

Minutes

of the

JOHN THOMAS
ASSOCIATION

of

Freewill Baptists

STATE OF VIRGINIA

TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION

Held With

Burdine Church

BURDINE, KY.

September 7-10, 1950

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Officers

Officers of The John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists, which convened with the Burdine Church at Burdine, Ky., September, 7-10, 1950:

ALBERT DINGUS, Jenkins, Ky. _____ Moderator
MONROE HUBBARD, Wise, Va. _____ Assistant Moderator
EVERETT JOHNSON, Clinchco, Va., Box 138 _____ Clerk
TED BISE, Millard, Va. _____ Treasurer

Ordaining Councils

DICKENSON COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

E. C. KISER, *Chairman* _____ Stratton, Va.
W. R. BISE _____ Millard, Va.
EMORY VANOVER _____ Clintwood, Va.

LETCHER COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

ALBERT DINGUS, *Chairman* _____ Jenkins, Ky.
C. W. ISOM _____ Burdine, Ky.
L. D. MAHAN _____ Payne Gap, Ky.

NEW DRUM QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

J. C. RASNAKE, *Chairman* Box 176, Rt. 2 _____ Cleveland, Va.
W. E. RASNAKE _____ Council, Va.
HARLEY DYE _____ Swords Creek, Va.

VISITING MINISTERS

B. R. POWERS _____ Southwest Va. Association
TED GREEN _____ Kentucky State Association
HARLAN KENDRICKS _____ Johnson County Conference

CORRESPONDING MESSENGERS

COSSIE MEADE _____ Southwest Va., Association

Proceedings

The Twenty-eighth Annual Session of the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists was held with the Burdine Church, Burdine, Ky., September 7-10, 1950.

Introductory message was delivered by the pastor of the Burdine Church, Bro. Albert Dingus and concluded by Bro. Ben Powers. Bro. Charlie Isom reading for a lesson the 31st Psalm. Bro. Dingus using for a text, "The Angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that fear Him, and delivereth them."

Prayer by Bro. Monroe Hubbard.

THURSDAY EVENING SESSION 2:00 P.M.

Conference opened with singing. Clerk having charge of conference read for lesson seven verses of the 6th chapter of Jeremiah. Prayer by Bro. Alva Dingus. Clerk declaring conference open for such lawful business that might come before it. The first item was enrolling of delegates, ministers, visiting ministers and corresponding messengers.

DELEGATES FROM LETCHER COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

Lena McPeaks	Nettie Parks	Eliza Mahan
Mrs. Everett Potter	Mary Elkins	Jack Bartly

NO DELEGATES WERE PRESENT FROM THE NEW DRUM CONFERENCE

DELEGATES FROM DICKENSON COUNTY QUARTERLY CONFERENCE

Mr. and Mrs. Emory Dingus	Mr. and Mrs. Hobart Sturgill	
Mr. and Mrs. Gaines Vanover	Mr. and Mrs. Charlie Meade	
Mr. and Mrs. Mertia Boggs	Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Stroth	
Mr. and Mrs. Barney Collins		
Jess Ring	John Meade	O. A. Kiser
Arnold Gouge	Chas. Sexton	Lee Hill
Birk Ratliff	Clarice Rowlette	Ralph Hill
Gladys Holbrook	Mrs. Everett Johnson	Raniel Withrow
Ethel Horton	Mrs. E. A. Reedy	Roy Edwards

MINISTERS FROM LETCHER COUNTY CONFERENCE

Everett Potter
Monroe Hubbard
Donald Sexton
Alva Dingus

L. D. Mahan
Hubert Hill
Albert Dingus
Howard Bailly

Percy Elkins
C. W. Isom
Ersel McPeaks
Ezra Johnson

NO MINISTERS WERE PRESENT FROM THE NEW DRUM CONFERENCE

MINISTERS FROM DICKENSON COUNTY CONFERENCE

A. N. Kiser
Lonzo Edwards
Vernon Kiser

Clyde Reedy
Luther Taylor
Emory Vanover

Henry Smith
Asa Hughes

This work being finished, clerk proceeded by electing a moderator for the Association. By move and second of the Association Bro. Albert Dingus was elected Moderator. Moderator taking charge of conference called for minutes of last Association. These were read and stood approved.

Next was electing of clerk and treasurer for the Association. By move and second the Association voted to retain Everett Johnson as Clerk and Ted Bise as Treasurer.

Conference gave moderator power to appoint such committees as might be needed by the Association. He appointed a pulpit Committee as follows:

Mrs. E. A. Reedy, *Chairman*
Gaines Vanover
Bonnie Pritchard

Moderator called for reports from messengers that had visited other Associations. Alva Dingus gave a report from The Southwest Va. Association. He reported a hearty welcome was given him and there was a good Spirit among the people. This report was accepted and passed by the Association.

Bro. Ted Green gave an oral report from the Floyd County Conference. This report was accepted and passed by the Association.

By move and second conference adjourned 'till 9:30 a.m. Friday morning.

THURSDAY EVENING PREACHING SERVICE 3:30 P.M.

Committee appointed L. D. Mahan and Ted Green for the evening service. Bro. Mahan reading for lesson the 3rd chapter of Philippians.

Prayer by Sister Everett Johnson, Bro. Mahan using for text, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

THURSDAY NIGHT PREACHING SERVICE 8:00 P.M.

Committee appointed Alva Dingus and C. W. Isom for the night service. Bro. Albert Dingus reading 19 verses of the 3rd chapter of St. John. Prayer by Aunt Mary Powers. Bro. Dingus using for text, "The wages of sin is Death, but the gift of God is eternal Life."

FRIDAY MORNING SESSION 9:30 A.M.

Conference opened with singing. Moderator being absent, clerk read for lesson, 15 verses of the 11th chapter of Hebrews. Prayer by Vernon Kiser. Ass't. Moderator taking charge proceeded with the conference by calling for such lawful business that might come before the Association. The first item was enrolling of delegates, ministers, visiting ministers and corresponding messengers.

Next was calling for letters from various conferences. Letcher County responded with a letter as follows:

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists,
Greetings:

The Letcher County Conference met with the Happy Church from the 26th - 27th of August, 1950, and appointed the following delegates to the Association.

