

4. The officers of the Association shall be a Moderator and Clerk-Treasurer, who shall be chosen by a majority vote at each session of the Association.

5. The Association shall meet annually at such time and place as may be agreed upon by previous Annual Session, and shall not adjourn finally until all business is transacted.

6. Churches wishing to become members of this Association must adopt its Articles of Faith, and conform to its usages.

7. We agree, as Churches of this Association, to use our best influence to promote the interest of all moral and benevolent institutions, such as Temperance Cause, Sunday School, Missionary Work, etc.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. This Association shall be called to order by the Moderator who presided at the last session, the former Clerk also officiating until the body is fully organized.

2. The Association shall be opened and closed by singing and prayer.

3. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by ballot at each session of the Association. A majority of votes by delegates present elects.

4. The names of delegates from the different churches shall be enrolled and called for as often as necessary during the session.

5. A majority of delegates shall rule in all cases except the reception

of members; then it shall be unanimous.

6. The Moderator shall not be entitled to vote except in case of a tie, and then he shall give the deciding vote. He shall be entitled to speak on any question after others have spoken, provided he appoints some one to the chair while he is speaking.

7. Only one person shall speak at the time and he shall arise and address the Moderator, and after recognition by the Moderator he shall proceed.

8. No brother shall be interrupted while speaking unless he shall depart from the subject under discussion or use words of personal reflection.

9. No person will be allowed to speak more than twice on the same subject without leave of the Association—nor more than 15 minutes at a time.

10. No person shall laugh or talk while the debate is going on.

11. No person shall absent himself from the Association without leave of the Moderator.

FORM OF CHURCH CONFERENCE.

State of Alabama; _____ County.

We, the Free Will Baptist Church of Christ at _____

after divine service by Rev. _____, met in Conference.

Opened doors of church for Reception of Members.

2. We invite visiting brethren and sisters to seats with us.

3. Call for reading of Minutes of Last Conference. Minutes read

and _____.

4. Call for Peace and Fellowship of the Church. Church _____

5. Call for General Business of the Church.

6. On motion for adjournment, Rev. _____,

Moderator; Bro. _____, Clerk.

With singing, handshaking and tears, we adjourned, to meet one year hence with Gum Springs Church.

Rev. H. A. Pitts, Moderator,
Brandon Estes, Clerk.