Lester Smith
Roy Wells
Dewy Cole
Joline Wyatt
Woodrow Wilson
Geneva Butler
Eliza Mahan
Charlene Hall
Goldie Flanrey
Betty Elkins
Ted Wooten
Nola Short
Oda Mullins
Darvin Mullins
Zelma Loveday

Perry Wright
Jess Melton
Ruby Skeens
God Sertor
Claude Davis
Bessie Cornet
Margaret Caudill
Crate Mullins
Sarah Potter
Mary Wright
Blaine Milton
Madoma Cantrill
Edna Witt
Edward Delph
Hattie Amburgy

Fred Minks
Catherine Davis
Lena McPeaks
John Freeman
Joyce Milton
Grace Moore
W. R. Byrd
Elmer Daniels
J. E. Hood
W. M. Wyatt
Nora Banks
Patsy Killin
Jack Bartley
Rose Flanery

Our Standing is as follows:

Number of Churches	17
Number of Members	946
Number of Ordained Ministers	28
Number Licentiates	7
Number Sunday Schools	18
Average Attendance	1400
Value of Church Property	\$45,000.00

Done by order of The Letcher County Conference while in regular session with the Happy Church August 26th-28th, 1950.

C. W. Isom *Moderator*
Johnny Sykes *Clerk*

This letter was read, passed and accepted to be recorded in the minutes.

Next was calling for Dickenson County's letter. Their letter was as follows:

To The John Thomas Association when convened with the Burdine Church, Burdine, Ky., September 7-10, 1950.

Greetings:

We, the Dickenson County Conference met with the Hill Ridge Church on Friday before the 4th Sunday in July, 1950, and organized by electing C. E. Reedy, Moderator; W. R. Bise, Ass't. Moderator; and Clinton Lambert, N. H. Stanley as Clerks.

The following Delegates were from their respective Churches:

Clinchco Church	Mrs. Rudd Patton, Hobart Johnson, Ethel Horton, Frank Colley
Counts Chapel	Alfred Green, Walter Puckett, Bill Rose
Cold Spring	Neva McCoy, Mrs. Brownlow Grizzel
Davis Chapel	Marella Davis, Francis Dotson, Della Mullins
Duncan Gap	Roy and Folley Hamilton Ervin and Bonnie Hall
Dyers Chapel	Mrs. J. D. Nicewonder, Bill Hale, Gertrude Morgan
Fleming Town	Luke Wright
Ferby Church	Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Meade, Alfred Collins, Mr. and Mrs. John Meade, Edna Sturgill
Georges Fork	Alva and Maggie Mullins

Our standing is as follows:	
Number of Churches	28
Number of Members	1587
Number of Sunday Schools	23
Number Enrolled in Sunday Schools	1461
Youths League	1
Number Ordained Ministers	31
Number Licentiates	4
Value of Church Property	\$33,100.00

C. E. Reedy	Moderator
W. R. Bise	Ass't. Moderator
N. H. Stanley	Clerk
Clinton Lambert	Clerk

(7)

New Drum being absent at this time, their letter was carried over until the evening session.

Conference adjourned until 2 p.m. Friday evening.

FRIDAY MORNING PREACHING SERVICE 11:00 A.M.

Committee appointed Monroe Hubbard and Vernon Kiser for this hour of service. Bro. Hubbard read for lesson the 17th chapter of John. Prayer by Sister Vanover. Bro. Hubbard used for Text, "Blessed are they that do His Commandments that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city."

FRIDAY EVENING SESSION 2:00 P.M.

Conference opened with singing. Moderator having charge read for lesson the 14th Chapter of Hebrews. Prayer by Duran Hibbitts.

Moderator continued with conference by calling for delegates, ministers, visiting ministers and corresponding messengers.

He then called for volunteers to visit other Associations at their respective meetings. They were as follows:

KENTUCKY STATE ASSOCIATION

Convenes on Friday before the 3rd Saturday in June, 1951.

Monroe Hubbard
Albert Dingus

C. W. Isom
Howard Bailey

L. D. Mahan
Donald Sexton

CLINCH VALLEY ASSOCIATION

Convenes on Friday before 2nd Sunday in August, 1951.

L. D. Mahan
Donald Sexton

Howard Bailey
C. W. Isom

Monroe Hubbard
Everett Potter

SOUTH WEST VA. ASSOCIATION

Convenes on Friday before 3rd Sunday in May, at Bandy, Va.

Vernon Kiser
Mrs. Mae Vanover

Mrs. E. A. Reedy
Mr. and Mrs. Everett Johnson

C. W. Isom

SANDY VALLEY ASSOCIATION

Cossie Meade
Alva Dingus

C. W. Isom
Monroe Hubbard

Vernon Kiser
Albert Dingus
L. D. Mahan

Next item of business was questioning different conferences on the number of minutes each one needed. Their reports are as follows:

Letcher County Conference	500
Dickenson County Conference	675
New Drum (not present)	
Giving them the same number as of last year	325
Total	1500

By move and second it was voted to have the same number of minutes printed as of last year.

By move and second conference adjourned until 9:30 a.m. Saturday morning.

FRIDAY EVENING PREACHING SERVICE 3:30 P.M.

Committee appointed Everett Potter and Howard Bailey for this hour of service. Bro. Bailey reading for a lesson 10 verses of the 14th Chapter of John. Prayer by Donald Sexton and Mable Wright. Bro. Bailey used for text the 3rd verse of lesson read.

FRIDAY NIGHT PREACHING SERVICE 8:00 P.M.

Committee appointed Donald Sexton and Clyde Huff for this hour of service. Reading for lesson a part of the 5th chapter of 2nd Kings. Prayer by Bro. Winchell. Bro. Huff using for text, "If any man will be my disciple let him deny himself and pick up my cross and follow me."

SATURDAY MORNING SESSION 9:30 A.M.

Moderator having charge of conference read for lesson 8 verses of the 14th chapter of John. Prayer by Bro. Asa Hughes.

Moderator declared conference open for any lawful business that might come before it. Calling for any unfinished business was the first item that was brought up. New Drum Conference still being absent, the conference gave the clerk power to put their letter in the minutes when received. They also gave the clerk power to draw on the treasurer to pay for the minutes. This finished the business for this hour, at which time the conference adjourned until 2 p.m. Saturday evening.

SATURDAY MORNING PREACHING SERVICE 11:00 A.M.

The committee appointed Clyde Reedy, Lonzo Edwards and Henry Smith for this hour of service. Bro. Reedy read-

ing for a lesson 23 verses of the 2nd chapter of Philippians. Prayer by Bro. Emory Vanover. Bro. Reedy used for text the 8th and 9th verse of the lesson read.

SATURDAY EVENING SESSION 2:00 P.M.

Conference opened with singing. Moderator having charge read for a lesson the 12th Chapter of Romans. Prayer by Sister Ethel Reedy. Moderator declared conference open for any lawful business that might come before the conference. The first item was hearing from the executive board. They reported the next Association would convene with the Pewther Chapel Church, Millard, Va., on Thursday before the second Sunday in September, 1951, unless called together by the Moderator.

By a move and second, conference granted the clerk power to have official stationery printed for use in the Association, and to draw on the treasurer to pay for same.

This bringing to a close the work of the Association, it was regular moved and seconded to adjourn this conference until Thursday before the second Sunday in September, 1951, when it will reconvene with the Pewther Chapel Church at Millard, Va., unless called together by the Moderator.

WORK OF THE MINISTERS CONFERENCE

Clerk having charge of the work, proceeded by organizing the ministers conference. Conference voted to retain the same Moderator and Clerk for the Ministers Conference.

Moderator then called for letters from the different Ministers Conference. Letcher County responded with a letter as follows:

The Letcher County Ministers Conference was called to order by G. W. Isom, Moderator. The following Ministers were present:

Everett Potter
C. W. Isom
Ersel McPeaks
Robert Madden
Persey Elkins
Charlie Graham
Frank Delph
Joe Banks
Ezra Johnson

Albert Dingus
D. D. Moore
Monroe Hubbard
John Akers
Clyde Huff
Roscoe McCloud
Forest Beverly
Wesly Thomas
Emory Vanover

Alva Dingus
L. D. Mahan
James Wright
Hubert Hill
Hobart Spriggs
Henry Don Vest
Hilt Taylor
F. M. Rose
Jessie Hale

Licentiates

R. H. Brewer
Billy Ray Elkins

Donald Sexton
Johnnie Stoffer
Darwin Mullins

Howard Bailey
Johnny Skeens

These ministers were passed on as good, four were dismissed from the Ministers Conference; namely, Bobby Dingus, V. C. Manis, H. L. Cook and C. C. Flanary.

C. W. Isom _____ *Moderator*
Johnny Sykes _____ *Clerk*

This letter was accepted and passed as read, to be put in minutes.

Next was the reading of Dickenson County's letter from the Ministers Conference.

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists when convened with the Burdine Church at Burdine, Ky.
Greetings:

We, the Dickenson County Conference met with the Hill Ridge Church on Saturday before the fourth Sunday in July, 1950, and organized by electing W. R. Bise, Moderator, and Clinton Lambert, Clerk.

The following Ministers were present:

W. R. Bise	George Mooney	B. L. Grizzle
Ervin Hall	Emory Estep	C. E. Reedy
Maston Rose	Vernon Kiser	J. W. Rose
Lonzo Edwards	Henry Smith	Cecil Ramey
E. C. Kiser	Emory Vanover	Casper Lane
Dave Kennedy	Quenten Keith	Fred Taylor
E. M. Rose	L. D. Coleman	

The following Ministers were absent:

J. E. Cox	S. P. Davis	A. N. Kiser
Monroe Mullins	Troy Robinson	Luther Taylor
Willard Kiser	Asa Hughes	Floyd Hill
Eddie Rose	Bill Willis	Talt Wolford
Kermit Deel	Floyd Cantrell	Alex Tompkins
Creed Stanley	Walter Hughes	

The following Ministers were dropped from the Ministers Conference for failure to obey rules Nos. 4 and 5 of the "By-Laws of the Ministers Conference."

Floyd Cantrell Floyd Hill J. E. Cox Creed Stanley

All other ministers names were called and their characters were passed as good.

By move and second Alva Dingus was received into the Dickenson County Ministers Conference.

This finished the work of the Dickenson County Ministers Conference.

Done by order of the Dickenson County Ministers Conference while in regular session with the Hill Ridge Church on July 22, 1950.

W. R. Bise _____ Moderator
Clinton Lambert _____ Clerk

This letter was read and accepted to be recorded in the minutes. The work of the Ministers Conference being over, with the exception of New Drum's letter, the clerk being given power to include their letter in the minutes when received, conference adjourned until Saturday before the second Sunday in September, 1951, unless called together by the Moderators, when it will reconvene with the Pewther's Chapel Church, Millard, Va.

LETTERS RECEIVED FROM THE NEW DRUM CONFERENCE BY MAIL

To the John Thomas Association of Freewill Baptists when convened with the Burdine Church, Burdine, Ky.

Greetings:

We, the Russell County New Drum Conference, met with the Ephesus Church, Swords Creek, Va., on the 11th-13th of August, 1950, and organized by electing J. C. Rasnake, Moderator, and Faye Rasnake as Clerk.

The following delegates were appointed to attend the Association:

I. F. Stevens
Ruth Dye
Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Whited
Eula Newberry
Walter Whited
M. F. Hess
Mr. and Mrs. Bernnie Perkins
Mr. and Mrs. Ruben Harris
Mr. and Mrs. Kacey Blankenship
E. A. Rasnake
Dave Owens
Mr. and Mrs. Cleve Dye
Ellen Dye
Ralph Rasnake
Mr. and Mrs. Grover Sykes
Edward Perkins
Mr. and Mrs. Chester Whited

Elizebeth Baldwin
S. S. Hurd
Iriene Plaster
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Dye
Melborn Hess
Paul Perkins
Daisey McGlothin
Glen Peck
Ora Wilson
Leonard Dye
Clinton Robnett
Bill Robnett
Corb Ray
Guss Hess
Mrs. Kyle Hubbard
Gorcle Hale
Grover Wilson

Our standing is as follows:

Number of Churches	_____	7
Number of Members	_____	308
Number of Sunday Schools	_____	2

Done by order of the New Drum Conference while in regular session with the Ephesus Church, Swords Creek, Va.

J. C. Rasnake	_____	Moderator
Faye Rasnake	_____	Clerk

The New Drum Ministers Conference met with the Ephesus Church August 12, 1950, and organized by electing J. C. Rasnake, Moderator, and Faye Rasnake as Clerk.

There were five ordained ministers present, their names were called and each one voted upon. Their characters were passed as good. Seven ministers were absent, they were also passed as good.

Ministers names are as follows:

J. C. Rasnake	W. E. Rasnake	Henrey Ball
Elmer Hess	R. S. Ball	M. P. Ball
Homer Wilson	Gonan Kelley	Howard Bostic
Harley Dye	Lee Wilson	Dolphus Cook

Licentiates:

James Hall	Rite Street	Charley Keen
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Done by order of the New Drum Conference while in regular session with the Ephesus Church, Swords Creek, Va.

J. C. Rasnake	_____	Moderator
Faye Rasnake	_____	Clerk

SATURDAY EVENING PREACHING SERVICE

Committee appointed Asa Hughes and Ezra Johnson for this hour of service. Prayer by Bro. Harlan Kendrick. Bro. Hughes using for text, "There was never a man spake like this Man."

SATURDAY NIGHT SERVICE 7:30 P.M.

Opened by singing, preaching by Bro. Albert Dingus. He used for text, "In the beginning was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God." Prayer by Sister Helen Bolling.

SUNDAY MORNING SERVICE 11:00 A.M.

Singing by the Burdine Quartet. Prayer by Brother Johnnie Stofer. Percy Elkins opened the service by reading from the 8th chapter of The Acts of The Apostles. L. D. Mahan concluded the service. Benediction by Carl Deprested.

The Association wishes to thank the people in and around Burdine for their kindness and fine spirit shown and extended to the people during this Association.

Ministers' Report

L. D. COLEMAN

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	150
Revivals Held	3
Conversions Witnessed	60
Number Baptized	47
Burials Attended	4
Memorials Held	5
Churches Organized	1
Miles Traveled	800
Amount Received	\$265.00

A. N. KISER

Sermons Preached	24
Revivals Held	2
Conversions Witnessed	27
Number Baptized	7
Burials Attended	2
Prayer Services Held	45
Miles Traveled	800

LONZO EDWARDS

Churches Pastored	4
Sermons Preached	225
Revivals Held	10
Conversions Witnessed	175
Number Baptized	110
Burials Attended	9
Churches Organized	3
Couples Married	2
Miles Traveled	12,000
Amount Received	\$345.80

QUENTEN KEITH

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	30
Conversions Witnessed	15
Number Baptized	1
Burials Attended	2
Memorials Held	10
Prayer Services Held	5
Miles Traveled	500
Amount Received	\$25.00

W. E. RASNAKE

Churches Pastored	3
Sermons Preached	75
Conversions Witnessed	13
Number Baptized	13
Burials Attended	4
Memorials Held	4
Miles Traveled	800
Amount Received	\$78.38

HARLEY DYE

Churches Pastored	4
Sermons Preached	225
Revivals Held	8
Conversions Witnessed	75
Number Baptized	60
Burials Attended	10
Memorials Held	8
Prayer Services Held	5
Miles Traveled	3,000
Amount Received	\$225.00

HOWARD BOSTIC

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons Preached	300
Revivals Held	10
Conversions Witnessed	185
Number Baptized	150
Burials Attended	20
Memorials Held	6
Prayer Services Held	10
Miles Traveled	4,500
Amount Received	\$850.00

ALBERT DINGUS

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	75
Revivals Held	2
Conversions Witnessed	100
Number Baptized	40
Burials Attended	Several
Memorials Held	8
Prayer Services Held	25
Miles Traveled	500

HOMER WILSON

Sermons Preached	20
Conversions Witnessed	5
Memorials Held	3
Prayer Services Held	4
Miles Traveled	100

J. C. RASNAKE

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons Preached	73
Revivals Held	2
Conversions Witnessed	10
Burials Attended	12
Memorials Held	7
Churches Organized	1
Couples Married	5
Miles Traveled	765
Amount Received	\$386.65

EZRA JOHNSON

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	156
Revivals Held	1
Conversions Witnessed	37
Number Baptized	10
Burials Attended	1
Memorials Held	1
Prayer Services Held	49
Couples Married	3
Amount Received	\$1,613.70

MONROE HUBBARD

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	130
Revivals Held	2
Conversions Witnessed	110
Number Baptized	25
Burials Attended	20
Memorials Held	1
Couples Married	5
Miles Traveled	2,000
Amount Received	\$30.00

JOHN AKERS

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons Preached	104
Revivals Held	3
Conversions Witnessed	18
Number Baptized	38
Burials Attended	2
Memorials Held	4
Prayer Services Held	12
Churches Organized	1
Sunday School Organized	1
Couples Married	4
Miles Traveled	543

ALVA DINGUS

Churches Pastored	4
Sermons Preached	20
Revivals Held	2
Conversions Witnessed	30
Number Baptized	25

EVERETT POTTER

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	60
Revivals Held	2
Conversions Witnessed	4
Number Baptized	2
Burials Attended	3
Memorials Held	6
Prayer Services Held	16
Churches Organized	1
Sunday Schools Organized	1

ROBERT MADDEN

Churches Pastored	2
Sermons Preached	200
Revivals Held	4
Conversions Witnessed	75
Number Baptized	25
Burials Attended	3
Memorials Held	3
Prayer Services Held	52
Churches Organized	1
Miles Traveled	2,200
Amount Received	\$50.00

CLYDE HUFF

Churches Pastored	3
Sermons Preached	175
Revivals Held	5
Conversions Witnessed	250
Number Baptized	200
Burials Attended	6
Memorials Held	5
Prayer Services Held	50
Churches Organized	2
Sunday Schools Organized	1
Couples Married	3
Miles Traveled	2,500
Amount Received	\$250.00

HOBART SPRINGS

Churches Pastored	1
Sermons Preached	200
Conversions Witnessed	180
Received into the Church	112
Prayer Meetings Held	90
Funerals Held	7
Baptized	140
Churches Organized	2
Miles Traveled	1,500

OBITUARIES

IN MEMORY OF ARTHUR S. COUNTS

A. S. Counts was born August 7, 1885, departed this life November 1, 1949, being 64 years and 23 days when departing this vale of pain.

He was married to Hattie Counts January, 1908 and to this union was born 8 children, six of which are left to mourn his loss, namely Mrs. Fletcher Counts, Tivis, Va.; Mrs. Fred Green and Mrs. Willard Martin, Wise, Va.; Mrs. Clyde Sloan, Nealy Ridge, Va. Two sons, Sidney and Eugene of Detroit, Mich. "Aut" Counts, as he was known by friends and relatives, was a devoted Christian and left wonderful hopes behind for comfort for his bereaved family and friends.

He suffered much for three years and bore it patiently, and told his daughters several times in his last hours of Jesus being present with him and of hearing heavenly music. He was conscious to the last and prayed for the unsaved of his friends. He is greatly missed in his community and especially in the Counts Chapel Church where he was volunteer janitor and did all work without salary. He was also very active in all forms of Church work until ill health made him a semi-invalid. He was Church Treasurer, Founder of Bible Class Teacher, Clerk of Sunday School and Prayer Service Leader. He can never be replaced as Heaven's gain was our loss. He died in the Lord content for His will to be done in all things and we fervently trust that we too may fight the good fight of Faith as he did and meet him again where there will be no more pain.

Written by Mrs. Clyde Sloan, Daughter

IN MEMORY OF SISTER JANE HURLEY

Jane Stacy Hurley, born May 23rd, 1885, age 64 years, 9 months and 10 days. She was married to Walter Hurley and to this union was born eleven children, six boys and five girls. Two boys and one girl preceded her in death. Sister Hurley confessed a hope in Christ and was baptizd by Abe Charles, a Missionary Baptist Minister, and took fellowship up with the Union Light Freewill Baptist Church at Paw Paw, Ky.,

in the year of 1926. She lived a faithful Christian life as member of same, bearing good fruits of spiritual work. Sister Hurley was an excellent companion and mother. She endured her long afflictions with patience, and was faithful until death; and in God's holy word we read, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life." The writer has personally known her husband Walter Hurley in preaching God's everlasting word and he is one among the most meekest and lovely Brothers I have ever met for the past twenty-seven years in preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. In conclusion I will say to her many friends and children, mother's spirit has returned to God who gave it, and if you ever expect to see mother again, repent, be born again, and live for Jesus, for we must all appear before the Judgment seat of Christ.

By her Pastor, L. Dodge Coleman

IN MEMORY OF SCOTT COLEMAN

Scott Coleman was born April 22nd, 1909, deceased March 25th, 1950. Age 41 years, 11 months and 3 days. He was married to Genevie M. Fisher August 24th, 1928. To this union was born four children, three boys and one girl. He was baptized by L. D. Coleman, a Freewill Baptist Minister, about July 18th, 1931, and was a prayerful and working member of the Union Light Church. For some two or three years he back slid and went to Riffe, Wash., in 1940. He returned home on a visit to Paw Paw, Ky., on June 19th, 1948; read a Bible lesson and said to the Church, I am in fellowship with God, and I want to be in fellowship with my home, Church, and all my brothers and sisters, and Scott was given the right hand of fellowship by the Union Light Church. This was one among the greatest joys that his Father and Mother ever witnessed. Praise God forever for his great love and mercy, and according to his precious companion's word Scott lived a Christian life with much prayer until his death on March 25th, 1950, at Hydesville, California. He leaves behind a father and mother, and eight sisters and three brothers, wife and four children who feel in their hearts that Scott fell asleep in Jesus to await the Final Judgment. Then all men will be judged according to their works.

By Dodge Coleman, his Pastor

IN MEMORY OF PARIS VANHOOSE

Paris Vanhooose was born April 16, 1880, and departed this life April 1, 1950, making his stay 70 years. He leaves to

mourn his loss one brother and one sister, relatives and a host of friends. He was a member of the Allegany Freewill Baptist Church. We feel that our loss is Heaven's gain.

Written by Catherine Davis

IN MEMORY OF GEORGE ENGLAND

George England was born in the year 1880, departed this life April 30, 1950, making his stay here 64 years. He had been a member of the Allegany Freewill Baptist Church for two years. He leaves his wife, four daughters and three sons, relatives and a host of friends to mourn his loss.

Sleep on Brother and take your rest;

God called you, He thought it best.

Written by Catherine Davis

IN MEMORY OF BRADY WILSON

In sad but loving remembrance we write the obituary of little Brady Wilson who was born July 28th, 1944, making his stay on earth 5 years, 4 months and 17 days. He was a cripple from birth. We did all we could for him during his short but sweet stay with us, until God saw fit to call him from us, but we know that he is only asleep with Jesus. He leaves a loving Mother, a step-father, one brother and one sister, a host of relatives and friends to mourn his loss. We know our loss is Heaven's gain.

Little Brady from earth is gone,

On earth no more we will see him,

He cannot come back to us

But we can go to him.

Written by his Aunt, Bearty Sykes

IN MEMORY OF MAJOR F. BALL

Major F. Ball, son of W. A. and Elizebeth Ball was born August 1, 1950, departed this life March 21st, 1950, making his stay on earth 64 years, 7 months and 21 days. He was married to Mary Ann Harris and to this union was born 14 children. His wife and four children preceded him to the great beyond.

The names of the deceased children are: Arthur, Luther and Flossie Ball, and James Carlis.

The names of the children living are: Bertha Presley, Putman, Va.; Walter and Claude Ball of Council, Va.; Roy E. Ball, Dayton, Ohio; Pearl Thompson of Portsmouth, Va.; Myrtle McCracken and Fannie Surface, English, West Va.;

M. F. Ball, Jr., Council, Va.; Boyd Ball, Dayton, Ohio; Byrd Ball, English, West Va.

He was married to Grace Bostic and to this union was born six children, Harold, Clyde, Helen, Franklin D., Earl and Jack. He was the father of 20 children, 16 living and four deceased; twenty-five grandchildren living and 2 deceased; and 5 great-grandchildren. He professed faith in Jesus Christ February 25, 1950. He leaves to mourn his loss, wife, sister, 16 children and a host of relatives and friends.

Sleep on dear Dad and take your rest
God called you to be with the blest;
May we meet on the other shore
Meet there to part no more.
When we lay our burdens down
And go home to wear a crown;
There I hope to shake your hand
And live together in Glory Land.

Written by his Wife and Children

IN MEMORY OF ROSA LUCILLE O'DELL

Rosa Lucille O'Dell was born March 9, 1923, at Clinchco, departed this life July 29th, 1950, making her stay on earth 27 years, 4 months and 20 days. Lucille was married to Curtis O'Dell December 23rd, 1946. She leaves to mourn her loss, husband and daughter, Tina Leigh of Clinchco. Three brothers, Doris and Warren of Clinchco and Clarence of the U.S. Air Force stationed in Tokyo; five sisters, Mrs. Arlie Shook of St. Paul, Va., Mrs. Carmel Johnson, Mrs. Frank Phillips, Iriene and Betty Lou, all of Clinchco, also her father and mother of Clinchco. One brother preceded her to the Great Beyond.

Lucille was converted at the age of 18 years, and was baptized and united with the Freewill Baptist Church at Clinchco. She was a true Christian, a faithful companion, a loving mother and a friend to every one that knew her.

Lucille's favorite Scripture was the 14th chapter of St. John. Saturday evening Jesus fulfilled a promise to Lucille when He called her home to await the awakening of the children of God. Parents, companion, daughter, brothers and sisters and to all who knew Lucille, she is basking in the sunlight of her Savior's love. She is beckoning all to come home. Don't disappoint her, get ready to visit her in her mansion.

Written by her Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Everett and Pherba Johnson

CHURCH COVENANT

Having been brought, as we believe, by the divine grace to accept the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour and Preserver, we do now solemnly and joyfully covenant and agree, by God's help, to walk in brotherly love.

We, therefore, enter into covenant as members of this church and as Christians, that we will watch over each other in love, sharing together each other's joys and sorrows; that we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together, nor quit the great duty of prayer for ourselves and others; that by divine assistance we will endeavor to bring to those under our care in the nurture and admonition of the Lord; that in all things we will strive to exemplify our profession by a corresponding practice, to abstain from all sinful conformity to the world, to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements and exemplary in all our deportment; that we will abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage; that we will sustain the worship, ordinance, discipline and doctrine of the church; that we will contribute cheerfully, according to our ability, to the support of the ministry, the expense of the church, the relief of the poor and the general spread of the Gospel.

In keeping this solemn Covenant may we ever enjoy the blessings and presence of the great Head of the Church.

THE ORGANIZATION OF A CHURCH

1. When any number of believers desire to be organized into a Free-will Baptist Church, they are examined by one or more regular Freewill Baptist ministers in reference to their Christian character, doctrine and ability to sustain a church. If the examination is satisfactory the applicants are organized into the church as follows: The Bible is presented as the only rule of faith and practice. The Church Covenant shall be adopted. A prayer of consequence offered. The hand of fellowship is given. Then officers are elected.

2. There shall be male members enough to fill the public offices in the church, in order that a regular discipline may be kept up.

3. After being thus constituted they shall be at liberty, out of the number of regularly ordained ministers, to choose a pastor who shall preside over them.

MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH

The times of celebrating the Lord's Supper, washing feet, and of business meetings are arranged by each local church to suit its own convenience.

Each church is required to observe the ordinance. Foot washing follows the Lord's Supper.

Conference or business meetings are opened and closed with suitable devotional exercises. The pastor acts as moderator of the business meetings of the church. In the absence of the pastor the church may meet when necessary and attend to ordinary business; but no member is excluded in the absence of the pastor.

RECEPTION OF MEMBERS

Any person who gives evidence of a change of heart, professes faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, and has been immersed by a proper administrator, church covenant read, explained and accepted, is received into membership by a vote of the church.

From other churches, immersed persons are received by letter. No one against whom any valid objection is made is received to membership. When any member objects to the reception of an applicant, the matter is deferred until the church can ascertain the nature of the objection. If,

CHURCH COVENANT

in the opinion of the church, the objection is not a valid one, the applicant may be received. Excluded members are received again only when they confess their errors and give evidence of repentance. Persons excluded from other churches are not received, unless it be made evident that they were excluded upon unjustifiable grounds. The hand of fellowship is extended to all who are received into the membership of the church.

DISMISSION OF MEMBERS

Only members in good standing are dismissed from the church, and these for no other reason than to unite with some other church. Such members receive letters of honorable dismission and commendation, but are under the watch care of the same church until they are received into some other. A withdrawal without such letter of commendation is equivalent to excommunication, and treated as such by the church.

OFFICERS AND THEIR DUTIES

The officers of a church are a Board of Trustees, Clerk, Treasurer, Deacons and Deaconesses, Finance Committee, and Pastor.

Board of Trustees—The duty of the trustees shall be to hold title to all property, either in fee or gift, and to maintain all rights to same, to convey said property in the discretion of a four-fifth majority of those present at a regular quarterly meeting being announced at said church three months prior to said meeting.

Clerk—It is the duty of the clerk to keep a church book and in it record the Church Covenant, the names of the members, and all the proceedings of the church, in the exercise of its doctrine and management of its temporal affairs. He also signs all the letters and other communications made by authority of the church.

Treasurer—The treasurer shall be entrusted with the funds of the church, and it shall be his duty to keep a regular account of all the money received, and from whom, and make a report of the same annually to the church or oftener if necessary, which funds shall be drawn on the treasury only by the order of the church.

Deacons—The deacons are elected for life or during good behavior. They should be men distinguished among their brethren for piety and benevolence. Before entering upon the duties of their office they are ordained by the pastor or other regular minister, ordination consisting of charge, laying on of hands and prayer. It is their duty to serve at the Lord's table, to distribute of the bounty of the church among its needy members, to visit the sick, to assist the pastor in promoting order in attendance upon the church, and to conduct religious meetings in the absence of the pastor.

Deaconesses—They assist the deacons and the finance committee, in visiting the sick, in collecting funds and distributing among the needy members, and enforcing proper discipline among female members.

Finance Committee—These have the general management of the finances of the church, subject to the church's control.

Pastor—Each church elects its own pastor out of the regular ordained ministers upon such terms as may be agreed upon between the parties themselves. It is the pastor's duty faithfully to preach the Word, to have the general superintendence of the church, to be himself an example to the flock, to visit the members, especially the sick, as he has the opportunity, and to do all within his power to promote the religious interest of the church which he serves, and to advance the cause of Christ among men.

THE MINISTRY

1. No member of our connection shall be at liberty to take upon himself the public ministry of the Word, unless he feels divinely called,

and make report of the same to the church to which he belongs, and if the church shall be satisfied with his qualifications, and call of such person, then she may grant said person the liberty to exercise his gifts by exhortation for twelve months.

2. If they prove satisfactory the church, they shall be recommended to the Quarterly Meeting, if satisfactory to same, may license said applicants or recommend them to the Ordaining Council, and shall be ordained if proven satisfactory to the Council.

3. The Ordaining Council must be appointed by the Yearly Meeting. Three ordained ministers from each Quarterly Meeting shall serve for a period of twelve months. Any three may transact the business of examining the applicants for ordination.

4. When a minister of another denomination wishes to unite with the Freewill Baptist Church, he must first join this church. Then the proceedings are the same as with licentiates; which is as follows:

When he feels Divinely called he is given a license by Pastor of the Church to which he belongs. Then he is free to exercise his gift by exhortation for a period of twelve months. If proven satisfactory, he is recommended to the Quarterly Meeting by said Church. Then from the Quarterly Meeting to the Ordaining Council. If proven satisfactory then he is ordained, otherwise he is granted a new license to exhort for twelve months more.

5. Any minister leaving the Freewill Baptist Church and desiring to be reinstated shall be dealt with as though they had never belonged to the church.

6. If a minister becomes disorderly, or preaches a doctrine contrary to the Freewill Baptist faith, the minister may at once be called to question by the church offended. They must be given a fair and impartial trial, by evidence mainly by the Freewill Baptist members; if the charges shall be sustained, they shall be dealt with as follows:

The churches have the exclusive right to deal with the ministers under their care.

If the charges are against a licentiate, it must be reported to the Quarterly Meeting, and their decision shall be final.

7. Any ordained minister of the Freewill Baptists may serve the church in the absence of the pastor, in every Gospel order required of him by the church.

BY-LAWS OF MINISTERS' CONFERENCE

1. There shall be a Ministers' Conference held annually in connection with the Yearly Meeting.

2. The object of the Ministerial Conference is to discuss points of doctrine and examine the Christian character of the ministers.

3. All ministers in the John Thomas Yearly Meetings are requested to attach themselves to the Ministers' Conference and must be governed by the rules and regulations of the Ministers' Conference.

4. All ministers belonging to the Conference are required to report themselves to the Conference annually, either in person or by letter or both.

5. Any ministers failing to report for a period of two years, either in person or by letter, or both, shall automatically exclude himself from the Conference.

6. All ministers moving to another Yearly Meeting shall take a letter of dismission and commendation so that they may properly unite themselves to the Yearly Meetings where they move.

ORGANIZATION OF QUARTERLY MEETING

Two or more churches wishing to organize a Quarterly Meeting shall appoint three delegates for that purpose and request of an adjoining Quarterly Meeting a council of not less than five members and one ordained minister which will meet with the delegates and proceed

1. To examine the delegates respecting the Christian character and doctrines of their respective churches, and the reason for such an organization as desired.
2. The right hand of fellowship and consecrating prayer.
3. The election of a moderator, clerk, and treasurer, and then proceed with such business as may come before it.
4. Delegates are elected to some Yearly Meeting or Association of the Freewill Baptists, and instructed for membership in one body.

BY-LAWS

1. No conference shall be held with less than three ordained ministers and four delegates belonging to the Yearly Meeting.
2. At the opening of each conference, the clerk's books shall be presented and the proceedings of last conference read.
3. This conference may at each regular meeting elect as many boards or standing committees as may be necessary in carrying out its benevolent purposes. These shall keep a record of their proceedings and make a report at each quarterly meeting of the conference.
4. The conference may extend to visiting brethren all the privileges of the body, save that of voting.
5. If any member, in the judgment of the conference, shall show anger in his discussion on any subject, he shall forfeit his seat in that conference.
6. No member of the general conference shall be at liberty to withdraw without leave, of the moderator.
7. The conference shall always adjourn by vote.
8. There shall annually be a committee of finance chosen to settle with the treasurer and report to conference.
9. Conference shall always open and adjourn by prayer and praise of God.
10. Any motion must be made by one member, seconded by another and afterwards stated by the moderator, before it is debated. A motion shall be reduced to writing by the mover or at the demand of any one member.
11. All resolutions shall be submitted in writing.
12. A motion or resolution may be withdrawn at any time before a decision or amendment by the conference.
13. Any motion or resolution containing more than one distinct proposition shall be divided, provided the call for a division be sustained by the majority.
14. When a member speaks or offers a motion he should rise and respectfully address the moderator, confine himself to the question under consideration, avoid all personalities or unkind or disrespectful language.
15. When two or more members rise to speak at the same time the moderator shall decide who is entitled to the floor.

16. When a member is speaking no one shall interrupt him except to call him to order, ask leave to explain or to make explanation. The one allowed to explain shall confine himself strictly to an actual misunderstanding or language which may need explanation.

17. No member shall speak more than twice, or longer than five minutes at each time on any question without leave of the moderator, which leave shall be granted without debate.

18. All committees may be named by the moderator, by request of the conference.

19. The member first named on a committee shall be its chairman to call the committees together, but after it is convened the committee may elect its own chairman and secretary.

20. Voting shall be done by standing up when a vote is close, or when it becomes necessary to count the affirmative and negative, and in special cases by ballot.

21. The moderator, in case of a tie, may cast the deciding vote.

22. All members should vote on one side or the other, unless excused by the moderator.

23. No motion, discussion or other business shall be admitted while the vote is being taken.

24. The minutes of the conference shall be signed by the moderator and the clerk.

25. Each Quarterly Meeting shall ask its respective churches to deal with its members when necessary, according to Matthew 18:15, 17.

26. After members accept the Bible as their rule of faith and practice, then the right hand of fellowship shall be given, which is the door into the church.

27. If the minority of a Quarterly Meeting be grieved over the ruling of the majority, they have the right to appeal to the Yearly Meeting, and its decision shall be final.

28. No minister shall have a vote in the conference unless he is a member in good standing with his church and conference.

E. A. REEDY
S. M. McFALL
D. L. SMITH
ARTHUR CASTEEL
J. C. RASNAKE
W. R. STALLARD

YEARLY MEETING CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

We, the members of the Freewill Baptist Church, in order to form a more perfect union and promote Christ's kingdom, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the John Thomas Yearly Meeting.

Article 1. This Yearly Meeting shall be called the John Thomas Yearly Meeting, and shall be composed of such regularly organized and well disciplined Freewill Baptist Quarterly Meetings, conveniently located, as may embody themselves under the Constitution.

Article 2. The Conference of this Yearly Meeting shall be composed of ministers and delegates who are members of the Quarterly meetings, each Quarterly Meeting being entitled to three delegates from each church.

Article 3. The officers of this Yearly Meeting shall be a clerk, treasurer, and moderator, and shall be chosen at every session of the Yearly Meeting, with such assistant as may be found necessary.

Article 4. Any well organized and well regulated Freewill Baptist Quarterly Meeting, composed of such churches as conform to the usages and adopt the doctrines of the Freewill Baptist denominations, as published in the minutes of the John Thomas Yearly Meeting, and are in favor of the benevolent enterprises of the denomination, may at any time, on application, by vote of this Yearly Meeting, become a member thereof.

Article 5. This Yearly Meeting shall have the power to discipline the Quarterly Meetings of which it is composed, and to exclude them for disorderly work if their labor proves unsuccessful.

Article 6. The session of this Yearly Meeting shall convene on Thursday before the second Sunday in September, at which time it shall be the duty of the Quarterly Meetings of which the Yearly Meeting is composed to represent themselves by delegates, and report their standing, prospects and statistics by letter; at which time the Yearly Meeting shall act on such questions and topics as may be referred to it by its respective Quarterly Meetings, and transact such other business not repugnant to this Constitution, nor the usages of the denomination, as in its judgment may promote the cause of Christ and the interest of the churches and Quarterly Meetings within the limits of the Yearly Meeting.

Article 7. The Yearly Meeting shall have power to adopt any regulation or by-laws, not inconsistent with the Constitution, which may be deemed essential to the further regulations of its sessions.

Article 8. This Conference shall not recognize any minister or delegate unless they comply with the constitution and by-laws thereof.

Article 9. Each Quarterly Meeting shall send to the Yearly Meeting, with their annual letters, funds equal to ten cents (10c) per member in said Quarterly Meeting; said funds to be used in meeting expenses of the Yearly Meeting.

Article 10. The Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of four-fifths of the ministers and delegates present at any session, notice of such intended alterations having been given and recorded at the next previous session.

ARTICLES OF FAITH

1. We believe that there is but one living, true and eternal God the Father, of whom are all things from everlasting to everlasting, glorious and immutable in all His attributes. 1 Cor. 8:6; Isa. 40:28.

2. We believe that there is one Lord Jesus Christ, by whom all things, the only begotten Son of God, born of the Virgin Mary, whom God freely sent into this world, because of the great love wherewith He loved the world; and Christ as freely gave Himself a ransom for all, tasting death for every man; who was buried and rose again the third day, and ascended into heaven, from whence we look for him the second time in the clouds of heaven at the last day to judge both the quick and dead.—1 Tim 2:5, 6; Heb. 2:9; St. John 3:16; Rev. 1:17; Acts 24:15; 1 John 2:2.

3. We believe that there is one Holy Ghost, the precious gift of the Father, through his dear Son, unto the World, who quickened and draweth sinners home to God.—St. John 16:7, 8; Acts 2:2; Eph. 2:1; Eph. 4:4-6.

4. We believe in the beginning God made man upright, and placed him in a state of glory without the least mixture of misery, from which he voluntarily, by transgression fell, and by means brought on himself a miserable and moral state subject to death.—Gen. 2:17; 3:19.

5. We believe that God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance and the knowledge of truth, that they might be saved; for which end Christ hath commanded the Gospel to be preached among all nations and to every creature.—Mark 16:15; Luke 24:27; John 3:15-17; I Tim. 2:4.

6. We believe that no man shall suffer in hell for want of a Christ who died for Him, but as the Scripture has said for denying the Lord that brought them; because they believed not in the name of the only begotten Son of God. Unbelief, therefore, being the cause why the just and the righteous God of heaven will condemn the children of men, it follows against all argument that all men, at one time or other, are found in such capacity as that through the grace of God they may be eternally saved.—Acts 17:30; Mark 6:6; Heb. 3:10; John 5:1, 10.

7. We believe that all people reaching the years of accountability must be born again. Then by trusting His promise and keeping His commandments until the end of life, we shall be saved.—II Tim. 4:7.

8. We believe the whole Scriptures are infallibly true and that they are the only rules of faith and practice.—II Tim. 3:16, 17.

9. We believe in the doctrine of General Provision made of God in Christ, for the benefit of all mankind, who repent and believe the gospel.—Luke 14:16-20; Matt. 28:19, 20; Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 3:19; Mark 1:15.

10. We believe that sinners are drawn to God the Father of the Holy Ghost, through Christ His Son, and that the Holy Ghost offers His divine aid to all the human family; so as they all might be happy, would they give place to His divine teachings; whereas, such who do not receive the divine impress of His Spirit, shall, at a future day, own their condemnation just and change themselves with their own damnation, for willfully rejecting the offers of sovereign grace.—Matt. 11:17; St. John 6:45, 65; Ps. 1:1; Tit. 2:11, 12; Jer. 12:29.

11. We believe that men, not considered simply as men, but ungodly men, were of old ordained to condemnation, considered such who turn the grace of God into them, and therefore, shall bring upon themselves swift destruction; but we observe that they, and such the Apostle saith because they receive not the love of the truth, that they might be saved, therefore, the indignation and wrath of God is upon every soul of man that doeth evil, living and dying therein; for there is no respect of persons with God.—Jude 1:14; II Peter 2:1; II Thesa. 2:11; Rom. 2:10-21.

12. We believe that all children dying in infancy, having not actually transgressed against the law of God, in their own persons, are only subject to the first death, which was brought on them by the fall of the first Adam, and that none of them dying in that state shall suffer punishment in hell by the guilt of Adam's sin, for "of such is the kingdom of God."—I Cor. 15:22; Matt. 18:2-5; Mark 9:36, 37; Matt. 19:14.

13. We believe that good works are the fruits of saving faith, and that in the use of the means of grace, and not out of the use of those means, eternal life is promised to men.—Rev. 22:14, 15; Isa. 1:19, 20; Matt. 7:8; Jer. 6:16; Luke 13:34, 35.

14. We believe that no man has any warrant in the Holy Scriptures for justification before God through his own works, power or ability, which he has in and of himself, only as he by grace is made able to come to God through Jesus Christ; believing the righteousness of Jesus Christ to be imputed to all believers for their eternal acceptance with God.—Rom. 4:24; Acts 8:20, 21.

15. We believe that all things are foreseen in the wisdom of God, so that God knoweth whatsoever can or cannot come to pass upon all supposed conditions; yet not as having decreed any person to everlasting

life, out of respect of mere choice further that He hath appointed the godly unto life, and the ungodly, who die in sin, unto death.—Heb. 4:13; Prov. 8:22-31; Matt. 25:31-46.

16. We believe as teaching Gospel ordinances, in believers' baptism, laying on of hands, receiving of the sacrament in bread and wine, washing the saints' feet, anointing the sick with oil in the name of the Lord, fasting, prayer, singing the praise of God, and the public ministry of the Word, with every institution of the Lord we shall find in the New Testament.—Mark 16:15-16; Acts 8:17; Acts 19:6; Luke 22:19, 20; John 13:5-7; Jas. 5:14.

17. We believe the Gospel made of baptism is by immersion, and that believers are the only subjects for baptism.—Matt. 3:16; Mark 1:9, 10; Acts 2:38, 39; Rom. 6:4; Col. 2:12.

18. We believe in a general resurrection of the dead and a final judgment at the last day.—John 5:28; 29; II Cor. 5:10.

19. We believe the happiness of the righteous is eternal and the torments of the wicked are endless.—Matt. 25:46.

